

Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

23rd February 2016

**Agenda
Item No.
7**

Report of the Independent Chair of the Education Challenge Board, Frances Done

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Councillor Towe – Learning, Skills and Apprenticeships

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update members on the work and progress of the Education Challenge Board which was established in November 2014. The Board has met on nine occasions since then and will continue to meet every two months.

The Board monitors progress and provides challenge for Walsall's School Improvement Strategy and associated improvement plan. The Chair last reported by way of written report and attendance at the Scrutiny Committee in February 2015 but also attended the September 2015 Committee to discuss progress and answer questions.

The report, which is attached, was presented to the Children and Young People's Partnership on 13th January 2016. This provides information for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which covers;

- the role of the Education Challenge Board
- a review of school and pupil performance data
- progress in implementing the School Improvement Strategy Action Plan
- the recent review of the School Improvement Strategy, Action Plan and scorecard

The report draws attention to areas of progress and to areas where the pace of performance needs to improve.

Reason for scrutiny:

The Ofsted inspection report relating to local authority school improvement services published in June 2014 found that the local authority arrangements for supporting school improvement were ineffective.

Recommendations:

To note progress to date.

Background papers:

Reference to the School Improvement Strategy Action Plan and Scorecard.

Resource and legal considerations:

None

Citizen impact:

None

Environmental impact:

None

Performance management:

None

Equality Implications:

The Education Challenge Board considers issues relating to equality of opportunity in relation to education on a regular basis.

Consultation:

None

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