



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 24 April 2008

Subject: Draft Statement on Inclusion

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In October 2007, the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) considered the draft Leeds Inclusive Learning Strategy. Having considered the draft strategy, the Board established a working group to give more detailed consideration to two of the strategic priorities within the strategy.
- 1.2 The working group was also commissioned to review progress in implementing the recommendations of the Specialist Inclusive Learning Centres (SILCs) inquiry published in April 2006.
- 1.3 The working group has completed its work and the Board is now in a position to report on its conclusions and recommendations resulting from the evidence gathered. This has been done in the form of a Statement from the Board.
- 1.4 The draft statement is attached for consideration.

2.0 Consultation

- 2.1 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 16.3 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be attached to the report".

- 2.2 Any advice received will be reported at the Board's meeting for consideration, before the Board finalises its statement.
- 2.3 Once the Board publishes its final statement, the appropriate Directors will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

3.0 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Board is requested to:-
- (i) Agree the Board's final statement on Inclusion.
 - (ii) Request that officers formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations by July 2008.