
Education Scrutiny Committee

11 September 2007

Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic & Legal Services

Possible Education Scrutiny Topics

Summary

1. This report provides Members with background information on two presentations they will be receiving on possible future education scrutiny topics.

Background

2. Role of School Governors
In May 2005 Cllr Kind registered a topic on the Role of School Governors and as a result Education Scrutiny Committee considered a feasibility report on this topic at a meeting in October 2006 - see Annexes A and B.
3. Cllr Bradley offered to arrange for information on the changes to the role of governor to be presented to a future meeting of Children's Services EMAP. This was discussed with the Governance Service Manager who understood that if a decision was taken to proceed with a review, it would look at the ever changing level of responsibility associated with the role of Governor, rather than changes to the actual role. Some time later, the Governance Service Manager was led to believe that this report is no longer required and therefore no report was presented to Children's Services EMAP.
4. At a meeting of this Committee on 18 July 2007 this topic was reconsidered and in order to decide whether to proceed with a review, Members agreed to receive a presentation from the Governance Services Manager at their next meeting in September 2007.
5. Other Possible Topics
Also for the next meeting, It was proposed that:
 - the Executive Member for Children's Services be invited to attend to highlight any educational issues which might benefit from a scrutiny review
 - the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services attend to discuss current areas of work within the Directorate
6. It was expected that the information provided would inform a debate on possible future scrutiny topics.

Consultation

7. In an effort to ensure thorough consideration is given to any future scrutiny topics registered as a result of this meeting, full consultation will take place with all interested parties as part of the feasibility process.

Options

8. Having regard to the agreed scrutiny procedures, Members may decide to register any possible education scrutiny topics arising from the information provided at this meeting.

Corporate Objectives

9. In regard to the provision of education, it is recognised that any recommendations arising from a scrutiny review which aims to improve the Authority's policies and procedures could contribute to 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 legal, financial, HR, Equalities, Crime & Disorder, ITT or other implications associated with the contents of this report.

Risk Management

11. There are no known risks, associated with the recommendation made within this report.

Recommendations

12. Members are asked to note all the information provided in the report and presentation given at the meeting and agree any future education scrutiny topics to be registered.

Reason: To ensure any future reviews are progressed in a timely manner and in line with agreed scrutiny procedures

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Report Approved

Date 28 .09.2007

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A – Topic Registration Form

Annex B – Feasibility Report