

ITEM 9

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE - REVIEW TOPIC 2012/13

Contact Officer: Khalid Ahmed
Telephone: 01895 250833

REASON FOR ITEM

To enable the Committee to agree the second major review it wishes to undertake in this Council year.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

1. To discuss a possible topic for the Committee to undertake its second major review of 2012/13.

INFORMATION

1. The Committee is responsible for undertaking the 'policy overview' role in relation to the services provided by the Education & Children's Services Group. The full range of services under the Committee's remit is outlined in the terms of reference which is contained in the agenda front sheet for this meeting.
2. The Chairman of the Committee after discussions with the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services has suggested the following possible areas which the Committee could review :
 - 1) Effectiveness of local arrangements to ensure access to education for vulnerable children. **(Appendix A)**
 - 2) Arrangements for auditing and overseeing the safeguarding arrangements of partners (via the Local Safeguarding Children's Board) **(Appendix B)**
 - 3) Process of risk assessment for placing children in residential homes. **(Appendix C)**
3. For the meeting Members will be provided with additional information on the above topics and Members are also asked to consider any other topics or areas which could be subject to a review.
4. To help Members with the selection of their next review topic, attached is a proforma which could be used to help in the suitability of a review topic.

POLICY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY REVIEW PROFORMA

	Name of review					
Selection Criteria for a review						
1. Strong public interest						
2. Government pressure / Change in policy						
3. Included in the Hillingdon Improvement Programme (HIP) / Council objectives						
4. Inspection report recommendation (e.g. performance standards poor or below target)						
5. Area within Council's control / influence						
6. High impact on residents						
7. Expertise available on which to draw						
8. Good practice available elsewhere						
9. Any likely recommendations would be achievable within existing resources and budgets						
Total score (one 'Y' = 1 point)						