

# **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**10 DECEMBER 2013**

## **WORK PROGRAMME**

Report from: Richard Hicks, Deputy Director, Customer Contact, Leisure, Culture, Democracy and Governance

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### **Summary**

This item advises Members of the current work programme and allows the Committee to adjust it in the light of latest priorities, issues and circumstances. It gives Members the opportunity to shape and direct the Committee's activities over the year.

### **1. Budget and Policy Framework**

- 1.1 Under Chapter 4 – Rules, paragraph 22.1 (v) General terms of reference, each overview and scrutiny committee has the responsibility for setting its own work programme.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 Appendix 1 to this report sets out the existing work programme for the Committee.

### **3. Agenda planning meeting**

- 3.1 Members will be aware that Overview and Scrutiny Committees hold agenda planning meetings on a regular basis. These give officers guidance on information that Members wish them to provide when scrutinising an issue. An agenda planning meeting took place on Wednesday 20 November 2013.

#### **4. Cabinet Forward Plan**

- 4.1 The latest forward plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 18 November 2013. The following items have been added that fall within the remit of this committee:

Expansion of Danecourt Special School by way of Prescribed Alterations 17 December 2013

This report will provide details of expansion proposals for Danecourt Special School and to seek Cabinet approval to authorise officers to commence a period of informal consultation on the proposals as part of the statutory process; and the commencement of an options appraisal to consider the most appropriate way to physically expand the premises, within the allotted funding and timeframe.

Gateway 3 Contract Award: Hoo Peninsula Wireless Network 17 December 2013

This report will set out proposals for the award of the procurement of a wireless network solution for schools and academies on the Hoo Peninsula.

Gateway 3 Contract Award: Speech and Language Therapy 17 December 2013

This report will provide details of the proposal to pool budgets with Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (MCCG) to deliver Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) services to school aged children and young people whose statements of special educational need include SALT, thereby meeting the council's statutory obligations towards these children.

Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement: Will Adams Centre 14 January 2014

This report relates to the commencement of the procurement process for the proposed expansion of the Will Adams Centre.

Gateway 4 Procurement Post Project Completion Review: Wainscott Primary School and Twydall School 14 January 2014

This report will set out a review of the works carried out at Wainscott Primary School and Twydall Primary School

Planning for Health – Obesity (Planning Guidance Note) Consultation 14 January 2014

This report will seek approval to go out to consultation on a draft planning guidance note dealing with the health implications of planning, specifically focussed on obesity issues.

*(Note: O&S Committee Chairmen have been consulted about nominating the Business Support O&S Committee to deal with this item on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 during the consultation period as it is cross-cutting.)*

A Better Start Big Lottery Bid 11 February 2014

This report will set out details of the Big Lottery Bid "A Better Start". The Big Lottery, "A Better Start" programme, aims to improve the physical, emotional and psychological foundations built during a child's first few years.

Gateway 3 Contract Award: Brompton Westbrook  
Primary School - Expansion to Two Forms of Entry

11 February 2014

This report will set out proposals for the award of the contract for the Brompton Westbrook Primary School works.

- 4.2 At the pre-agenda meeting it was suggested by the Members present that one item that appeared on the Forward Plan published on 2 September 2013 be added to the work programme, this has therefore been considered as an item on the agenda for this meeting:

Outcome of consultation – expansion of Brompton  
Westbrook Primary School

14 January 2014

This report will set out the outcome of consultation on the proposed expansion of Brompton Westbrook Primary School.

- 4.3 Furthermore, it was agreed that Early Help Strategy be added to the agenda for the meeting of this Committee on 14 January 2014. This will be appearing on the Forward Plan for consideration by the Cabinet on 11 February 2014.

## **5. Health scrutiny**

- 5.1 At this Committee's meeting on 15 January 2013 it was agreed that more emphasis needed to be placed on the scrutiny of children's health services and it was agreed that a member briefing on children's health issues in Medway would be provided during 2013.
- 5.2 The Annual Public Health Report of the Director of Public Health 2012/13 is an item on the agenda for this Committee meeting. The focus of the report is the health and wellbeing of school aged children. As agreed by this Committee on 26 September a briefing on children's health issues in Medway for all members of this Committee and the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been arranged for earlier in the evening on 10 December 2013. This will assist members to explore the key issues arising from the 2012/13 Annual Public Health report and identify issues relating to children's health for further scrutiny and discussion.

## **6. Election of Parent Governor representative**

- 6.1. The Committee has had a vacancy for a voting member to represent parent governors following the resignation of Samantha Collins earlier in the year. Samantha was appointed to the Committee on 20 October 2011 for a four year term expiring in October 2015. Nominations to the vacancy were invited from among parent governors at Medway local authority maintained schools in July and October 2013 but none have been received. The Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001 stipulate that where a vacancy remains unfilled because no, or not enough, candidates seek election, the Council shall repeat the process within one year of the original vacancy arising and at six monthly intervals thereafter, calculated from the first anniversary of the original vacancy having arisen, until the vacancy is filled.
- 6.2 Since the last meeting of the Committee, Kwashie Anang, has confirmed he is no longer a parent governor. This potentially gives rise to a second vacancy. Kwashie was appointed to the Committee on 26 July 2012 for a four year term

expiring in July 2016. If an election is required, this has to be held in time for the vacancy to be filled within six months of it occurring. The Committee will be advised of the position at the meeting.

## **7. Implications for Looked After Children**

- 7.1 Scrutinising services and support for looked after children (LAC) is a key aspect of the remit of this committee. Members should ensure they focus attention on the Every Child Matters outcomes for LAC as well as scrutinising every child matters outcomes for all children in Medway.

## **8. Financial and legal implications**

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.
- 8.2 Under The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 the Council has power to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in Medway. This Committee has the remit to review and scrutinise health services for children and must invite interested parties to comment on particular matters under review or scrutiny and take into account relevant available information and in particular, relevant information provided by Healthwatch Medway. The Committee may make reports and recommendations and reports to relevant NHS bodies or health service providers. These organisations are also under a statutory obligation to consult the Committee on any proposal for a substantial development or variation of children's health services in Medway.
- 8.3 The Parent Governor (England) Regulations 2001 provide for the arrangements relating to the election of voting parent governor representatives to education Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

## **9. Recommendations**

- 9.1 That, subject to any changes made at the meeting, the work programme is agreed as set out at the attached Appendix 1 of the report.
- 9.2 That nominations to vacancies for voting parent governor representatives should be invited in the New Year as appropriate, for a four year term of office.

### **Lead officer contact:**

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### **Background papers:**

None

**Work Programme**  
**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Policy framework documents – Children and Young People’s Plan and Youth Justice Plan**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Work Type</b>	<b>Responsible officer</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services (lead member)	Holding to account		To hold the Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services (lead member) to account on performance against his portfolio	14 January 2014
Medway Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB)	Holding to account	MSCB Independent Chair	To consider and scrutinise the activity of the MSCB and its Business Plan	14 January 2014
Youth Service provision/clubs across the authority	Service information	Assistant Director, Inclusion and Improvement	To consider a report which will update the committee on youth service provision and youth clubs across Medway	14 January 2014
School Admission Arrangements 2015	Pre-decision scrutiny	Student Services Manager	To scrutinise the proposed admission arrangements for 2015	14 January 2014
Role of school nursing and its impact on keeping children healthy and safe	Other	Director for Public Health	To scrutinise a report on the role of school nursing and its impact on keeping children healthy and safe	14 January 2014
Early Help Strategy	Pre decision scrutiny	Assistant Director Commissioning and Strategic Development	To provide information on the multi agency Early Help Strategy prior to Cabinet consideration on 11 <sup>th</sup> February (TBC)	14 January 2014
Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Educational Improvement in attendance	Holding to account		To hold the Portfolio Holder for Educational Improvement to account on performance against her portfolio	25 March 2014
Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services in attendance	Holding to account		To hold the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services to account on performance against his portfolio in relation to the Independent Safeguarding and Review Services	25 March 2014
Update on progress against the Ofsted inspection action plan	Performance reviews	Director of Children and Adults	To consider the progress made against the action plan following the unannounced Ofsted inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children	25 March 2014

Item	Work Type	Responsible officer	Objectives	Timescale
Q3 – Council Plan Monitoring 2013/14	Performance Reviews	Director of Children and Adults	To scrutinise performance against the relevant targets for Council Plan Monitoring 2013/14 – quarter 3	25 March 2014
Adoption services	Other	Assistant Director, Children's Social Care	To consider and scrutinise a report regarding the adoption service	25 March 2014
Children's Social Care Complaints and Compliments Annual Report 2013/14	Annual Report	Assistant Director, Communications, Performance and Partnership	To scrutinise the Children's Social Care Complaints and Compliments Annual Report 2013/14	July 2014
Medway Safeguarding Children Board	Holding to account	MSCB Independent Chair	To consider and scrutinise the activity of the MSCB and its Business Plan	July 2014
End of year performance 2013/14	Performance Reviews	Director of Children and Adults	To consider and scrutinise the end of year performance report for 2013/14	July 2014
Future of Sure Start Children Centres	Other	Early Years Strategy Manager	To scrutinise the future of sure start children centre provision in Medway	Date to be determined
New Ofsted single framework	Other	Director of Children and Adults	To receive a report detailing Ofsted's new single framework for the inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers	Date to be determined
The local authority's approach to personal budgets and direct payments	Other	Director of Children and Adults	To scrutinise a report on the local authority's approach to personal budgets and direct payments.	Date to be determined

### Forthcoming meetings:

2013: 10 December

2014: 14 January, 25 March

### Work completed in 2013/14:

#### 4 June 2013

- Update on the Fostering Service
- Review of School Organisation Plan 2011-16
- Medway Action for Families
- Improving performance at Key Stage 2

16 July 2013

- Review of overnight short breaks
- Petition – sure start nursery and pre-school facilities at Magpie Hall Road and Luton High Street
- Update on Health Visiting Service
- Children's Social Care Complaints and Compliments Annual Report 2012/13
- End of year performance 2012/13

26 September 2013

- Medway Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2012 and Business Plan 2013/14
- Ofsted Inspection of Local Authority arrangements for the protection of children – update report
- Ofsted Inspection of Looked After Children services
- Management action relating to the forecast overspend within the Children's Social Care Division
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Pathfinder Programme
- 2013/14 Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring

10 December 2013

- Annual Public Health Report 2012/13: The Health of School Aged Children
- Test and Examination Results
- Children Not in Education
- Youth Justice Plan
- Outcomes of consultation for the proposed prescribed alterations at Brompton Westbrook Primary School
- Proposed Capital and Revenue Draft Budgets 2014/15
- Q2 Council Plan Monitoring