

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee



2 July 2020

Refresh of the Work Programme
2020/21

Report of John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC) with an updated work programme for 2020/21.

Executive summary

- 2 Overview and Scrutiny work programmes are designed to be flexible to accommodate items which may arise throughout the year. For 2020/21 this flexibility is essential to enable the scrutiny function to respond to the changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3 The proposed CYPOSC work programme has been framed around COVID-19 and in the context of the new shared County Durham vision 2035 has been developed with partners around three strategic ambitions – 'more and better jobs', 'long and independent lives' and 'connected communities'.
- 4 CYPOSC work programme has been developed to reflect new powers which enable local government meetings to be held remotely during this period. Holding virtual meetings has prompted us to consider how best to carry out the scrutiny role in these new and challenging circumstances.

Recommendations

- 5 Members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to:
 - a) Receive and comment on the proposed work programme for 2020/21.

- b) Agree the work programme for 2020/21 as attached at appendix 2 and the flexibility it offers to respond to emerging issues.

Background

- 6 Scrutiny has adapted to the unprecedented situation of a global pandemic with a flexible and pragmatic approach to the 2020/21 work programme. New regulations enable committee meetings to be held remotely and formal scrutiny meetings will be held virtually for the foreseeable future.
- 7 To assist with the new approach to meetings we propose to keep agenda short to ensure meeting time is focussed on those matters which are the highest priority. Where agreed by the Committee, regular overview reports will instead be circulated separately via email for comment and information. We hope by doing so, we can help make progress of moving meetings on-line as smooth as possible and manage our workload efficiently and effectively.
- 8 As we all become more familiar with holding remote meetings, we will review our agendas and work programmes with the Chair and Vice Chair and make any necessary changes in consultation with the Committee.
- 9 This prioritisation of the work programme will enable the scrutiny function to operate flexibly and take into consideration any changing national, regional or local responses to COVID-10 pandemic.
- 10 The overview and scrutiny committee's work programmes are informed by:
- County Durham Vision 2035
 - Council Plan
 - Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions
 - Sustainable Community Strategy
 - Partnership Plans and Strategies
 - Performance and Budgetary control data
 - Changes in government legislation
 - Key questions for improving performance.
- 11 In addition, scrutiny work programmes are informed by the four priorities of Inspire the Council's Transformation Programme:
- Redesign our services to better meet the customer's need at reduced cost to the Council
 - Help communities become more resilient and self-reliant
 - To move our partnership working from good to great

- To become renowned for our skilled and flexible workforce and our employee engagement.

CYPOSC Work Programme

- 12 During 2019/20 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee has undertaken budgetary and performance monitoring, scrutiny reviews and considered overview presentations.
- 13 Scrutiny review work included:
- Review of Elective Home Education in County Durham
 - Progress update on Role of the Social Worker from a Child's Perspective Review.
- 14 Areas of Overview activity:
- Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements
 - County Durham Health and Wellbeing System Plan 2019
 - Ofsted Educational Framework 2019
 - Consultation on the High Needs Block Funding for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
 - West Lane Hospital Update
 - Liquid Logic Implementation
 - 0-19 Healthy Child Programme
 - Social Worker Academy Progress
 - Best Start in Life
 - Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing
 - Under 18 Conceptions and Sexual Health
 - Mainstream Primary and Secondary School Funding formula 2020/21
 - Child Poverty in County Durham
 - Draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
 - Signs of Safety Implementation
 - Children's Social Care Response to ILACS Inspection
 - Children's Social Care Quality Assurance Framework
 - Pre-Birth Service Update
 - Schools Engagement for Climate Emergency
 - What is there for Young People to do in County Durham?
- 15 Budgetary and performance monitoring:
- Quarterly budgetary monitoring for Children and Young People's Service
 - Quarterly corporate performance monitoring overview for Children and Young People's Service.

Areas for Consideration in the CYPOSC Work Programme

- 16 Members of CYPOSC are asked to agree the proposed work programme for 2020/21 that has been prepared and is attached at appendix two. The work programme is very comprehensive drawing on topical areas across the remit of the committee and it should be noted that it is also flexible.
- 17 The work programme includes an indication of those reports which will be considered by CYPOSC at a remote meeting and those which will be circulated to members. The dates when reports are taken to CYPOSC or circulates may flex with the additional demands on and the capacity of services during the COVID-19 response period.

Conclusion

- 18 The work programme identifies areas of work that fall within the remit of Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and is flexible in its delivery.

Background papers

- None

Authors:	Tom Gorman	Tel: 03000 268027
	Ann Whitton	Tel: 03000 268143

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable

Human Rights

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

The Overview and Scrutiny work programme is an important element of the Council's governance and risk management arrangements.

Procurement

Not applicable

Appendix 2

<p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2020 TO 2021</p> <p>Children and Young People’s OSC</p> <p>Lead Officer: Tom Gorman</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Officer: Ann Whitton</p> <p>IPG contact:</p>	<p>Note:</p> <p>O/S Review - A systematic 6 monthly review of progress against recommendations/Action Plan</p> <p>Scrutiny/Working Group – In-depth Review</p> <p>Overview/progress – information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review</p> <p>Performance – ongoing monitoring (quarterly) performance reports/budgets</p>
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	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
<i>O/S Review Updates</i>	(subject to management arrangements for remote meetings)			
Role of the Social Worker from a Child’s Perspective	Briefing Note	January 2020	To provide progress on the members recommendations at least six months following	Members will receive information on how their recommendations are progressing.

			the report being considered by Cabinet	
Private Children's Homes <i>Joint with Safer Stronger Communities OSC</i>	Briefing Note	February 2020	Members will consider evidence from DCC, Partners, Children's Homes and Children in Care Council.	Members will have an awareness of the number of private children's homes in County Durham and their impact.
Scrutiny/Working Group In depth review				
Overview/Progress	(subject to management arrangements for remote meetings)			
Impact of Covid 19 on CYPS Service Grouping	2 July 2020	John Pearce	Members will receive a report on of how Covid 19 has impacted on the service grouping.	Members will be aware of the work that has taken place during the pandemic and of the impact on children, young people and families
Young Carers	29 September 2020 TBC	Martyn Stenton Alison Hicks	Members will receive information on what support is offered to young carers in County Durham	Members will be aware of the support and opportunities available for young carers.
Child Poverty Overview	29 September 2020 TBC	Karen Davison	Members will receive a progress update on the authority's plans to address	Members will have an awareness of the various activities and plans provided by the Council and its partners.

			child poverty including the impact of Covid 19	
Neglect in County Durham	9 October 2020 TBC	Karen Davison	Members will continue to monitor neglect in the county and receive information how the County Council is addressing child neglect including the impact of Covid 19	Members will be aware of the number of child neglect cases and what the service is doing to help children and families.
CAMHS Update	9 October 2020 TBC	Michelle Trainer	Members will receive an update on the performance of CAMHS in relation to transitions to Adult Services and the Action plan for tier 4 services	Members will gain an awareness of how mental health services for children and young people in County Durham under the management of Tees, Esk and Wear Valley FT are managed and what the trust has in place to address the CQC recommendations in relation to tier 4 services. Invite members of AWHOSC
Care Leavers	6 November 2020 TBC	Chris Ring	Members will consider the support in place for care leavers in relation to accommodations, education, employment and training and the impact of Covid 19.	Members will be aware of the support offered to County Durham's care leavers.
Best Start in Life	11 January 2021 TBC	Michelle Baldwin	Members will receive information on giving children the best start in life including plans and initiatives going forward.	Members will be aware of initiatives to give children the best start in life and performance information and plans going forward. Members of AWH OSC will be invited to attend.

Children and Young People's Mental Health	1 March 2021 TBC	Michelle Baldwin	Members will receive a detailed presentation on public health initiatives relating to children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing including the impact of Covid 19.	Members will be aware of plans and programmes going forward to address the children and young people's mental health agenda. Members of AWH OSC will be invited to attend.
Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	1 March 2021 TBC	Martyn Stenton/ Paul Shadforth	Members will receive an overview of the service to support children, parents and carers with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities that will touch on the legislation, EHCPs and work with partners.	Members will have an awareness of the challenges involved in delivering the service ahead of review work.
Educational Outcomes	12 April 2021 TBC	Richard Crane	Members will receive information on the performance of County Durham's children in what was a unique academic year.	Members will be aware of performance of children across all age groups.
Briefing Note				
Heathy Weight Alliance	Briefing Note (July/August 2020)	Philip Ray	Members continue to monitor childhood obesity and will receive a progress update on the work being	Members will be aware of the progress being made and of new and ongoing projects to help children and families. Members of AWH OSC will be invited to attend this session.

			carried out to help children and families.	
Student Voice Survey	Briefing Note (July/September 2020)	Stephen Tracey	Members will receive an outline of the results of the most recent student voice survey.	Members will be aware of what children and young people are saying in the survey, comparisons from the last survey results and any developing trends.
Children's Commissioning Strategy	Briefing Note (September/October 2020)	Mark Smith	Members will receive information on the action plan attached to the strategy	Members will be aware of the priorities within the strategy and how they are being met
JTAI Action Plan Progress on actions	Briefing Note (October/November 2020)	Michael Banks	Members will receive information on the progress against the actions identified in the JTAI Action Plan	Members will be aware of progress being made against actions and will be able to discuss and ask questions.
ERASE	Briefing Note (October/November 2020)	Lisa Wood/ DS Ian Haddick TBC	Members will be updated with ERASE activities and the impact the initiative is having on County Durham's children and young people.	Members will be aware of work that has been done to keep children and young people safe in county Durham.
Pre Birth teams	Briefing Note (November/December 2020)	Jac Tyler	Members will be provided with information on how the service is performing.	Members will be aware of the progress made in the new service areas and how this has impacted on the lives of children.
Stronger Families Programme	Briefing Note (December 20/January 2021)	Karen Davison	Members will monitor the Council's performance to hitting its national target for the Stronger Families Programme including the impact of Covid 19.	Members will be aware of how the Council is meeting national targets for the Stronger Families Programme and how many families in County Durham have benefitted from the programme.
Smoking in Pregnancy	Briefing Note (January/February 2021)	Tammy Smith	Members will receive information on the programmes and projects in	Members will be aware of the programmes and projects in place to help mothers to give up smoking.

			place for expectant mothers to stop smoking and what support is available to help them.	
Breast Feeding	Briefing Note (January/February 2021)	Tammy Smith	Members will receive information on how DCC and partners are encouraging mothers to breastfeed from birth and to continue after six weeks	Members will be aware of the programmes available from DCC and partners, support available to mothers and of current performance.
Signs of Safety Model of Practice	Briefing Note (March 2021)	Chris Ring	Members will receive a progress update on the impact of the implementation of the Signs of Safety Model Practice	Members will be aware of how the signs of safety model is impacting on practice.
LSCB Annual Report	Circulate Electronically	Independent Chair DSCB	Members will be appraised of the achievements of the LSCB over the last 12 months and of their priorities for the coming year.	Members will have the opportunity to raise questions with the LSCB rep in relation to the Annual Report.
Corporate Parenting Annual Report	Circulate Electronically	Cllr Jewell, Chair CPP/Jayne Watson	Members will receive the CPP annual report	Members will be aware of the work of CPP and its priorities going forward.
DPH Annual Report	Send electronically		Members will receive the DPH report electronically	
HWB Annual Report	Send electronically		Members will receive the annual HWB annual Report electronically	

Performance and Budget	(subject to management arrangements for remote meetings)			
Performance & Quality Q 4 (2019/20) and Q 1(2020/21) Q 2 Q 3	29 Sept 2020 11 January,2021 12 April 2021	Stephen Tracey		Ongoing – to provide members with information on performance of the service grouping and highlight areas of prominence (those going well, and those giving cause for concern).
Budget Outturn Report Q 4 (19/20)&Q1(20/21) Q 2 Q 3	29 Sept 2020 11 January 2021 12 April 2021	Andrew Baldwin		Ongoing – highlight areas of concern. Committee to receive updates on the affects and implications of MTFP on service groupings