



meeting	SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND SUPPORT SELECT COMMITTEE	
date	28 April 2008	agenda item number

Report of the Chair of the School Attendance and Support Select Committee

School Exclusions

Purpose of the report

1. This report provides:
 - Members with information about the performance data that will be presented by departmental officers which is intended to provide essential detail concerning exclusions from Nottinghamshire schools.

Background

2. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on February 18 2008 commissioned a Select Committee to examine levels of school absence and exclusion in Nottinghamshire, and the policies and procedures that exist to support school attendance.
3. At the first meeting the Select Committee received information concerning absence in Nottinghamshire schools. This included details of current levels of absence; persistent absence priority secondary schools; enforcement action taken and outcomes and information about how the issue of children missing education is being addressed. As part of the work programme issues around exclusion will be considered at the meeting.

Issues

4. To agree a meeting on the 28 July 2008 – 2.00 in addition to the four previously arranged:
 - April 7 2008
 - April 28 2008
 - June 2 2008
 - July 7 2008

Further Evidence

5. Dr John Bradley, Head of Inclusion Services and Principal Education Psychologist, Children & Young People's Services will attend the meeting to present Members with information concerning exclusions in Nottinghamshire schools. Members will be examine information concerning:
- fixed period and permanent exclusions, by school, for the last three full school years (appendix 1)
 - reasons given for fixed period and permanent exclusions for the last three full school years (appendix 2)
 - exclusions so far this school year (September 2007 – March 2008) with comparative figures for the same period in the previous school year (appendix 3)
 - Nottinghamshire exclusions compared to national figures: our statistical neighbours and the East Midlands' 2005/06 (appendix 4)
 - report on work to reduce secondary school permanent exclusions (appendix 5)
 - report reviewing progress in providing sufficient places for excluded pupils at the Nottinghamshire Learning Centre (appendix 6).
6. Geoff Read - Head Teacher of the Nottinghamshire Learning Centre and Jayne Deas - Acting Head of the Behaviour Support Team will be attending the meeting to discuss the alternative arrangements that are provided for excluded pupils and processes used for returning pupils to main stream schools.
7. Rob Lancaster – Head of Education Otherwise Than at School (EOTAS), lead officer on Behaviour and Attendance, and Neil Hesketh EOTAS, Policy and Performance Manager, will be present to answer questions and assist Members with the evidence gathering process.

Recommendations

8. It is recommended that School Attendance and Support Committee:
- agree the additional meeting
 - consider, and ask questions about the information provided to the Select Committee and discuss any issues arising from the presentation
 - consider issues where the Select Committee may require additional information and agree any areas around the future work programme.

Councillor EDW Llewellyn-Jones
Chair of the School Attendance and Support Select Committee

Background papers: nil.