

By: Head of Democratic Services

To: Adult Social Services and Public Health Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 7 April 2011

Subject: **UPDATE ON SELECT COMMITTEE WORK**

Classification: Unrestricted

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

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### **Current Select Committee Review Work**

1. The following reviews are underway:-

**Dementia** – This POSC is the ‘parent’ committee for this review. The Select Committee held its first meeting in January to elect Mrs T Dean as its Chairman, and held briefing and training sessions to give Members a background to the issue. A focus group fed into the review’s terms of reference and scope. Visits to day centres, care homes, dementia cafés and meetings with peer support groups, carers and people with dementia took place through February, with hearings taking place through March and early April. A number of organisations have offered to undertake small pieces of work and engagement which will feed into the review. The Select Committee met in early June to take stock of its findings and identify any further evidence needed, prior to drafting its report over the summer to go 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).

**Educational Attainment at Key Stage 2** – The Select Committee held its first meeting in early February to elect Mr C T Wells as its Chairman and agree its terms of reference and scope. Informal briefings, hearings and visits are taking place through the summer and possibly into September. If this is the case, it is unlikely that the Select Committee will be able to submit its final report to full Council in December, and a revised timetable will be prepared for consideration by the Scrutiny Board.

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).

**The Student Journey** – This review cuts across Regeneration and Economic Development POSC, Customer and Communities POSC and Education, Learning and Skills POSC. The Select Committee awaited the publication of the Wolf Report in Spring

2011 before starting its work. The first meeting of the Select Committee took place late in April, at which Mr K Smith was elected Chairman and Mr M Dance Vice-Chairman, and the terms of reference and scope were agreed. An extensive programme of evidence-gathering hearings and visits will run through the summer and autumn, and the review will submit its final report to Cabinet in April and full Council in 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).

### **Suggestions for Select Committee Topic Reviews**

2. 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.

#### **Recommendation:-**

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

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Background Information: *Nil*

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