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 16 December 2014.

3.2 At the agenda planning meeting it was noted that the Support for Care Leavers Task Group had agreed earlier in the day for the task group’s report to be deferred to the March meeting of the committee. The reason for the delay is due to the demands on the service following a recent peer review and the desire to ensure that the report is at a high standard to reflect the work the task group has undertaken.
3.3 It was therefore suggested that the item scheduled for March relating to Medway Children Action Network (CAN) be brought forward to the January meeting in order to balance the agendas across the two meetings more evenly.

3.4 Following the agenda planning meeting the Chairman agreed for the report on the Medway Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) to be deferred to the March meeting. This was to allow the new Independent Chair and the new Board Manager to settle into their new roles and also to enable to committee to receive some feedback from the peer review of the MSCB, which is scheduled for February 2015.

4. Cabinet Forward Plan

4.1 The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 15 December 2014 http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=213&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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Decision</th>
<th>Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final funding formula for mainstream schools and academies 2015-16</td>
<td>10.02.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Admission Arrangements 2016</td>
<td>10.02.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrutiny Review Task Group – Support for Care Leavers</td>
<td>14.04.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Scrutiny review task group – support for care leavers

5.1 The Scrutiny Review Task Group has agreed a set of recommendations and the final report is being prepared ready for submission to this committee on 25 March 2015.

6. Election of Parent Governor representatives

6.1 As reported at the previous meeting there are currently two voting member vacancies to represent parent governors on this Committee and Members were advised that unfortunately, during the last round of invitations for nominations, no nominations were received. The recruitment process will therefore be repeated six months from the last invitation for nominations, in accordance with the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.
7. Care Quality Commission Inspection Programme for Mental Health Services

7.1 At the last committee meeting Members were advised that a letter had been received from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) listing forthcoming inspections of mental health trusts and independent mental health services taking place between November and March 2015. An inspection of the Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust (which provides Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services for Medway) will start on 12 January 2015 and the committee agreed to delegate authority to submit a commentary for this inspection, based on evidence available to the Committee over the last year or so, to the Assistant Director, Partnership Commissioning in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Opposition Spokespersons.

7.2 CQC will assess whether the service is effective, safe, well-led, caring and responsive. The Assistant Director is currently preparing a draft response which will then be agreed with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Opposition spokespersons of this committee prior to submission before the inspection commences on 12 January 2015.

8. Implications for Looked After Children

9.1 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.

9. Financial and legal implications

9.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9.2 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.

9.3 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.

10. Recommendations

10.1 The Committee are asked to agree the work programme as set out at the attached Appendix 1 of the report;
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Email: teri.reynolds@medway.gov.uk, Tel: 01634 332104

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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Work Type</th>
<th>Responsible officer</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services</td>
<td>Holding to account</td>
<td></td>
<td>To hold the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services to account on performance against his portfolio in relation to the Independent Safeguarding and Review Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Admission Arrangements 2016</td>
<td>Pre-decision scrutiny</td>
<td>Student Services Manager</td>
<td>To scrutinise the proposed admission arrangements for 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Nursing</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Director for Public Health</td>
<td>To provide the Committee with an update on the School Nursing Service, at their request.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medway Action for Families</td>
<td>Service Review</td>
<td>Director of Children and Adult Services</td>
<td>To provide a progress report on Medway’s Action for Families programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medway Children’s Action Network (CAN)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Director, Partnership Commissioning</td>
<td>To receive an update on Medway CAN, its role and its work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrutiny Review Task Group – Support for Care Leavers</td>
<td>Policy Development</td>
<td>Assistant Director Children’s Social Care/Democratic Services Officer</td>
<td>To consider the findings and recommendations of the Support for Care Leavers Task Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medway Safeguarding Children Board</td>
<td>Holding to Account</td>
<td>MSCB Independent Chair</td>
<td>To consider and scrutinise the activity of the MSCB and its Business Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3 Council Plan Performance Monitoring performance 2014/15</td>
<td>Performance Review</td>
<td>Director of Children and Adult Services</td>
<td>To scrutinise performance against the relevant targets for Council Plan monitoring 2014/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update on the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Director, Partnership Commissioning</td>
<td>To consider an update on CAMHS, since the committee’s last report on the service in July 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Help Service</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Assistant Director, Children’s Social Care</td>
<td>To consider and scrutinise a report on the Early Help Service, including the Common Assessment Framework.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Work Type</td>
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<td>Objectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Offer</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Assistant Director, Children’s Social Care</td>
<td>To consider and scrutinise a report on the local offer and a tiered approach to support services (this was added to the work programme following discussion on the review of short breaks at 18 September 2014 meeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanency options for children that are looked after</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>AD, Children’s Social Care</td>
<td>To receive a report providing details on alternative permanency options for looked after children, such as kinship orders.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Forthcoming meetings:**
- 14 January 2015
- 25 March 2015

**CYP O&S Committee Work Completed in 2014/15:**

**9 December 2014**
- Attendance of the Portfolio Holder for Educational Improvement
- Provisional Test and Examination results for 2014
- Outcome of consultation for the proposed prescribed alterations at Rivermead Special School
- Youth Justice Plan
- Capital and Revenue Budget 2015/16
- Council Plan Monitoring – Quarter 2

**18 September 2014**
- Attendance of the Portfolio Holder Children’s Services (lead member)
- Short Breaks Review
- Update on Private Fostering
- New Ofsted Single Framework
- Review of the School Organisation Plan (2011-2016)
- Council Plan Performance Monitoring 2014-201

**15 July 2014**
- CAMHS
- Children’s Social Care Complaints and Compliments Annual Report 2013/14
- Medway Safeguarding Children Board
- The local authority’s approach to personal budgets and direct payments
- Q4 Council Plan Performance Monitoring performance 2013/14

**3 June 2014**
- Outcome of consultation for the proposed prescribed alterations at Danecourt Special School
- Sure Start Children’s Centres and Early Childhood outcomes 2013-14
- Safeguarding Peer Review