

ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF MEMBER SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to consider and agree a work programme for the Committee for the municipal year 2018/19.

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 To be most effective, the work programme should provide a basis and framework for the work of the Committee, while retaining sufficient flexibility to respond to any important issues that emerge during the course of the year. The work programme is therefore intended to be a working document that the Committee can develop and refer to throughout the 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 The remit of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee covers the following:-
- To review and scrutinise any matter relating to the service performance and commissioning for children, young people and their families including Safeguarding and Child Protection, Family Support and Children's Social Care, Corporate Parenting, Educational Attainment and Skills, Relationship with Schools and Youth Services.*
- 2.5 The work programme should reflect the remit of the Committee and the need to balance its responsibility for undertaking scrutiny, performance management and policy review (where necessary). The work programme should also reflect and be aligned to the key priorities of the Council as set out in documents such as the Sunderland Strategy and Corporate Plan.

3. Draft Work Programme 2018/19

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to consider the issues it wishes to address in the year ahead. A draft Committee Work Programme based on some of the key issues facing the Council and raised during the Scrutiny Workshop held on 12 June 2018

is attached marked Appendix 1. This will hopefully provide a useful framework for developing the work programme for the year.

The table below provides details of the issues considered for inclusion in the work programme:-

Regular Work Programme Items	
Children Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee Work Programme (Monthly)	To receive the committee's work programme outlining future meetings of the committee and the items scheduled for those meetings.
28 Day Notice of Key Decisions (Monthly)	To consider the Council's 28 Day Notice of Key Decisions.
Single Item (Items to be scheduled when dates known)	
Theme: Governance	
TfC Business Plan	To consider and review the TfC Business Plan
Ofsted Feedback	To consider the outcome recent Ofsted Inspection report
Ofsted Improvement Plan & Monitoring	To monitor the progress being made in relation to improvements contained in the Ofsted report
Performance Monitoring & Complaints	To monitor and review a range of key indicators relating to the performance of TfC as part of its governance structure
Theme: Safeguarding Children	
Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) & Independent Review Officer (IRO) Annual Reports	To consider and comment on the performance of the LADO and IRS services for the period 2017/18
Corporate Parenting	To consider and review the Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Board 2017/18
Safeguarding Children	To review the Annual report of the Safeguarding Children Board
Demand management edge of care	To consider and review demand for safeguarding services
Peer Review – Front door to the service	To consider a Peer Review of access to safeguarding services
Mental Health for Children	To consider the mental health services for children and young people in the city

Child Sexual Exploitation / Missing Children	To consider the progress made over the previous 12 months in relation Child Sexual Exploitation and the measures in place to identify missing children
Theme: Schools & Education	
SEND Inspection Updates	To receive periodic updates on the preparations for the forthcoming SEND Ofsted inspection
Educational Attainment	To review the overall school performance data for the academic year 2016-17
School Exclusions/Headteacher Workshop	To monitor the rate of exclusions in local schools and organise a meeting with headteachers to discuss criteria for exclusions and the promotion of best practice
Theme: Early Help	
Impact of Early Help Strategy	To review the progress being made by the Early Help Service following its launch in April 2017
Education, Employment & Training Opportunities	To monitor the work taking place to provide training opportunities / apprenticeships and to reduce the number of young people not in education and training in the city
Youth Justice Plan	To review and comment on the Annual Youth Justice Plan for the city 2017/18
Theme: Outcomes for Children	
Voice of the Child/Participation	To hear more about the mechanisms put in place to capture the views of children and young people and secure their participation to ensure necessary outcomes are being delivered
Members reality checks and visits	To arrange meetings with staff and clients to hear at first their impressions of the services provided

- 3.2 A key theme for the year will be to continue to monitor progress in relation to the work of Together for Children and regular performance monitoring reports have been included in the work programme.
- 3.3 The Committee will also continue to have representation from young people at its meetings in order to obtain their views and may wish to hold further meetings to

meet and speak with social work staff in order to obtain feedback on the operation and development of the service.

- 3.4 During the year the Committee will also have the opportunity to review service performance and will be provided with regular reports on complaints relating to Children's Services issues.
- 3.5 It is also intended to arrange a meet and greet with Jill Colbert the new Chief Executive of Together for Children and Director of Children's Services.

4. Recommendations

That the Scrutiny Committee consider and agrees a draft Annual Scrutiny Work Programme for 2018/19 and incorporates any emerging issues from the recent Ofsted inspection of Children's Services as and when they arise throughout the forthcoming year;

5. Background Papers

None

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