
OVERVIEW OF LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work that have been undertaken under the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee :-
 - (a) **Darlington Borough Council** – As a follow on from the Committee’s Review of Racial Incidents in Schools, it received a presentation by Mr. T. Lindsay, Director of Darlington and Durham County Racial Equality Council (REC), the mission of which was ‘to work towards the elimination of racial discrimination and to provide the quality of opportunity and good relations between persons of different racial groups’. The Committee discussed with Mr. Lindsay the extent of the work of the (REC) in Darlington and nationally and the Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Education, who was present at the meeting, invited Mr. Lindsay to contact him to discuss possible ways in which the Council could have stronger links with the REC in working towards the elimination of racial discrimination.
 - (b) **“Every Child Matters: Change for Children”** – Mr. Stanley Bradford, Regional Change Adviser – North East gave a presentation to the Committee which was entitled “Every Child Matters: Change for Children”, which gave information on the national framework for the reform of children’s services, which puts the child at the centre in accordance with the Children Act 2004. Mr. Bradford stated that the framework was intended to provide better support for parents, carers and families; shift to prevention of problems by early identification and intervention and provide integrated and personalised children’s services. Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee were pleased to welcome some members of the Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee to this presentation.

I also attended the following meetings as Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee:

- Holocaust Memorial Day Presentation at Carmel College
- LEA Governors Appointment Panel
- Meeting with Head of Longfield School at Longfield
- Inclusive School Award Presentation at St. Augustine’s Primary School
- Newly constituted Branksome Governing Body Meeting
- Meeting with the Director of Children’s Services and Cabinet Member
- Briefing meeting with Education Policy Advisor and relevant officers
- Monitoring and Co-ordination Meeting

Councillor Cyndi Hughes
Chair of Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee