



meeting      **CABINET**

date            **7 June 2006**

agenda item number

**Report of the Chair of the Education and Lifelong Learning Select Committee**

**CHILDREN ACT STUDY GROUP - FINAL REPORT**

**1.      Purpose of report**

1.1      This paper presents the final report to Cabinet of the Education and Lifelong Learning Select Committee's scrutiny review into the "Children Act" and its impact on Nottinghamshire schools.

**2.      Information and Advice**

2.1      The Education and Lifelong Learning Select Committee on 18 October 2005 agreed to undertake a review to assess Nottinghamshire schools' progress in understanding and implementing the requirements of the Children Act and its associated policies.

2.2      With the imminent restructure of the LEA into the Children's Services Department it was felt by the Select Committee that the time was right to gauge the impact these changes were having on schools.

2.3      The Select Committee established a study group comprising Councillor Yvonne Woodhead (Chair), Councillor Sybil Fielding, Councillor Martin Suthers, Councillor Kevan Wakefield and Councillor Keith Girling. The Study Group also included the statutory representative from the Diocese of Southwell, Mr David Richards and one of the Select Committee's Parent Governor representatives, Ms Paula Burbidge. It met from 1 November 2005 to 25 April 2006.

2.4      The attached report contains 5 recommendations for the consideration of Cabinet.

**3. Statutory and Policy Implications**

- 3.1 The attached report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder.

**4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 It is recommended that Cabinet considers the work undertaken by the Select Committee's Study Group and that a response by Cabinet on the recommendations be reported back to an appropriate Select Committee in due course.

**5. Legal Services Comments (PDH 110506)**

- 5.1 The provision of education is an executive function for which the Cabinet is responsible. It is within the terms of reference of this scrutiny committee to scrutinise the education matters set out in this report and make recommendations to the Cabinet. The Executive Procedure rules provide that the Cabinet will consider and respond to reports and recommendations from Select Committees.

**6. Director of Resources Financial Comments**

- 6.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report (NS 15/4/06)

**Councillor Kevan Wakefield**  
**Chair, Education and Lifelong Learning Select Committee**  
Attach.

Background Papers:  
Nil