

**Children Sub Committee
Wednesday, 14th December 2016**

REPORT TITLE:	Children Sub Committee – work programme update
REPORT OF:	The Chair of the Committee

REPORT SUMMARY

At the meeting of the Children Sub Committee, held on 22nd September 2016, members agreed the basis of a work programme for the remainder of the municipal year. However, it was agreed that further work was required to incorporate items relevant to the scrutiny of the implementation of the Ofsted improvement plan. Members discussed further proposals at a workshop held on 7th November 2016.

This report updates members on progress towards delivering the work programme for the Children Sub Committee as agreed for the 2016/17 municipal year and proposes changes to take account of discussions at the recent workshop. Clearly the work programme of the Sub Committee should supplement, not duplicate, the work programme of the parent committee, the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. Members are requested to approve the proposed Children Sub Committee work programme for 2016/17, making any required amendments, including suggestions for additional items.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

To ensure members of the Children Sub Committee have the opportunity to contribute to the delivery of the annual work programme.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 CURRENT WORK PROGRAMME

Existing items on the work programme, agreed at the previous meeting of the Sub Committee on 22nd September are:

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Departmental Officer
School Standards report: Attainment at GCSE and A Level	Report	14 th Dec 2016	Sue Talbot
Complaints report for Children's Services	Report	14 th Dec 2016	Simon Garner / Dawn Stanley-Smith
Exception reports highlighting positive and negative aspects arising from school Ofsted inspection reports	Report	To be agreed	Sue Talbot
Effective strategies to narrow the attainment gap	Report	To be agreed	Sue Talbot
Special Guardianship Orders	Report	To be agreed	
Governance arrangements and the role of scrutiny in safeguarding	Report	To be agreed	
Devolution of the Further education budget and the apprenticeship framework	Report	To be agreed	
Quality Assurance process of care plans	Report	To be agreed	

Further items proposed at the workshop held on 7th November to discuss the implementation of the Ofsted improvement plan included:

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Departmental Officer
Monitoring the key milestones of the Improvement Plan	Report	Standing item	
Reviewing the performance data tracker	Report	Standing item	
Early intervention / prevention, including the application of thresholds, partnership arrangements and the operation of MASH	Possible task & finish group	To be agreed	
The management of care plans and related performance; leaving care and IROs	Possible task & finish group	To be agreed	
Competent skilled workforce and the quality of social work practice	Possible task & finish group	To be agreed	
Scrutiny's place in long-term governance arrangements	To be agreed	To be agreed	
Follow-up to the original Looked after children scrutiny review (August 2013)	To be agreed	To be agreed	
Follow-up to the previous Safeguarding scrutiny review (December 2015)	To be agreed	To be agreed	

3.2 RELEVANT ITEMS FROM THE PEOPLE OSC WORK PROGRAMME

The People OSC (28th November 2016) has agreed that the following items should form part of the work programme of the main committee:

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Departmental Officer
Children Safeguarding Annual Report	Committee Report	16 Jan 2017	Simon Garner / LSCB Chair
Looked after children - Follow-up review	Evidence Day(s)	Deferred until post-Ofsted planning for scrutiny is complete	Liz Davenport
Children ready for school	Task & finish group	Deferred	Deborah Gornik

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

The delivery of the scrutiny work programme will be met from within existing resources.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct equality implications.

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APPENDICES

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date