



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board: Children's Services

Date: 11 June 2009

Subject: Draft Report – Education Standards – Entering the Education System

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 During 2008/09 the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) carried out an inquiry focused on young children entering the formal education system for the first time.
- 1.2 The inquiry was completed in March, and the Board is now in a position to report on its conclusions and recommendations resulting from the evidence gathered. A draft report is attached.

2.0 Consultation

- 2.1 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 14.3 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 The Director of Children's Services has indicated that there is no specific advice that she wishes to provide at this stage, before the Board finalises its report.
- 2.3 Once the Board publishes its final report, the Director 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 report and recommendations.
- (ii) Request that a formal response to the recommendations is produced in line with normal procedures for scrutiny inquiry reports.

Background papers

None