

## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

**Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 1) on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 at 5.30 p.m.**

#### **Membership**

Cllrs, Davison, Dixon, Fletcher, Howe, Scanlan, David Snowdon, Dianne Snowdon and N. Wright

Co-opted Members – Ms. A. Blakey, Ms. R. Elliott and Ms. H. Harper and Mr. S. Williamson.

ITEM		PAGE
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	-
2.	<b>Minutes of the last Meeting of the Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2015</b> (copy attached).	1
3.	<b>Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)</b>	-
	<b>Part A – Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>	
4.	<b>Scrutiny Policy Reviews 2014/15; Response from Cabinet – 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015</b>	9
	Report of the Chief Executive (copy attached).	
	<b>Part B – Scrutiny Business</b>	
5.	<b>Sunderland CCG Operational Plan Refresh 2015/16</b>	17
	Report of the Chief Officer Sunderland CCG (copy attached).	

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Information contained in this agenda can be made available in other languages and formats on request

6.	<b>Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2014/15</b>	24
	Report of the Head of Service: Safeguarding (copy attached).	
7.	<b>Commissioning the Scrutiny Panels 2015/16</b>	31
	Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Area Arrangements (copy attached).	
8.	<b>Notice of Key Decisions</b>	36
	Report of the Chief Executive (copy attached).	
9.	<b>Annual Work Programme 2015/16</b>	48
	Report of the Chief Executive (copy attached).	
	<b>Part C – Scrutiny Lead Member Update</b>	
10.	<b>Lead Scrutiny Member Update: July 2015</b>	50
	Report of the Lead Scrutiny Members (copy attached)	
	<b>Part D – Health Substantial Variations to Service</b>	
	No items	
	<b>Part E –CCFA/Members Items/Petitions</b>	
	No items	

E. WAUGH,  
Head of Law and Governance,  
Civic Centre,  
SUNDERLAND.

8<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.

## **Item. 2**

**At a meeting of the SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE SUNDERLAND on THURSDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2015 at 5.30 p.m.**

### **Present:-**

Councillor N. Wright in the Chair

Councillors Davison, D. Dixon, Fletcher, Howe, Scanlon, David Snowdon, Dianne Snowdon and Mr Williamson.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the first Scrutiny Committee of the municipal year. She reminded all present that it was a formal committee of the Council and as such everyone attending should dress accordingly. In addition all questions, comment and debate should be addressed through the Chair.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Ms A. Blakey.

### **Minutes of the last Meeting of the Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2015**

Councillor Dianne Snowdon referred to page 4, paragraph 2 of the minutes and advised that it was she rather than Councillor David Snowdon who had asked the question in respect of hotel accommodation driving the evening economy. Subject to this amendment, it was:-

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

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

There were no declarations of Interest made.

### **Youth Justice Plan 2013/14 to 2015/16 Annual Progress Update 2015/16**

Sharon Clutton-Dowell, Interim Head of Youth Offending Service presented a report of the Head of Support and Community Living (copy circulated) which provided members with the opportunity to comment on the Youth Justice Plan Progress Update prior to its submission to Cabinet.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Clutton-Dowell briefed the Committee on the progress made by the Service in delivering against its following strategic priorities:-

- i) A preventative approach to reducing youth offending
- ii) Reducing reoffending
- iii) A family approach
- iv) A restorative justice approach
- v) Service evaluation

In particular member's attention was drawn to the success of the Liaison and Diversion Project which had been recognised nationally as an example of good practice. It was pleasing to note that the Partnership had managed to maintain its excellent performance indicators (PIs) which compared favourably at both regional and national level.

The Chairman stated that the Youth Offending Team had long been seen as an exemplar service and this report only served to enhance its reputation. The positive comments from Jenny Talbot of the Howard League for Penal Reform were very encouraging. The Chairman asked Ms Clutton-Dowell to take the Committee's congratulations back to her staff.

Councillor David Snowdon referred to the budget for 2014/15 of £3.5m and asked if there had been a surplus. Ms Clutton-Dowell replied that the service had accrued a small surplus of approximately £65,000 to £75,000. The budget over the last four years had almost halved however despite this the service had managed to maintain its performance levels. Councillor David Snowdon referred to the staffing structure detailed at appendix A of the report and noted that it was almost exclusively white British. Ms Clutton-Dowell confirmed this was the case and that staffing remained very static. The Chairman stated that this had also caught her eye. She referred to the statement in the report that 'Sunderland does not have a significantly diverse population in terms of ethnicity' and asked Ms Clutton-Dowell to clarify. Ms Clutton-Dowell advised that although Sunderland's population profile included various ethnic minorities, this was not reflected in the backgrounds of the young offenders known to the Service.

The Chairman referred to the slight increase in custodial cases and asked whether there had been a particular reason. Ms Clutton-Dowell advised that the Service always viewed the sentencing of a young person to a period of custody as a failure however in rare cases it was the only option given the nature of the offence committed. In the majority of cases the Service would look to work intensively with the young person within the community. The service had conducted a full review of all the cases over the last 12 months resulting in custodial sentences and had concluded that in all cases the sentences were appropriate.

Councillor Scanlan speaking in light of her experience as a Chair of Magistrates stated that in the case of first time offences of a sexual or violent nature, Magistrates were faced with two main sentencing options, one, a referral order or two, a period of custody. It was often frustrating that there was no middle course of action. Ms Clutton-Dowell having advised of alternatives in relation to lesser offences such as youth cautions, and youth rehabilitation orders, the Chairman advised that Councillor Scanlan had highlighted an extremely important point and suggested that the Committee framed this in its recommendations.

Councillor Dianne Snowdon referred to the Teen Triple P and asked what it was and how it worked. Ms Clutton-Dowell advised that Triple P stood for the Positive Parenting Programme. It was comprised of a five to six week course where the service worked with parents to preserve parental authority and helped them to set boundaries for their child.

Mr Williamson referred to the statistics presented on page 16 and suggested that they could be made more meaningful by the addition of comparative data and more easily understood if presented in the form of graphs or pie charts. Ms Clutton-Dowell advised that the rate of offending amongst Sunderland's Looked After Children (LACs) was at a figure of 13.5 to 14%. This compared regionally with figures of approximately 7 to 11%. In general LACs were over represented in the youth justice system. There were many reasons but in the main, if a young person became troublesome or violent within a traditional family setting, more often than not it was contained and dealt with by the parents. If a similar incident arose in a children's home the first action of the staff maybe to call the police. Mr Williamson replied that this only served to underline the Committee's previous concerns aired in earlier meetings around the propensity for LACs to become NEET. The Chairman stated that Mr Williamson was correct in that the Committee had discussed the problems facing LACs over a number of years and it was concerning that improvements were still required.

The Chairman having thanked Ms Clutton-Dowell for her report and congratulated her service on the national recognition it had received, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) Cabinet be advised that the Scrutiny Committee recognised the sterling work that the Youth Offending Service undertakes and noted the Annual Progress Update. However, the Scrutiny Committee would also ask the Youth Offending Service to consider further options for local magistrates in dealing with first time serious offenders and request that any future Annual Progress Updates look to provide clearer visual representations of statistical information and comparative data through the use of pie charts, graphs and other suitable means.
- ii) the Youth Offending Service is invited back to a future meeting to discuss further approaches to the offending of Looked After Children.

**Reference from Cabinet 24 June 2015 – Revenue Budget Outturn for 2014/15 and First Revenue review 2015/16**

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report (copy circulated) which set out for advice and consideration of the Committee, an aspect of the report on the Revenue Budget Outturn 2014/2015 and the First Revenue Budget Review 2015/2016, namely requesting the Council to approve the transfer of funds.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Davison Deputy Head of Financial Resources presented the report drawing members attention to Appendix A which set out the relevant extract from the Cabinet

report, referring to the transfer of a £0.649m under spending on the revenue budget 2014/2015 to the Strategic Investment Reserve to support transitional arrangements arising from implementation of the savings programmes for 2015/16 and future years.

Consideration having been given to the report, the Scrutiny Committee was satisfied with the proposal to transfer the underspend to the Strategic Investment Reserve and accordingly it was: -

3. RESOLVED that the Cabinet be advised that the Scrutiny Committee supported its recommendation to recommend the Council to approve the transfer of £0.649 million underspend from the 2014/2015 Revenue Budget to the Strategic Investment Reserve to support the transitional arrangements arising from the implementation of the savings programmes for 2015/16 and future years.

### **Reference from Cabinet – 24 June 2015 – Capital Programme Outturn 2014/15 and First Capital Review 2015/2016 (including Treasury Management)**

The Head of Law and Governance submitted a report (copy circulated) which advised the Committee of the approval by Cabinet of variations to the Capital Programme with an estimated variance of £250,000 or more which would also be reported to Council for information.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Davison, Deputy Head of Financial Resources referred Members to Appendix A which set out the relevant extract from the Cabinet report and which outlined the additional schemes regarding the Industrial Portfolio Improvement Works and the Seafront Regeneration with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000.

The Committee having confirmed that it was satisfied with the proposed variation to the capital programme it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

### **Housing & Care21 Extracare Scheme**

The Head of Integrated Commissioning submitted a report (copy circulated), which provided the Committee with an update on current issues raised by Members in relation to Housing and Care21 Extracare Schemes with a focus on Beckwith Mews, Bramble Hollow and Woodridge Gardens.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Graham King, Head of Integrated Commissioning presented the report, placing the issues in a historical context and advising of a meeting he had held with Housing and Care 21 earlier that day.

Members were advised that residents at Beckwith Mews, Bramble Hollow and Woodridge Gardens had become increasingly worried about the introduction of charges. This and the following issues were raised at a residents meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2015:-

Residents were unclear about the core charges and questioned why this information had not been provided or included on the Housing & Care21 website.

Four previous meetings had been held with residents and Housing & Care21 and the responses to questions raised had still not been addressed to residents' satisfaction.

Formal complaints had been made by some residents.

Constant turnover in staffing.

Intermittent provision of entertainment

Residents were stressed with the worry of the finances and not being able to sell their properties which they felt was as a consequence of the charges and number of schemes being built.

Housing & Care21 had a number of properties that were shared ownership. Residents had questioned why they were being charged 100% service charges when the apartment is shared ownership (50%).

The lease did not include details of charges that are still incurred upon death and continue until the point of resale. Some residents shared that the properties have remained unsold after a period of 15 months.

Mr King advised that the management of Housing and Care 21 had accepted all the qualitative issues and acknowledged that their communications had been poor. They had currently reverted to a no change position pending a review.

Mr King then addressed the following comments and questions raised by members.

- i) lack of communication with ward members
- ii) comparisons with the attitude and the managerial approach taken by Housing and Care 21 staff in Gateshead
- iii) the level of transparency in marketing and negotiating the sale of properties
- iv) reports that residents with mild dementia were being left to spend too much time on their own.

The Chairman stated that a number of serious concerns had been aired and thanked Councillor Doris Turner and former Councillor Florence Anderson for bringing them to the Committee's attention. She referred to Mr King's meeting with Housing and Care 21 and asked if he was satisfied with the approach they were now taking. Mr King replied that they were under no illusion as to how seriously the Council viewed the issues that had been raised. He was satisfied that they were now moving in the right direction. He stated that he would be happy to come back to the Committee at a future date to provide assurances for the Committee. The Chairman stated that she would also like to see representatives from Housing and Care 21 attend before the Committee and would be seeking legal clarification of the Committee's ability to call witnesses from outside the Council.

The Chairman having thanked Mr King for his attendance it was:-

5. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the Scrutiny Committee recognises the importance of good communication between a variety of interested parties in relation to Housing and Care21 and requests that consideration be given to improving communication with residents, families and relevant local ward councillors.
- ii) the Scrutiny Committee requests that the Head of Integrated Commissioning is invited back to a future meeting of the committee to reassure members of the processes and improvements from Housing and Care21 and that the invitation be extended to their appropriate representatives.

**Composition of the Supporting Scrutiny Panels 2015/16**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) in respect of the above matter. Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer, briefed members on the commissioning model for Scrutiny in Sunderland and the revised membership of the Panels for 2015/16. The model would allow for a more focused, flexible and responsive function in challenging times. The Committee had a dedicated budget of £15,000 to allow it to commission work etc and the current budgetary position would be reported on a monthly basis.

The Chairman referred to the budget and advised that Lead Members should not hesitate to apply to use the budget to commission work if they felt it necessary.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

6. RESOLVED that:-

- i) The report be received and noted and;
- ii) The proposed membership of the informal Scrutiny Panels detailed in appendix 2 of the report be endorsed.

**Annual Work Programme for 2015-16**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought the determination of the annual Scrutiny work programme for 2015-16 including the selection of policy reviews to be undertaken by the Scrutiny Lead Members and their supporting Panels.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer, presented the report and drew Members' attention to the draft Work Programme as detailed in appendix 1 together with the shortlist of potential Policy Review topics as detailed in appendix 2. With regard to appendix 1, members were advised that the budgetary reports scheduled for consideration at the October meeting would now move back one month to November. Mr Cummings advised that the final policy review topics would be presented to the July meeting of the Committee incorporating the discussions aired at the Annual Scrutiny Debate and at the first round of Panel meetings.



The Chairman having thanked Mr Cummings for his report and advised that in addition to the Work Programme outlined in appendix 1, members would also be asked to partake in a fundamental review of the Scrutiny function. She was currently working with the Head of Scrutiny and Area Arrangements to scope the review and the outcome of this scoping work would be reported to the Lead Members in due course.

7. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) Approval be given to the draft Annual Scrutiny Work Programme for 2015-16 and that emerging issues be incorporated as and when they arose throughout the year; and
- (ii) the list of suggestions for potential policy review topics be noted and that an updated the list be submitted to the Committee at its July meeting for approval following the first round of Panel meetings.
- (iii) The Scrutiny Committee receives regular updates on the progress of the work of the Lead Scrutiny Member and the supporting Panels through the Lead Scrutiny Member Update mechanism.

### **CfPS Annual Scrutiny Conference : Feedback**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated), which provided an overview of the recent Centre for Public Scrutiny Annual Conference held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Karen Brown, Scrutiny Officer presented the report, briefing members on the keynote speeches delivered at the event. Members were also informed that a Panel Debate was undertaken on the subject of ‘the role of scrutiny in the face of austerity and devolution’ which included the Chair of Sunderland’s Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Norma Wright as a panel member.

Councillor Dianne Snowdon advised that she had attended the debate and had been proud to be in the audience on the day.

Ms Brown advised that if the CfPS published a transcript of the conference she would ensure that a copy was circulated to all members of the Committee.

The Chairman advised that she had been re-elected as Chair of the Combined Local Authority Scrutiny Committee for 2015/16. The Committee had been tasked to undertake a review of Transport connectivity within the Authority’s area.

In conclusion the Chairman advised that she hoped to arrange some training for the Scrutiny Lead Members via the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

8. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

## **Notice of Key Decisions**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 together with the recently published notice covering the period from 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2015 (copy tabled).

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman asked that Members having any issues to raise or requiring further detail on any of the items included in the notice, contact Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer, for initial assistance.

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

Councillor Scanlon having thanked Councillor David Snowdon for the work undertaken in his previous role as Lead Scrutiny Member for City Services and also having paid tribute to the 2014/15 former Lead Members, the Chair Closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions

(Signed) N. WRIGHT,  
Chairman.

**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****16 JULY 2015****SCRUTINY POLICY REVIEWS 2014/15:  
RESPONSE FROM CABINET – 24 JUNE 2015****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide feedback from the Cabinet meeting held on 24 June 2015, regarding three of the scrutiny policy reviews undertaken by scrutiny in 2014/15.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Committee is responsible for considering feedback from relevant portfolio holders on Cabinet's consideration of the policy reviews undertaken by the scrutiny panels and how it intends to deliver the recommendations of each panel.
- 2.2 Cabinet considered the Final Reports on 24 June as follows:-

<b>Scrutiny Panel</b>	<b>Policy Review</b>	<b>Responsible Portfolio Holder</b>
Health, Housing and Adult Services	Tackling Loneliness and Social Isolation ( <b>Appendix 1</b> )	Cllr Graeme Miller (Health, Housing & Adult Services) & Cllr John Kelly (Public Health, Wellness and Culture)
Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel	Tackling New Psychoactive Substances ( <b>Appendix 2</b> )	Cllr Harry Trueman (Deputy Leader) & Cllr John Kelly (Public Health, Wellness and Culture)
Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel	Strategy for the Prevention of Suicide ( <b>Appendix 3</b> )	Cllr John Kelly (Public Health, Wellness and Culture)

- 2.3 This report provides feedback from the Portfolio Holders following Cabinet's consideration of, and decisions in relation to, each of the scrutiny panels' recommendations.
- 2.4 Following the Scrutiny Committee's consideration of feedback from Cabinet on each of the Policy Reviews of 2014/15, progress towards completion of the actions contained within each Action Plan will be monitored on an annual basis by the Committee.

### **3. RESPONSE FROM CABINET TO THE POLICY REVIEW**

- 3.1 Following consideration of the Final Reports, Cabinet approved the recommendations in their entirety. Details of the Policy Review recommendations and proposed actions to be taken are provided in the Action Plans attached at **appendices 1 to 3**.
- 3.2 Cabinet thanked the Lead Scrutiny Members, Scrutiny Panels and its officers for undertaking the policy review and additional work.

### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 That the Committee:-
- (a) Notes the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plans appended to this report (**Appendices 1 to 3**) and seeks clarification on content where felt appropriate; and
  - (b) Refers each of the action plans to the relevant panels for further consideration.

### **5. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 5.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-
- (i) Cabinet Agenda; 24 June 2015.

**Contact Officer:** Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer  
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## Appendix 1

### Health, Housing and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel; Tackling Loneliness and Social Isolation: Policy Review recommendations 2014/15

Ref	Recommendation	Action	Owner	Due Date	Progress Commentary
(a)	To ensure that there is an effective launch and continued promotion of the community directory to local people, key stakeholders and providers.	Phase 2 community directory will be tested during June / July 2015. A formal launch date will be established after feedback has been taken account of along with arrangements for on-going promotion and management	Community Directory working group	June / July for testing. Formal launch date tbc. after testing.	
(b)	To explore and understand with key partners how a community connector scheme would operate in the city including issues of promotion, recruitment and training that enables anyone who wishes to take part the opportunity to do so.	Undertake an evaluation of the Community Connectors pilot funded by East Sunderland Area Committee.  Understand the role of the Integrated teams once they are established and potential to develop a hub to connect existing roles as part of such a scheme.  Align different models in place and associated health networks into one scheme where possible to streamline and maximise the role of the voluntary sector.  Establish lead arrangements for different elements of the model Use the above actions as a basis on which to develop a community virtual network to develop the role of community connectors to enable individuals, where appropriate, to be signposted and supported to access and use community resources or services when they	Gillian Gibson/ Ian Holliday (CCG)/Graham King/Charlotte Burnham/	March 2016	

		don't require professional health services			
<b>(c)</b>	To look at how to develop arrangements to ensure that activities / initiatives are co-ordinated in order to minimise the potential for duplication and to provide a forum for sharing, learning and good practice.	Explore current network potential for providing suitable forums for sharing good practice including VCS networks, Area Health Champions Network, Adult Partnership Board and Carers' Implementation Network etc.	Graham King/Charlotte Burnham	March 2016	
<b>(d)</b>	To ensure that a measure of loneliness and/or social isolation is included in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.	<p>Looking at the development of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) that will act as the single vehicle for all strategic intelligence, initially covering health and wellbeing and the wider issues that affect health such as employment, crime and disorder, housing and loneliness.</p> <p>The JSNA will be moved from a static annual publication to a continually evolving on-line resource.</p> <p>In order for the proposal to be progressed a multi-agency steering group (time-limited task and finish group) would need to be established to progress the development and creation of the resource, with practitioner representatives responsible for the ongoing refresh of the resource online.</p>	Graham King / Julie Lynn	Dec 2015	

<b>(e)</b>	To look, through integrated care, at the development of shared intelligence and how to ensure the use of all intelligence to help predict the softer issues within communities such as loneliness etc.	<p>The development of integrated care models which bring people together to work in joined up teams will provide the driver for organisations to look at the information and intelligence sharing and breaking down those barriers that currently exist.</p> <p>People's approach to intelligence has been developed; with an initial programme of work that looks to better understand customer profiles and customer journeys; identifying triggers which result in needs – loneliness to be included in the work.</p>	Ian Holliday (CCG)/Sharon Lowes	March 2016	
<b>(f)</b>	To explore the potential of an employee volunteer scheme within the council to provide opportunities for employees to volunteer their help to a local organisations, communities and projects.	<p>Initial work around volunteering is underway, including looking at suggested approaches. One of the key actions is that of the role that staff volunteers might play.</p> <p>The Directorate is also looking at the specific ask of volunteers in relation to supporting service delivery.</p>	Alan Caddick	March 2016	
<b>(g)</b>	To explore the potential for adoption of the Campaign to End Loneliness evaluation tool on the effectiveness of interventions on loneliness once it is released.	To test out how the Campaign to End Loneliness evaluation tool can be incorporated into future relevant commissioning arrangements with service providers, where appropriate.	Graham King/Ann Dingwall	March 2016	

## Appendix 2

### Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel; Tackling New Psychoactive Substances: Policy Review recommendations 2014/15

Ref	Recommendation	Action	Owner	Due Date	Progress Commentary
(a)	To explore the options for an enforcement strategy including: i) The use of new Anti-Social Behaviour powers and;		Stuart Douglass  Alan Caddick		
	ii) The use of existing legislative powers available to the local authority to prevent sales of dangerous goods.	Potential usefulness of current legislation will be reviewed  <i>(please see note under Progress column)</i>	Tom Terrett	Qtr 2	Since this recommendation was agreed by the Scrutiny Committee, the Queen's Speech on 27 May 2015 announced that new legislation will ban psychoactive drugs through the introduction of a Psychoactive Substances Bill. The Bill will make it an offence to produce, supply, offer to supply, possess with intent to supply, import or export psychoactive substances. The maximum sentence will be 7 years' imprisonment.
(b)	Join the lobby requesting the Government to draft legislation to outlaw the sale and distribution of legal highs by creating a blanket ban for it to be a criminal offence knowingly to advertise, sell, supply, import or export legal highs.	A letter to be written to Government setting out the views of the council  <i>(please see note under Progress column)</i>	Stuart Douglass / Karen Brown	September 2015	Legislation has been proposed since the Scrutiny Committee made this recommendation. The Psychoactive Substances Bill will progress through Parliament over the next year and the council will monitor the progress of the Bill and lobby accordingly for legislation that is fit for purpose.
(c)	As a priority, pursue targeted prevention interventions with children and adults at high risk of use or current users in institutional settings. This will include work in hostels (including targeted activity by the Substance Misuse Service), children in care, and support for schools to	YDAP involvement in institutional settings around legal highs currently includes:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each of the four Family Group Homes</li> </ul>	Alan Caddick  Simone Common/Gary Roberts		



	detect and prevent the use of NPS on their premises.	<p>has its own allocated YDAP worker and sessions have been carried out for staff and residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Sunderland schools have received a legal highs fact sheet from YDAP along with an offer of training and support for staff and group work for pupils. Several schools have accepted this support, including St. Aidans, Academy 360, City of Sunderland College and Farringdon School.</li> </ul>			
<b>(d)</b>	To investigate the options for maintaining a profile of incidents, intelligence and data on NPS to support decision making.	An overview of the position in Sunderland will be established with the support of partner organisations	Stuart Douglass		

### Appendix 3

#### Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel; Strategy for the Prevention of Suicide: Policy Review recommendations 2014/15

Ref	Recommendation	Action	Owner	Due Date	Progress Commentary
(a)	The Health and Wellbeing Board <i>should</i> receive a report annually from either the Director of Public Health (representing a suicide prevention group) or a representative of the group on delivery of the suicide prevention action plan.	The Adult Partnership Board currently receives reports from the Suicide Prevention Group.	Gillian Gibson		
(b)	There should be evidence that a Suicide Needs Assessment has informed a suicide prevention action plan in the city.	A Tyne & Wear Suicide Needs assessment is ongoing.	Gillian Gibson		
(c)	There should be evidence that the Suicide Prevention Action Plan is informed by the most relevant up-to-date intelligence specifically in relation to: i) Measures to address self-harm prevention  ii) Lessons learned from suicides in Sunderland	i) a needs assessment on self-harm will be developed ii) the Public Health team continue to analyse reports from the Coroner's Office	Lorraine Hughes  Jackie Nixon		
(d)	Appoint a Councillor Champion who would have the role of: i) Facilitating communication between the suicide prevention group and other groups and bodies including the Health and Wellbeing Board;  ii) Facilitating regular communication about the work of the suicide prevention.		Gillian Gibson		

**SUNDERLAND CCG OPERATIONAL PLAN REFRESH 2015/16**

**Report of Chief Officer Sunderland CCG**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the key points outlined in the refreshed operational plan for Sunderland CCG in 2015/16.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In April 2014, we developed our two year operational plan which laid the foundations to ensure achievement of the Sunderland health & care economy Vision of 'Better Health for Sunderland' and our associated ambitions to improve outcomes for the people of Sunderland.

- 2.2 As part of this we identified a number of key transformational changes, outlined below:

- 7 day access;
- Community Integrated locality teams;
- Extension of Intermediate Care hub in all localities;
- Implementation of end of life deciding right initiatives in practices;
- Mobilise GP urgent care centres, A&E hub and out of hours integration;
- Improved community mental health pathways, access and waiting times for all mental health conditions;
- Development of dementia friendly communities;
- Procure and mobilise the new MSK service;
- Reduce procedures of limited clinical value.

- 2.3 Work has progressed well in year 1, with progress against each programme outlined below:

- Integrated Community Locality Teams – This has been developed through working in partnership across Sunderland and the model and make up of the teams agreed. We are now looking to mobilise over the next few months;
- Care Homes – The pilot in Coalfields has produced very good outcomes ( e.g. 15% reduction in emergency admissions) and we are now looking to roll out

- across the city as part of Integrated Community Locality Teams;
- Intermediate Care Hub (Now known as Recovery at Home)– The hub is now operating from Leechmere and operating extending hours with additional beds available at Farnborough Court moving towards 24 hour single point of access by September;
- End of Life deciding right - Care Home and GP training is now underway;
- Mental Health – 5 year programme to develop a model of care for Sunderland is now near the end: Enhanced IAPT services, New model of psychological therapy, new hospital environments at Ryhope & Monkwearmouth are now in place. Ongoing implementation of improved community mental health services is underway;
- Urgent Care – GP urgent care centres are now operational, GP Out of hours procurement is complete and being mobilised to start in September 2015 and the plans to develop City Hospitals emergency department urgent care centre are being prepared;
- MSK – The procurement of the new MSK service is complete and mobilisation is underway to be complete by October 2015;
- Dementia – A dementia friendly community pilot is running well in Houghton. All staff in GP practices across Sunderland have been trained on Dementia Awareness. The Essence service targeted at early support for newly diagnosed people, is now in place and receiving referrals;
- Procedures of Limited Clinical Value - Phase One of the value based commissioning policy was implemented in January 2015, with full implementation by April 2015.

### **3. Operational Plan Refresh 2015/16**

- 3.1 As part of the planning refresh moving forward into 2015/16, we have undertaken a review of our priorities and, whilst we will continue to focus on the transformational changes outlined above, we have identified some further priorities moving forward such as:
- Work with Public Health on a prevention & self management approach;
  - Develop a joint strategy with Sunderland Council to improve outcomes for children;
  - Develop and implement a strategy for General Practice;
  - Implement transforming lives for people with learning disabilities;
  - Implement the new model of care for people needing continuing healthcare.
- 3.2 The CCG plan on a page for 2015/16 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report and the full Operational Plan is available on our website.
- 3.3 We are confident that these initiatives, when delivered alongside our existing priorities, will further improve outcomes for the people of Sunderland.

- 3.4 As part of this refresh we have also undertaken a review of outcome ambitions. In the main our ambitions remain the same, however, we have proposed to increase our ambition of potential years of life lost to 15% improvement by 2019, which is a further 8% improvement on our original ambition of 7%.
- 3.5 We have also been required to submit trajectories for all of the NHS Constitution measures – we have proposed that all of these will be consistently achieved throughout 2015/16 with the two exceptions: A&E 4 hour waits due to feedback from City Hospitals Sunderland advising that they will not achieve this measure until Qtr 2 2015/16. However, performance has improved throughout Qtr 1 2015/16 with the trust now regularly achieving the 95% standard. The other exception relates to referral to treatment times particularly for orthopaedics, with again achievement not likely until December 2015. CHS are actively taking forward plans to deal with the pressure including the recruitment of further surgeons. The CCG is also exploring other options to manage demand to ease pressure on CHS e.g. actively managing those patients who have breached the timeframe to offer them alternative providers.
- 3.6 In addition, as we are taking on delegated responsibility for the commissioning of primary care, specifically general practice, we were required to provide an ambition for improving the experience in Primary Care in 2015/16, specifically the measures are:
- E.D.1 - Satisfaction with the quality of consultation at the GP practice.
- E.D.2 - Overall experience of GP surgery (Proportion with good overall experience).
- E.D.3 - Overall experience of making an appointment (Proportion with good overall experience).
- 3.7 Given our priorities in 2015/16, the work on increasing the number of GPs in Sunderland, the work on extended primary care and the development of the Out of Hospital model we would expect to see some impact on these indicators. However, we are also mindful of the existing primary care workforce issues and that the most likely scenario in the short term at least will be a further deterioration which is likely to be an ongoing national issue.
- 3.8 Considering all of the above we have agreed that maintaining the current performance for these measures will be an achievement for the CCG.
- 3.9 NHS England have also issued revised guidance for the CCG Quality Premium which rewards CCG's for improvements in the quality of the services that they commission and for associated improvements in health outcomes and reducing inequalities.
- 3.10 The maximum quality premium payment for a CCG is expressed as £5 per head of population, calculated using the same methodology as for CCG running costs (285,000 for Sunderland) which equates to a total value of approximately £1,425,000 (This is in addition to a CCG's main financial allocation for 2015/16 and in addition to its running costs allowance.)

3.11 The table below shows the measures which the CCG will be assessed against in 2015/16:

Area	% of Total Quality Premium	Proposed Measure	% of Area Premium
Potential years of life lost	10% (£142k)	6% improvement from 2013/14 baseline	10%
Urgent & Emergency Care	30% (£427k)	Avoidable emergency admissions composite measure of: Unplanned hospitalisation for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions (adults); Unplanned hospitalisation for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy in children; Emergency admissions for acute conditions that should not usually require hospital admission (adults); Emergency admissions for children with lower respiratory tract infection	10%
		Increase in the number of patients admitted for non-elective reasons, who are discharged at weekends or bank holidays	20%
Mental Health	30% (£427k)	Reduction in the number of patients attending an A&E department for a mental health related needs who wait more than 4 hours to be treated and discharged, or admitted, together with a defined improvement in the coding of patients	30% There was concern over the selection of any of the potential 3 mental health measures. The suggested measure was the measure that caused least concern although it is recognised that this along with the

		attending A&E.	UC measures places a lot of focus on A/E reform
Improving antibiotic prescribing in primary and secondary care	10% (£142k)	Composite measure comprising of three parts: Part a) reduction in the number of antibiotics prescribed in primary care; Part b) reduction in the proportion of broad spectrum antibiotics prescribed in primary care Part C) secondary care providers validating their total antibiotic prescription data.	10%
Two Local Measures	20% (£284k)	Increase in the proportion of patients who have an emergency health care plan coded in EMIS practice systems. Baseline is 0.12%. Target is an increase to 0.25% which is equivalent to approximately 352 additional care plans.  This will be one of the expectations of the 5 Locality Integrated Teams as they become operational from July 2015 and provide proactive and planned care for the most at risk patients.	10%
		Increase in direct referrals to the new Sunderland Intermediate MSK service, from 40% to	10%

		50%.  The Provider is being incentivised to work with Practices on direct referrals from Oct 15 to Sept 16	
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#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the key points of the CCG operational plan for 2015/16.

#### **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

CCG – Clinical Commissioning Group

IAPT – Improving Access to Psychological Therapies

MSK – Musculoskeletal

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Director of Commissioning, Planning and Reform – Sunderland CCG



## Better Health for Sunderland

Transforming out of hospital care (through Integration and 7 day working)			Transforming in hospital care, specifically urgent & emergency care (7 day working)			Enabling Self Care and Sustainability		
Improve health related quality of life for people with LTC by 8.9% by 2019	Put in place 352 more Emergency Health Care plans by 2016	Improve patient experience of out of hospital care by 8% by 2019	Reduce Emergency Admissions by 14%* by 2019	Increase direct referrals to the MSK Intermediate service to 50% by 2016	Improve patient experience of hospital care by 7.2% by 2019	Increase no of people receiving treatment for IAPT from 12% to 16% by 2016	Reduce years of life lost by 15% by 2019	Improve diagnosis of dementia from 62% to 68% by 2016

## Transformational Changes 2015-2016

<b>OUT OF HOSPITAL</b>	Implement the out of hospital model, including locality integrated teams for people at home and in care homes, city wide recovery at home services and the end of life standards in GP Practices
<b>URGENT CARE</b>	Improve timely access to urgent care by concluding the procurement of the GP Out of Hours service & supporting implementation of the whole system Emergency Care Intensive Support Team recommendations.
<b>DEMENTIA</b>	Conclude the implementation of the national dementia strategy in Sunderland e.g. supporting dementia friendly communities by specific focus on Primary Care awareness, development, training and environment
<b>MSK</b>	Mobilise the new integrated musculoskeletal service
<b>MENTAL HEALTH</b>	Continue to support the implementation of the new principal mental health community pathways
<b>PREVENTION</b>	Influence a prevention and self management approach with commissioned health services, working jointly with the local authority / public health
<b>CHILDREN</b>	Develop a joint strategy and joint commissioning approach with Sunderland city council to improve outcomes for children
<b>GENERAL PRACTICE</b>	Develop and implement a strategy for general practice across the city
<b>LEARNING DISABILITIES</b>	Implement the transforming lives programme for people with learning disabilities and / or autism
<b>CONTINUING HEALTHCARE</b>	Implement the new model of care for people needing continuing healthcare

<b>Enabled by</b> Joint Commissioning & Better Care Fund Co-commissioning Primary Care IT infrastructure Telehealth Contract Management (CQUIN) CCG Localities Medicines Optimisation Research & Development Organisational Development Reform Methodology		<b>Governed by</b> CCG Governing Body System Wide Transformation Board Health & Wellbeing Board	<b>Measured by</b> Achievement of outcome ambitions Delivery of QIPP cost reduction plan 2015/16 – 2018/19 of £16m Delivery of prescribing savings £8m	<b>Values and Principles</b> One system for health and Social Care 7 day services Person centred Prevention focused Development of team based working across Sunderland Mental and Physical health of equal importance Evidence based approach
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# Item. 6

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 JULY 2015

## CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

### REPORT OF HEAD OF SERVICE: SAFEGUARDING

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To receive information the annual report of the Corporate Parenting Board including information and analysis on the performance of the Council and partners in relation to looked after children.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 When a child becomes looked after, he or she enters a system in which their care and upbringing is managed by professionals and paid carers. This has two major consequences for the child. Firstly, in addition to the problems of needing to re-form attachments, he/she moves into a world of paid, and sometimes changing, carers, where life is managed through formal and legal processes. Secondly, in addition to learning to cope with this world, they have lost the continuity of parental management of their access to services and opportunities.
- 2.2 The Corporate Parenting responsibility is shared by the Council as a whole. All members, not just those with an interest in Children's Services, are 'Corporate Parents'.
- 2.3 For 'Corporate Parenting' to replicate the quality of care afforded by a 'good parent', each agency and professional involved needs to consider how they can be proactive, within their own remit, on behalf of looked after children, and for all agencies to strive for ever stronger collaborative working so that the whole of the 'corporate parent' can be greater than the sum of its parts.

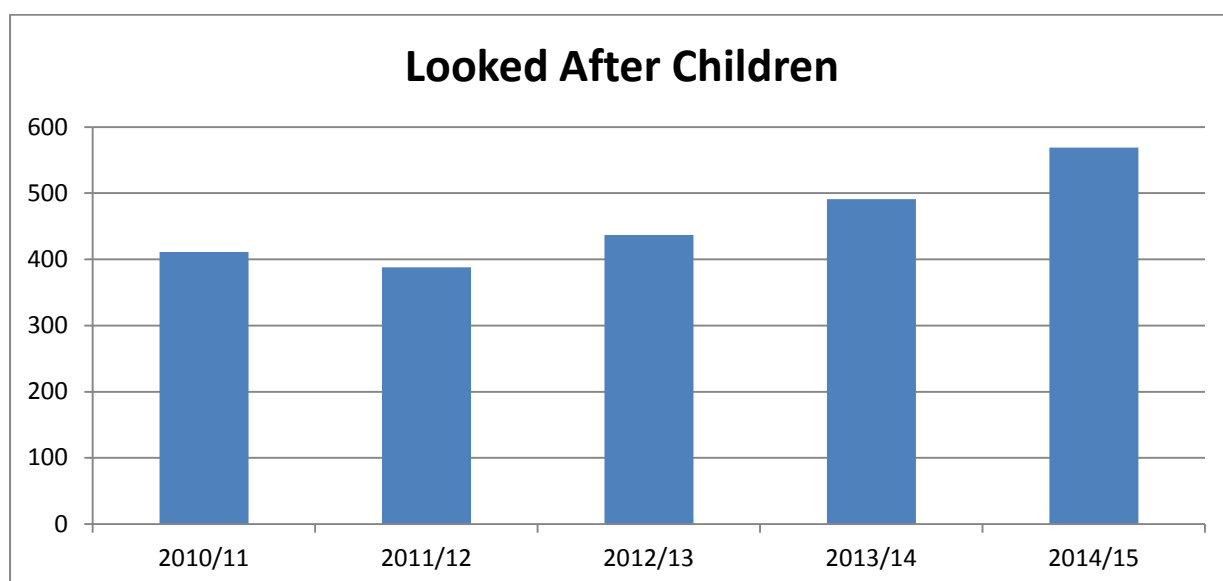
#### 3. Overall Performance

- 3.1 One of the five former National Indicators for Looked After Children are within the locally set 'Very Good' banding; one as 'Good', one as 'Acceptable'; and two as 'Investigate' as detailed within Annex 1. All of the reporting areas defined in 3.2 have improved in quarter 4 and has resulted in one of the indicators improving the banding rating.
- 3.2 The bandings are:
- Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves
  - Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement
  - Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescale

- Timeliness of Looked after children adopted following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption.
- Care leavers in suitable accommodation

#### 4. Numbers of Looked After Children

4.1 The number of Looked After Children end of year outturn for the last five years:



4.2 The number of Looked After Children has increased each quarter throughout 2014/15 with an overall increase of 76 young people looked after at the end of 2014/15 compared with 2013/14.

4.3 Overall the North East Looked After Children Figure appears to have risen again although 5 authorities have seen a small reduction in numbers at September 2014. The latest comparators are from 2013/14. Sunderland's rate per 10,000 has increased from 90 to 104.32 during the year 2014/15.

The Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000 population	2013/14	Sep 2014/15
Northumberland	53	55
Durham	60	61
Redcar and Cleveland	63	68.1
North Tyneside	76	74.6
Darlington	77	89
Gateshead	89	83.4
Sunderland	90	98.8
Stockton	90	90.8
Hartlepool	102	93.6

Newcastle	103	98.1
South Tyneside	107	100.7
Middlesborough	113	116
<b>England Average</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>

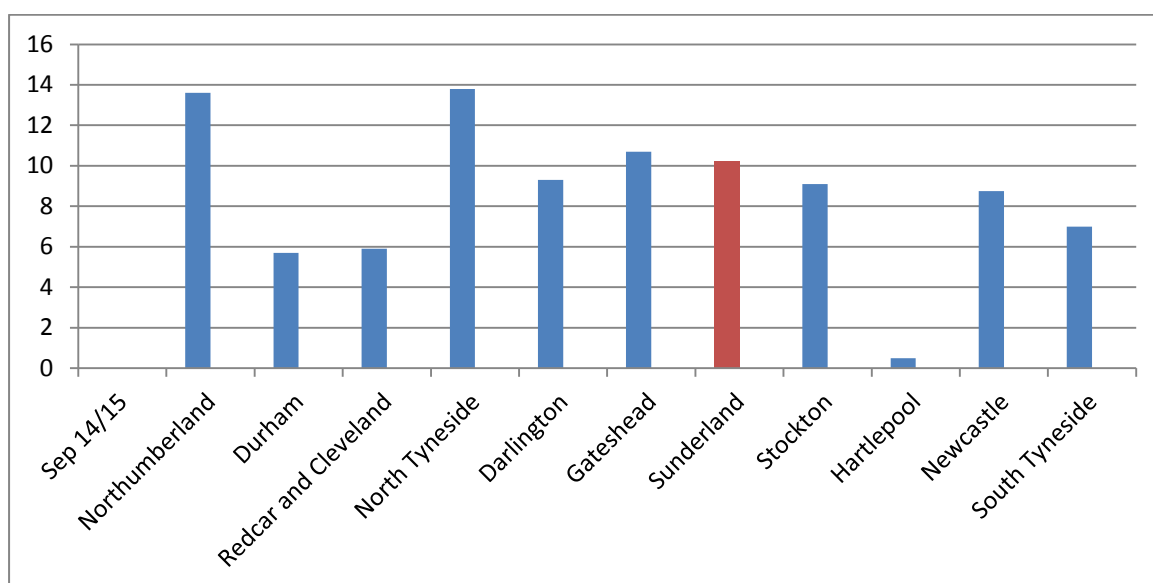
## 5. Where Looked After Children are Living

5.1 The table below details where Looked After Children were living as at 31.3.2015.

Placement Type	LAS Type Of Accommodation(LAC)	Children
1. Foster Placement Inside LA	F1 Foster Placement With Relative Or Friend Inside La Boundary	87
	F2 Placement With Foster Carer, Provided By La In La Boundary	200
	F3 Placement With Foster Carer, Arranged Through Agency In La Boundary	32
2. Foster Placement Outside LA	F4 Foster Placement With Relative Or Friend Outside La Boundary	15
	F5 Placement With Foster Carer, Provided By La Outside La Boundary	78
	F6 Placement With Foster Carer, Arranged Through Agency Outside La Boundary	37
3. Children's Home Inside LA	H3 Children'S Homes & Hostels Inside La Boundary Including Dual Registered Schools	27
4. Children's Home Outside LA	H2 Secure Unit Outside La Boundary	3
	H4 Children'S Homes & Hostels Outside La Boundary Including Dual Registered Schools	36
6. Placed for Adoption	A1 Placed For Adoption (Not With Former Foster Carers)	11
	A4 Placed for adoption with consent (under section 19 of the Adoption and Children Act (ACA), 2002) not with current foster carer	3
	A6 Placed for adoption with placement order (under section 21 of the Adoption and Children Act (ACA), 2002) not with current foster carer	13
7. Placed with Parents	P1 Placed With Own Parents Or Other Person With Parental Responsibility	11
8. Independent Living	P2 Independent Living, E.G. In Flat, Lodgings, Bedsit, B & B Or With Friends With Or Without Formal Support Staff	11
9. Other	H5 Hostels And Other Supportive Residential Settings Not Subject To The Children'S Homes Regulations	2
	R5 Y.O.I. Or Prison	2
	T1 Temporary Periods In Hospital	1

## 6. Stability of Placement

- 6.1 The Looked After short term stability indicator (number of moves in a year) has improved in performance from 12% for April to March 2014 to 10.2% for April to March 2015. This indicator remains in the 'Very Good' band rating.
- 6.2 The table below shows the figures for September 2014/15 (the end of year figures are not yet published) regionally and the England average. Sunderland compares well both regionally and nationally, falling below the outturn figures.



- 6.3 The long term stability indicator (Looked after for more than 2 and half years, in the same placement 2+ years) has also improved by over 5% points from 67% to 72.6% during 2014/15 and this has improved the banding in which the indicator sits. This is also an improvement against the outturn figures for this indicator for the last 4 years and almost meets the target of 73% set for 2014/15.
- 6.3 Very little change has been seen in placement stability across the region when comparing the outturn for 2013/14 and September 2014/15.

## 7. Views of the Young People

- 7.1 Of the children and young people who gave their opinions to the Viewpoint project in 2014-15, the following satisfaction levels with their experiences in the looked after system were shared:

- Satisfaction amongst 10 to 15 year old looked after children for 2014/15 is 81.3%, based on 99 responses;
- Satisfaction amongst 7 to 9 year old looked after children for 2014/15 is 74.5%, based on 54 responses;
- Satisfaction amongst 4 to 6 year old looked after children for 2014/15 is 73%, based on 23 responses.

## 8. Adoption

- 8.1 The percentage of adopted children who were placed for adoption within a year of agency decision has improved to 72.3% for April to March 2015; this is from a cohort of 47 adopted children. This is a 7.4% increase on the outturn figure for 2013/14
- 8.2 The table below details the percentage of children leaving adoption providing the most up to date figures available. As you can see from the table below Sunderland compares well both regionally and nationally and the outturn position for 2014/15 has improved by over 4% points compared to 2013/14

Percentage of those leaving care due to adoption	2013/14	Sep 2014/15	2014/15
Redcar and Cleveland	28	20.7	
Newcastle	25.9	19.3	
Durham	25.3	14.7	
South Tyneside	24.7	33	
Darlington	20	14.7	
North Tyneside	19.4	13.6	
Gateshead	17.9	16.8	
Sunderland	17.1	23.1	21.5
Hartlepool	16.5	9.8	
Stockton	16.1	26.4	
Northumberland	14.7	19	
Middlesbrough	9	11.4	
<b>England Average</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>

- 8.3 Average number of days in adoption process (Looked After to Placed for Adoption) has improved during the year to 484 days compared to the 2013-14 outturn (599 days). This does now meet the National threshold of 608 days and meets the locally set target of 600 days.
- 8.4 Average number of days in the adoption family finding process (Placement Order to Matching date) has also improved during the year to 201 days compared to 215 days in 2013-14, and is better than the 2012-14 England average of 217 days and meets the target set of 250 days.

## 9. Educational Attainment

- 9.1 The percentage of Sunderland pupils achieved 5+ GCSEs including English and Maths at grades A\* - C:

Sunderland LAC 2014	National LAC 2014	National All Pupils
20.6%	12%	53.4%

- 9.2 The percentage of Sunderland pupils who achieved 5+ GCSE at grades A\* - C:

Sunderland LAC 2014	National LAC 2014	National All Pupils
23.5%	16.3%	63.8%

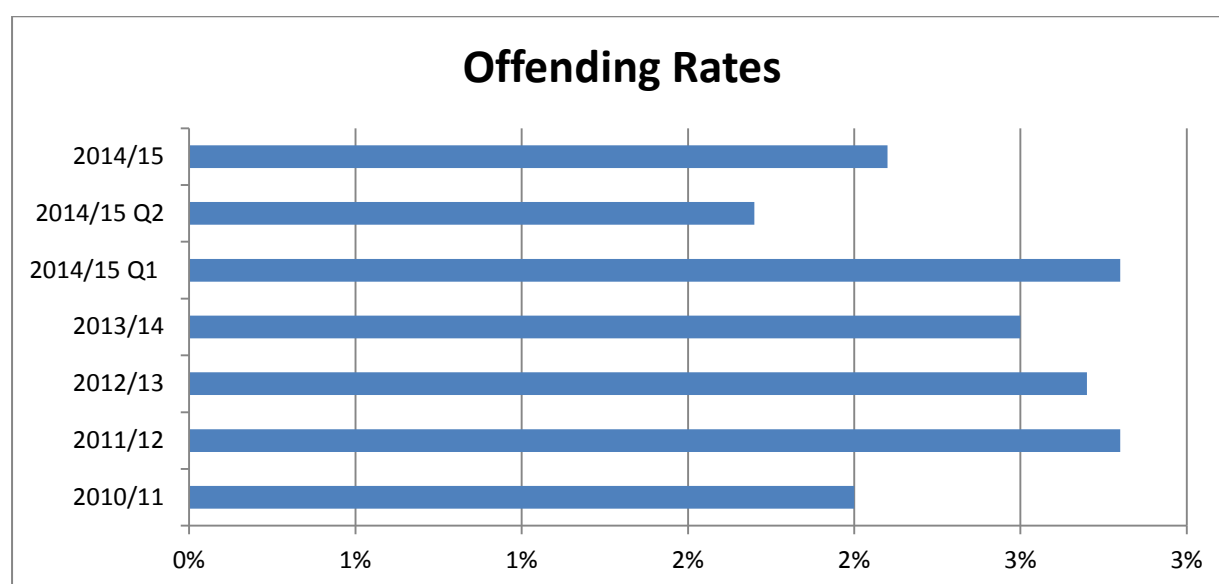
- 9.3 The percentage of pupils gaining A\*-C in both English and Maths was above the national average for all LAC, but below the national average for all pupils.

## 10. Offending

- 10.1 Looked after Children who have offended represents 12.3% (28 young people) of the cohort as at the end of Q3 2014/15 and improvement on the outturn of 14.1% of the cohort, however this equates to more young people as the cohort is greater.

- 10.2 The offending ratio (which is the ratio of the percentage of all children aged 10 – 17 given a youth caution or convicted) for Q3 2014/15 is 2.1 which has improved when compared to 2013/2014 which was 2.5.

- 10.3 Offending 2010/11 – 2014/15



## **11. Leaving Care**

- 11.1 44.1% (this equates to 60 care leavers of a cohort of 136) 19, 20 & 21 year old care leavers were in suitable accommodation during 2014-15 compared to 65.3% in 2013/14 (96/147)
- 11.2 74.3% of 19, 20 & 21 year old care leavers were not in education, employment or training (NEET) during 2014-15, which equates to 101 individuals. This is compared with 56.5% in 2013/14 (83 individuals).

## **12. Recommendation**

- 12.1 The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider and comment on The Corporate Parenting Annual Report for 2014/15.



**SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****COMMISSIONING THE SCRUTINY PANELS 2015/16****REPORT OF THE HEAD OF SCRUTINY AND AREA  
ARRANGEMENTS****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider and commissions the policy reviews to be undertaken by the Lead Scrutiny Members and their supporting Panels.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Annual Scrutiny Debate was held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 with the aim of presenting, discussing and developing potential topics for consideration by the various Lead Scrutiny Members and their panels.

**3. SCRUTINY POLICY REVIEWS**

- 3.1 The undertaking of scrutiny policy reviews allows the opportunity within an agreed period of time to examine the Council and its partners' policies and determine whether the Council and / or the relevant public service provider(s) intended policy outcomes have been achieved. The process also considers the views of all key stakeholders involved from their own perspective.
- 3.2 The policy reviews are project planned with appropriate methodology applied to investigate the chosen topic. This may include meetings, site visits, surveys, commissioning of research, public meetings or analysis of comparative practice in other local authorities.
- 3.3 Within the revised scrutiny arrangements, the Scrutiny Committee does not undertake a policy review of its own. Instead the Committee commissions the Lead Scrutiny Members and their respective scrutiny panels to undertake focused policy reviews during 2015/16.
- 3.4 Each Lead Member and supporting Scrutiny Panel has now convened to discuss the topics discussed at the Debate and agreed its priorities and some indicative timescales for completion. The list of potential topics, where available, for each of the Lead Scrutiny Members is attached as **Appendix 1**. It should be noted that a number of panels will not have met prior to the committee agenda deadline and therefore further information around the various panel deliberations will be circulated at the meeting. It is recommended that the Scrutiny Committee commissions each Lead Member to undertake a minimum of one policy review for 2015/16.
- 3.5 Following the Scrutiny Committee's consideration and endorsement of the policy review topics, further reports will be provided to the scrutiny panels which will include detailed terms of reference, definitions, links to corporate outcomes, partnerships, the national and local context, and proposals for gathering evidence. The Scrutiny Committee will receive on-going updates from Lead Scrutiny Members through the monthly Lead Scrutiny Member Update. Any suggested deviations, amendments or additions to the work of

the Scrutiny Panel's will be brought to the Scrutiny Committee for its consideration.

#### **4. Recommendations**

##### **6.1 That the Scrutiny Committee:-**

- (a) Considers the list of suggestions for policy review topics and commissions the relevant Lead Scrutiny Members to undertake this policy review work, as part of the Annual Scrutiny Work Programme; and
- (b) Receives regular updates on the progress of the work of the Lead Scrutiny Member and the supporting Panels through the Lead Scrutiny Member Update report.

#### **5. Background Papers**

##### **5.1 Scrutiny Panel notes – June 2015**

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                                 nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk

## **APPENDIX 2: PROPOSED POLICY REVIEW TOPICS FOR 2015/16**

### **CHILDRENS SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL**

The Children's Scrutiny Panel met on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

The panel agreed that SENd (SEN and disabilities) Local Offer – One Year On may be the most useful topic. From September 2014 the Council published a 'Local Offer' which set out what is available for children and young people with SEN and disabilities.

A scrutiny review could :

- Evaluate the process by which the Local Offer has been developed;
- Evaluate the level of engagement from partners, young people and their families, schools and other agencies;
- Evaluate what has been included in the Offer and where there are any gaps.

### **CITY SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL**

The City Services Scrutiny Panel met on 7 July 2015.

The panel has agreed to conduct a review into the way in which street licences can support a vibrant city. Such a review could examine the way in which the policies and processes surrounding the granting of street licences can help to support the aim of a more vibrant city centre and also the potential for bringing greater flexibility to the process. The review could also help to identify any zones/areas within the city that could most benefit. The review is timely in so much as it would provide an opportunity to discuss these issues with a range of partners such as local traders and the BID.

The panel also felt it would be useful to take a more general look at enforcement and the extent to which enforcement powers available to the Council across a range of areas are being used. This would involve consideration of the correct balance which should exist between persuasion, education and enforcement.

The panel would also look, as a one-off topic, at the issue of road surface patching. This could consider the potential long term solutions available to help reduce the Council's liability from accident claims.

### **HEALTH HOUSING AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL**

The HHAS Scrutiny Panel met on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

The panel has agreed to look at the issue of transition from children to adult social care, the approaches taken, how these vulnerable children are supported into adulthood and independent living, where does the system fail or create gaps, what new sustainable approaches can be taken

and what common themes or denominators exist in transition.

The review is timely on 2 counts in that: **(i)** the Directorate are currently looking at a number of approaches and a scrutiny focus would be useful at this time ; and **(ii)** the explicit duties in relation to the Care Act 2014 for local authorities to conduct transition assessments for children, children's carers and young carers where there is a likely need for care and support after the child in question turns 18 and a transition assessment would be of 'significant benefit' and the Children and Families Act 2014 has also added new duties to the Children Act 1989 to assess young carers and establish whether they are 'children in need' and to assess parent carers of disabled children and consider what support they may need.

The panel will also look at, as a one-off topic, the scale of Houses of Multiple Occupation proliferation in relevant areas. The panel felt that this was an interesting topic but was not sufficient for a major review and therefore will hold a meeting to gain an overview of the issue and the progress the local authority is making in tackling the issues.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH, WELLNESS AND CULTURE SCRUTINY PANEL**

The Public Health, Wellness and Culture Scrutiny Panel met on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015.

The panel has agreed to look at self-harm and specifically in relation to 'immediate' self-harm; examples of this include cutting, burning and poisoning.

The panel will also look to a secondary shorter topic specifically around sexually transmitted diseases and prevention and a visit to the Genito Urinary Medicine clinic was suggested. .

#### **RESPONSIVE SERVICES AND CUSTOMER CARE SCRUTINY PANEL**

The Responsive Services and Customer Care Scrutiny Panel met on 2nd July 2015.

The panel has agreed to focus on the issue of Customer Care. It was suggested that the review could examine what customer services has achieved to date, how the council makes use of customer satisfaction data and the way we use information to improve services.

The Panel has asked to receive a progress report on the implementation of the new powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act and the way in which it is impacting on the work of the Council and its partners.

it was also suggested that later in the year the Panel could receive a one-off update report on the implementation of Universal Credit. This could consider the progress being made by the Council and its partners in preparing for the introduction of Universal Credit in the city.

#### **SKILLS ECONOMY AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY PANEL**

The Skills, Economy and Customer Care Scrutiny Panel met on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015.

The panel has agreed to look at Key Cities – Learning from others to maximise the effectiveness of Sunderland's Regeneration. The review could include research of all 26 Key Cities, analysis of best practice and most appropriate to Sunderland's needs and conclusions and learning to take forward. The review is timely because Sunderland has a number of new and exciting initiatives happening and that this was an ideal time to look at how we can learn from others and best use the Key Cities Network.

The panel also considered as a potential secondary topic, should time allow around, the introduction of Universal Credit (UC) and the skills that would be needed to ensure local people are able to meet the requirements. Concerns were raised about whether or not this came under the Skills remit and the Lead Member agreed to discuss this with other Lead Members.

# Item. 8

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 JULY 2015

### NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

#### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### 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 for the 28 day period from 23 June 2015.

#### 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 for the 28 day period from 23 June 2015 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 for the 28 day period from 23 June 2015 at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

#### 5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda

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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
041114/05	To respond to consultation from Gentoo regarding review of governance arrangements	Cabinet	Y	During the period from the date of this notice up to 30 November 2015	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
051114/02	To authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, necessary reclassification of roads and the making of Compulsory Purchase and Side Road Orders for the re-alignment and improvement of Washington Road (A1290) at Severn Houses, Sunderland Enterprise Zone	Cabinet	Y	During the period from the date of this notice up to 31 July 2015	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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161214/14	Procurement of a Partner to support alternative models of service delivery	Cabinet	Y	During the period from the date of this notice to 31 July 2015	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 Paragraph 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 Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>



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150331/1	Approval for the development of a Civil Engineering and Infrastructure Works Framework covering the provision of highways works, specialist marine works and bridges and structures works.	Cabinet	Y	During the period from the date of this notice to 31 July 2015	N		Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
150424/7	To seek approval of the business plan in respect of Bishopwearmouth Co-Operative Community Interest Company	Cabinet	N	23 September 2015	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 Paragraph 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 Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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150424/8	To seek approval of the business plan in respect of Beckwiths Co-Operative Community Interest Company	Cabinet	N	23 September 2015	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 Paragraph 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 Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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150513/12	Approval to procure a Road Restraint Systems Maintenance Contract for 3 Years	Cabinet	Y	22 July 2015	N	N/A	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
150602/02	Acquisition of Mayflower Glass premises at Woodbine Tce, Pallion	Cabinet	Y	22 July 2015	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 Paragraph 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 Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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150604/03	Establishment of four frameworks for:  1) Ecology Consultancy 2) Agency and Professional Valuation Services 3) Planning Consultancy 4) Strategy/Policy Development Consultancy	Cabinet	Y	22 July 2015	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
150605/04	To establish a framework agreement for the provision of energy consultancy services	Cabinet	Y	22 July 2015	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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150608/05	Approve the South Sunderland Growth Area (SSGA) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the purposes of public consultation and as a material consideration in assessing planning applications, pending its finalisation following public consultation.	Cabinet	Y	23 September 2015	N	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Report</li> <li>• SSGA SPD</li> <li>• SSGA SPD Sustainability Appraisal</li> <li>• SSGA SPD Habitat Regulations Assessment</li> </ul>	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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150610/06	Public realm improvements on land at Crowtree Road, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 22 July to 31 October 2015	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 Paragraph 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 Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
150610/07	To consider the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee following Scrutiny Panel Policy Reviews	Cabinet	Y	22 July 2015	N	N/A	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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150615/08	To present to Cabinet the outcome of services for disabled children's review and options for future service delivery including Sea View Road Short break unit leisure link and home support.	Cabinet	Y	23 September 2014	N	N/a	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
150616/09	To provide Cabinet with the opportunity to comment on the Youth Offending Service Plan 2013-2016: Annual Progress Update prior to submission to the Youth Justice Board	Cabinet	Y	22 July 2015	N	N/a	Cabinet Report and Progress Update	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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150623/10	Approve Funding for the Demolition of Property at Commercial Road	Cabinet	Y	22 July 15 – 31 October 15	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 Paragraph 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 Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <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 PO Box 100, Civic Centre, Sunderland, or by email to [committees@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk)



Who will decide;

Cabinet; Councillor Paul Watson - Leader; Councillor Henry Trueman – Deputy Leader; Councillor Mel Speding – Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Pat Smith – Children’s Services; Councillor Graeme Miller – Health, Housing and Adult Services; Councillor John Kelly – Public Health, Wellness and Culture; Councillor Michael Mordey – City Services; Councillor Cecilia Gofton – Responsive Services and Customer Care

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

Elaine Waugh  
Head of Law and Governance

23 June 2015

# Item. 9

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 JULY 2015

### ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

#### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF SCRUTINY AND AREA ARRANGEMENTS

##### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The report attaches, the work programme for the Committee's work during the 2015/16 council year.
- 1.2 In delivering its work programme, the Scrutiny Committee will support the council in achieving its Corporate Outcomes.

##### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which the Committee can develop throughout the year. The work programme allows Members and officers to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.

##### 3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 The work programme reflects discussions that took place at the Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 25 June 2015. The current work programme is attached as **Appendix 1**.

##### 4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The work programme developed from the meeting will form a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2015/16.

##### 5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That the Committee notes the information contained in the work programme and consider the inclusion of any proposals for the Committee into the work programme.

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**Contact Officer:** Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer  
0191 561 1006 – [Nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk)

REASON FOR INCLUSION	25 JUNE D/L 16.06.15	16 JULY D/L 07.07.15	10 SEPTEMBER D/L 01.09.15	8 OCTOBER D/L 29.09.15	5 NOVEMBER D/L 27.10.15	3 DECEMBER D/L 24.11.15	14 JANUARY D/L 05.01.16	11 FEBRUARY D/L 02.02.16	10 MARCH D/L 02.03.16	14 APRIL D/L 05.04.16
<b>Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>	Youth Justice Plan 2015/16  Revenue Budget Outturn for 2014/2015 and First Revenue Review 2015/2016  Capital Programme Outturn 2014/2015 and First Capital Review 2015/2016 including Treasury Management	Portfolio Holder Response to Policy Reviews 2014/15	Portfolio Holder Response to Policy Reviews 2014/15		Annual Audit Letter  Proposal for Budget Consultation 2016/17  Budget Planning Framework 2016/2017 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/2017 – 2018/2019  Capital Programme Second Review 2015/16  Revenue Budget Second Review 2015/2016		Revenue Budget 2016/17 Proposals  Revenue Budget Third Review 2015/16  Capital Programme - Third Capital Review 2015/2016, Provisional Resources 2016/2017 And Treasury Management Review 2015/2016	Collection Fund 2015/16  Capital Programme 2016/2017 and Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2016/2017  Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2016/2017 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016/2017 to 2018/2019		
<b>Scrutiny Business</b>	Extra Care Housing  Membership of Scrutiny Panels  Commissioning the Annual Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16  CIPS Annual Conference Feedback  Notice of Key Decisions	Corporate Parenting Annual Report  CCG Operational Plan 15/16  Commissioning the Scrutiny Panels 2015/16  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	Corporate Performance Report  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	Extra Care Housing  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	Care and Support - Annual Update  Monitoring the Delivery of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	School Performance (Provisional Results)  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	Council Annual Complaints Report  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	BID Annual Update  Schools Performance  Draft Final Policy Review Reports  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	CYP Community Service Annual Performance Update  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16	Annual Monitoring the Delivery of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations  Draft Final Policy Review Reports  Scrutiny Annual Report  Notice of Key Decisions  Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16
<b>Lead Scrutiny Member Update</b>		Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update	Lead Scrutiny Member Update
<b>Substantial Variations to Service - Health</b>										
<b>CCFA/Members items/Petitions</b>										

# Item. 10

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 JULY 2015

### LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBER UPDATE: JULY 2015

#### JOINT REPORT OF THE LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBERS

##### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update to the Scrutiny Committee regarding the work of each of the six Lead Scrutiny Members and supporting Panels.

##### 2. LEAD SCRUTINY MEMBER UPDATE

###### ***Scrutiny Chair and Vice Chair (Cllrs Norma Wright and Dianne Snowdon)***

- 2.1 The Council's Constitution states that full Council must receive a report, annually, on the workings of overview and scrutiny. As a result the Scrutiny Annual Report was presented to Full Council on Wednesday 24 June 2015, by Cllr Norma Wright, and provided an overview of the previous years work as well as looking ahead to 2015/16.

- 2.2 The Chair is also to lead a review of the current scrutiny function in Sunderland and the first informal meeting of the scrutiny committee will have taken place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The main purpose of this meeting was to outline the scope, remit and provide a framework for completion of the review.

- 2.3 The Safeguarding Working Group has met on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015, following a brief hiatus through local elections and the Ofsted inspection. The membership of the working group has also changed as a result of the elections and now comprises Cllr N Wright, Cllr J Fletcher, Cllr D Snowdon, Cllr D Dixon and S Williamson. The scrutiny committee will be kept apprised of all activities of the working group.

###### Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee

- 2.4 The NECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 22<sup>nd</sup> June in Durham. The meeting included an overview of the key priorities of the LEP presented by the interim Chief Executive as well as an overview of funding through the LEP.

- 2.5 The Committee also discussed the remit of a policy review of transport related barriers to employment, education and training.

###### NE Regional Scrutiny Network

- 2.6 The Network met on 3<sup>rd</sup> July in Durham. The main item on the agenda was scrutiny's role in children's safeguarding. A senior officer from Ofsted highlighted examples of best practice, areas of potential focus for scrutiny and the potential for greater links with scrutiny. The CfPS provided the Network with a guide to scrutinising children's safeguarding.

- 2.7 In addition, the Network discussed how proposals for devolution may impact on scrutiny arrangements and the future role of local government scrutiny.

### ***Children's Services (Cllr Darryl Dixon)***

- 2.8 The Panel met on 13<sup>th</sup> June to discuss topics for the year ahead following the Annual Scrutiny Debate. The discussion at the Debate concluded that SEND (SEN and disabilities) Local Offer – One Year On may be the most useful topic. From September 2014 the Council published a 'Local Offer' which set out what is available for children and young people with SEN and disabilities.

A scrutiny review could :

- Evaluate the process by which the Local Offer has been developed;
- Evaluate the level of engagement from partners, young people and their families, schools and other agencies;
- Evaluate what has been included in the Offer and where there are any gaps.

### ***City Services (Cllr Lynda Scanlan)***

- 2.9 The Panel met on 7 July 2015 in order to discuss the main issues that it wishes to address in the year ahead.
- 2.10 It was suggested that the Panel conduct a review into the way in which street licences can support a vibrant city. Such a review could examine the way in which the policies and processes surrounding the granting of street licences can help to support the aim of a more vibrant city centre and also the potential for bringing greater flexibility to the process. The review could also help to identify any zones/areas within the city that could most benefit. The review would provide an opportunity to discuss these issues with a range of partners such as local traders and the BID.
- 2.11 The Panel also felt it would be useful to look at the general issue of enforcement and the extent to which enforcement powers available to the Council across a range of areas are being used. This would involve consideration of the correct balance which should exist between persuasion, education and enforcement.
- 2.12 It was also suggested that the Panel could receive a report on the issue of road surface patching. This could consider the potential long term solutions available to help reduce the Council's liability from accident claims. Members suggested that this issue could be best considered through an update report to the Panel if time allows.

### ***Health, Housing and Adult Services (Cllr Jill Fletcher)***

- 2.13 The Panel met on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to discuss the key issues arising from the discussions held at the recent scrutiny annual debate.
- 2.14 The panel agreed to look at the issue of transition from children to adult social care, the approaches taken, how these vulnerable children are supported into adulthood and independent living, where does the system fail or create gaps, what new sustainable approaches can be taken and what common themes or denominators exist in transition.
- 2.15 The panel will also look at, as a one-off topic, the scale of Houses of Multiple Occupation proliferation in relevant areas. The panel felt that this was an interesting topic but was not sufficient for a major review and therefore will hold a meeting to gain an overview of the issue and the progress the local authority is making in tackling the issues.

***Public Health, Wellness and Culture (Cllr George Howe)***

- 2.16 The Panel met at the Annual Scrutiny debate on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and discussed a variety of topics including NHS Health Checks, Self-Harm, Sexual Health, Culture and Falls prevention. A further subject topic was proposed after the debate on the Culture of Wellness from new panel member, Cllr G Walker.
- 2.17 At the first panel meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015, a discussion was held around Sexual health, self-harm and the culture of wellness. The panel are keen to look at self-harm as the spotlight review topic, specifically in relation to 'immediate' self-harm; examples of this include cutting, burning and poisoning. Sexual Health was requested as a secondary shorter topic specifically around sexually transmitted diseases and prevention and a visit to the Genito Urinary Medicine clinic was suggested. Enquiries were made into the culture of wellness and as there is work on-going in this area, this was suggested as an update report to a further panel meeting.

***Skills, Economy and Regeneration (Cllr David Snowdon)***

- 2.18 At the Annual Scrutiny debate on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 the Panel considered a variety of topics which included; Key Cities, The Work Programme, Digital Skills and apprenticeships and agreed to prioritise Key Cities and The Work Programme as preferred topics to be discussed at the first meeting of the full Panel in July.
- 2.19 The first meeting was held on July 2 and Andrew Perkin, Lead Policy Officer for Economy & Sustainability and Stephanie Rose, Associate Policy Lead for Culture , Sport & Learning attended.
- 2.20 There was a brief discussion around how the Key Cities review could be structured including research of all 26 Key Cities, analysis of best practice and most appropriate to Sunderland's needs and conclusions and learning to take forward. The general feeling was that Sunderland had a number of new and exciting initiatives happening and that this was an ideal time to look at how we can learn from others and best use the Key Cities Network.
- 2.21 For the secondary topic a discussion took place about how accessible data was in order to look at the performance of the Work Programme. It seems that local data is not made available and the national data is only produced with a 6 months lag. An alternative focus was suggested looking at the introduction of Universal Credit (UC) and the skills that would be needed to ensure local people are able to meet the requirements. Concerns were raised about whether or not this came under the Skills remit and Cllr Snowdon agreed to discuss this with other Lead Members.
- 2.22 The panel collectively agreed that a recommendation to the Scrutiny Committee would be as follows in relation to topics suggested:

Main Topic: Key Cities – Learning from others to maximise the effectiveness of Sunderland's Regeneration

Secondary topic subject to discussion: Universal Credit – particularly looking at meeting the digital skills needed under this new system.

### ***Responsive Services and Customer Care (Cllr Ronny Davison)***

- 2.23 On 2nd July 2015, the Panel met discuss its priority topics for the year ahead and the issues raised during the Scrutiny Debate.
- 2.24 As its priority topic for the year, Members agreed to focus on the issue of Customer Care. It was suggested that the review could examine what customer services has achieved to date, how the council makes use of customer satisfaction data and the way we use information to improve services.
- 2.25 Building on the work of last year, the Panel asked to receive a progress report on the implementation of the new powers contained in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act and the way in which it is impacting on the work of the Council and its partners.
- 2.26 Also, following on from last year's review into welfare reform, it was suggested that later in the year the Panel could receive an update report on the implementation of Universal Credit. This could consider the progress being made by the Council and its partners in preparing for the introduction of Universal Credit in the city.

### **3. CURRENT PANEL MEMBERSHIPS**

- 3.1 Non-executive Members have now been allocated to a scrutiny panel; membership of the panels has been decided in accordance with current political arrangements.
- 3.2 A complete membership of the Scrutiny Panels is attached for information at **Appendix 1** of this report.

### **4. DEDICATED SCRUTINY BUDGET**

- 4.1 A small budgetary provision of £15,000 per annum is available to the Scrutiny Committee and the supporting Panels to deliver the agreed Annual Scrutiny Committee Work Programme.
- 4.2 As of 1 July 2014 the breakdown of the budget stood as follows:-

Description	£
Scrutiny Development	£2,341.85
Member Development	£898
Policy Review Development	£0.00
<b>Total Expenditure to Date</b>	<b>£3,239.85</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>£15,000</b>
<b>Remaining Budget</b>	<b>£11,760.15</b>

## **5. ANNUAL SCRUTINY DEBATE 2014 - EVALUATION OF FEEDBACK FROM DELEGATES**

- 5.1 The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Scrutiny Debate was held on 17<sup>th</sup> June at the Quayside Exchange in Sunderland.
- 5.2 There were 83 delegates at the event including 43 elected members.
- 5.3 Overall the majority of those who responded rated the event as excellent or good. Delegates particularly valued the workshop discussions and the opportunity to network with others. One delegate commented that it was a 'very open discussion focusing on what difference scrutiny could make to the different topics'.
- 5.4 90% of delegates rated the speakers as either excellent or good.
- 5.5 The following aspects were given as suggested areas of improvement:
- A need to focus on issues rather than portfolio
  - Debate topics circulated prior to meeting to all delegates
  - Try a different venue

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Committee;
- (a) notes and considers the update of the Lead Scrutiny Members and receives a further verbal update at the meeting;
  - (b) notes the current expenditure and remaining scrutiny budget for 2014/15, and
  - (c) notes and considers the Scrutiny Debate evaluation feedback from delegates.

## **7. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Scrutiny Committee Agenda and Papers – 26 June

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Contact Officer: Nigel Cummings, Scrutiny Officer  
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0191 561 1006



## MEMBERSHIP OF THE SIX SCRUTINY PANELS

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>City Services</b></p> <p>Lead Scrutiny Member: <b>Cllr Lynda Scanlan</b></p> <p>Cllr James Blackburn Cllr Michael Essl Cllr Stuart Porthouse Cllr Steven Foster Cllr Margaret Beck Cllr Bernie Scaplehorn Cllr Peter Wood</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Health, Housing &amp; Adult Services</b></p> <p>Lead Scrutiny Member: <b>Cllr Jill Fletcher</b></p> <p>Cllr Alan Emerson Cllr Rosalind Copeland Cllr Michael Dixon Cllr Shirley Leadbitter Cllr Barbara McLennan Cllr Dorothy Trueman Cllr Paul Middleton Cllr Juliana Heron Cllr Doris Turner</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Children's Services</b></p> <p>Lead Scrutiny Member: <b>Cllr Darryl Dixon</b></p> <p>Cllr Debra Waller Cllr Doris MacKnight Cllr Anthony Farr Cllr Philip Tye Cllr Jacqui Gallagher Cllr Bob Francis Cllr Karen Waters Cllr Victoria O'Neil</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Skills, Economy &amp; Regeneration</b></p> <p>Lead Scrutiny Member: <b>Cllr David Snowdon</b></p> <p>Cllr Bob Price Cllr Michael Dixon Cllr Christine Marshall Cllr Mary Turton Cllr Billy Turton Cllr Len Lauchlan Cllr Colin English Cllr Miles Elliot</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Public Health, Wellness &amp; Culture</b></p> <p>Lead Scrutiny Member: <b>Cllr George Howe</b></p> <p>Cllr Louise Farthing Cllr Fiona Miller Cllr Julia Jackson Cllr Rebecca Atkinson Cllr Richard Bell Cllr John Cummings Cllr Shirley Leadbitter Cllr Geoff Walker</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Responsive Services &amp; Customer Care</b></p> <p>Lead Scrutiny Member: <b>Cllr Ronny Davison</b></p> <p>Cllr Betty Gibson Cllr Barry Curran Cllr Iain Kay Cllr Gillian Galbraith Cllr Margaret Forbes Cllr Ian Galbraith Cllr Tony Taylor</p>