



## **Education Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2011/12**

This leaflet sets out the work programme for the Education Scrutiny Committee for 2011/12.

We are responsible for scrutinising delivery against the following strategic outcome:

- Staffordshire's children and young people can get the best start in life and receive a good education so that they can make a positive contribution to their communities.

We review our work programme from time to time. Sometimes we change it - if something important comes up during the year that we think we should investigate as a priority. Our work results in recommendations for the County Council and other organisations about how what they do can be improved, for the benefit of the people and communities of Staffordshire.

**County Councillor Ivan Jennings**

Chairman of the Education Scrutiny Committee

If you would like to know more about our work programme please get in touch with Tina Randall, Scrutiny and Support Manager, 01785 276148 or [tina.randall@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:tina.randall@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Item	Date of meeting when the item is due to be considered	Details	Action/Outcome
Changing Landscape of Education	13 June 2011	To consider the significant changes/developments to education currently, and use this to help inform their work programme planning.	A number of issues raised have been included on the Committee's work programme.
Pattern of the School Year	13 June 2011	To discuss school organisation and the pattern of the school year, the recent initial consultation on this issue, its outcomes and how/if this issue should be taken forward.	No change to the school year was currently proposed. Members were aware of the possibility of changes made by academies and the potential impact this could have and asked for six monthly updates. <b>Further update on 23.1.12</b>
Special Education Need (SEN) provision (Inclusion and Wellbeing Strategy)	25 July 2011	Considering the implications of the SEN Green Paper on the provision of SEN in Staffordshire.	Members debated the wide ranging implications of the Green Paper which will help inform their consideration of and consultation on the White Paper once this is published.
Closing the Gap Scrutiny Working group – final report	25 July 2011	To consider the final report of the Closing the Gap Working Group	The report was endorsed for submission for an Executive response and for forwarding to the Health Scrutiny Chairman for their consideration of the appropriate recommendation.
Violent Incidents in Schools	19 September 2011	The Audit Committee made a referral to this Scrutiny Committee asking them to consider incident of violence in Staffordshire Schools. The end of year figures should be available in September.	

Item	Date of meeting when the item is due to be considered	Details	Action/Outcome
Review of Education Capital (the James Review)	19 September 2011	This review will have major implications for capital investment in schools and the Scrutiny Committee wish to investigate what impact this will have on Staffordshire Schools.	
Accountability Session	31 October 2011	To hold the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to account for delivery of the Council's outcome that "Staffordshire's children and young people can get the best start in life and receive a good education so that they can make a positive contribution to their communities".	
Commissioning of Services	31 October 2011	To consider the plans for the new commissioning function and take part in the consultation on this issue as one of the key stakeholders.	
Pupils attainment in Staffordshire	12 December 2011	To consider the attainment results for Staffordshire pupils in 2010/11	
Post-16 Take-up figures and the end of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)	12 December 2011	To evaluate the impact of the end of the EMA on Post-16 take up figures in Staffordshire.	
Changes in core service delivery model (development of School Evaluation Partner Programme)	23 January 2012	To investigate the impact of the School Evaluation Partner Programme developments	
Closing the Gap Working Group Executive Response	23 January 2012	To consider the Executive response to the appropriate recommendations from the final report of the Working Group.	

Item	Date of meeting when the item is due to be considered	Details	Action/Outcome
Pattern of the School Year	23 January 2012	Following the June meeting members requested an update on the possibility of changes to the school year in light of changes made by academies and the potential impact this could have.	
Accountability Session	5 March 2012	To hold the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to account for delivery of the Council's outcome that "Staffordshire's children and young people can get the best start in life and receive a good education so that they can make a positive contribution to their communities".	
Self improving school system	5 March 2012	To consider this system, the mechanisms used, the rationale behind it and how it works in Staffordshire.	
Review of Vocational Education (the Wolf Report)	16 April 2012	The 27 recommendations and their impact on the teaching/attainment of students in Staffordshire.	
Impacts of changes to the Information, Advice and Guidance Service (IAG)	16 April 2012	To evaluate the impact of the changes to IAG services and the end of Connexions.	
The SEN White Paper	tbc	Consideration of the SEN White Paper, Support and Aspiration: A new approach to Special Educational Needs and Disability, to help inform the consultation process.	

<p><b>Membership</b></p> <p><b>County Councillors</b> Ray Barron Bob Fraser Ivan Jennings (Chairman) Phil Jones Mary Maxfield David Nixon Jeremy Oates (Vice-Chairman) Robert Reade Stephen Sweeney</p> <p><b>Co-optees</b> Jonathan Parker Neil Taylor Deborah Kay Ellen Wright Rev. Preb. Michael Metcalf</p>	<p><b>Calendar of Committee Meetings</b> (all at 2.00 p.m. unless otherwise stated)</p> <p>13 June 2011 25 July 2011 19 September 2011, <b>10.00 am</b> 31 October 2011 12 December 2011, <b>10.00 am</b> 23 January 2012 5 March 2012 16 April 2012 28 May 2012</p> <p>Meetings usually take place in County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford.</p>
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