

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3 JUNE 2014

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 proposed work programme for the Committee during the current municipal year.

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 14 May 2014.
- 3.2 At the agenda planning meeting the work programme was considered and a Briefing Note updating Members on schools that are becoming academy schools was requested. This will be circulated to the Committee in the Autumn term.
- 3.3 It was also noted that a report on the Short Breaks Review due to be considered at this meeting of the Committee would now be considered on 18 September 2014.

4. Cabinet Forward Plan

- 4.1 The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 12 May 2014.
<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=196&RP=115>
- 4.2 Set out below is a list of items featuring on the Forward Plan that fall within the terms of reference of the Children and Young People (CYP) Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee is asked to identify any items it wishes to consider before the Cabinet decision is taken (where dates permit), other than those already programmed in Appendix 1.

Title of Decision	Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date
Appointment of Cabinet Advisory Groups	10.06.14
Gateway 3 Contract Award: School Meals Contract	10.06.14
End of Year Performance Report 2013/14 (on CYP O&SC agenda for 15 July 2014)	15.07.14
Expansion and Relocation of Rivermead Special School (Note: subject to Cabinet decision, this may feature at a future meeting of this Committee)	15.07.14
Short Breaks Review (on CYP O&SC agenda for 18 September 2014)	<i>initially 5.08.14 To be deferred</i>
Gateway 1 Procurement Commencement Danecourt Special School (New)	15.07.14
Gateway 3 Contract Award: Napier School Expansion Works	15.07.14
Council Plan Monitoring Quarter 1 (New - on CYP O&SC agenda for 18 September 2014)	2.09.14

- 4.2 The following items listed on the Forward Plan appear separately on the agenda for this Committee:
- (a) Outcomes of the Consultation for the Proposed Prescribed Alterations at Danecourt Special School

5. Health scrutiny

- 5.1 An update on School Nursing was presented to the meeting of this Committee on 14 January 2014 and an update report is programmed for January 2015.

6. Election of Parent Governor representatives

- 6.1. There are currently two voting member vacancies to represent parent governors on this Committee. The first vacancy occurred on 26 June 2013 and the second vacancy was announced at the meeting of this Committee on 10 December 2013.

- 6.2. In accordance with the Parent Governor (England) Regulations 2001, in July 2013 and October 2013 nominations were invited to the initial vacant position from parent governors of maintained schools. No nominations were received.
- 6.3. An election process for both vacant parent governor places commenced again in February 2014, with nominations closing on 7 March 2014. Two nominations were received. One was not eligible as the nominee was not an elected parent governor on the school governing body and the other nominee withdrew as the school where they are a parent governor is considering becoming an academy school.
- 6.4. Invitations for nominations to the two vacant positions will need to be repeated within one year of the original vacancy having arisen and then at six monthly intervals thereafter until the vacancies are filled. As we have advertised parent governor vacancies 3 times in the last 12 months, it is proposed that the next nomination and election process commences in September 2014 to coincide with school term dates, and that the process be repeated in Spring 2015 if the vacancies are not filled.

7. Implications for Looked After Children

- 7.1 Scrutinising services and support for children who are looked after is a key aspect of the remit of this Committee. Members should ensure they focus attention on the Every Child Matters outcomes for children who are looked after 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 The Committee are asked:

- (a) to agree the work programme as set out at the attached Appendix 1 of the report, subject to any changes made at the meeting;
- (b) to note that a Briefing Note on schools obtaining Academy status in Medway will be circulated to the members of this Committee for information in September;
- (c) to note that a further election process for nominations for Parent/Governor Representatives will commence in September 2014.

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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

Item	Work Type	Responsible officer	Objectives
15 July 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
Medway Safeguarding Children Board	Holding to Account	MSCB Independent Chair	To consider and scrutinise the activity of the MSCB and its Business Plan
Review and Update of the School Organisation Plan 2011-16	Pre-decision scrutiny	Director of Children and Adult Services	To scrutinise the draft updated School Organisation Plan prior to Cabinet decision
Children at Risk of Sexual Exploitation	Service Review	MSCB Independent Chair/ Assistant Director Children's Social Care	To update the Committee on action being undertaken to tackle child sexual exploitation
The local authority’s approach to personal budgets and direct payments	Other	Assistant Director Children's Social Care	To scrutinise a report on the local authority’s approach to personal budgets and direct payments.
CAMHS	Other	Assistant Director Partnership Commissioning	The Committee has requested an update report.
Q4 Council Plan Performance Monitoring performance 2013/14	Performance Reviews	Director of Children and Adult Services	To consider and scrutinise the end of year performance report for 2013/14
18 September 2014			
New Ofsted single framework	Other	Director of Children and Adult Services	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
Care Leavers	Service Review	Assistant Director Children's Social Care	

Item	Work Type	Responsible officer	Objectives
Private Fostering	Service Review	Assistant Director Children's Social Care	
Short Breaks Review	Pre decision scrutiny	Assistant Director Partnership Commissioning	Options and recommendations regarding the future delivery of overnight breaks in Medway
Q1 Council Plan Performance Monitoring performance 2014/15	Performance Reviews	Director of Children and Adults	To scrutinise performance against the relevant targets for Council Plan monitoring 2014/15
9 December 2014			
Provisional Educational Outcomes: Looked After Children	Performance Review	Assistant Director Children's Social Care/Assistant Director Inclusion and Development	To consider the provisional educational outcomes for Looked After Children
Role of the Virtual School for Looked After Children	Service Review	Assistant Director Children's Social Care/Assistant Director Inclusion and Development	To consider the role of the virtual school for Looked After Children
Proposed capital and revenue draft budgets 2015/16	Pre-decision scrutiny	Chief Finance Officer	To consider and scrutiny the proposed capital and revenue budgets for 2015/16
Q2 Council Plan Performance Monitoring performance 2014/15	Performance Review	Director of Children and Adult Services	To scrutinise performance against the relevant targets for Council Plan monitoring 2014/15
Provisional test and examination results	Performance Review	Assistant Director, Inclusion and Improvement	To consider the provisional test and examination results for 2013 and progress made against the recommendations of the Key Stage 2 Task Group review
14 January 2015			
Medway Safeguarding Children Board	Holding to Account	MSCB Independent Chair	To consider and scrutinise the activity of the MSCB and its Business Plan
School Admission Arrangements 2016	Pre-decision scrutiny	Student Services Manager	To scrutinise the proposed admission arrangements for 2016
School Nursing	Other	Director for Public Health	To provide the Committee with an update on the School Nursing Service, at their request.

25 March 2015			
Q3 Council Plan Performance Monitoring performance 2014/15	Performance Review	Director of Children and Adult Services	To scrutinise performance against the relevant targets for Council Plan monitoring 2014/15

Items for Future Meetings (Dates to be confirmed):

- Medway Action for Families
- Youth Justice Plan
- Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member)
- Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
- Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Educational Improvement
- Results of Consultation on Expansion and Relocation of Rivermead Special School

Forthcoming meetings:

15 July 2014
 18 September 2014
 9 December 2014
 14 January 2015
 25 March 2015

CYP O&S Committee 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

14 January 2014

- Medway Safeguarding Children Board update 2013/14
- Update on School Nursing
- School Admission Arrangements 2015
- Youth Service Provision
- Early Help Strategy

25 March 2014

- Portfolio Holder for Educational Improvement in attendance
- Portfolio Holder for Adult Services in attendance
- Update on progress against the Ofsted inspection action plan
- Adoption services
- Sufficiency Strategy
- Consultation for the expansion and relocation of Abbey Court School
- Q3 – Council Plan Monitoring 2013/14