

**Children Sub Committee  
Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Children Sub Committee – work programme update</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>The Chair of the Committee</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

This report updates members on progress towards delivering the work programme for the Children Sub Committee as agreed for the 2016/17 municipal year. The report also takes account of discussions relating to scrutiny of the implementation of the Ofsted improvement plan. 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 and changed priorities.

## 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 14<sup>th</sup> December are:

Item	Format	Timescale	Lead Departmental Officer
Exception reports highlighting positive and negative aspects arising from school Ofsted inspection reports	Report	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	Sue Talbot
School Strategy	Report	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	Sue Talbot
Special Guardianship Orders	Report	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	Julia Hassall
Impact of the IFIP programme (Troubled Families) in Wirral	Report	8 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	Julia Hassall
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 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 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	

Prioritisation of these items plus the addition of any further items would assist in the planning and delivery of the work programme.

In order to manage the work programme more effectively, it is now proposed that some meetings will be dedicated to scrutiny of Ofsted improvement-related issues while other meetings will focus on other issues within the remit of the Sub Committee. It is proposed that, for the remainder of the municipal year, meetings will be arranged as follows:

Meeting date	Agenda Items
8 <sup>th</sup> February	Ofsted improvement-related scrutiny
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Other issues
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Ofsted improvement-related scrutiny

### **3.2 RELEVANT ITEMS FROM THE PEOPLE OSC WORK PROGRAMME**

The People OSC (28<sup>th</sup> November 2016) confirmed 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	
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**

None