



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 21 June 2022

REPORT TITLE:	CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION WORK PROGRAMME
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

REPORT SUMMARY

The Children, Young People and Education Committee, in co-operation with the other Policy and Service Committees, is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual committee work programme. This work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the key decisions which are within the remit of the Committee.

It is envisaged that the work programme will be formed from a combination of key decisions, standing items and requested officer reports. This report provides the Committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year. The work programme for the Children, Young People and Education Committee is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

The report also seeks the Committees view on the re-establishing of the working group for the provision of food and activities in school holidays during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Following the adoption of a revised Constitution by Council on 25 May 2022, the Terms of Reference for Committees were updated so that the agenda of any Committee or Sub-Committee shall only include those items of business that require a decision, relate to budget or performance monitoring or which are necessary to discharge their overview and scrutiny function. The Committee is therefore asked to consider whether any items for future consideration on its work programme need to be reviewed to comply with the revised Constitution. It is proposed that issues on the existing work programme that are for information purposes only can be considered via other means, such as briefing notes or workshops.

RECOMMENDATION

The Children, Young People and Education Committee is recommended to:

- (1) note and comment on the proposed Children, Young People and Education Committee work programme for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year.
- (2) review its items for future consideration on the work programme in light of the revised Constitution.
- (3) Re-establish and appoint members to the working group for the provision of food and activities in school holidays during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 To ensure Members of the Children, Young People and Education Committee have the opportunity to contribute to the delivery of the annual work programme.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 A number of workplan formats were explored, with the current framework open to amendment to match the requirements of the Committee.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

- 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 Council

Terms of Reference

The Children, Young People and Education Committee is responsible for services which help keep children and young people safe and fulfil their potential. It incorporates schools and attainment, and social care for children and families. It has a particular focus on those children who are in care, and for whom the Council has corporate parenting responsibility. The Committee is charged by full Council to undertake responsibility for: -

- (a) exercising management, oversight and delivery of services to children and young people in relation to their care, wellbeing, education or health, with the exception of any powers reserved to full Council;
- (b) the functions and powers conferred on or exercisable by the Council as Local Authority in relation to the provision of education;
- (c) working with all schools (including academies) in relation to raising standards of attainment and developing opportunities;
- (d) leading for the Council and its partners in the discharge the Council's functions as Corporate Parent for its children in care and care leavers;

- (e) any other functions comprised in partnership arrangements with other bodies connected with the delivery of services for children, young people and families;
- (f) providing a view of performance, budget monitoring and risk management in relation to the Committee's functions;
- (g) undertaking the development and implementation of policy in relation to the Committee's functions, incorporating the assessment of outcomes, review of effectiveness and formulation of recommendations to the Council, partners and other bodies, which shall include any decision relating to:
 - child protection;
 - children's centres;
 - education, schools and settings;
 - looked after children;
 - mental health services;
 - safeguarding;
 - special educational needs and disability (SEND);
 - youth offending services;
 - youth services; and
 - social and education transport

4.0 APPOINTMENT OF WORKING GROUP

- 4.1 A Working Group was established during the previous Municipal Year as recommended by Policy and Resources Committee to work alongside key partners to explore options in relation to supporting children with free school meals in the medium to longer term with the view to report back to Policy and Services Committee in September 2021. As the work undertaken by this group is still ongoing, the Committee is asked to consider whether it wishes to re-establish the working group for the 2022/23 Municipal Year. The Membership as appointed by this Committee was:

Councillor Cherry Povall
Councillor Moira McLaughlin
Councillor Chris Carubia
Labour (delegated appointment)

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report is for information and planning purposes only, therefore there are no direct financial implication arising. However, there may be financial implications arising as a result of work programme items.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. However, there may be legal implications arising as a result of work programme items.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

7.1 There are no direct implications to Staffing, ICT or Assets.

8.0 RELEVANT RISKS

8.1 The Committee's ability to undertake its responsibility to provide strategic direction to the operation of the Council, make decisions on policies, co-ordinate spend, and maintain a strategic overview of outcomes, performance, risk management and budgets may be compromised if it does not have the opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year.

9.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

9.1 Not applicable.

10.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies, and the way it carries out its work, do not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

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

11.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

11.1 This report is for information to Members and there are no direct environment and climate implications.

12.0 COMMUNITY WEALTH IMPLICATIONS

12.1 This report is for information to Members and there are no direct community wealth implications.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Children, Young People and Education Committee Work Plan

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Wirral Council Constitution
Forward Plan

The Council's transformation programme

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date