

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 26 January 2016

By: Director of Children's Services

Title: Scrutiny Review of Raising the Participation Age

Purpose: To provide the Cabinet with the opportunity to comment on the Scrutiny Committee review of raising the participation age

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. note the report of the Scrutiny Committee; and
 2. advise the County Council that, in considering the report of the Scrutiny Committee, the Council be recommended to welcome the report of the Scrutiny Committee and to agree the response of the Director of Children's Services to the recommendations and their implementation as set out in the action plan attached as Appendix 1 to this report
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1 Background

1.1 The Children's Services Scrutiny Committee established its review of Raising the Participation Age (RPA) to examine whether East Sussex County Council (ESCC) is meeting its statutory duties and to identify whether any improvements can be made to increase the participation of young people in education, employment or training.

1.2 The aim of RPA is to ensure that young people remain positively engaged with education, employment or training until at least the age of 18, offering the best possible opportunity of developing the skills that will enable them to pursue successful careers, and make a contribution to their community.

2 Supporting information

2.1 Children's Services welcome the Scrutiny Review of RPA, in particular the recognition that it gives to the importance of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance in securing and sustaining education, training and employment opportunities. The recommendations of this report demonstrate the Council's commitment to RPA and the importance of developing further good quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

2.2 The action plan attached as Appendix 1, sets out the response to the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 The Scrutiny Review has provided a useful insight into RPA in East Sussex. It is recommended that the Cabinet advise the County Council that, in considering the report of the Scrutiny Committee, the Council be recommended to welcome the report of the Scrutiny Committee and to agree the response of the Director of Children's Services to the recommendations and their implementation as set out in the action plan attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None