

Scrutiny Review Scope	
Proposed Title	Scoping Date
Educational Attainment 2015	05/01/16
Criteria and reasons for selecting topic	
<p>At the Resilient Communities Scrutiny Committee on 17 September 2015 Members agreed to establish a scrutiny review panel meeting to consider educational attainment in 2015 in detail. It was agreed that this meeting would be held once the results had been validated. This followed concerns raised regarding poor secondary attainment in particular.</p>	
Which objectives within the Corporate Performance Plan does this topic address?	
<p>Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.</p>	
How is it envisaged that the scrutiny will assist in meeting the objectives listed above?	
<p>The scrutiny panel will consider the reasons why attainment for pupils at secondary schools in particular was poor in 2015 and how poor attainment is being addressed, with a view considering how future attainment can be improved which would increase aspiration and resilience of pupils.</p>	
What are the main objectives of the scrutiny?	
<p>To ensure that pupils in Blackpool are achieving the best outcomes that they can.</p>	
What specific issues will be addressed as part of the scrutiny?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary school results 2015 • Secondary school results 2015 • Educational outcomes for Looked After Children • Impact of funding on attainment • Transience and transition • The impact of behaviour and attendance (including exclusions) • Aspiration of pupils • Quality of teaching, recruitment and retention 	
What possible outcomes are envisaged in terms of service improvements / benefits to the community?	
<p>The scrutiny review will allow Members to actively monitor poor school performance and scrutinise plans to make improvements.</p>	
How will the public be involved? (consider invitations / press releases for meetings, consultation with community groups / clubs, etc)	
<p>The public will not be specifically invited to participate in this review due to the topic under scrutiny. However, the Panel will consider whether to meet with the Chair of Governor's meeting and/or headteachers in particular relation to aspiration.</p>	
How will the scrutiny achieve value for money for the Council / Council Tax payers?	
<p>The scrutiny review will ensure that plans for school improvement are fit for purpose and value for money.</p>	

What primary / new evidence is needed for the scrutiny?
A training session was provided by Amanda Whitehead on 5 January 2015 to advise Members of how to interpret data. However, the majority of evidence to be considered is already available.
What secondary / existing information will be needed? (include background information / existing reports (consider Internal Audit) / legislation / central government information and reports, etc.)
School results data 2015 Detail of school funding Document regarding transition RAISEOnline
Which Council officers / departments will provide information, advice and assistance for the scrutiny?
Del Curtis - Director of People (DCS) Amanda Whitehead – School Improvement Paul Barker – Education Performance Adviser Hilary Shaw – Head of Business Support and Resources Natasha Armistead – Pupil Welfare Service
What type of meetings (e.g. fact finding, evidence gathering, consultations, questioning, site visits), and how many in number are envisaged for the scrutiny?
Up to 6 meetings are expected – all to be fully scoped and focussed.
Timescales / likely duration of enquiry
A scoping meeting and training session on interpreting data to be held 5 January and a series of meetings to be fully developed around core issues. The review will be completed by the end of July 2016.
Lead Scrutiny Officer
Mrs Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Scrutiny Panel Members
Cllrs Benson, O’Hara, Humphreys, Hunter, Maycock and Singleton