

**TO: CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL  
5 MARCH 2014**

---

**WORKING GROUPS UPDATE REPORT  
Working Group Lead Member**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report sets out the progress achieved to date by the Working Group of the Panel reviewing school places and invites expressions of interest from Panel Members to join a new working group to undertake a future review of substance misuse by children and young people on completion of the current review of school places.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Panel:**

- 2.1 **notes the progress achieved to date by its Working Group reviewing School Places; and**
- 2.2 **identifies Members to join a new working group to undertake a future review of substance misuse by children and young people on completion of the current review of school places.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 To keep the Panel up to date regarding the activities of its Working Group reviewing school places and to seek expressions of interest from Panel Members to join a new working group to undertake a future review of substance misuse and the effects it has on children, young people and families.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

School Places

- 5.1 A Working Group of the Panel was established to undertake a review of the Council's arrangements for planning and providing places for children in Bracknell Forest's schools, to include the school admissions process and national comparisons.
- 5.2 The Working Group has met on four occasions to date. It received an introductory briefing and considered the scope of the review at its first meeting. The school admissions process was considered at the second meeting and the capital programme, new housing developments and demographic trends were addressed at the third meeting. The fourth meeting featured consideration of school place planning anomalies; the timescales, processes, issues and learning associated with amending

designated school areas; admission arrangements in 2015/16; and the on-line application system.

- 5.3 Future work will include gathering more detailed information concerning the allocation of school places, analysis of school preference allocation trends over the last few years to gauge success and likely parental satisfaction, and obtaining a headteacher's perception of the allocations process.

#### Substance Misuse

- 5.4 This review follows on from the review of substance misuse by adults previously undertaken by a working group of the Adult Social Care and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Panel. It is likely that the review will commence in late summer/early autumn 2014.

### **6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS / EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT / STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES / CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 Not applicable.

#### Background Papers

None.

#### Contact for further information

Richard Beaumont – 01344 352283  
e-mail: [richard.beaumont@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:richard.beaumont@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

Andrea Carr – 01344 352122  
e-mail: [andrea.carr@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.carr@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)