

**Agenda item 11**

**Education, Children and Young People (ECYP) Scrutiny panel**

**Review into school attendance with a focus on transitional Years 6 to 7**

**Preface**

The Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel undertook a review into school attendance with a focus on transitional years 6-7. This topic was discussed with relevant officers and determined to be the most appropriate area for review. It was recognised that this topic had clear synergy with working groups as well as policy, protocol and strategy developments taking place by officers within the directorate.

The Covid pandemic has impacted the resilience of the entire educational environment. It was identified that this report should be the start of a process of small and purposeful scrutiny topics that are outcome focused. Within this time of academic recovery, the work of scrutiny has never been more important to ensure that any topic chosen complements, yet challenges, existing workstreams of the Children and Families Directorate.

I would like to convey my sincere thanks to all the officers, members of the panel and external witnesses who contributed to making this review a success. The cohesive approach amongst members allowed for discussions that produced high support and challenge. Our collaborative approach with views provided from professionals in addition to invited members from stakeholder groups gave robust and holistic scrutiny.

I wholeheartedly commend all recommendations to Cabinet but wish to emphasise the importance of at least doubling the number of LA Link Co-ordinators and the positive impact that will be realised because of this action.

Councillor Ryan Brent  
Chair, Education, Children & Young People Scrutiny Panel