

Children And Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3 December 2024

Work Programme

Report from: Wayne Hemingway, Head of Democratic Services

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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. Recommendation

1.1 The Committee is asked to note the report and agree the work programme as set out at Appendix 1 to the report, subject to accepting the proposed changes, outlined in italic text on Appendix 1.

2. Budget and policy framework

2.1 Under Chapter 4, Part 5 of the Constitution – Overview and Scrutiny Rules, paragraph 21.1 (xv) General terms of reference, each overview and scrutiny Committee has the responsibility for setting its own work programme.

3. Background

3.1 Appendix 1 to this report sets out the proposed work programme for the Committee during the current municipal year.

4. Agenda planning meeting

4.1 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 was held on 7 November 2024 with the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Opposition Spokesperson. Members agreed the agenda items for the meeting, with a report on Child Friendly

Medway to also be taken at the meeting of 3 December 2024.

- 4.2 At the meeting, it was agreed that it would be more appropriate to receive briefing notes on MPACT and DoLS, both of which were marked on the work programme as 'to be determined'.

5. Cabinet Forward Plan

- 5.1 The latest Forward Plan of forthcoming Cabinet decisions was published on and can be viewed using the following link: [Cabinet Forward Plan](#)
- 5.2 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: School Admissions Co-ordinated Schemes and Arrangements 2026
Description: This report will provide details of the outcome of consultation on the primary and secondary co-ordinated admission schemes and will seek approval of the proposed 2026 admission arrangements.
Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date: 17 Dec 2024

Title: Young Mayor's Initiative Update
Description: This report will ask the Cabinet to agree to adopt the Young Mayor Initiative.
Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date: 17 Dec 2024

Title: Fostering Fees
Description: This report will ask the Cabinet to recommend a schedule of fostering fees to full Council.
Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date: 14 Jan 2025

Title: Regional Care Co-Operative
Description: This report will provide an update on the development of the Regional Care Co-Operative including the implications and opportunities of the project.
Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date: 14 Jan 2025

Title: Provisional Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools and Academies 2025/26

Description: This report will set out the provisional proposals for the funding formula for mainstream schools and academies for 2025/26..

Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date: 14 Jan 2025

Title: Final Funding Formula for Mainstream Schools and Academies 2025/26

Description: This report will set out the final proposals for the funding formula for mainstream schools and academies, following consideration by the Schools' Forum.

Anticipated Cabinet Decision Date: 11 Feb 2025

6. Performance Data Workshops

- 6.1 At the Committee's meeting on 5 March 2020, it was agreed for a number of measures to be put in place to maximise involvement and impact in relation to the scrutiny of children's social care.
- 6.2 Part of those measures included the provision of detailed performance data to all members of the Committee on a monthly basis and for performance data workshops to be provided as needed, in between Committees. The purpose of this is to strengthen the capacity for effective scrutiny of performance by providing an informal setting in which detailed analysis of the data can be undertaken. Members can then apply their increased knowledge and understanding to carry out an effective scrutinising role in main committee meetings and in task group activity.
- 6.3 A meeting will take place on 7 January 2025 via Microsoft Teams at 5pm on school performance data.
- 6.4 At Members' request, the following table displays a list of briefing note information requests, when the requests were made, when briefing notes were provided and what is still outstanding.

Subject	Committee at which request was made	Date circulated to Members	Any additional comment
Letter to Regional Schools Director on behalf of the Committee	11 January 2024	Response Outstanding	Letter sent 29/02/2024. Email acknowledgement received 07/03/2024,

			<p>response will be sent in due course.</p> <p>Email received 29/10/2024, responses were not being sent to enquiries due to election period. A response will now be sought immediately</p>
Briefing on Community Nursing Service – comparison across the country on the service against Medway	3 October 2024		
Data on health checks for young people with LD by GP practice or different wards in Medway	3 October 2024		
MPACT	N/A		<i>Agreed at 7 November 2024 pre agenda meeting that this would now be a briefing note. This will be provided after the 3 December meeting.</i>
DoLS	N/A		<i>Agreed at 7 November 2024 pre agenda meeting that this would now be a briefing note. This will be provided after the 3 December meeting</i>

7. Implications for children in care

- 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 children in care can be more vulnerable to sexual exploitation so particular attention should be given to this. As a corporate parent, Members should be a champion for children in care and have the same high expectations of them as they would for their own child, grandchild, or niece/ nephew.

8. Financial and legal implications

8.1 There are no financial or legal implications arising from this report.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Children and Young People O&S Committee Work Programme

Background papers

None