

## **CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

**Meeting to be held in City Hall, (Committee Room 1) on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 5.30 p.m.**

#### **Membership**

Cllrs Burrell, Crosby, Dunn, P.W.L. Gibson, Guy, S. Johnston, Mason-Gage (Chairman), McKeith (Vice-Chairman), Samuels, P. Smith, Thornton, and Tye

Co-opted Members – Mrs. A. Blakey

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3.	<b>Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)</b>	-
	<b>Part A – Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>	
	No Items	
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E. WAUGH,  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance,  
Civic Centre,  
SUNDERLAND.

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

## Item 2

**At a meeting of the CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CITY HALL on THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2023 at 5.30 p.m.**

### **Present:-**

Councillor Mason-Gage in the Chair

Councillors Burrell, Crosby, PWL Gibson, Guy, S. Johnston, Samuels, P. Smith, and Tye.

### **Also in attendance:-**

Ms Jill Colbert, Director of Children's Services and Chief Executive, TfC  
Ms Stacy Hodgkinson, Service Manager, CIRT, Performance, Customer Feedback & Planning, Together for Children  
Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Law and Governance, Smart Cities & Enabling Services.  
Mr Simon Marshall, Director of Education, Together for Children.  
Mr. David Noon, Principal Governance Services Officer, Law and Governance, Smart Cities & Enabling Services Directorate.  
Ms Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator, Law and Governance, Smart Cities & Enabling Services.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Cllrs Dunn and McKeith and also on behalf of Anne Blakey (Co-opted member).

### **Minutes of the last meeting of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

### **Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)**

There were no declarations of interest made.

### **Overall School Performance Data for the 2021/22 Academic Year**

Simon Marshall Director of Education, TfC presented a report of the Director Children's Services which updated members of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee on the verified overall school performance data for the academic year 2021 – 2022.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Marshall advised that it was perhaps the most unusual set of verified school performance data he had ever presented. The DfE had made it clear that, performance data for 2022 should not be directly compared with 2019 and earlier, nor should comparisons be made between schools because they may have been affected differently by COVID-19. As a result, the data did not reflect the usual 3 year trends and instead comparisons were made against regional and national performance.

Arising from the performance data Mr Marshall suggested that there were 3 key lines of enquiry that the Committee may wish to consider adding to its work programme:-

- i) the impact of COVID-19 on the Early Years stage,
- ii) why, the older children become, the further away they get from the national average in terms of performance,
- iii) the performance of SEND.

The Chair thanked Mr Marshall for his report and invited questions and comments from Members. She advised that in submitting his apologies Cllr McKeith had also emailed the following question which she asked on his behalf. “What does the officer believe is the reason that Sunderland early years children have a 63.7% good level of development. Below the regional figure of 64.1% and national average of 65.2 %? Following on, of the actions taken by the school's improvement service, should this result in an increase in the local average?” Mr Marshall advised that historically Early Years performance in Sunderland in respect of language had been below that of the national average however had usually recovered by the end of Key Stage 1. Although it was still too early to know for certain, the indications were that COVID 19 had depressed this improvement. Likewise, autism appeared to be increasing rapidly in the under 5s which would have implications for Education Health Care Plans. It was too early to assess the situation clearly however, it could be the case that the under 5s had been suffering from a lack of regulated time in school.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Tye, regarding whether the changes to the Ofsted Inspection Framework had impacted the data, Mr Marshall advised that previously Ofsted viewed the school's results as the major contributor to its judgement on the overall effectiveness of the school. Now Ofsted's focus had moved away from the raw data and onto the more qualitative measures taken by a school to positively impact children. Councillor Tye stated that he sympathised with schools trying to deal with the changes in the Inspection Framework and noted that it appeared to be faith schools who seemed to be suffering disproportionately, which was in contrast to their traditional position as high performers. Mr Marshall added that a potential positive impact of the change in Framework was that if schools were now under less pressure in terms of the data, they may be freed up to take a more creative approach regarding the options offered in their curriculum.

With regard to Councillor McKeith's earlier question and in reference to the 3 Key Themes for consideration as Work Programme items, Mr Marshall stated that the Committee may also wish to consider looking at the impact of the family hubs in striving to narrow the attainment gap. There appeared to be a lot of evidence pointing to poor routines established by a child at an early age being extremely difficult to change later on once the behaviours had become established.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Crosby regarding how many children were currently studying for a T Level, Ms Colbert advised that the numbers were currently low but that it was a growing offer. She added that this was also something the Committee may wish to look at as part of its Work Programme. Mr Marshall stated that he would be happy to support any Sub-Group established to look at T Levels.

In addition to Councillor Crosby, Councillors Guy and Tye expressed an interest in sitting on the potential Sub-Group. Councillor Guy stated he had friends doing T Levels and noted that it would be interesting to see the impact the qualification had made on working class males in the longer term, once a number of cohorts had passed through. He also expressed the view that there was currently an issue regarding the standards of the placements on offer and a potential need to re-evaluate the skills being taught and whether they were in the right areas. Councillor Tye stated that it would be interesting to investigate the pros and cons of studying for a T Level as opposed to opting to go down the Apprenticeship route.

Councillor Samuels stated that she would be interested in sitting on any Sub-Group looking at the local curriculum offer. With regard to the vocational offer, she believed it was perhaps a good way to stop pupil disengagement from school as they grew older.

There being no further questions for Mr Marshall, the Chairman thanked him for his attendance and it was:-

2. RESOLVED that consideration of the report be received and noted.

### **Together for Children Meaningful Measures**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with an opportunity to consider Together for Children's new format 'Meaningful Measures' performance statistics for the period ending February 2023

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms Stacy Hodgkinson, Service Manager together with Mr Marshall and Ms Colbert presented the report, highlighting the processes involved together with any trends or themes arising in relation to the following 5 key areas of measurement.

- i) I feel safer and supported
- ii) I feel happy at home and feel connected to people that matter to me.
- iii) I take the lead in my plans and TfC makes sure workers can support me, and my family
- iv) I feel healthier, join activities that are fun, and my ideas help TfC to be creative, improve and make changes.
- v) I have opportunities to learn and achieve my goals and I feel positive about my future

The Chairman thanked Ms Hodgkinson for her report and invited questions and comments from Members. She referred to the measure regarding 'the % of cared for children that had a missing incident', and ask how was missing defined?

Ms Colbert replied that there were two categories (missing and absent). In both cases there was a criteria to follow and recording needed to be consistent. Historically TfC had always reported on and recorded missing young people as part of the return to home interview. That system had now been brought in house and was used in respect of all young people reported as missing not just those that were cared for. TfC cared for a number of young people who had led disrupted lives and would routinely go missing. In addition, under the National Transfer scheme, TfC now had responsibility for unaccompanied young people who had arrived in the UK as asylum seekers. As reported to a previous meeting, this added to the problem as overwhelmingly the children had a desire to be living in big cities, predominantly Manchester or London, and would try very hard to get there.

Councillor Tye stated that he had been critical about data in the past but in terms of this data regarding cared for children he had confidence that it and the reasons for it were correct. Ms Colbert added that whilst the red X on the report against this measurement did not look good, it was important that Members were able to see it and understand the reasons for it. The challenge was how do you risk manage the issue?

Councillor Thornton stated that her concern centred on whether there was anything more sinister lying behind the measurement, for example county lines activity? Ms Colbert replied that the simple answer was yes. Missing, Slavery, Exploitation and Trafficking (MSET) was a growing problem and TfC and partners including Northumbria Police were seeing an increased amount of targeted behaviour in this regard. She added that vulnerable adolescents was another potential topic that the Committee may wish to look at as part of its Work Programme.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Guy regarding the impact of the early years on key stage 4 performance, Ms Colbert replied that EYFS data was open to interpretation by providers, however Sunderland was not an area that saw a loss of providers during the pandemic and therefore a lot of children remained in nursery over this period. Mr Marshall added that elsewhere in the country a lot of providers were in the private sector and a number gone out of business as a result of COVID-19. He believed that Sunderland as a city, benefited from its high-quality early years provision.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Burrell regarding the average age of cared for children, Ms Colbert advised that this could shift at any point in time. 2018-19 had seen a significant increase in the number of children aged 9+. That had now shifted slightly since. TfC had robust protocols in place to support families in crisis however she was not worried about the age of the children concerned rather that too many were living in Children's Homes outside the City.

Councillor Thornton referred to the figure of 84.4% in relation to the % of established posts filled with permanent employees and asked what was being done to maintain a stable workforce. Ms Colbert replied that she believed the figure represented a data cleansing issue. The measure related to all TfC staff including business support and Legal. She was confident that there were no agency workers among operational staff. In response to a further enquiry from Councillor Thornton as to whether an agency member of staff could be employed in residential setting, Ms Colbert replied that it could be possible as it was an area that had struggled with recruitment previously. Mr Marshall added that TfC were currently engaged in a good piece of

work to identify future recruitment needs and planning workforce demands. In relation to the importance of workforce planning, Councillor Thornton advised that the UK only had 6 doctors who specialised in trans surgery, 4 of which were due to retire over the course of the next year. Ms Colbert agreed that this illustrated the importance of a robust talent succession plan.

There being no further questions or comments, the Chairman thanked Ms Hodgkinson for her attendance, and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Annual Work Programme 2022/23**

The Scrutiny and Members' Support Coordinator submitted a report (copy circulated) which briefed members on the development of the Committee's work programme for the municipal year 2022/23 and appended a copy of the programme for Members' consideration.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Diamond, Scrutiny Officer presented the report and briefed the Committee on the current position regarding those items already scheduled on the work programme and those waiting to be programmed in on a suitable date.

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Notice of Key Decisions**

The Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from the 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

The Committee was advised that if Members had any issues to raise or required further detail on any of the items included in the notice, (that were within the purview of the Committee), they should contact Mr Diamond, Scrutiny Officer for initial assistance.

Ms Colbert referred to Councillor Crosby's enquiry at the previous meeting regarding item 221101/750 – ('To consider the outcome of the review of the governance and contract arrangements for Together for Children Sunderland Limited and approve the recommended next steps') and advised that the report on the item was due to be considered by Cabinet at its next meeting.

5. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions be received and noted.

There being no further items of business, the Chairman closed the meeting having thanked members and officers for their attendance and contributions.

(Signed) K. MASON-GAGE,  
Chairman.



<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	Jane Wheeler, Early Help Service Manager, Prevention and Innovation
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Measures to reduce young people who are not in employment, education or training.
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	A report to inform Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee about the measures taken by Together for Children's Prevention and Aspiration Team to reduce the number of young people not in employment, education or training

## 1. BACKGROUND

High quality careers education and guidance in school or college is critical to young people's futures. It helps to prepare them for the workplace by providing a clear understanding of the world of work including the routes to jobs and careers that they might find engaging and rewarding.

There is a statutory duty (under section 42A of the Education Act 1997) on secondary schools to secure independent careers guidance for students from the year in which many students reach the age of 13 until the end of the school year in which the majority of students reach the age of 18. This equates to the school years 8 to 13. Guidance must include information on education and training options for 16- to 18-year-olds, such as apprenticeships.

The law requires all young people in England to continue in education or training until at least their 18th birthday, although in practice most young people continue until the end of the academic year in which they turn 18.

In September 2016, the Department for Education (DfE) released statutory guidance for all Local Authorities in England relating to the participation of young people in education, employment, or training. The guidance set out a range of statutory duties aimed to help Local Authorities to encourage, enable and assist young people up to the age of 18 (25 for individuals with learning difficulties) to participate in education or training, following on from the Raising the Participation Age (RPA) policy being introduced.

Central to the statutory guidance are responsibilities to both prevent and manage young people who are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training). Local Authorities have the responsibility to prevent young people who are currently moving through the education system from becoming NEET and to ensure there is a suitable place secured in education or training for all 16 and 17-year-olds, under the September Guarantee.

Together for Children's Careers and NEET service is responsible for fulfilling the duties on behalf of Sunderland City Council.

## 2. TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN'S CAREERS AND NEET SERVICE

The Careers and NEET Service in Together for Children moved under the direction of the newly formed Prevention and Innovation Service in Early Help in January 2020.

The Careers and NEET service is responsible for the following:

- Supporting Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) young people
- Supporting learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) at key transition stages.
- Supporting identified vulnerable young people through Year 11 to ensure positive post 16 transition
- Tracking young people's participation by ensuring a September guaranteed offer of learning is made to all Year 12 & 13 pupils

- The Activity Survey of Year 11 school leaver destinations

From 1 April 2023 the Careers and NEET Service will be known as the Prevention and Aspiration Team within the Prevention and Innovation Service area of Early Help.

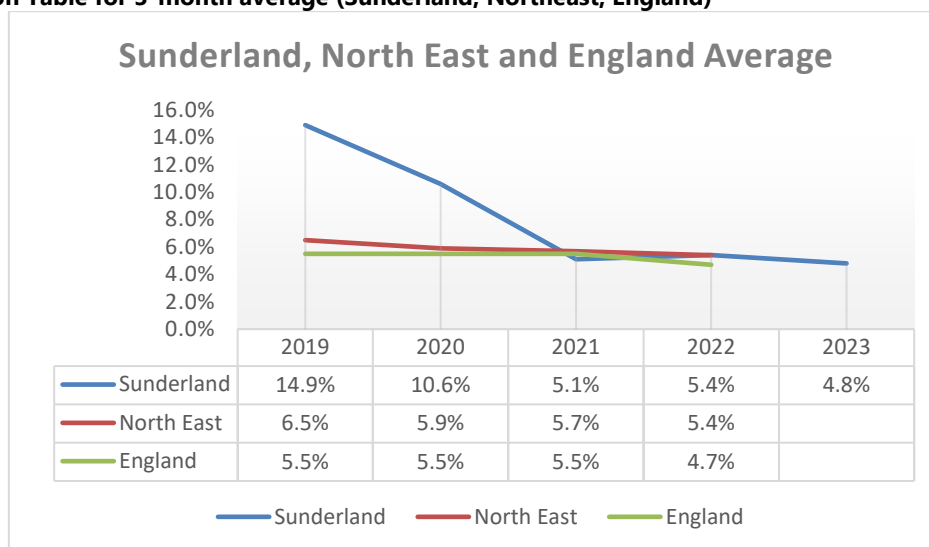
### 3. PERFORMANCE

The Department for Education measures local authorities' performance based on combined NEET and Unknown figures.

Sunderland Local Authority reports on both NEET and Unknown figures monthly; its annual performance is judged on a three-month average figure taken from December to February each year.

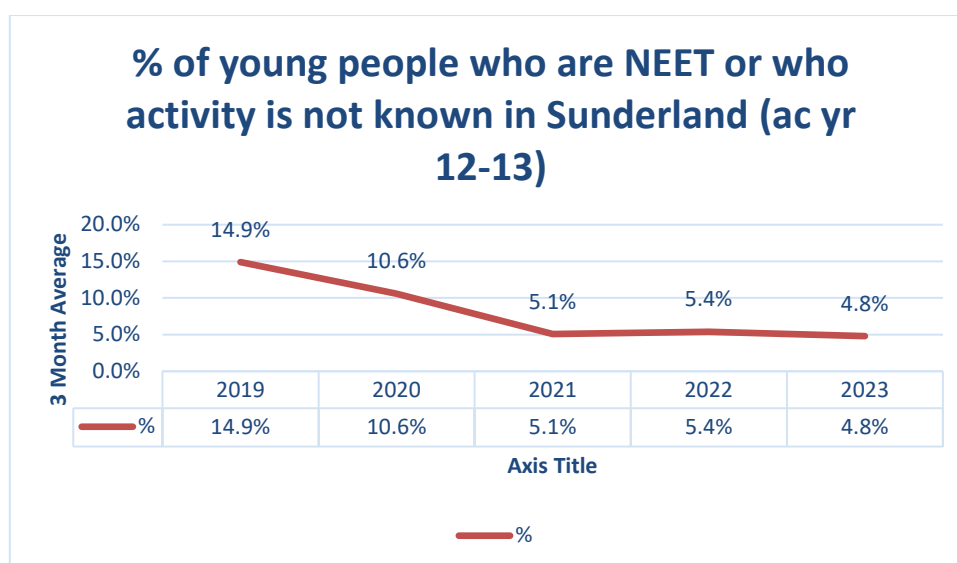
Together for Children's annual performance for 2021/22 was a combined figure of 5.4% (NEET 4.8% and Unknown 0.6%) This is above the England national average (4.7%) and equals the regional average (5.4%), we were listed 7<sup>th</sup> out of 12 regional Local Authorities in 2021/2022.

Figure 1. Comparison Table for 3-month average (Sunderland, Northeast, England)



Our annual performance for 2022/2023 is a combined figure of **4.8%**, **NEET 4.43%** (281 young people out of a total cohort of 6542) and Unknown 0.36% (23 young people) however 2023 figures nationally have not yet been published so we cannot compare until late in April. **Our performance is 0.6 percentage points lower than last year's (2021-2022) three-month average** and the best it has been in the last five years.

Figure 2. Sunderland Data Table 2019-2023



The NEET/Unknown figure is not a static figure and is not made up of the same young people each month. Figure 3. below shows the combined NEET and Unknown figures from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2023. Although monitored monthly, it is important to note any comparison to previous years as it is useful to show any changes in the group; the figure should not be looked at in isolation.

**Figure 3. Monthly Comparison Data – Sunderland**



There is always an annual peak during August and September when all year 11-13 are given unknown status, which occurs in every local authority across England. This is a department of education requirement to make these learners unknown as they have ended their learning provision. It is then the Careers and NEET Team's responsibility to track these young people and update records with new learning provision.

#### **4. EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING (EET)**

In the period 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022, 11,013 interventions were carried out with Year 10 to Year 14 young people and their families by the Careers Team. This is a 62% increase in interventions compared to the previous year.

Of the 11,013, 2,060 (18.7%) of young people received a substantive contact face to face or virtually. Interventions include providing information, advice, guidance, and support services that are independent, impartial, and confidential and in line with the National IAG Quality Standards, the rest were lighter touch contacts via, text, telephone, or email.

The average percentage of young people in learning over the reporting period of 2021/22 was 90.7%. This is a 1.8% decrease from 2020/2021 when the three-month reporting period was 92.5%. The decrease in learning is believed to be an impact of the second academic year of learning being affected and impacted by the Covid Pandemic.

In 2023, the average percentage of young people in learning in the three-month reporting period is 95.2% (6048 young people), this is an increase 4.5% of young people in learning compared to 2021/2022.

#### **5. MEASURES TO REDUCE NEET**

In Sunderland the Careers and NEET Team's overall aim is to reduce the number of young people who are not in education, employment and training. The following activities happen to support this.

- Receive and respond to referrals direct from young people, parents and organisations for careers Information, Advice and Guidance (Figure 4.)
- Target careers and NEET referrals for those at risk of becoming NEET through data from TfC performance team and schools (section 6)
- Careers advisers support the Wear Here 4 You prevention bus sessions in schools and the community.

- Work in partnership with other Together for Children teams including the Virtual School, Youth Offending Service and Next Steps.
- Work in partnership with Educational Establishments, providers and careers provision (Section 8)
- Directly deliver drop-in information sessions to young people in schools, colleges, community venues and on-line.
- Directly deliver drop-in information sessions on apprenticeships throughout the year during apprenticeship week and mailout to all NEET young people to invite them to local sessions.
- Support national campaigns such as National Apprenticeship and National Careers Week via social media platforms and community events.
- Joint work with Sunderland City Network Partnership (Beacon of Light Jan 2023) to support Careers and promote to Year 11 and NEET young people
- Data sharing agreements have been established with EET providers including Colleges, Sixth Forms, Training and Apprenticeship providers (section 7)
- Worked with local business such as Ocado and Howdens to provide opportunities to some of our most vulnerable young people such as young people who are Care Experienced.
- Together for Children directly employ a number of care experience young people on apprenticeships and permanent roles within the services.

## **6. TARGETED CAREERS AND NEET REFERRALS**

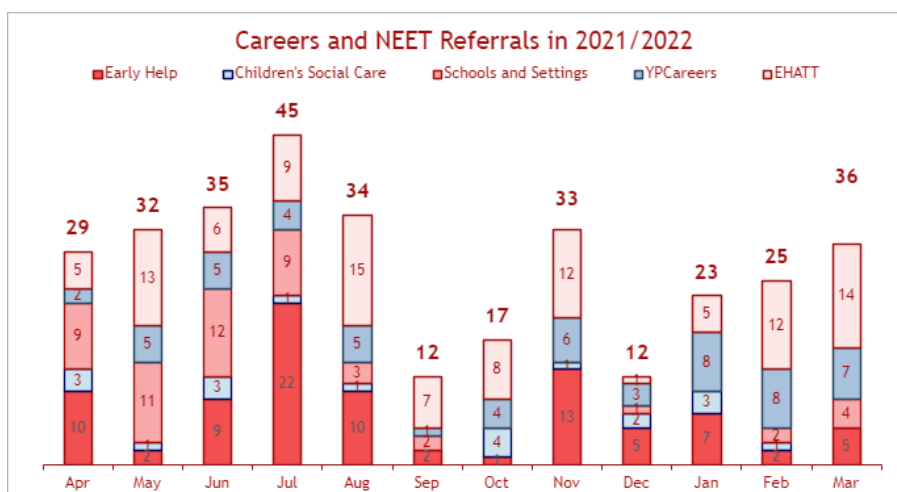
The Careers & NEET service delivers high quality careers advice and guidance to targeted and vulnerable cohorts of young people such as:

- Young People with Education, Health and Care Plans at key transition stages
- Children who are cared for or care experienced
- Children on Early Help Plans who meet the Supporting Families 'financial exclusion' criterion (e.g., from workless households)
- Children on Child Protection (CP), Child in Need (CIN) Plans
- Young Offenders currently supported by the Youth Offending Service
- Pregnant Teenagers, teenage mums and teenage dads involved in the upbringing of their child
- Young Carers (registered with the Young Carers Service)
- Gypsy, Roma or those belonging to the Travelling Community
- Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- Children who are electively home educated (although parents do not have to take up the offer)

Referrals into the team can come directly from young people, parents and carers and any other agencies or professionals involved in working with young people. The agencies / professionals involved in making referrals include Early Help Workers, Social Workers, YOS, Next Steps, CAMHS / CYPS, and SEND Services.

In the period 1 April 2021– 31 March 2022, the team received 333 referrals. The high number of referrals received in the month of July 2021 was in relation to young people seeking EET opportunities after leaving various educational placements, particularly making enquiries about part-time employment. 2022-2023 data will not be available till April 2023.

**Figure 4. Careers and NEET referrals**



## Monitoring and Evaluation

Careers and NEET Early Help Workers monitor and contact their NEET young people (between 2-4 weeks) to offer support with EET progression. Advisers record a NEET analysis on each young person. The analysis includes gathering information from other TfC services and previous providers. Reviews their barriers to engagement, levels of current qualifications, external agencies that are supporting them and the young person's aspirations.

The Team's NEET analysis has identified a number of themes for the Team to focus on in 2023-2024 such as:

- the need to improve communication with young people.
- work with employers and training providers to increase and/or improve available provision.
- the continuing need to respond to the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on young people.
- the impact of poor mental health among young people was highlighted. While this was widely seen to have been a problem before COVID-19, it has been exacerbated by the pandemic.
- enhanced networking (across neighbouring councils) and higher levels of collaboration, partnership and co-operation across sectors, with school and colleges, and within councils.
- improvements in data collection and monitoring systems to create better alignment and co-ordination of NEET data.
- reviewing and researching of a specific issue or barrier to aid understanding and response e.g., Gaps in training provision

## 7. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS AND DATA SHARING AGREEMENTS

Service Level Agreements are in place between the Careers Service and all school / academy educational providers within the city

The Careers and NEET Team works with educational establishments in a collaborative manner, sharing Year 11 intended destinations (Employment, Education or Training – EET) and confirmed destination data when known about leavers from Year 11 entering EET.

The Careers and NEET Team works with neighbouring authorities, especially where young people routinely travel out of the area to access education and training, for work or other services.

Sunderland has a data sharing agreement (DSA) in place with post sixteen educational providers within the city and the wider Northeast area i.e., Durham, Newcastle and Northumberland etc. These educational providers share/confirm curriculum choices and note destination data that will be shared on young people who attend a named institution for the purpose of the Careers Service reporting to DfE only, in addition we receive data from Apprenticeship and other Training Providers who share data with the Careers Service re starters and leavers on programme. This is recorded onto our Careers database for purpose of our required monthly reporting to DfE.

## 8. WORK WITH SCHOOLS AND PROVIDERS

Careers and NEET Early Help Workers work closely with training providers with each of them having link responsibility to the main Sunderland EET providers / partners. Regular contact is maintained with frequent exchange of information about learners and updates on available and upcoming provision. Reduction in Unknown figure has been achieved as we have found out where these young people were and what provision they were attending.

The Careers and NEET team regularly share opportunities and promote via youth voice social media and a weekly vacancy list which is sent to a regular mailing list of young people. Advisers have attended local training providers to meet with young people who are coming to the end of their course to support with the next steps or progression.

Careers and NEET Early Help Workers work closely with youth providers and have held drops ins or appointments for NEET young people at more locally accessible venues. They regularly visit providers to get updates on courses and opportunities and to view facilities so they can give an honest overview of provision to young people.

Careers and NEET Early Help Workers work closely with training providers to offer supported visits for young people and will arrange to accompany the young people on open days, providers visits and interviews and to act as an advocate for the young person. They will challenge providers to ensure young people receive support needed to fully engage in EET provision.

The Careers and NEET Team Manager attends the Sunderland city network city partnership meeting to share data and gather updates about proposed provision or local updates. They also attend Sunderland secondary careers leader meetings to update schools on data, DfE requirements and information and support we want from schools.

## 9. CASE STUDY EXAMPLES

### Case Study 1.

*Joshua was a 2020 school leaver who had been home educated. Post sixteen, he had gone to a training provider and achieved a Level I in Motor Vehicle Repair on route to the Level 2.*

*During the course, he found an apprenticeship and left the provider. Unfortunately, Joshua had insufficient work experience and the employer had to let him go. The original training provider was unable to offer him a position back on the course as it was full.*

*Joshua became NEET and needed support to look at other options but was still keen to pursue his chosen career in Motor Vehicle repair. His Careers and NEET Early Help Worker researched Level II Motor Vehicle courses and found something suitable at a local college.*

*The Careers and NEET Early Help Worker sent Joshua information about this and helped him put in an online application. Joshua kept having doubts as to whether they would accept him on the course, due to his lack of qualifications, however, he was reassured by his Careers and NEET Early Help Worker who kept in touch.*

*Joshua was successful in getting a place and was able to retake his maths functional skills. He was extremely happy as he had been quite unsure and negative up to this point, thinking he would not get a place. However, he succeeded and went onto achieve his Level II in Motor Vehicle.*

### Case Study 2.

*Support to find the right Higher Education places for Ryan who decided he wanted to study at a Northern University, within reasonable travelling distance from home.*

*The Careers and NEET Early Help Workers worked with the engagement team at the university chosen by Ryan and managed to get him a contextual offer that reduced the grades he needed to get in. Unfortunately, Ryan, did not achieve the reduced target grades.*



*The Careers and NEET Early Help Workers organised a meeting with the university admissions team to discuss this, but Ryan, changed his mind about the course and university setting. Ryan, now wanted to attend an out of area University.*

*After a series of 1-1 interventions working with the young person chatting through his options, looking at the advantages and disadvantages so he could make an informed choice, discussions commenced with Huddersfield University, and he was supported to obtain a course alongside suitable accommodation.*

## **10. FEEDBACK FROM YOUNG PEOPLE AND PROFESSIONALS**

*"Young person shared with TfC Careers Advisor that they had seen two other private Careers professionals who were engaged within their school, they confirmed that this intervention with TfC Careers Advisor had been the most helpful and that they had been listened to" Young Person.*

*"Careers are always there for you, offering advice from what career path to take to where to get a bus pass from. The advisers are really friendly and helpful, it's like having a friend in the know" Young Person.*

*"Careers Adviser was very, very helpful and easy to understand. She explained everything and myself and my mother was greatly pleased with the advice given. Have come out of a meeting feeling enthusiastic and hopeful. No longer feeling alone in attempting to find a job" Young Person.*

*"The adviser contact is great, I'm just grateful for the help as I'm a bit lost without the advice. Their approach is perfect and very down to earth" Parent*

*"Thank you for all your help, I really appreciate it as it helped me overcome my anxiety and start training" young person*

*"Young person told me that college had not got her email and Careers had been in contact with her and have sorted all of this out for her and young person couldn't have been more thankful highlighting she wouldn't have been going to college if it hadn't been for Careers Service help. Young person has not always felt supported by X school staff so social worker just wanted to say thank you because at this time in this young person's life and the pressure she feels from school it would have been easy for her to have lost interest and motivation in accessing additional education despite her clear capabilities". Social Worker – Next Steps.*

*"Careers Adviser has worked with several pupils from our school. Careers Adviser has demonstrated a range of strategies to support our pupils with many successful outcomes. I must state that her dedication and professionalism with these young people cannot be really stated in this communication – I am amazed with the amount of personal time she has given to support pupils in crisis – this has been commented on by pupils/parents and carers. Her knowledge and understanding have supported my staff in dealing with issues and all of the student support team are always kept "in the loop "with regards to progress" Deputy Head*

*The allocated careers adviser has been especially proactive and has really advocated for the students who he has worked with. There was a lot of students who we said we could not meet needs for, and he has really been their voice and kept on working with the college to arrange meetings etc and we now have placements for the students which is excellent. (Transition officer Sunderland college)*

*I was so impressed with your engagement and communication with the young people. The communication and presentation of the NEET and Careers worker was particularly impressive, she knew many of the young people, remembered them and their skills and interests really validating the young people. She was really positive with them and gave them lots of "space and time" to respond to her questions. She was upbeat positive and respectful and the interaction with the young people created a "happy vibe" some of the young people required reassurance about being on the bus and this was readily and sensitively given by TfC workers. (EH Locality Manager)*

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Education and Skills scrutiny is invited to:

- Note the content of the report

**Jane Wheeler**

**Early Help Service Manager – Prevention and Innovation**

**March 2023**



30 March 2023

## **CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **UPDATE ON TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIP ACCESS FOR CARE EXPERIENCED YOUNG PEOPLE AND MEASURES TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF NEET CARED FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN SUNDERLAND**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

##### **1. Purpose of the report**

To update members of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee on current training and apprenticeship access for care experienced young people. Including Virtual School's support to reduce the number of NEET cared for young people.

##### **2. Background**

###### **2.1 Post 16 Pupil Premium Plus Pilot:**

Sunderland Virtual School have been selected to participate in a one-year DfE pilot of Pupil Premium Plus Grant funding (PP+) for post 16 cared for young people, with a focus on improving retention in Education, Employment and Training and raising attainment in Maths and English. Sunderland Virtual School are delivering this in the following three areas:

- Raise the profile of Cared for and Care Experienced Young People in FE/training/apprenticeships through multi agency working practice to improve retention and participation of our young people on appropriate post 16 pathways thus reducing the number of young people not in education, training, and employment.
- Improve the attendance and outcomes for Level 2 English and Maths to improve access to apprenticeships/employment opportunities.
- Better support the delivery of Personal Education Plans at an individual and whole cohort basis to promote progression and attainment.

2.2 This DfE grant has allowed the Virtual School to increase staffing capacity to work more intensively and collaboratively to ensure our young people have successful outcome as they move into adult life.

##### **3. Training and Apprenticeship Access for Cared for/Care Experienced Young People**

###### **3.1 Ongoing support from the Virtual School:**

- Post 16 Caseworkers offer mentoring and support tailored to meet the needs of each cared for young person to access education, training and employment opportunities. This involves home visits to offer information, advice and guidance, multi-agency working to support, exploring options, accompanying on visits to local providers, interview preparation and in some case creating bespoke programmes to meet the needs of the individual that cannot be met by mainstream provision.
- The expansion of the team and increased hours has allowed team members to offer more intensive support to our young people.
- Virtual School Post 16 caseworkers have extensive knowledge of local training opportunities and work closely with Together for Children Careers Team to source and access appropriate training placements for cared for young people.
- Regular Personal Education Planning (PEP) meetings take place to review work undertaken, identify barriers to engagement and agree actions to provide support and facilitate engagement. Post 16 staff facilitate and attend all PEP meetings and have developed three versions of the Post 16 PEP to better tailor support for young people who are:
  - Engaging in Employment and/or Apprenticeships
  - Enrolled on Education and/or Training Course
  - NEET
- Careers Information Advice and Guidance (CIAG) is an integral part of the PEP and includes an action plan for all Year 11's moving into Post 16 provision. (See Case study - Appendix A).
- Multiagency and focused based approach to maintain engagement in education, training, and employment. Working in close partnership with training providers, colleges, housing providers, foster carers.
- NEET support panel meets monthly and is attended by VS Caseworkers, TfC Careers Team, and Next Steps Activity Co-ordinator. The purpose is to find creative solutions for our post 16 hard to reach young people who are NEET, and to improve retention in EET using a multi-disciplinary approach.
- Virtual School work in partnership with Next Steps Social Workers and Personal Advisers to support care experienced young people with their ongoing education training and employment. Sunderland Virtual School now offer extended support to the end of year 13. This includes education review meetings to which Personal Advisers are invited to ensure a smooth transition between the two services is achieved as young people continue into year 14. (See Case study – Appendix B).
- Virtual School refer for advice and guidance to the Higher Education Specialist Personal Adviser to support with transition and planning for post 18 pathways.

- Virtual School Post 16 Caseworkers regularly co locate to Stanfield Business Centre in order to work closely with Next Steps Social Workers and Personal Advisers providing a wraparound service for the transition of care leavers.
- Excellent working relationships with partners from training providers and some local employers ensure appropriate support and the right course are in place to meet the often-complex needs of our young people.

### 3.2 Work with Employers and Local Training Providers:

- Virtual School work effectively with some local employers, for example over the past 2 years, Howdens have recruited several Cared for/Care experienced young people across the city and northeast region. Working on an individual basis we are able to identify suitable opportunities for young people with Howdens and alongside the development of good working relationships, the needs of the apprentices are met, and support is effective. Partnership working with Howdens will continue this year with information on opportunities being shared with the Post 16 Virtual School Team. (See Appendix A).
- Working in partnership, post 16 caseworkers for the virtual school, social care colleagues and a variety of local training providers, including Woodshed and Springboard, have developed bespoke courses that specifically meet the complex needs of individual cared for young people. This is particularly important where mainstream provision is either not appropriate or available, working in an innovative way has created more realistic and achievable outcomes for our cared for/care experienced young people.
- Virtual School are always eager to work with employers who may be able to offer employment/apprenticeship/work experience opportunities to cared for and care experienced young people. Examples of employers we are in the early stages of working with are the Waites Group and Everyone Active.
- Virtual School are working collaboratively with partners to develop additional English as a Second Language (ESOL) provision for our Post 16 Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC) to meet the increasing need in the city. Current figures for Post 16 UASC, who are cared for by Together for Children in year 12, has seen a 58% increase in the last 6 months to a total of 12 young people.
- With our regional and local Further Education college provision currently at capacity, staff in the Virtual School are proactively looking to increase training opportunities in partnership with local training providers for this specific cohort of young people. In its early stages of development, this new provision will include a focus on the development of English alongside vocational training and personal/social development.

- The Virtual School is also part of a North of England regional UASC focus group working on regional solutions to support UASC young people into education and training opportunities, to share good practice with a solution focused approach.

Virtual School Current Participation Figures (16-18 years) on 09.03.23:

Further Education	43
Training	21
Apprenticeships	3
Employment	5
NEET	18
<b>Total Cohort</b>	<b>90</b>

#### **4. Measures to reduce the number of NEET cared for young people**

##### **4.1 NEET Preventative work from the Virtual School:**

- Regular Personal Education Planning (PEP) meetings take place to review what is going well as well as any needs or concerns when they arise. Agreed targets are set with individualised support to promote retention and prevent disengagement.
- Year 11 Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) has been created for our current year 11 cohort based on Autumn PEP data on attainment and social, emotional, and mental health indicators. Students are RAG rated and targeted transition work is undertaken in the spring and summer term to support NEET prevention.
- A dedicated member of the Virtual School team has been employed through the Post 16 PP+ pilot to support transition from year 11 to year 12 and provide NEET prevention support and strategies.
- For our UASC cohort, we are providing a core offer of laptops, educational assessments, and targeted language support, using the Flash Academy framework, alongside additional online and face to face EAL tuition where needed in preparation for full time learning.

##### **4.2 Innovation and Sharing Good Practice**

- Virtual School are working collaboratively with partners to develop additional Post 16 UASC provision to meet the increasing need in the city. The Virtual School is also part of a North of England regional UASC focus group working on regional solutions to support USAC cohorts from NEET prevention.
- Virtual school are exploring creative bespoke solutions for NEET young people with complex needs such as personal development, preparing for

adulthood and independence and how this can reduce NEET e.g., 1-1 tuition, ASDAN, positive activities.

- Post 16 Caseworkers attend Northeast Raising Aspiration Partnership, which is a Care Experienced Student Steering Group. As part of this group, Virtual School staff encourage schools to refer children and young people (Y7 – Y12) in our care to participate in the ‘Choices Programme’ which is a programme of university visits and activities to raise aspirations around further and higher education (See appendix B).
- Post 16 Caseworkers are setting up a Regional Post 16 Virtual School Steering Group to share challenges and good practice to improve outcomes for cared for/care experienced young people.

Current Cared for NEET Figures as of 09/03/2023:

Current cared for cohort aged 16-18	90
Current NEET Cohort	18
Overall NEET percentage	20%

Please see attached Anonymised Case Studies

Appendix A

Appendix B

## **5. Recommendation**

Members of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee are asked to note the contents of the report and offer comments at the committee meeting.

## Appendix A

J became cared for in December 2021 following a period of long-term absence from school due to educational neglect. J was at risk of permanent exclusion from his mainstream school for violent behaviour toward another student. Following the intervention of the Virtual School Headteacher, the permanent exclusion was rescinded, and he began attending The Link School late in Year 11. J responded positively to the more nurturing environment and the high staffing ratio at The Link and as a result engaged and progressed well, however; he was only there for a short period until the end of Year 11 with little time to prepare for his GCSEs.

Virtual School Post 16 Caseworker started working with J at the end of year 11 and attended his final statutory PEP and began to look at post 16 options and a comprehensive transition plan he could consider. J engaged well with the intervention and pathway plan and was willing to consider most training/apprenticeship opportunities that were suggested to him. Due to the relationship that J and his caseworker were able to build, J was honest about what he wanted to do and what his goals were. J visited some training providers but decided this route wasn't for him as he wanted to be challenged, busy and to earn his own money. J wanted to find an apprenticeship, but his predicted grades were lower than the entry requirements for the majority of apprenticeship vacancies advertised.

J was NEET from leaving school in the Summer of 2022 but continued to work with his post 16 caseworker to progress his pathway plan. This coincided with J moving to a new foster carer and as a result he became more settled and focussed on his future. VS caseworker approached Howdens on J's behalf as an employer who Together for Children have worked with previously. Howdens were willing to consider young people with lower predicted/achieved grades and look more at a young person's potential and ambition. J was supported to prepare and attend an interview with Howden, and he was offered a start date in November 2022.

J has fully embraced his apprenticeship programme and is enjoying working at Howdens. J is also engaging in functional skills tuition (funded through the new Post 16 PP+ pilot) and organised and delivered by Sunderland Virtual School. This is working well, takes place at Howdens and is supporting J to improve his maths and English grades. On completion of the apprenticeship, J will be offered employment with Howdens once his apprenticeship and this will give him the foundations for successful progression into adulthood.

## Appendix B

T became cared for in February 2022, halfway through her first year of A Levels. Priority for the Virtual School was to ensure that school staff, foster carer and Next Steps worked together to support T through this difficult time and minimise the impact on her educational achievement. Education was a priority for T and it was imperative to support her in pursuing her aspirations to progress on to higher education and a career in law.

We held an initial PEP within 20 days of T becoming cared for, which helped to identify any work missed in the initial stages of her transitioning into our care. T had missed

two weeks of school and they agreed a package of support to help T to keep up to date with her studies. T was also encouraged to apply to do an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) which would support future applications for university/apprenticeships. At the PEP meeting professionals were able to ensure that she had access to the vulnerable young people's further education bursary to support her in accessing her studies. The Virtual School were able to provide T with a laptop and other resources required to complete her A level studies. Clear educational targets were set at the PEP meeting to help monitor T's progress throughout Year 12 and into Year 13.

Regular PEP meetings allowed the VS Caseworker to review progress and respond to T's educational needs, this included supporting with exploring work experience options and arranged an offer from a Solicitor employed by Sunderland Council to act as a mentor/adviser. Virtual School also referred to Choices Higher Education programme and Northumbria's University pilot for care experienced students, although T decided not to attend at this time as she felt she needed to prioritise her studies, she appreciated the support offered and knew this was an ongoing offer.

Following a successful work experience with a law firm, T was offered an apprenticeship in law but decided that she wanted to continue with an application for the higher education route. The PEP enabled professionals and T to discuss her university preferences and agree who would be supporting T with all aspects of university applications and visits so that T had a smooth UCAS application process. VS Caseworker arranged for the Next Steps Personal Adviser to visit T to provide information on support options available to her as a care experienced student at university.

Regular PEPs have also enabled the Virtual School to advocate on T's behalf, for example, T was concerned about her Business Studies grade due to main teacher leaving. School was able to update us on staffing to reassure T and Virtual School asked for additional support to help T feel more confident with Business A level. School agreed for T to attend additional Year 12 Business lessons to help T refresh her knowledge in preparation for A level exams. Business department also offered additional intervention in preparation for exams.

T has now turned 18 and the Virtual School caseworker continues to liaise with T's Personal Adviser, facilitating communications between Next Steps and school. An educational review meeting is planned for the Spring term to ensure T is on track with her A levels. Her Personal Adviser will attend this meeting and offer ongoing support with transition into higher education.

Most recent update from sixth form is that T has improved her Business Studies grade in mock exams and is on track for predicted grades. We will discuss further at the education review and if T still feels worried about Business, Virtual School caseworker will agree some 1-1 tuition to support revision for final exams, which will be funded through the Post 16 PP+ Pilot. In the meantime, T has been offered a place at Manchester University to study law and is proud of this achievement.

# Item 6

## **CHILDREN EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**30 MARCH 2023**

### **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT – 2022/2023**

### **REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To approve the draft of the Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee report as part of the overall scrutiny annual report 2022/23 that is to be presented to Council.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 As in previous municipal year's the annual report will be a single combined report of all four scrutiny committees. The annual report will outline the development in the scrutiny function and provide a snapshot of its work during the last 12 months.

#### **3. Current position**

- 3.1 The draft Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee report is attached at appendix 1 for member's consideration. The report provides a summary of some of the main work undertaken by the Committee during 2022/23. It should be noted that the report is written from the perspective of the Chair of the Committee reflecting over the year.

#### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The Committee has delivered another ambitious work programme in 2022/23, which is reflected in the annual report. The Committee has worked with Council Directorates, stakeholders and partner organisations to deliver the work programme and has tackled a number of key issues throughout the year.

#### **5 Recommendation**

- 5.1 That Members approve the Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee report for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23.





## **Children, Education & Skills Scrutiny Committee**

**Chair: Cllr Katherine Mason-Gage**

**Vice Chair: Cllr Joshua McKeith**

**Committee Members: Councillors Mark Burrell, Margaret Crosby, Richard Dunn, Paul Gibson, Logan Guy, Sam Johnston, Alex Samuels, Pat Smith, Melanie Thornton and Philip Tye**

**Co-opted Members: Ann Blakey (Roman Catholic Diocese)**

At the start of the year, the Committee received a report on the TfC Self Evaluation, a document setting out the performance, quality and impact of children's services in Sunderland. This document played an important part in highlighting our priorities for the year and establishing our annual work programme. Issues raised included early help, prevention and innovation, safeguarding, children in need and child protection, cared for children, fostering and participation and engagement.

The Committee received a highly positive report about the progress being made by the Early Help service. We heard that there had been a return to the pre-pandemic level of families being supported by an Early Help Plan, together with an 8% decrease in the numbers of children stepping up to statutory services. Three quarters of families supported through Family Group Conferencing stepped down to the universal services and required no further support and a further 8% required a lower level of support. The Youth Drug and Alcohol project (YDAP) recorded a positive outcome rate of 92%. Of the young people engaged as part of the Wear Kids (Anti-Social Behaviour) programme, 80% remained out of the youth justice system.

The Committee also heard more about the progress of the Holiday Activity and Food Programme which provides the opportunity for children from disadvantaged families to access nutritious food and a range of organised out of school activities. Feedback from the programme has been very positive and the Committee thanked all involved for their efforts.

The Committee heard from Louise Farthing, the Portfolioholder for Children, Learning and Skills on the renewal of the Corporate Parenting Strategy. This has involved working with the Change Council to focus on the priorities identified by young people, including health and care, stigma, employment, education, leisure, housing and transport.

The Committee also received a report on current training and apprenticeship access for care experienced young people, including Virtual School's support to reduce the number of NEET cared for young people. We heard that Sunderland Virtual School has been selected to participate in a one-year DfE pilot of Pupil Premium Plus Grant funding (PP+) for post 16 cared for young people, with a focus on improving retention in Education, Employment and Training and raising attainment in Maths and English.

We also heard how Virtual School works with employers and local training providers to identify suitable opportunities and apprenticeships for young people and ensure that the needs of the apprentices are met.

In October 2022, the Committee considered the outcome of the Ofsted Inspection of Together for Children Fostering. The service was rated as Good in each of the three Inspection categories; overall experiences and progress of children and young people, how well children and young people are helped and protected and the effectiveness of leaders and managers. It was noted that the service was developing an action plan arising from the issues raised. The Committee commended the service on the outcome of the Inspection.

Building on our work last year, the Committee received a further update on SEND provision in Sunderland following an Inspection undertaken in June 2021. We heard that the process of joint commissioning had been improved through the use of improved information and working more closely with children, young people and families. Improvements also included the establishment of a new SEND Governance structure, a shared data platform to enable data to be shared across education, social care and health and the development of a range of co-production tools such as Mind of My Own.

We heard from Catherine Barnett, Headteacher Hylton Red House Nursery School / Chair of Thriving and Coping Group about the introduction of the Mental Health Charter Mark Award and the work going on amongst a network of schools to develop school based approaches to support resilience, mental health and emotional wellbeing. We heard that funding had been secured by Sunderland CCG to employ mental health workers who were trained teachers to work with a multi-disciplinary team in the delivery of low level interventions. This should help to reduce the pressure on the CAMHS and CYPS services by preventing issues escalating to a point requiring that level of intervention.

In setting our work programme, the Committee asked for an update on the demands facing the Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service focusing on the impact of the Covid pandemic and its future implications. We heard that while the period had seen an increase in numbers, the most striking factor had been the increase in the complexity of cases. The Committee commended the work and commitment of the Team in providing a service which not only supported the child but also families as a whole.

The Committee received an update on the level of childhood obesity and the approaches being taken nationally and locally. This issue falls hardest on children from low-income backgrounds, as obesity rates are highest in the most deprived areas and have been exacerbated further as a result of Covid. Living with obesity can significantly affect health outcomes for children, both in the short term and into their adult life.

We heard that tackling obesity was a complex issue which required joint working across national government, local authorities and a wide range of partners. On the positive side, we heard that recent data indicates that healthy weight prevalence has

improved following the increase in obesity during the 2020-21 and it was hoped this trend would continue.

The Committee received a report on the work going on to support children and young people who were unaccompanied and seeking asylum. We heard that TFC had developed staffing expertise and pathways to help meet the needs of these young people. However, the challenges and resource implications were considerable and continued to place very significant demands on the service.

Toward the end of the year, an update was provided on the verified overall school performance data for the academic year 2021 – 2022 and the key priorities for the school improvement service. Details were provided around Early Years Foundation Stage Profile, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, together with GCSE results. It was noted that the DfE had stressed that performance data for 2022 should not be directly compared with 2019 and earlier or comparisons made between schools, as different schools may have been affected differently by the Covid pandemic.

An on-going problem for the city has been the relatively high numbers of young people not in education, employment or work (NEET). The Committee received an update on measures being taken to tackle this issue and ensure that as a city that we are able to equip our young people for employment.

In 13 December 2022, HM Inspectorate of Probation published the outcome of its inspection of Youth Offending Services in Sunderland. Overall, the service was rated as Good. The Inspection found a skilled service, with strengths evident in the partnership's strategic approach to prioritising prevention and diversion. It was considered a well-led and well-managed partnership. The case management of out-of-court disposals was of a high standard, underpinned by clear policy and provision arrangements. YOS staff and senior leaders were found to have a shared commitment to ensuring that children receive the most appropriate services and interventions at the earliest stage. An improvement plan has been prepared in response to the recommendations detailed in the inspection report. The Committee commended the service on the outcome of the Inspection.

The Committee places great importance on listening to the views of young people. At the start of the year, members of the Committee met with young people from Cozmik 3piphany; a group for young people who identify as LGBTQ+ or are questioning their sexuality and/or gender identity. The meeting provided an opportunity to hear their views and priorities for the future.

Last year, the Committee received the feedback on the Ofsted Inspection of Children Services and were delighted to hear that the service had received an outstanding rating. The Committee has continued to receive periodic performance report in order to demonstrate that the level of improvement was being maintained and we will continue to monitor the progress into the future. The Committee has also received regular update reports on Children Services Customer feedback reports. I am pleased to see that these show a continuing reduction in the number of complaints.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for their contributions and to thank all the officers and witnesses who gave up their time to attend and provide insights into the services they provide and the challenges they face.

**Councillor Katherine Mason-Gage**  
**Chair of the Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee**

# Item 7

**CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 30 MARCH 2023**

## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2022-2023**

### **REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The report sets out for members' consideration the work programme of the Committee for the 2022/23 municipal year.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The work programme is designed to set out the key issues to be addressed by the Committee during the year and provide it with a timetable of work. The Committee itself is responsible for setting its own work programme, subject to the coordinating role of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.
- 2.2 The work programme is intended to be a working document which Committee can develop throughout the year, allowing it to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.
- 2.3 In order to ensure that the Committee is able to undertake all of its business and respond to emerging issues, there will be scope for additional meetings or visits not detailed in the work programme.
- 2.4 In delivering its work programme the Committee will support the Council in achieving its corporate outcomes.

#### **3. Current position**

- 3.1 The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

#### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The work programme is intended to be a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2022-23.

#### **5 Recommendation**

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme.

Contact: Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator

REASON FOR INCLUSION	9 JUNE 22 (INFORMAL MEETING)	7 JULY 22	8 SEPT 22	6 OCT 22	3 NOV 22	1 DEC 22	5 JAN 23	2 FEB 23	2 MARCH 23	30 MARCH 23
Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses										Scrutiny Annual Report – 22/23
Scrutiny Business	Work Programme 2022/23	Consultation with LGBTQ+ Community	Corporate Parenting (Majella McCarthy)  SEND – Update (Pamela Robertson)  Performance Report (Jill Colbert)	SEND – Areas for Deep Dive (Pamela Robertson)  Consultation with LGBTQ+ Community - Feedback on Visit (Members)	Asylum Seekers - support available for children and their families (Tracy Jeffs/Sharon Willis/Karen Dunn)  Mental Health Charter Mark Award (Catherine Barnett)	Speech Disorder and Language Disorder in Early Years (Kimm Lawson)  Holiday and Activities Food Programme (Jane Wheeler)  Ofsted Fostering Inspection – Feedback (Tracy Jelfs)	Early Help Annual Report for 2021/22 and update on Family Hubs.(Karen Davison)  YOS Review – Outcome (Karen Davison/Linda Mason)	Child Obesity – (Lorraine Hughes)  Prevention Bus – Feedback (Jane Wheeler) - Deferred	Schools Update (Simon Marshall)	Training and Apprenticeship Access for Care Experienced Young People (Simon Marshall)  The measures to reduce the number of young people not in education or training (Jane Wheeler)
Performance / Service Improvement		TfC Self – Evaluation (Jill Colbert)  Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)		TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report – Areas Deep Dive (Jill Colbert/Stacey Hodgkinson)		Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)			TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report (Stacey Hodgkinson)	
Consultation / Awareness Raising		Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme	

**Items to Programme Next Year:**

- School Place Sufficiency (Alan Rowan)
- Visit to Sunnigdale School (tbc)
- Cared for Children – Deep Dive (Social Care)



## CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

### REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions.

#### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Notice of Key Decisions) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

#### 3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Panel could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

#### 4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

#### 5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda
-

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
221121/734	To provide an update and to seek approval for the change in delivery approach in respect of the Sunderland Heat Network.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220822/736	To update Cabinet on progress of the New Wear Footbridge ("the Scheme") and seek approval to award the main works contract for the Scheme.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
221101/750	To consider the outcome of the review of the governance and contract arrangements for Together for Children Sunderland Limited and approve the recommended next steps.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
221123/754	To seek approval to procure a contractor and negotiate and enter into a build contract for the delivery of 13 one bed apartments at James William Street.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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221216/767	To seek approval to acquire St. Cuthbert's Methodist Church and associated land to enable the build of 6 specialist supported bungalows and approval to procure a contractor and enter into a build contract for the delivery of the bungalows.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
221216/768	To seek approval to acquire the former Halfway House Public House and, negotiate and enter into a build contract with Bright Ideas in the delivery of 8nos. 1-bed apartments for supported accommodation.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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221220/769	To approve the 2023 Siglion Business Plan	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230117/772	Changing Places Toilets Programme – Approval of Grant Agreement to enable funding and installation of CPTs in key leisure venues across the city.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230123/773	To approve The Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy – Updates and Amendments	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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230127/776	To approve a Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023 – 2028.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230201/779	To Seek approval for the acquisition of a Property on John Street, Sunnyside, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230207/781	To approve the Highway Maintenance (Including Bridges) and Integrated Transport Capital Programme 2023-2024.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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230208/782	To apply uplift to Public Health contracts where staff are employed on NHS Agenda for Change terms and conditions, in line with Public Health Grant conditions for 2022/23.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230213/784	To approve the disposal of land at Farrington Row, Sunderland for a proposed residential scheme.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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230215/786	To seek approval for the realignment of property interests at Keel Square.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
221006/744	To approve in principle the establishment of a new police led Road Safety Partnership (Northumbria Road Safety Partnership) embracing the Northumbria Force Area.	Cabinet	Y	16 March to 30 June 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>



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230215/785	To approve the payment of financial assistance to a company locating in Sunderland in relation to the company's own investment plans.	Cabinet	Y	16 March to 30 June 2023 (published on the Notice dated 15 February 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210709/612	To authorise the Executive Director of City Development to deliver the Washington F-Pit Museum Heritage Visitor Centre and Albany Park Improvement project, including the procurement of consultants and contractors.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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220207/690	To approve the sale of the former Alex Smiles site and to undertake required remedial works.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220524/714	To agree to the grant of an option to sell property at Richmond Street, Sheepfolds, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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220712/722	To seek agreement to the proposed development strategy of the Council's Self and Custom Build Sites.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220719/723	To seek approval for the acquisition of Property at Crowtree Road and to grant a lease of the former Crowtree Leisure Centre	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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221018/747	To consider a disposal of land at Silksworth Road, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
221110/753	To seek approval for the Disposal of an Industrial Property in Washington.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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221130/756	To seek approval to procure a contractor and, negotiate and enter into a build contract in the delivery of 55 nos. bungalows and apartments for over 55s at land at St Luke Road.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
221220/770	To approve the carrying out of a procurement exercise in order to establish a framework for ground investigation works and geotechnical services.  To delegate authority to the Executive Director of City Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to conclude the contractual arrangements.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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230123/774	To update Cabinet on progress on the Riverside Infrastructure Project ("the Scheme") and seek approval to commit funds to a programme of projects under this Scheme.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230125/775	To receive a progress update in relation to the Housing Innovation and Construction Skills Academy and approve the proposed next steps	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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230130/777	To approve the Housing Delivery Investment Plan future strategic approach.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230130/778	To approve the Financial and Lease Agreement details for the New Sunderland Eye Infirmary on Riverside.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230213/783	To make a decision relating to an exchange of land to facilitate to rebuild of St Patrick's RC Primary School (Ryhope)	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	N	Not applicable	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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230309/787	To consider the purchase of 1 Marlow Drive, Moorside, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
230313/788	To seek approval of five Area Committee Area Plans for 2023-2026.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 <sup>st</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2023.	N	Not applicable	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

**Note;** Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland, or by email to [committees@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk)

**\*Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker and requests for details of these documents should be submitted to Governance Services at the address given above.**



**Who will decide;**

Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Claire Rowntree – Deputy Leader & Clean Green City; Councillor Paul Stewart - Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Kelly Chequer – Healthy City; Councillor Linda Williams – Vibrant City; Councillor Kevin Johnston – Dynamic City.

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

15 March 2023