

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in City Hall, (Committee Room 1) on Thursday 8th September 2022 at 5.30 p.m.

Membership

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

Co-opted Members – Mrs. A. Blakey

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	Part A – Cabinet Referrals and Responses	
	No Items	
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E. WAUGH,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance,
Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

31st August 2022

At a meeting of the CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL on THURSDAY 7 JULY 2022 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Mason-Gage in the Chair

Councillors Burrell, Crosby, PWL Gibson, Guy, McKeith, P. Smith and Tye

Also in attendance:-

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

Ms Stacy Hodgkinson, Service Manager, CIRT, Performance, Customer Feedback & Planning, TfC.

Ms Tracy Jelfs, Head of Service Cared for Children and Provider Services, TfC.

Ms Kayla Lincoln, Sunderland Youth Council Representative

Ms Helen Monks, Strategic Service Manager, TfC

Mr. David Noon, Principal Governance Services Officer, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

Ms Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny and Members Support Coordinator, Law and Governance, Corporate Services Directorate

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Dunn, S. Johnston, Samuels and on behalf of Mrs. A. Blakey.

Minutes of the last Ordinary meeting of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee held on 31 March 2022

The Vice Chair informed the meeting that Cllr Dunn was present at the last meeting however this had not been recorded in the minutes

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 31 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Dunn in the list of attendees.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no declarations of interest made.

Together for Children Self Evaluation

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with information on, and an analysis of childrens services, identifying areas where improvements had been made and areas for continued attention and improvement as detailed in the March Self-Assessment Document.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

To complement the report, Ms Helen Monks and Ms Tracy Jelfs, provided the Committee with a comprehensive powerpoint presentation which detailed the various aspects of the work undertaken since the publication of the self-assessment in March with regard to Safeguarding, Signs of Safety, Localities, Children with Disabilities, Cared for Services and planned future areas of improvement.

The Chairman thanked Helen and Tracy for their presentation and invited questions and comments from Members.

In response to enquiries from Councillor Smith, Ms Jelfs confirmed that Maple Lodge was located in Nookside and that while there was a national shortage of social workers, Sunderland was not experiencing any great problems. There was currently only a single vacancy following an internal promotion. Four years ago, Sunderland was employing 46 agency staff now that was down to just 1.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Tye regarding whether there was any elected member involvement in the development of the self-assessment document, the meeting was advised that the process was overseen by Councillor Louise Farthing, the Portfolio holder for Children, Learning and Skills.

Councillor Crosby having sought details as to what the 'Pause' and 'Start Well' initiatives related to, Ms Jelfs advised that Pause was an initiative run by Barnados that was designed to break the cycle and address the needs of women who had experienced repeat removals of children from their care. Start Well was again run by Barnados along the same lines as Pause but tailored specifically for pregnant women.

In response to a further enquiry from Councillor Crosby, the meeting was informed that that 'Edge of Care' was a collective term for a variety of services designed to prevent people coming into care.

With regard to Residential Care Homes, Councillor Guy noted that Monument View had been inspected in May receiving a 'good' rating and asked what it had done to generate this improvement. Ms Jelfs replied that it had appointed a new manager who had redesigned the processes at the home to make them clearer.

In response to a question from Councillor McKeith regarding inspection regimes, Ms Jelfs informed the meeting that all residential homes were inspected by Ofsted before they were allowed to open, and were then inspected on an annual basis thereafter.

There being no further questions the Chairman thanked Ms Jelfs and Ms Monks for their attendance, and it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the report and presentation be received and noted.

Together for Children Customer Feedback Annual Report

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with information relating to the compliments and complaints received by Together for Children during the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms Stacy Hodgkinson, Service Manager presented the report highlighting the processes involved together with any trends or themes arising and addressed questions and comments from Members thereon.

In response to enquiries from Councillors Smith and McKeith, Ms Hodgkinson confirmed that in future reports she would endeavour to ensure where percentages were used, the actual numbers the percentages related to were also included.

The Chairman commended the report stating that some of the compliments received were amazing. She noted however that there was very little detail of the complaints received and what had been done to resolve them. Ms Hodgkinson advised that it was often difficult to do so in a public report, given the confidential nature of the complaints. She suggested that this could probably be best addressed in the future through the use of anonymous case studies.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Gibson, Ms Hodgkinson confirmed that the instigation of the 'initial contact' process had been one of the main reasons for the reduction in cases escalating into a stage one complaint. The reduction was also linked to implementing the lesson learned from previous cases.

Councillor Gibson referred to a large compensation payment highlighted in paragraph 10.2 of the report which related to a legacy complaint dating back to 2017 and Ms Hodgkinson confirmed that there were no similar complaints waiting in the pipeline.

Having fully considered the report and there being no further questions or comments, the Chairman thanked Ms. Hodgkinson for her presentation and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted

Annual Work Programme 2022/23

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

(for copy report – see original minutes)

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Crosby regarding whether there was scope to look at the impact of the declining number of nursery school places, the Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator suggested that it could possibly be factored into the Early Help item.

Councillor McKeith informed the meeting that he had recently attended the Mental Health Charter Mark award ceremony and suggested that an update could be scheduled on the work programme to see how the initiative was progressing and consider how it could be expanded.

There being no further questions or comments, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Notice of Key Decisions

The Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from the 15 June, 2022.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

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

There being no questions or comments, it was:-

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

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

Signed) K. MASON-GAGE,
Chairman.

8 September 2022

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Corporate Parenting Strategy

1 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To update members of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee on the further development of Corporate Parenting for Together for Children and Sunderland City Council, with a renewed Corporate Parenting Strategy.

2 Background

- 2.1 It is a collective responsibility for Together for Children, Sunderland City Council for all of their employee's, elected members and partner agencies to provide the best possible care and safeguarding for all children and young people who are cared for by Together for Children. As a parent we would want the best for our own child or children, to ensure that they have opportunities to be safe, to be happy, to be healthy, to achieve in their education and have appropriate leisure opportunities, enabling them to develop into adulthood equipped to lead independent lives and to make their way as happy, healthy, successful and financially secure adults.
- 2.2 Within Together for Children and Sunderland City Council, the Corporate Parenting Board is already established. It was agreed that a review of the strategy was needed to bring the policy and work up to date with the current policy and practice requirements.
- 2.3 Although delayed by Covid on a number of occasions, work took place with the Change Council, to assist them in understanding what a Corporate Parent was and why this was relevant to them. A number of sessions took place, resulting in an agreed view of what they wanted their Corporate Parents to do. This included a list of priorities around health and care, stigma, employment, education, leisure, housing and transport.
- 2.4 The attendees at Change Council are involved with a range of projects and agreed to delegate Corporate Parenting to two young people, who had an interest in this work and have been involved since the initial sessions took place. They provide information at each Board meeting on the work of the Change Council and in relation to the work on the strategy.

3 Progress

- 3.1 Young people did not feel that the title of Corporate Parenting Board was appropriate and requested that this was changed to Supportive Parenting Partnership, which was agreed at the meeting on 23 July 2022.
- 3.2 The strategy has been reduced significantly to ensure that the focus remains on the key areas identified by young people, provides information on how we progress the strategy, how we know we are making a difference for cared for and care experienced children and young people and what work is agreed for the Partnership to complete.
- 3.3 Members and key agencies will be required to ensure that they complete the tasks within the Supportive Parenting Partnership Work Plan, which is currently being finalised.
- 3.4 Change Council felt that staff within Together for Children, Sunderland City Council and partner agencies did not always understand the experience of children and young people and therefore their needs. They have an established game called 'The Change Game', this has been reviewed and amended to reflect the current process and use of language. This game is used to enable others to understand what life is like for cared for and care experienced children and young people and will be used for training corporate parents.
- 3.5 A work plan is in development and includes information on the key areas to be considered by the group. A training session is planned in the autumn for members of the Supportive Parenting Partnership initially. The Change Game will be used in a variety of settings with staff, members and other agencies over the coming months, across organisations and at various meetings. Members of this Children, Education and Skills Committee will be invited to participate in this in due course.
- 3.6 The Terms of Reference have also been reviewed of as part of this process.
- 3.7 A presentation will be provided at the meeting. Louise Farthing, Portfolio Holder for Children Learning and Skills will also be in attendance.

4 Recommendation

This work continues and is for update purposes at this time. The final strategy and Change Game will be provided to the Children, Education and Skills Committee.

8 September 2022

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SUNDERLAND LOCAL AREA WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION

1 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To update members of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee on Sunderland Local Area Written Statement of Action (WSOA).

2 Background

- 2.1 Following a joint Inspection of the Sunderland Local Area SEND provision in June 2021 by Ofsted and the CQC, Sunderland Local Area were issued with a WSoA with two specific areas of focus:

Priority 1: Joint commissioning, in a way that demonstrably and quickly improves provision and outcomes for children and young people, is not fully embedded. The information used to inform this process is not comprehensive, and coproduction with children, young people and families is inconsistent

Priority 2: The support for children and young people at times of transition across all services and age ranges is too variable in quality

In order to address these two priorities a WSoA was produced, the content of which was agreed as fit for purpose by Ofsted and the CQC. Progress against the WSoA is monitored as part of the remit of the Strategic SEND Board and also by regular meetings with representatives from DfE and CQC, which are attended by key representatives from TfC and Health, plus our Parent Carer Forum Co-Chairs.

The WSoA can be accessed here:

[Sunderland Local Area Written Statement of Action for Special Educational Needs SEND December 2021.pdf \(togetherforchildren.org.uk\)](#)

3 Update on progress against Priority 1

- 3.1 (WSOA point 1.0) Improve integration of pathways, processes and governance between education, health and social care:

We have developed a new SEND Governance structure with multi-agency representation jointly chaired by between TfC and ICB with representatives from all key stakeholders. The group has met twice with the next meeting planned for September 14th 2022. Part of the remit of this group is to ensure adequate progress is made against the priority areas of the WSoA and the Board receives regular reports from sub-groups.

3.2 (WSOA point 1.1) Development of data in all areas to improve the sharing of data across health and TfC to allow more rigorous analysis to be undertaken to plan for services:

A revised Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is currently in the process of being finalised by the Performance team with a draft due to be shared with all stakeholders later this month (September 22).

The Life Start project is on track to achieve against agreed project plan objectives with a shared data platform due to be delivered in March 2023. This will enable data to be shared across education, social care and health in order to better inform key joint commissioning priorities. Although the project ends formally in March 2023 there is planned ongoing development work, including research with Sunderland University beyond this data.

3.3 (WSOA point 1.2) Improve Coproduction with CYP and their families:

Talking Mats: Two cohorts of professionals from health, education, early help, social care and commissioning have completed training in the use of digital and physical Talking Mats. This visual communication framework supports children with complex communication needs to express their views and feelings and will be used as a coproduction tool across services. These professionals are now using Talking Mats in their practice; initial feedback has highlighted that children with a range of special educational needs have responded well to the tool. Practitioners have requested additional Talking Mats resources for specific topics, such as bullying.

Healthy Parent Carer Programme: Commissioners are working closely with parent carers as part of the Breathing Space project. Four parent carers from the Sunderland Parent Carer Forum will begin train the trainer sessions in September 22 to enable them to deliver the University of Exeter's Healthy Parent Carer Programme to wider groups of parents and carers. The tailored, peer-led group programme can be delivered online or face-to-face and addresses the higher risk of poor mental and physical health for parent carers of children with SEND. It is designed to improve parent carers' health and wellbeing by promoting empowerment, confidence, and resilience.

Mind of My own: The SEND team are actively exploring Mind of My Own as a mechanism to capture views of CYP within Statutory processes. A meeting has been held with Jane Wheeler (Service Manager Early Help) to agree next steps and business processes have been shared. Initial proposal is to implement use of the tool for new statutory assessments and key PfA transition reviews (year 11 and 14).

- 3.4 (WSOA Action point 1.3) Implement a Dynamic Support Register and review Care, Education and Treatment Review processes and policies:

The Children's Dynamic Risk Register has now been established and is meeting on a monthly basis. ToR have been agreed. However, it is too early to evaluate the impact on individual CYP at this time.

- 3.5 (WSOA point 1.4) Review of therapy services.

This work is ongoing led by the Strategic Commissioning Manger and will report towards the end of this year. Timeline for any implementation of recommended changes is June 2023. This work is impacted by the recent changes in moving from Clinical Commissioning Group CCG to Integrated Care Board ICB.

- 3.6 (WSOA 1.5) Review of Community Equipment services

The joint commissioning task and finish group continues to review pathways and processes across community equipment services, including those which are independently commissioned by schools to ensure families have a clear pathway to access, update and maintain equipment within home and education. Commissioners have facilitated four mapping sessions to date. Therapy leads and other professionals from across health, education and social care have used case studies as worked examples of the strengths and challenges of current pathways. Several quick wins and longer-term priorities have been identified, including agreeing a revised MDT pathway and consolidating processes for the storage, maintenance and delivery of all equipment. A final mapping session is scheduled for Sept to draw together the key themes from the previous sessions. Following this, detailed actions will be agreed and progressed, including the development of a new service specifications and SLAs.

- 3.7 (WSOA point 1.6) Improve NHS Continuing Care processes and arrangements for the joint assessment, commissioning and procurement of services for children with complex needs:

A new process for commissioning children's continuing health care funding has been developed in conjunction with NEC. Training has been delivered to TfC Social Care staff and a session is planned later this month for SEND colleagues. At this stage it is too early to monitor the impact in terms of numbers and quality of referrals.

- 3.8 (WSOA point 1.7) Increase personalisation, including the uptake of personal budgets and integrated personal commissioning.

A draft report and action plan on development of Personal Budgets has been developed by commissioners. However, further input is required from Social Care and Education. A meeting is scheduled to share draft documents and agree next steps.

- 3.9 (WSOA 1.8) Agree an outcomes framework for joint commissioning

This action is ongoing. This work is ongoing led by the Strategic Commissioning Manger and will report towards the end of this year with a due date of December 2022. This work is also likely to be impacted by the recent changes in moving from Clinical Commissioning Group CCG to Integrated Care Board ICB.

- 3.10 (WSOA point 1.9) Access to appropriate short-breaks and leisure opportunities, with facilities that align closely with the interests of children and young people with SEND and meet the needs of families:

Breathing Space: Delivery of this DfE Respite Innovation Fund project has commenced. Breathing Space is a whole family model, designed to offer joined-up support and create positive opportunities for families with children who have a primary learning need of SEMH or ASD and are at risk of suspension or permanent exclusion from school in Years 6 -11. Short break sessions have ran throughout the summer holiday period. Weekend and after-school sessions will start from September. Positive Behaviour Support Planning will also commence in September, with the appointment of a PBS practitioner and a trainee.

Community Short Breaks: a review of community short breaks services is commencing alongside the review of personal budgets / direct payments processes. Commissioners are undertaking a benchmarking exercise and are liaising with regional colleagues to scope out potential commissioning models to address the sufficiency challenges in relation to the provision of individual, home-based and community short breaks support.

4 Update on progress against Priority 2

- 4.1 (WSOA 2.0) Improve the recognition and monitoring of SEND at an early stage within the pre-school cohort of children:

A health notification process for 0-5 children with SEND (or potential SEND) has been developed and shared with colleagues across health. Notifications are now being received and reviewed on a monthly basis by a multi-agency team including the Designated Clinical Officer (DCO), 0-19 Service Lead, Portage and Strategic Lead for SEND (TfC). The School Improvement Early Years Advisory team operate with a caseload of Early Year settings and monitor

the identified children within their settings to ensure needs are being met, appropriate funding is secured and transition takes places. Where children are not yet in an Early Years setting monitoring will fall to the most appropriate service involved (generally either 0-19 Health Visitor or Portage). Since implementation the process has identified a number of children who were not accessing relevant support, which has been addressed. In exceptional cases, where the level of need is significant, Statutory Assessment and / or an Assessment Placement in a Specialist setting has been agreed through this process, leading to earlier intervention. The process is well embedded within the 0-19 service but analysis of referrals indicates there is further work to do within some health teams. This is being picked up via the DCO.

- 4.2 (WSOA point 2.1) Deployment of the Early Years' Inclusion Fund (EYIF) so settings can ensure children get timely access to the support they need to make a successful transition into statutory education.

The Early Years Inclusion Fund (EYIF) process has been refreshed and a new process has been shared with all Early Years' settings for full implementation from this September. The new process includes structured opportunities to review the impact of the funding at the level of the individual child, with input and support from settings via the Early Years School Improvement Advisory Service.

An investment of up to £30,000 has been agreed from the EYIF to provide up to 6 part time nursery places at the recently established Communication Hub, which provides a 12 week programme of intensive support for children with SLC difficulties. These places will be focused on children due to transition into reception in Sept 2023 in order to provide a strong transition and boost progress before statutory education.

- 4.3 (WSOA point 2.2 Increased awareness and support of the School Health Nursing Offer so that the needs of children and young people are accurately identified at the earliest opportunity.

Deep dives of Health Visitor and School Nurse involvement by 0-19 service have taken place and are being used to plan allocation of services to schools.

The service completed a survey monkey to Early Years settings to highlight areas of concern as identified by nursery staff. This supported one to one interventions and delivery of health promotion sessions within some settings, which will in turn support transition sessions taking place between June - Sept 22.

A presentation was delivered at the Primary Head Teachers' meeting and to SENCO's to share the information about the Healthy Child Program and the findings of the deep dives. The offer has been circulated to all settings and all

Head Teachers have received a letter from the 0-19 service management team, sharing the name of their link Health Visitor and Early Years Practitioner and all school settings have also had the information regarding the link Specialist Public Health Practitioner and their link Junior Public Health Practitioner as well as the single point of contact number for the service.

- 4.4 (WSOA point 2.3 Upskill Early Years' workforce with a greater knowledge and understanding of SEND issues within Sunderland.

Thirty two PVI (Private, Voluntary and Independent) SENDcos underwent L3 SENDco training during the academic year 21/22. There are further plans to roll out the qualification to the remainder of settings this coming academic year 2022/23 in line with a revised CPD offer for the Early Years sector. There is a comprehensive offer of CPD planned for Early Years' providers for the academic year 2022/3. This is being circulated now for the new academic year and will be updated according to demand throughout the year.

- 4.5 (WSOA point 2.4) Phased transfer reviews will be completed in a timely manner There is a target in place to achieve at least 65% completion of statutory reviews by the statutory deadlines. These are February 15th 2023 (for year groups -1, 2 and 6) and March 31st (years 11 and 14). It is too earlier to report progress at this stage as the process begins in earnest from Sept 22, however, the SEND Team is now well supported by reports following the transition of Reviews to Capita One system. This will be a key business priority for the Statutory SEND team and progress will be monitored weekly throughout the Autumn term and Spring term. The challenge will lie in balancing the workload of the SEND Caseworker and Business Support teams against the significant increase in new statutory assessment requests.

- 4.6 (WSOA point 2.5) There will be a clear and consistent approach from schools and education settings to meeting children's individual needs at each stage of transition throughout school, and especially between Primary to Secondary and Secondary to Post 16

A suite of transition training sessions was designed and delivered in conjunction with NASEN (Whole School SEND). These were delivered between January and March 2022 and focused on each of the key age phases from nursery to Post 16. These included input from specialist teams, Social Care and health colleagues. Feedback and learning from the sessions was developed into a set of documents which will form a toolkit for schools. These will be shared will be shared with schools in the Autumn term.

- 4.7 (WSOA point 2.6) Access to clear and accessible information available to children, young people and parents at each stage of transition so they can make informed choices.

Funding has been secured for a Strategic Transition Lead who will lead on developing strong multi-agency pathways for young people transitioning between Children's and Adults services. A job description has been developed for this key role. Recruitment to the post will be progressed by the Head of Integrated Children's commissioning and the post will sit within the Commissioning team but the role will work in a cross-agency manner.

A parent and young person portal has been established to capture family and young person views as part of the EHCP referral process. We are currently exploring alternative ways of gathering child and young person voice, including Mind of my Own. These options are being explored using feedback from the STARS group.

A business case has been developed by Commissioning to explore actions required to refresh Local Offer and Family Information Service (Sunderland Information Point). This will include the resource to recruit staffing to manage the site.

- 4.8 (WSOA point 2.7) Access to a wide range of suitable opportunities for post-16 study including study programmes, supported internships, traineeships, and apprenticeships so pathways can be tailored to individual needs and aspirations

During the academic year 21/22 a new Supported Internship programme was launched in Sunderland by Health Education England (HEE), Project Choice. This was successful and year 2 of the programme has recruited healthy numbers.

A task and finish group is currently undertaking a mapping exercise for all post 16 provision within the local area with a view to sharing information effectively for young people, families and pre-16 providers to support transition choices and planning. This group will also identified how gaps in provision can be addressed if applicable.

The SEND team are working closely with Career and NEET team to strengthen joint working as part of statutory EHCP reviews and quality of advice feeding into EHCPs. A development and training session with Careers and NEET team in planned in September.

- 4.9 (WSOA point 2.8) Timely and clear transition plan to be developed for all with children, young people with SEND, alongside their parents, as they progress from children's to adults' services in social care and health.

Recruitment to Transition Coordinator role is being taken forward by Commissioning. This post will review transition arrangements between Children's and Adult's services and Health teams and ensure there are clearly understood pathways between services.

The Transition Management Group has been strengthened through participation Health (DCO) and SEND Team Manager. There is a multi-agency strategic working group in place which has recently developed, in co-production with PCF, a survey to explore families' experience of transition. This will be used to develop pathways and processes.

A joint adults and children's commissioning group also meets on a regular basis to plan services for specific young people with complex needs prior to transition. This group has a particular focus on helping to provide a seamless pathway towards appropriate supported living for young people who have lived in out of authority residential settings.

5 Recommendation

The Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee are invited to note the contents of this report.

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 8 SEPTEMBER 2022

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2022-2023

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR

1. Purpose of the Report

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

2. Background

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

3. Current position

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

4. Conclusion

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

5 Recommendation

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

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

REASON FOR INCLUSION	9 JUNE 22 (INFORMAL MEETING)	7 JULY 22	8 SEPT 22	6 OCT 22	3 NOV 22	1 DEC 22	5 JAN 23	2 FEB 23	2 MARCH 23	30 MARCH 23
Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses										Scrutiny Annual Report – 22/23
Scrutiny Business	Work Programme 2022/23	Consultation with LGBTQ+ Community	Corporate Parenting SEND – Areas for Deep Dive	Early Years - role of Family Hubs as part of integrated family service ensuring families with children and young people aged 0-19 receive early help) Child Refugees - support available for Ukrainian children and their families TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report – Areas Deep Dive	Safeguarding of Children (To consider the implications for the Council of the National Panel Review of Child Protection	Speech Disorder and Language Disorder in Early Years Future Provision of Services for Children Requiring Specialist Support	Child Obesity – (Incl How can we better promote healthy eating among young people. Also, the influence of exercise and sporting provision) (Lorraine Hughes)	Schools Update (incl Implications of the White Paper Opportunities for All. The action being taken to catch up on lost education due to the Covid pandemic and which programmes are most effective, particularly for SEN pupils) (Simon Marshall)	Training and Apprenticeship Access for Care Experienced Young People . The measures to reduce the number of young people not in education or training.	
Performance / Service Improvement		TfC Self – Evaluation (Jill Colbert) Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)				Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)				

Consultation / Awareness Raising		Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 23-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme 22-23	
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Issues to Programme: Mental Health Charter Mark Award

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

3. CURRENT POSITION

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

4. RECOMMENDATION

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

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda
-

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

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

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
170927/212	To approve in principle the establishment of a new police led Road Safety Partnership (Northumbria Road Safety Partnership) embracing the Northumbria Force Area.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
210709/612	To authorise the Executive Director of City Development to deliver the Washington F-Pit Museum Heritage Visitor Centre and Albany Park Improvement project, including the procurement of consultants and contractors.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 13 October to 30 November 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220207/690	To approve the sale of the former Alex Smiles site and to undertake required remedial works.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220413/697	In respect of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, to consider adoption of the final document.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220504/710	To agree to the acquisition of property at Crowtree Road/Maritime Terrace, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220524/714	To agree to the grant of an option to sell property at Richmond Street, Sheepfolds, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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210920/640	To approve land and property acquisitions (including the in-principle future use of CPO powers) within the Riverside Sunderland area.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	This 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 contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220712/722	To seek agreement to the proposed development strategy of the Council's Self and Custom Build Sites.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	This 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 contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220719/723	To seek approval for the acquisition of Property at Crowtree Road and to grant a lease of the former Crowtree Leisure Centre	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220728/726	To adopt a Playing Pitch Plan (PPP) that will be used as a strategic planning document for sport playing pitches in the city.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220801/727	To approve a proposed contract variation for the Integrated Drug and Alcohol Recovery and Harm Minimisation Service up to 31 March 2025.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220801/728	To approve the proposed commissioning intentions for the Specialist Stop Smoking Service for Sunderland	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220802/729	To approve a Direct Payment Employment Support Service.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220803/730	To approve a proposed Variation to Energy Infrastructure Enabling Works.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220808/732	To seek Cabinet approval to the disposal of South West Lodge, Mere Knolls Cemetery, Dovedale Road, SR6 8LW.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220804/731	To approve the Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2026/27.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 8 September to 31 October 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220106/682	To give consideration to the Draft Bus Enhancement Partnership Plan and Scheme	Cabinet	Y	13 October 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220207/691	To approve the acquisition of strategic sites in the Commercial Road Area.	Cabinet	Y	13 October 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220621/720	To approve funding options in respect of development at Nile and Villiers Street Sunnyside	Cabinet	Y	During the period 8 September to 31 October 2022.	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220720/724	To seek approval to publish the IAMP AMR Plan Review	Cabinet	Y	During the period 8 September to 31 October 2022.	N	Not applicable	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220628/721	To seek approval to the proposed ECO Flex 4 Criteria and agree to the appointment of local providers to manage delivery of the scheme within Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 8 September to 31 December 2022.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220725/725	Approve the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Cabinet	Y	During the period 13 October 2022 to 31 January 2023.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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

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

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

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

Who will decide;

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

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

Elaine Waugh,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

10 August 2022