

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

21 JULY 2015

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 25 June 2015.

3.2 At the meeting it was suggested that in relation to the item on the forward plan relating to sufficiency of secondary school places (detailed below), this information be provided to the committee members via a briefing note.

3.3 At the meeting the Members and the Director of Children and Adult Services also discussed the work programme and a number of suggestions put forward by officers for the committee's consideration. The suggestions that were made included: -

- Support for Care Leavers Task Group progress update – to be scheduled for January 2016

- Integrated Family Support – to be scheduled for March 2016
- Early Help Offer – to be scheduled for March 2016
- Annual report from Children’s Safeguarding Service – to be scheduled for September 2015
- Update on Corporate Parenting (including Virtual School) and health assessments for Looked After Children – to be scheduled for September 2015 if not included in the annual report from Children’s Safeguarding Service
- Update on Children Centres and Early Years – to be scheduled for December 2015
- Integrated Youth Support Services – date to be determined.
- Test an examination results for 2015 – to be scheduled for March 2016 (once all results have been validated – a recommendation from Ofsted)

4. Cabinet Forward Plan

4.1 The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 6 July 2015.

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=115&RD=0&bcr=1>

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
School Organisation Plan Review 2015 (incorporating Sufficiency of Secondary School Places: Outcomes of options appraisals from 2014 review of School Organisation Plan)	27 October 2015
Outcome of the Statutory Representation Period for the expansion and relocation of Rivermead School	24 November 2015

5. Selection of next round of scrutiny Task group topics

5.1 On 25 June 2015 the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed the process for selection of topics for the next round of in-depth reviews to be undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny Task Groups. A total of three in-depth reviews can be supported annually on the basis of the Task Groups running successively, each with a 20 week programme of activity.

5.2 It has been unanimously agreed by the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the first Task Group in the 2015/16 municipal year should undertake an in-depth review into Housing: Demand, Affordability and Supply. This topic was selected for the last round of in depth reviews and was delayed because it could not have concluded its work before the local elections in May 2015. This Task Group will be cross-cutting covering housing strategy and services, which are within the remit of the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee as well as the strategic planning issues associated with housing such as the Local Plan and affordable housing targets which fall within

the remit of the Regeneration, Community and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Therefore, it has been agreed that membership of the Task Group (on the basis of 3 x Conservative : 1 x Labour and 1 x UKIP) should be drawn from both Committees with the final recommendations going back to both Committees before referral to Cabinet. The Task Group will start its work in late August/early September following conclusion of the post-election Member Induction programme and the school holidays.

- 5.3 During July, August and September, in line with established practice, it has been agreed that each overview and scrutiny committee should be invited to put forward suggestions for further Task Group topics using the criteria based approach adopted by the Council as set out in **Appendix 2** to this report. Following this an informal discussion between all Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairmen, Vice Chairmen and Opposition Spokespersons will take place and then the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider the long list of topics at its meeting on 3 December and agree a programme of two reviews for the period January to September 2016 based on an indicative timescale of 20 weeks for each.
- 5.4 Members are invited to submit ideas and suggestions to the Democratic Services Officer ahead of the agenda planning meeting (scheduled for 9 September 2015) for the next meeting of this Committee. These will then be reported back to the next meeting of this Committee.

6. Care Quality Commission Inspection Programme for Mental Health Services

- 6.1. The Care Quality Commission visit of Sussex Partnership Foundation NHS Trusts took place during January 2015. The results were circulated in draft form on 18 May 2015. CAMHS services were inspected in Sussex, Hampshire and Kent, including the Medway & Swale Team, which provides the CAMHS Tier 3 provision for Medway. The overall ratings were given by CQC as:
- Safety Rating: Requires improvement
 - Effectiveness Rating: Requires improvement
 - Caring Rating: Outstanding
 - Responsiveness Rating: Requires improvement
 - Leadership Rating: Good
 - Overall Rating: Requires Improvement.
- 6.2 The CQC inspection picks up the issue of long waits for treatment following assessment, which was the subject of the letter to CQC written on behalf of the Committee by Cllr Royle on 13 January 2015, and taken up directly at our meeting with CQC inspector on 9 January 2015. This issue is highlighted in two of the required improvement ratings (Safety and Response) but the improvement actions set out in the CQC draft inspection report does not directly address this matter.

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 to agree:
- (i) the work programme as set out at the attached Appendix 1 of the report;
 - (ii) to receive a briefing note in October relating to the sufficiency of secondary school places
 - (iii) the additions to the work programme, as set out in paragraph 3.3
- 9.2 The Committee Members are invited to submit ideas and suggestions to the Democratic Services Officer ahead of the agenda planning meeting (scheduled for 9 September 2015) for the next meeting of this Committee scheduled for 22 September 2015.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme
Appendix 2 – Criteria template for in-depth review selection

Background papers:

None

Appendix 1
Work Programme
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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

<i>Item</i>	<i>Work Type</i>	<i>Responsible officer</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
22 September 2015			
Medway Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB)	Holding to account	Independent Chair, MSCB	To consider the update report from the MSCB Independent Chair.
Council Plan Monitoring Q1 (2015/16)	Performance reviews	Director of Children and Adult Services	To scrutinise Q1 performance against council plan monitoring in relation to indicators that fall within the remit of this committee.
8 December 2015			
Draft Capital and Revenue Budgets 2016/17	Pre-decision scrutiny	Chief Finance Officer	To scrutinise the draft Capital and Revenue Budgets for 2016/17
School Admission Arrangements 2017	Pre-decision scrutiny	Student Services Manager	To scrutinise the proposed school admission arrangements for 2017
Council Plan Monitoring Q2 (2015/16)	Performance reviews	Director of Children and Adult Services	To scrutinise Q2 performance against council plan monitoring in relation to indicators that fall within the remit of this committee.
In attendance – Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services	Holding to account	Councillor O’Brien	To hold the Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services to account on performance against his portfolio.
19 January 2016			
In attendance – Portfolio Holder for Adult Services	Holding to account	Councillor Brake	To hold the Portfolio Holder for Adult Services to account on performance against his portfolio in relation to the Independent Safeguarding and Review Services
3 March 2016			
Council Plan Monitoring Q3 (2015/16)	Performance reviews	Director of Children and Adult Services	To scrutinise Q3 performance against council plan monitoring in relation to indicators that fall within the remit of this committee.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Work Type</i>	<i>Responsible officer</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
To be determined:			
Community Children's Nursing Service	Community Issues	Assistant Director, Partnership Commissioning	To receive a report updating Members on the planned development of a Medway and Swale Children's Community Nursing Service.
Support for Care Leavers Task Group – progress update	Policy Development	Assistant Director, Children's Social Care	To receive an update on the progress made against the recommendations for the Support for Care Leavers Task Group report.

Meetings in 2015/16:

21 July 2015, 22 September 2015, 8 December 2015, 19 January 2016 and 3 March 2016.

Items identified by the Director of Children and Adult Services yet to be programmed by the Committee:

- Outcome of Ofsted Inspection
- Recruitment in Children's Social Care
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Integrated Family Support
- Early Help Offer
- Annual Report from Children's Safeguarding Service
- Update on Corporate Parenting (including Virtual School) and health assessments for LAC
- Update on Children Centres and Early Years
- Integrated Youth Support Service

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

25 March 2015

- Medway Youth Parliament Annual Conference findings
- Medway Safeguarding Children Board – update report
- Update on Medway's Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service
- Support for Care Leavers Task Group
- Sufficiency Report 2015-16
- Update on Early Help
- Proposed development of an integrated Children's Community Nursing Service for Medway and Swale
- Council Plan Quarter 3 2014/15 performance monitoring report

14 January 2015

- Medway Children Action Network
- Medway Action for Families
- Update on School Nursing Service
- Attendance of Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
- School Admission Arrangements 2016

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

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LONGLIST OF INDEPTH TOPICS SUGGESTED BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES 2015/16

Aid to prioritising the work programme

COMMITTEE	Does issue have potential impact on one or more sections of the population?	Corporate concern/issue for partners?	Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes?	Will review duplicate other work?	Is it timely/do we have the resources?	Scope for service improvement?	Priority order (2 reviews to be selected by members to take place between January and September 2016)
Business Support							
Housing – demand, supply and affordability *	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Children and Young People							
Health and Adult Social Care							
Regeneration, Community and Culture							
Housing – demand, supply and affordability *	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	

*Cross cutting review

LONGLIST OF INDEPTH TOPICS SUGGESTED BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES 2015/16
PROPOSED TOPICS FOR TASK GROUP IN-DEPTH REVIEWS
Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee – (Topic 1 of x)

Housing – Demand, Supply and Affordability	<p>Reason for Review</p> <p>In April 2013 the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to include a review of the demand, supply and affordability of Housing in Medway in the programme of in-depth reviews agreed at that time. In discussing the possible scope of this review. Members emphasised the key social and economic role that housing plays, particularly for those who are struggling to access affordable housing. On 3 February 2015 the Committee was advised that it would not be possible to start and conclude the work of the Task Group before the local elections on 7 May. The Committee agreed to recommend that this Task Group should be the first one established in 2015/16.</p> <p>Potential for impact on one or more sections of the population?</p> <p>Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners?</p> <p>Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes?</p> <p>Will the review duplicate other work?</p> <p>Is it timely/ do we have the resources?</p> <p>Will the review provide scope for service improvement?</p>
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