

Report to: **Scrutiny Committee for Children's Services**

Date: **23 March 2006**

By: **Chairman of the Project Board**

Title of report: **Scrutiny review of the School Improvement Service**

Purpose of report: **To present the outcomes of the review and propose recommendations for the future contract of the service.**

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**RECOMMENDATION – that the Committee considers the report of the Project Board and makes recommendations to Cabinet for comment and County Council for approval.**

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**1. Financial Appraisal**

1.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations in the Project Board report.

**2. Supporting Information**

2.1 The attached report contains the findings and recommendations of the Project Board. Supporting documentation can be made available in the Members' Room upon request.

2.2 The Project Board comprised of Councillors Kathryn Field (Chair), Pat Ost and Francis Whetstone.

2.3 The Project Board met on seven occasions and took evidence from five witnesses. A questionnaire was circulated to head teachers and chairs of governors at all county schools and there was a 37% response rate to it. A focus session with a group of 17 head teachers and chairs of governors also took place.

2.4 The Committee is recommended to receive the Project Board's report for submission to Cabinet on 2 May 2006.

**Councillor Kathryn Field**  
Chairman of Project Board

Contact Officer:  
Gillian Rickels (01273) 481796

Local Members: All

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS  
Supporting evidence and information