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| Title of Report: | School Academies |
| Report to be considered by: | Stronger Communities Select Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 7 February 2011 |

Purpose of Report: To outline the proposed Terms of Reference and scope for a review into the effect of schools becoming Academies on the capacity of the Local Education Authority.

Recommended Action: To agree the proposed Terms of Reference.

| Stronger Communities Select Committee Chairman | |
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| Name & Telephone No.: | Councillor Irene Neill – Tel (0118) 9712671 |
| E-mail Address: | ineill@westberks.gov.uk |

| Contact Officer Details | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Name: | Stephen Chard |
| Job Title: | Policy Officer (Scrutiny Support) |
| Tel. No.: | 01635 519462 |
| E-mail Address: | schard@westberks.gov.uk |

Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Academies Act 2010 aims to make it possible for all publicly-funded schools in England to become academies, still publicly-funded but with a vastly increased degree of autonomy in issues such as the setting of teachers' wages and diverging from the National Curriculum.
- 1.2 This report proposes that a review be carried out into the effect of schools becoming Academies on the capacity of the Local Education Authority. It outlines proposed Terms of Reference and presents a suggested methodology.

2. Proposed Terms of Reference

- 2.1 At its meeting on 18 January 2011, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission gave its agreement to a review being conducted by the Stronger Communities Select Committee into the effect of schools becoming Academies on the capacity of the Local Education Authority, and specifically to:
- (1) understand the scope and range of the powers allowed to schools under the Academies Act 2010;
 - (2) assess the immediate and likely take up within West Berkshire;
 - (3) evaluate the effect of schools' action on the capacity and capability of the Local Education Authority; and
 - (4) report to the Executive with recommendations.

3. Methodology

- 3.1 It is proposed that the review is carried out by the Select Committee, either through examination at a scheduled meeting or by the establishment of a task group.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Select Committee agrees the Terms of Reference for the review.

Appendices

There are no Appendices to this report.
