

By: Overview and Scrutiny Manager

To: Children, Families and Education Policy Overview Committee
15 November 2007

Subject: **SELECT COMMITTEES - UPDATE**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report updates Members on the Select Committee Topic Review programme

Select Committee: PSHE (Physical, Social and Health Education)

1 (1) As part of the monitoring process agreed by County Council in March 2006, the action plan for the progressing the recommendations of the Select Committee is on the agenda for consideration at this meeting (Item C1).

(2) The Select Committee will be reconvened in April 2008 to receive a report on progress with the recommendations one year after the report was submitted to Cabinet. The Minutes of this meeting will be submitted to the Policy Overview Committee.

Select Committee Topic Review Programme

2 (1) The Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee (POCC) met on 5 November 2007 to consider the Select Committee Topic Review Programme. The POCC agreed that a topic review on "Accessing Democracy (which would come under the remit of the Corporate POC) will start its work shortly.

(2) The POCC also agreed that, when resources become available early next year, a Select Committee looking at some of issues around Vulnerable Children (which would fall with the remit of this Policy Overview Committee) would be established. If the timescale for this Select Committee does not allow the Terms of reference for this Select Committee to be approved at a meeting of this Committee then I will require delegated powers to agree the Terms of Reference with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Liberal Democrat Spokesman.

(3) The POCC also discussed whether the following items should remain on the work programme and be considered for inclusion at a later date:-

- (i) Developing the Creative Curriculum
- (ii) Young People's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Development, Values-based Educational Behaviour

- (iii) Consultation and Participation with Young People (Student Voice)
- (iv) Provision of Activities for Young People.

(4) The POCC agreed that as items (i) to (iii) had been on the programme for some time and no strong case was made for retaining them they should be taken off the programme. However, at the next programmed POCC meeting on 14 February 2008 consideration would be given to future Select Committee Topic Reviews and suggestions for Topics were welcomed, including if appropriate a request, with supporting information to put any of these topics back into the programme.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that

(1) the plans to monitor the recommendations of the PSHE Select Committee recommendations be noted

(2) the proposed establishment of a Select Committee on Vulnerable Children be noted and that if necessary the Overview and Scrutiny Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Liberal Democrat Spokesman on the Policy Overview Committee be given delegated authority to approve the terms of reference of the Select Committee on behalf of the Policy Overview Committee

(3) That the update on the new Select Committee Topic Review Programme be noted.

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Background Information: *Nil*