

By: Head of Democratic Services

To: Regeneration and Economic Development Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 24 June 2011

Subject: **SELECT COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report updates Members on current and future Select Committee work and invites suggestions for future Select Committee Topic Reviews.

Current Select Committee Review Work

The following reviews are either underway or preparing to start:-

1. Educational Attainment of Pupils and Schools in Areas of High Deprivation – The Select Committee held its first meeting in early February to elect Mr C T Wells as its Chairman and agreed its terms of reference and scope. Informal briefings and hearings have begun and will continue to take place through, June, July and possibly September. It is not yet possible to say when the review will submit its final report to full Council.

The contacts in Democratic Services for this Select Committee are: Research Officer Pippa Cracknell (01622 694178) and Assistant Democratic Services Manager Denise Fitch (01622 694269).

2. The Student Journey – This review cuts across Regeneration and Economic Development POSC and the new Customer and Communities and Education, Learning and Skills POSCs. The Select Committee has held its first meeting in April, when Mr K Smith was elected Chairman and its terms of reference, scope and the timetable of the review were agreed. A raft of evidence is currently being gathered through; hearings, 2 rapporteurs and visits. It is anticipated that the review will submit its final report to the full Council in April or May 2012.

The contacts in Democratic Services for this Select Committee are: Research Officer Gaetano Romagnuolo (01622 694292) and Democratic Services Officer Theresa Grayell (01622 694277).

3. Dementia – The Select Committee Chaired by Mrs T Dean has now concluded its hearings and is now meeting informally to take stock of its findings so far, receive further input from the focus group and identifying any further evidence needed, prior to drafting its report over the summer, which will be presented to full Council in December 2011.

The contacts in Democratic Services for this Select Committee are: Research Officer Sue Frampton (01622 694993) and Democratic Services Officer Christine Singh (01622 694334).

4. Suggestions for Select Committee Topic Reviews – If Members have any suggestions of topics they would like to put forward for consideration for inclusion in the future topic review work programme, they should contact the Democratic Services Officer for this POSC.

5. Recommendation

Members are asked to note the review work currently underway and advise the Democratic Services Officer of any topics they would like to put forward for consideration for inclusion in the future Select Committee Topic Review Work Programme.

Christine Singh
Democratic Services Officer

Background Information: *Nil*

telephone: 01622 694334
e-mail: christine.singh@kent.gov.uk