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| CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | Agenda Item No. 8 |
| 12 SEPTEMBER 2011 | Public Report |

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

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PORTFOLIO PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the progress made in the portfolio for the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee considers the content of this report and make any appropriate recommendations which members would like the portfolio holder to address.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 One of the priorities contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy is Creating Opportunities, Tackling Inequalities, which is within the remit of this Committee.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 This report concentrates on three aspects of the Lead Member's portfolio:

- Achievement and attainment
- Ofsted rating for nursery and primary schools, secondary schools, special schools and the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)
- Development of the Universities@Peterborough project

4.2 Achievement and Attainment

A separate report on this Committee agenda "Presentation of 2011 Unvalidated Examination Results" shows that we continue to make progress across the key stages of educational attainment. We are particularly pleased with Early Years & Foundation Stage (EYFS) results and GCSE results which have broken records again this year. Members will see that there is still work to do on our Key Stage 1 and, as yet, the picture around Key Stage 2 is not clear as adjustments are still to be made. The proposals in the separate report are expected to be followed so that we can continue to see further improvements in education attainment in the city.

4.3 Ofsted Ratings

Ofsted send information on a quarterly basis in the form of the "Local Area Children's Services Performance Profile". The latest profile received relates to Quarter 10: 03 August 2011. This profile shows the following picture:

- Nursery and EYFS Primary = 83% good or outstanding; 17% satisfactory
- Primary Schools = 60% good or outstanding; 35% satisfactory; 5% inadequate
- LA maintained Secondary Schools = 29% good or outstanding; 71% satisfactory

- Special Schools and PRU = 75% good or outstanding; 25% satisfactory

This means that there are only two schools in Peterborough (primary schools) which have been judged as not satisfactory. We continue to work with schools to ensure that even more progress is made.

4.4 Universities@Peterborough

Members will be aware that Anglia Ruskin University and University Centre Peterborough (UCP) have had a presence in Peterborough for some time now. The University of Bedfordshire have also been providing Post Graduate Certificate of Education for students who train in our schools and are therefore available for recruitment as Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs). Over half of the primary cohort has secured teaching posts in the city for September 2011.

In recognition however, that Peterborough was in the largest Higher Education provision cold zones in the country, it was decided to embark on the Universities@Peterborough project. This is led by the Lead Member and Director of Children's Service working in partnership to expand the offer available to young and older students alike.

To this end, a number of universities have been approached to see if they would like to develop courses and programmes in the city. To date, Cranfield University are in the process of setting up a Chair of Renewable Energy. The Chair and his/her department will be offering masters courses and continuous professional development for staff working primarily in the environmental cluster. The university is working alongside Opportunity Peterborough to identify the companies who will benefit from this exciting offer.

We have also attracted Middlesex University to Peterborough, initially to offer work based learning to staff and managers in Peterborough's commercial and business sector. Middlesex Institute of Work Based Learning has an international reputation. We are currently working with staff at the university to identify other potential programmes and courses to be offered from September 2012.

Discussions are also continuing with at least two other Higher Education providers and as we reach agreement with them, further announcements will be made.

4.5 School Developments

A separate report on this Committees agenda details school developments across the city.

5. **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

5.1 Ofsted's Local Area Children's Services Performance Profile Quarter 10: 03 August 2011