

**Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**  
**28<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Children and Families Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee - Work Programme Update Report</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Nancy Clarkson, Head of Intelligence Statutory Scrutiny Officer</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

The Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in cooperation with the other three Overview & Scrutiny Committees, is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual scrutiny work programme. This work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the Wirral Plan pledges which are within the remit of the Committee.

The report provides an update regarding progress made since the last Committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September. The current work programme is made up of a combination of scrutiny reviews, workshops, standing items and requested officer reports. This update report provides the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. The current work programme for the Committee is attached as an appendix to this report.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

Members of the committee are requested to:

1. Note the Work Programme Update Report
2. Approve the updated Children & Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2019/20, making any required amendments.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

To ensure members of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny 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 THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

The work programme should align with the priorities of the Council and its partners. The programme will be informed by:

- The Wirral Plan pledges
- The Council Plan
- The Council's transformation programme
- The Council's Forward Plan
- Service performance information
- Risk management information
- Public or service user feedback
- Referrals from Cabinet / Council

#### **3.2 DELIVERING THE WORK PROGRAMME**

It is anticipated that the work programme will be delivered through a combination of:

- Scrutiny reviews undertaken by task & finish groups
- Evidence days and workshops
- Committee reports provided by officers
- Standing committee agenda items, for example, performance monitoring and financial monitoring
- Spotlight sessions
- Standing panels or working groups (where deemed necessary)

As some of the selected topics may well cut across the Wirral Plan themes and Council Plan priorities, it is anticipated that some of the scrutiny topics may be of interest to members of more than one committee. In these circumstances, opportunities for members of more than one committee to work jointly on an item of scrutiny work will be explored.

Regular work programme update reports will provide the Committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year.

#### **4.0 UPDATE ON CURRENT SCRUTINY ACTIVITY**

Since the Committee meeting held on in November 2019, activity has taken place relating to the following:

##### **Healthy Lives Working Group**

Two reports on obesity in the borough were brought to Committee in January and February 2019 to look at the Obesity statistics in the borough. It was agreed at the February Committee to put together a working group to further understand the issues and make recommendations. All the sessions have now concluded and a report is being drafted to bring to committee in March. A summary of the sessions is included as an appendix to this report.

#### **3.2 FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES**

##### **Reality Check Visits**

Further reality check visits will take place in the upcoming municipal year, to give members to opportunity to visit service areas and speak to frontline staff. If members have any suggestions for visits please refer them to the Chair, Vice Chair and party spokespersons. Members have expressed an interest in visiting the HIVE and arrangements for this will follow in due course.

##### **Workshops**

Members have been invited to several cross-cutting workshops over the coming months. This will include a workshop into the proposed roll-out of 5G in Wirral. The dates for this will be confirmed in due course.

#### **4.0 Further Development of the Scrutiny Work Programme**

The governance arrangements of the Council have recently been reviewed and as of May 2020, the current scrutiny model and committee structure will change. The Chairs of all four current Overview & Scrutiny Committees have worked collaboratively to address cross-cutting matters and ensure that the necessary prioritisation and scheduling of Committee work programme items has taken place.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

#### **6.0 ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

#### **7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

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

#### **8.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

Not Applicable

#### **9.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Not Applicable

#### **10.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

This report is for information to Members and there are no direct equality implications.

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**APPENDICES:**

**Appendix 1: Scrutiny Work Programme**

**Appendix 2: Healthy Weight Update.**

**Background Papers**

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>