



North Tyneside Council

Vivienne Geary
Head of Law and Governance
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This matter is being dealt with by:
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16 June 2017

To: All Members of Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

Dear Councillor

Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee – 19 June 2017

I refer to item 7 on the agenda for the meeting of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee to be held on Monday 19 June 2017 and enclose the decision of Cabinet made on 12 June 2017 regarding the Elective Home Education Sub Group's recommendations.

Please bring these papers with you to the meeting.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Kerr".

Elizabeth Kerr
Democratic Services Officer
On behalf of
Vivienne Geary
Head of Law and Governance

Circulation overleaf

Circulated to:

To all Members of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee

Councillor Alison Austin
Councillor Pamela Brooks
Councillor Joanne Cassidy
Councillor Karen Clark
Councillor Muriel Green
Councillor Karen Lee

Councillor Andy Newman
Councillor Pat Oliver (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Margaret Reynolds
Councillor Matthew Thirlaway (Chair)
Councillor Alison Waggott-Fairley
Councillor Frances Weetman

Parent Governor Representatives

Mrs Michelle Ord

Churches Representatives

Rev. Michael Vine, Church of England

Mr Gerry O'Hanlon, Roman Catholic Church

**Children, Education and Skills Sub-committee
19 June 2017**

Additional information for Item 7 - extract from Cabinet minutes 12 June 2017

CAB182/06/17 Cabinet Response to Scrutiny Report on Elective Home Education (All Wards)

Cabinet received a report seeking approval to the proposed response to the recommendations included in the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Report into Elective Home Education.

At a meeting in July 2016, the Children, Education and Skills Sub Committee had received a report which set out background information in relation to Elective Home Education.

Members of the Sub Committee had expressed some concerns as to the Authority's ability to check the quality of education being received by those outside of the formal school process. As the Attendance and Placement Team was due to review North Tyneside's policy on Elective Home Education, it was agreed that a review be undertaken to look at the current practices and Local Authority role in relation to home educating.

Following consideration of background information in relation to Elective Home Education, the Sub Group had agreed the following remit at the beginning of the study:

- What are the key motivations for parents wanting to home educate their children?
- Is the increased demand on school places impacting on the number of parents that choose to home school?
- Do parents feel supported by the local authority in their choice? Do they require additional assistance?
- Should the government be lobbied to change the law to permit local authority's access to elective home educated children?
- To advise the officer team on the Authority's policy statement on home education and what networks could be established to reassure Members that all children being home educated were known about.

The Sub Group had met with officers in the Attendance and Placement Team to gather information on the role that the Authority had in relation to Elective Home Education and the powers available to the Authority in ensuring an appropriate education was provided. The Sub Group had also obtained information relating to why parents chose home education and the latest figures.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning thanked the sub-group for the report.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1: To accept the recommendations set out in paragraph 1.2

Option 2: To not accept the recommendations set out in paragraph 1.2, and provide an alternative response to the report at the meeting.

Resolved that the proposed responses to the recommendations from the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Sub Group in relation to its study into Elective Home Education Report, as shown in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

(Reason for decision – in order to improve and develop support for those families who are currently or are considering home educating their children.)