



meeting	<b>SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND SUPPORT SELECT COMMITTEE</b>	
date	<b>7 July 2008</b>	<b>agenda item number</b>

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

### **Presentation by Children and Young People's Services – Youth Services**

#### **Purpose of the report**

1. To introduce Derek Higon, Head of the Youth Support Service and Chris Obrien, Service Manager, Children and Young People.

#### **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 initial meeting on the 7 April the Select Committee considered levels of attendance in Nottinghamshire schools. It considered levels of absence for the last three years, persistent absence secondary schools and actions taken to enforce attendance.
4. The Select Committee focused on schools exclusions at the second meeting on 28 April. Members examined data which included the number of, and reasons for, fixed period and permanent exclusions; actions taken to reduce secondary school exclusions; arrangements for the provision of alternative arrangements and processes used to return pupils to mainstream schools.
5. At the third meeting on the 2 June the Select Committee heard evidence from a representative from the Department for Children, Schools and Families who works with a number of authorities to improve strategies for behaviour and attendance. Senior practitioners who are leading and managing improvements in identified persistent absence schools outlined the strategies used and the advances made to decrease absence. Members also received additional data they had previously requested concerning school absence and exclusion plus information relating to secondary schools serving the 20% most deprived communities.

### **Further Information - Presentation**

6. Derek Highton and Chris Obrien, Youth Services, Children and Young People, will deliver a presentation outlining the Youth Service's role in supporting young people who are excluded from school, at risk of exclusion, or who need youth work support to help attend and achieve at school.
7. The Youth Service provides a wide range of generic and community based provision. District Teams operate through a network of youth centres, youth clubs, mobile youth centres, detached and outreach work and in schools. County Teams include the Disability Support team, the Arts Team, the Adventure Team, the Crime and Disorder Team, e2e and the Youth Engagement Team. The Service operates from over 150 different outlets (many in partnership with the voluntary sector), including three adventure bases.

### **Recommendations**

8. It is recommended that

the School Attendance and Support Select Committee:

- consider and ask questions on the information provided in the presentation to the Select Committee.

**Councillor Edward-Llewellyn Jones**  
**Chair of the School Attendance and Support Committee**

Background papers: nil.