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**OVERVIEW OF LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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1. Since the last meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work undertaken by the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee:--
  - (a) **David Heaton, Principal, Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College – Presentation –**  
The Committee received an informative and heartfelt presentation from David Heaton, Principal, Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College on the recently published OFSTED inspection, in which the College had received grades of outstanding performance for five out of seven areas assessed. As a Committee we were delighted to celebrate the achievements of the college and are proud that we have such an outstanding educational resource within our town. We look forward to visiting the college once the new building renovations are complete.
  - (b) **Update Reports on the Implementation of Recommendations for Reviews undertaken during 2002/03 – Improving Standards for Children with a Hearing Impairment -** Consideration was given to updates on the recommendations made by the Improving Standards for Children with a Hearing Impairment and were encouraged by the steps taken by the Education Department to address the recommendations of the Group.
  - (c) **Review of Progress on Current Policy Review –** Good progress is being made on the Strategic Review of Primary Education and 5 consultation meetings have been held in schools to canvas views of Head Teachers, Chairs of Governors and Parent Governors. We are awaiting the results of the borough-wide survey of parents and carers before compiling our recommendations and final report. We are therefore seeking a meeting with the consultants as a matter of urgency.
  - (d) **Review Items Final Reports –** I have pleasure to announce that the final reports of the Special Educational Needs Assessment of the Very Young Task and Finish Review Group, Use of Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF) in Schools Task and Finish Review Group and the Educational Attainment of ‘Looked After’ Children Task and Finish Review Group and the Library Standards Task and Finish Review Group were endorsed and referred to Cabinet for consideration. Due to unforeseen administrative circumstances our reports did not reach the Cabinet at the meeting on 27th April, but I have been assured that they will be referred at the next available opportunity.
  - (e) **Feedback from Cabinet on Reviews Completed –** The Committee has been notified that the recommendations of the Racial Incidents Report in Schools Task and Finish Review Group, Lifelong Learning Mapping Task and Finish Review Group, and the Schools Finance Task and Finish Review Group had been noted and actions to be

followed up were reported by the Cabinet member with Portfolio for Education.

Also, since the last Council meeting, I have been involved in the following meetings as Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee:-

Scrutiny training feedback with Mel Nixon  
SACRE meeting

**Councillor Cyndi Hughes**  
**Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee**