

CHILDREN'S SERVICES POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP (AUGMENTED BY CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE)

MEETING, 16TH NOVEMBER, 2009

Present – Councillors Adia (Chairman), P. Allen (as deputy for Councillor Mrs Brierley), J. Byrne (as deputy for Councillor Mrs Thomas), Hall, Morgan (as deputy for Councillor Rushton) Murray, Mistry, R. Silvester, Mrs. Swarbrick, White and Wild.

Also in Attendance

Ms. M. Asquith	-	Director of Children's Services
Mr. T. Birch	-	Assistant Director, School Effectiveness
Ms J. Hampson	-	Business and Development Manager, Educational Improvement
Mr. S. Fazal	-	Assistant Director Access and Inclusion
Mr. T Rigler	-	Acting Principal School Improvement Professional
Mrs. K. Smith	-	Senior Performance and Improvement Officer

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors D. Brierley, Hornby, Rushton, Mrs Rothwell and Mrs Thomas.

Councillor Adia in the Chair.

15. GCSE RESULTS

Mr. T Birch, gave a presentation to members which provided details of GCSE results for 2009 across Bolton schools.

Information was provided in relation to the following areas, viz:-

- National Results for pupils at the end of Key Stage 4;
- The amount of pupils in Bolton achieving 5 A* - C both including and not including English and Mathematics in 2009;
- Statistics highlighting which schools were improving their GCSE results and those declining;
- Performance of young people in Bolton compared with those nationally with a similar socio-economic profile;
- Actions being put in place to improve GCSE results across Schools in Bolton; and

- OFSTED inspection framework and the implications for Governing bodies.

During the course of the ensuing discussion members raised the following issues:-

- The need to track the results of children leaving Primary School to their Secondary School GCSE results in order to smooth any transitional problems for future cohorts;
- Importance of keeping track of every pupil's development; and
- Using Children's Centre records to inform the way in which children were educated.

It was agreed that

- (i) the presentation be noted; and
- (ii) that an interim report on the GCSE Interventions Strategy be brought to a Children's PDG augmented by the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee on an annual basis, following the publication of GCSE results.

(The meeting started at 5.30 p.m. and finished at 6.20 p.m.)