

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
SUBJECT:	PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS INQUIRY
DATE OF DECISION:	4 JULY 2011
REPORT OF:	CHAIR OF SCRUTINY PANEL A
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
None	

BRIEF SUMMARY

From October 2010 to March 2011 Scrutiny Panel A undertook an Inquiry looking at Primary School Educational Attainment for Children with Special Needs, including ADHD. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) considered the final draft of the Inquiry report on 2nd June 2011 and approved it for submission to the Executive. The Scrutiny Inquiry report contains 7 recommendations which are summarised on page 4 of the report. The recommendations are directed towards improved cross agency working between the City Council, the Children and Young People's Trust, Southampton primary schools and the Primary Care Trust. The Cabinet needs to formally respond to the relevant recommendations within two months to meet the requirements in the Council's constitution.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) To receive the report of Scrutiny Panel A on Primary School Educational Attainment for Children with Special Needs, including ADHD.
- (ii) To develop a formal response to the recommendations contained within the report, including an action plan detailing how the Executive will take forward any accepted recommendations.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The overview and scrutiny procedure rules in part 4 of the Council's Constitution requires the Executive to consider all inquiry reports that have been endorsed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, and to submit a formal response to the recommendations contained within them within two months of their receipt.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. None.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

3. Panel A undertook the Primary School Educational Attainment for Children with Special Needs, including ADHD Inquiry over 4 meetings between October 2010 and March 2011.
4. In undertaking the Inquiry the Panel received evidence from the Head of School Standards, Principal Officer for Prevention and Inclusion, and Southampton NHS and PCT. A number of head teachers from Basset Green Primary School, Hardmoor Early Years Centre, Highfield CE Primary, Mason Moor, and Springwell Special School gave evidence to the Panel.

5. In addition, the Chair of Southampton ADHD Awareness / Support group and Through Parent Partnership (Mencap) reported to the Panel.
6. At the final meeting on 3rd March 2011, the Panel agreed 6 recommendations contained within the Inquiry report attached at Appendix 1. A summary of the meetings and evidence is included in Appendix 4 and 5 of the attached report.
7. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee considered the report on 2 June 2011 and requested that the following was added:
An extra bullet point to **Recommendation 1**: “Commit to collecting, collating and co-ordinating performance information.”

New **Recommendation 3**: Undertake research into the rise in the attainment gap in Southampton between SEN/Non SEN at Key Stage 2 in 2009.
8. The Executive needs to consider Panel A’s including OSMC’s additional recommendations and formally respond within two months of the date of receiving this report in order to meet the requirements set out in the Council’s constitution. A composite report detailing the response from the Executive and each of the agencies who have recommendations directed towards them in the Inquiry Report will be brought back to Cabinet in due course.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

9. The recommendations from this inquiry do not have any significant additional financial implications on the Council and its partners. The Panel believe that the majority of recommendations within the report could be progressed by re-focussing council officer and partner’s time and existing work programmes.
10. In practice any future resource implications arising from this review will be dependent upon whether, and how, each of the individual recommendations within the Inquiry report are progressed by the Executive and the partners they are directed towards. More detailed work will need to be undertaken by the Executive in considering its response to each of the relevant recommendations set out in the Inquiry report.

Property/Other

11. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

12. The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Other Legal Implications:

13. None.

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

14. None.

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KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report.
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Non-confidential appendices are in the Members' Rooms and can be accessed on-line

Appendices

1.	Primary School Educational Attainment for Children with Special Needs Inquiry – Final Report
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Documents In Members' Rooms

	None
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Integrated Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) to be carried out?	No
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Other Background Documents

Integrated Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
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None	
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