

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

22 SEPTEMBER 2015

WORK PROGRAMME

Report from: Richard Hicks, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture

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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 9 September 2015.
- 3.2 At the meeting it was explained that the Medway Safeguarding Children Board would not have signed off its annual report before this meeting and therefore it was agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting in December.
- 3.3 At the meeting it was also agreed that in light of provisional 2015 results for Key Stage 2, an additional item be brought to the September meeting, in addition to the full report of validated results scheduled for March 2016.

- 3.4 It was also reported that a member's item had been requested by Councillor Osborne relating to Primary School exclusions in Medway. This has been included as an item for discussion at this meeting of the Committee.

4. Cabinet Forward Plan

- 4.1 The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on 28 August 2015 and updated on 7 September 2015.
<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=232&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:
Gateway 3 Contract Award: Abbey Court Community Special School Relocation Works	29 September 2015
Gateway 3 Contract Award: Supported Accommodation and Floating Support for Young People aged 16+	29 September 2015
Youth Offending Team Strategic Plan 2014-2016 Refresh (policy framework) <i>scheduled for 22 September 2015</i>	29 September 2015
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Local Transformation Plan	29 September 2015
Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools and Academies 2016/17	27 October 2015
School Organisation Plan Review 2015 (incorporating sufficiency of secondary school places: outcomes of options appraisals from 2014 review of School Organisation Plan) <i>it was agreed at the last meeting that the committee would be sent this via a briefing note</i>	27 October 2015
Outcome of the Statutory Representation Period for the Expansion and Relocation of Rivermead School	24 November 2015
School Admission Arrangement 2017 <i>scheduled for 8 December 2015</i>	15 December 2015

- 4.3 At the pre-agenda meeting it was agreed that the draft-budget report scheduled for the December meeting, include a section on the Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools and Academies 2016/17.

5. Selection of next round of scrutiny Task group topics

- 5.1 It was agreed at the last meeting held on 21 July 2015 that Members would discuss ideas to put forward for an in-depth review topic at the next agenda planning meeting on 9 September 2015.
- 5.2 At the most recent agenda planning meeting for this Committee the option of an in- depth review into employment opportunities for 18 year olds was discussed. This had also been considered at the most recent agenda planning meeting for the Regeneration, Community and Culture (RCC) Overview and Scrutiny Committee because, if agreed, it would be a cross-cutting review for both Committees. Feedback from the RCC agenda planning meeting was that a review of employment opportunities for young people should include employment opportunities for 21 year old graduates. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Opposition spokespersons for this Committee have recommended that this Committee should put this forward as a topic for in-depth review and that the scope should be Employment Opportunities for 18-21 year olds and include consideration of the availability of apprenticeships.
- 5.3 Attached as Appendix 2 to this report is the completed template for onward referral to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee should this Committee support this topic being put forward for inclusion in the next round of scrutiny Task Groups.
- 5.4 As previously reported, the long list of potential topics for Task Group in-depth reviews put forward by each Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be considered at an informal meeting between all Overview and Scrutiny Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Opposition Spokespersons in October. This meeting will make recommendations to the Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 3 December 2015 on the topics for inclusion in the January to September 2016 programme of Task Group reviews with suggestions on order of priority.

6. Recruitment to Parent Governor representatives

- 6.1 Two vacancies remain on the Committee for voting parent governor representatives of maintained schools in Medway. Three unsuccessful attempts have been made over the last year or so to seek nominations to these positions as required under the Parent Governor (England) Regulations 2001. A further invitation for nominations has now been circulated with a closing date of 2 October 2015. The outcome will be reported back to the Committee in December.

7. Implications for Looked After Children

- 7.1 Members should ensure they focus on outcomes for looked after children. This includes considering their physical health; their emotional health; their safeguarding; their educational attainment and progress; their hopes and aspirations for their adult lives and how looked after young people have their voices heard. We know that looked after children can be more vulnerable to sexual exploitation so particular attention should be given to this. As a corporate parent you should be a champion for looked after children and have the same high expectations of them as you would for your child, grandchild or niece/ nephew.

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 is asked to agree:
- (i) the work programme as set out at in Appendix 1 ;
 - (ii) the inclusion of a section on the Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools and Academies 2016/17 in the draft-budget report scheduled for the December meeting, as detailed at paragraph 4.3.
 - (iii) that 'employment opportunities for 18 - 21 year olds (including apprenticeships)', as attached at Appendix 2, be put forward as a suggested topic for inclusion in the programme for the next round of in-depth reviews

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Appendices:

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

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

<i>Item</i>	<i>Work Type</i>	<i>Responsible officer</i>	<i>Objectives</i>
8 December 2015			
Medway Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB)	Holding to account	Independent Chair, MSCB	To consider the update report from the MSCB Independent Chair.
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.
Update on Children Centres and Early Years	Other	Interim Assistant Director, School Effectiveness and Inclusion	To scrutinise an update report on Children’s Centres and Early Years provision.
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
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.

Item	Work Type	Responsible officer	Objectives
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.
School Performance Annual report 2014-15	Annual Report	Interim Assistant Director, School Effectiveness and Inclusion	To scrutinise the performance of schools in Medway, including attendance and exclusion data and 2015 test and examination results.
Integrated Family Support	Other	Assistant Director, Children's Social Care	To scrutinise the services for integrated family support, including the early help offer.
July 2016			
Update on short breaks provision for children with disabilities and the local offer	Other	Assistant Director, Partnership Commissioning	To scrutinise a report updating the committee on the implementation of the re-commissioning of short breaks provision, last considered by the Committee in July 2015
To be determined:			
Community Children's Nursing Service	Community Issues	Assistant Director, Partnership Commissioning	To scrutinise a report updating Members on the planned development of a Medway and Swale Children's Community Nursing Service.
Integrated Youth Support Service	Other	Interim Assistant Director, School Effectiveness and Inclusion	To scrutinise a report on the Integrated Youth Support Service.
School Improvement Strategy		Interim Assistant Director, School Effectiveness and Inclusion	To scrutinise the revised School Improvement Strategy.

Meetings in 2015/16:

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

CYP O&S Committee Work Completed in 2015/16:**21 July 2015**

- Update on re-commissioning of short breaks provision for children with disabilities and the local offer
- Ofsted inspection of the Local Authority's arrangements for school improvement
- Update on progress in relation to the Children's Safeguarding Improvement Notice

- Recruitment, retention and workforce development in Children's Social Care
- Update on the Medway Children and Young People Emotional Wellbeing Strategy
- Complaints and Compliments annual report – April 2014-March 2015
- Council Plan Year End 2014/15 – performance monitoring report

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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							
Children and Young People							
Employment opportunities for 18-21 year olds (including apprenticeships)*	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Health and Adult Social Care							
Regeneration, Community and Culture							
Employment opportunities for 18-21 year olds (including apprenticeships)*	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)

<p>Employment Opportunities for 18-21 year olds (including apprenticeships)</p>	<p>Reason for Review Current performance in Medway in relation to young people in employment (or education) is not good enough. We perform poorly when compared to other local authorities. Medway wish to be a “strong champion” for young people – they are the future of Medway.</p> <p>Data regarding employment of graduates is not comprehensive. More could be done to encourage universities, employers, graduates and other stakeholders to work in partnership. But this would require resource.</p> <p>Potential for impact on one or more sections of the population? Yes – cross cutting. It will also link to the business community as we will be seeking to support a strong link between business needs and the skill set of graduates and young people</p> <p>Is this an issue of corporate concern and/or an issue for partners? Yes – skills is a key agenda for the whole Council. Yes – in terms of performance and improving an area where we need to improve.</p> <p>Will it add value/lead to effective outcomes? Yes – this is a cross cutting theme and supports the Council’s ambition on regeneration and attracting good employers as well as supporting graduates and young people.</p> <p>Will the review duplicate other work? No – this is proposed to be a joint review across two O&S committees</p> <p>Is it timely/ do we have the resources? Yes – joint O&S approach will help small resource go further. Limited council resource currently exists to support employment opportunities for graduates.</p> <p>Will the review provide scope for service improvement? Yes – will help secure a strong whole Council approach. It will provide opportunity to link our business communities more strongly to our young people agenda. It may provide opportunities to encourage young people to be more entrepreneurial and perhaps be supported to develop small “start up” micro enterprises.</p> <p>Encouraging graduates into jobs in Medway will support Medway’s economic development agenda, adding value to local businesses.</p>
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