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## Education Scrutiny Committee

31 October 2006

### Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

## Education Scrutiny Work Planning

### Summary

1. This report is to ask Members to consider their programme of work for the rest of the 2006/7 municipal year.

### Background

2. There are two registered scrutiny topics which are relevant to the work of this Committee:
  - a) The role of school governors, registered by Cllr Viv Kind in May 2005 (Topic no 127 – Registration form attached at Annex A and feasibility report at Annex B) and
  - b) Contract school bus services registered by Cllr Charles Hall in August 2006 (Topic no 141, Registration form attached at Annex C and feasibility report at Annex D)
3. Members of the Committee met informally on 12 September 2006 to make recommendations as to the work programme from now until the end of the municipal year.
4. Members recommended that the Committee review contract school bus services from now until January 2007 in the first instance. A draft remit for this topic is enclosed at Annex E. Mark Ellis from the Access Team and Terry Walker from Transport Planning have agreed to attend this meeting to update members.
5. Members recognised the importance of support and training for school governors and there was agreement for this topic being considered later in the year as the role of governors increases with the development of the extended school role. It may be useful to track changes to the governors' roles and identify gaps in their knowledge of their responsibilities. Cllr Bradley offered to arrange for information on these role changes to be presented to a future meeting of Children's Services EMAP.

6. At the Scrutiny Management Committee of 22 October 2006 members are looking at the Scrutiny work planning process including eligibility criteria for future reviews. These will apply to reviews accepted by the Education Scrutiny committee as well as those selected for Ad Hoc Sub-Committees. Further details will be reported to a future meeting of this Committee.

### **Options**

7. Members may select one of the registered scrutiny topics for review at the present time, or they may defer or reject one or both of them.

### **Analysis**

8. Members should consider if these are appropriate topics for scrutiny at the present time and to take into account if other work is being done on these issues within the authority.

### **Corporate Priorities**

9. Fits with Corporate Priority no 8 - Improve the life chances of the most disadvantaged and disaffected children, young people and families in the city.

### **Implications**

10. There are no known Financial, HR, Equalities, Legal, Crime and Disorder, IT or other implications at this stage.

### **Risk Management**

11. In compliance with the Councils risk management strategy. There are no risks associated with the recommendations of this report.

### **Recommendations**

12. Members are asked to consider their programme of work in line with the options above.

Reason: In order to carry out their responsibilities in managing the Education Scrutiny function in York.

## Contact Details

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**Report Approved** **Date** 23 October 2006**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** *List information for all**Implication ie Financial**Name**Title**Tel No.**Implication ie Legal**Name**Title**Tel No.***Wards Affected:** *List wards or tick box to indicate all***All** **For further information please contact the author of the report**

## Annexes

Annex A – Topic 127 Registration Form

Annex B – Topic 127 Feasibility study

Annex C – Topic 141 Registration Form

Annex D – Topic 141 Feasibility study

Annex E – Draft remit for topic relating to Contract School Transport