

**REPORT TO CABINET
13 FEBRUARY 2018**

**FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

(Meeting of 18 January 2018)

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Schools Annual Report

The Project Director (Education & Skills) introduced the Annual Report to the Committee. The report provided information on the quality of schools and the impact of the Local Authority with the Executive Summary highlighted. He advised that the recruitment and retention of teaching staff was the subject of a Task and Finish Group. The Committee suggested that the inclusion of "High Quality Leadership" could be included within the priorities in the report and that the appointment of a strong Governing Body was important to the success of a school. The newly introduced national funding formula was based on a two-tier system which would have an impact on High Schools within a three-tier system. A presentation on Educational Outcomes was also provided alongside the report.

Councillor W Daley, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services was also in attendance and highlighted that through the North of Tyne Devolution Deal there was an opportunity to create an "Education Challenge" similar to that undertaken in London to improve educational standards and life choices available to future generations of children in the County.

Concern was expressed by Members regarding the decreasing pupil rolls in Berwick and Alnwick and a report on this was requested to be provided to a future meeting.

RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report.

**COUNCILLOR G RENNER-THOMPSON
IN THE CHAIR**