

## Lancashire County Council

### Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 5th October, 2021 at 10.30 am in Committee Room 'A' - The Tudor Room, County Hall, Preston

#### Agenda

##### Part I (Open to Press and Public)

No.	Item
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1.	<b>Apologies</b>
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2.	<b>Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests</b>
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Members are asked to consider any Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests they may have to disclose to the meeting in relation to matters under consideration on the Agenda.

3.	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2021</b>	(Pages 1 - 6)
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4.	<b>Maintained Nursery School Consultation Update</b>	(Pages 7 - 20)
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5.	<b>Work Programme 2021/2022</b>	(Pages 21 - 26)
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6.	<b>Urgent Business</b>
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An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Chief Executive should be given advance warning of any Member's intention to raise a matter under this heading.

7.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>
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The next meeting of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee will be held on Tuesday 9 November 2021 at 10.30am at County Hall, Preston.

L Sales  
Director of Corporate Services

County Hall  
Preston



# Agenda Item 3

## Lancashire County Council

### Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 1st September, 2021 at 10.30 am in Committee Room 'A' - The Tudor Room, County Hall, Preston

#### Present:

County Councillor Andrea Kay (Chair)

#### County Councillors

J Berry	J Mein
S Barnes	P Rigby
A Cheetham	M Salter
S Clarke	S Serridge
S Hind	A Sutcliffe
T Hurn	R Swarbrick
N Khan	R Woollam

#### Co-opted members

Daniel Ballard, Representing CE Schools  
Mr John Withington, Representing Parent Governors  
( Primary)

County Councillors Paul Rigby and Sean Serridge replaced County Councillors Barrie Yates and Sobia Malik respectively for this meeting.

County Councillor Ron Woollam replaced County Councillor Joan Burrows permanently on the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs Janet Hamid, Co-Optee Voting Member representing Parent Governors (Secondary).

#### 2. Constitution: Chair and Deputy Chair; Membership; Terms of Reference

The report set out the constitution, membership, chair and deputy chair and terms of reference of the new Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2021/22.

**Resolved:** That the following be noted:

1. The appointment of County Councillors Andrea Kay and Julia Berry as Chair and Deputy Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the 2021/22 municipal year.
2. The Membership of the Committee following the County Council's Annual Meeting on 15 July 2021; and
3. The new Terms of Reference of the Committee.

### **3. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

County Councillors Anne Cheetham, Jennifer Mein, Paul Rigby and Rupert Swarbrick declared non-pecuniary interests as they were governors of schools.

### **4. Minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2021**

**Resolved:** The minutes from the meeting held on 11 March 2021 were confirmed as an accurate record.

### **5. School Place Provision Planning**

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Mel Ormesher, Head of Service Asset Management; Mike Kirby, Director of Strategy and Performance; Lynn Macdonald, School Planning Manager; and Debbie Ormerod, Access to Education Entitlements Lead Officer.

A presentation was delivered providing the committee with an overview of the planning, statutory duties, data, housing demands and longer term projects that informed the strategy which was due to Cabinet for consideration in the near future. The focus of the strategy was to have the right number of school places, in the right areas, at the right time to meet demand.

The aspirations of the strategy were for Lancashire to be a county for children of all abilities do well in its first class schools, colleges and universities, gaining skills for life. School Place Planning was a statutory duty for the county council as an education authority to provide a Lancashire place for every Lancashire child who wanted one. The committee was informed that all children in England between the age of 5 and 16 were entitled to a free place at a state school. State schools received their funding through their local authority or directly from the government.

The School Planning approach was evidence based. There was a twice yearly pupil forecast using pupil census, in-year migration and district supplied housing data.

There were three main areas of funding for projects:

1. The Department for Education Basic Need Grant. This was allocated on an annual basis against the School Capacity and Places Survey (SCAP) return as the proportion of the overall pot for England.

2. Schools could make their own contributions, mainly for fixtures and fittings, ICT, etc.
3. Regarding housing developers, the authority sought to obtain funding from the Section 106 Agreement or the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

In terms of longer term growth there was ongoing dialogue with district councils in relation to long term planning as part of their Local Plans. It was important to secure education infrastructure to mitigate the impact of housing developments. Where the need for a new school was identified at the Local Plan stage the authority considered requirements for early years and special education needs.

Comments and questions raised were as follows:

- Members enquired where the county council stood regarding planning developments and Section 77 playing field requirements. Section 77 was brought in to protect school playing fields building projects. When there was a proposal for building works there would be a calculation around the implication of the developments on the site. There were mechanisms in place to compensate for building on playing fields i.e. replacing the natural playing fields with all-weather playing fields. However, members were advised that the county council did everything it could to protect schools with playing fields.
- The committee enquired about how many children had applied for secondary school places after having started primary school and then been taken out. In addition, there were a number of children that were not able to maintain a full term in school due to health reasons. The committee enquired about how the authority accommodated the liaison of teachers with the children's hospitals regarding this. Members were advised that information on these queries would be provided to them.
- There was concern over the number of children who lived in secure accommodation who had not had proper full-time education. The county council had a duty as the education authority to make sure these children received an education. Education was part of the package commissioned for children placed in secure accommodation. The provision of education would be monitored and the authority would make sure the quality assurance was there.
- The question of how well Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payments worked in comparison with Section 106 Agreement payments was raised. It was pointed out that a Section 106 Agreement payment worked better than a CIL payment. A Section 106 Agreement could capture the education infrastructure requirements specific to the development and it tied in the funding for the land to the requirements. CIL looked at a much wider range of infrastructure proposals. It was noted however that the Section 106 process was challenging. However it gave more opportunity for presenting a case and receive the necessary funding.
- It was reported that the Department of Education determined the allocation of the Basic Need Grant to the local authority based on School Capacity

and Places Survey (SCAP) return. Schools that were not supported by the local authority received their funding directly from Government.

- There was concern over the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) of schools. The PFI was reported to be the body of contracts which was the funding mechanism for the operation of schools. It governed the maintenance of the school buildings and also the caretaking and cleaning. If the authority wanted to carry out a change to one of the school buildings that were subject to a PFI contract, there were various provisions within the contract for this. If the change is school driven the school will fund it. If it was a basic need project for additional places the local authority would fund it.
- Members enquired if the authority was taking into account the recent migration of refugees. They were informed that School Place Planning did take into account migration figures and the authority was receiving advice from the DfE about how these numbers were factored in. There was a request for an update at a future meeting of the committee on the school placements of refugees.
- There were concerns over the number of pupils applying for places in different districts and travelling across the county. It was confirmed that parental preference was taken into account regarding school place planning. It was pointed out that there were more children outside of Lancashire wanting to come to Lancashire schools.
- Geographic Priority Areas (GPAs) were introduced to deal with a new way of dealing with admissions. GPAs guaranteed children a place in a school which was nearest to their home address. However it was highlighted that GPAs were less effective today than previously due to changes in the school's landscape but are still reviewed annually
- It was agreed that it was important that Members know about the current Section 106 agreements in place in their areas.
- It was reported that Lancashire County Council was not a statutory consultee and so housing developers did not have to liaise with it before they submitted a planning application. However for applications that did come in, the authority was very diligent in assessing them and respond accordingly.

**Resolved:** That;

1. The information presented be noted
2. A response on the number of children who had been taken out of primary school that had applied for places at secondary school be provided.
3. A response on the accommodation of teacher liaison in children's hospitals be provided.
4. An update be provided for a future meeting of the committee on the school placements of refugees.

## **6. Work Programme 2021/2022**

The Committee received a report which provided information on the draft work programme for the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

The topics included in the work programme were identified at the work planning workshop held on 5 July 2021.

There was a request for the Family Safeguarding Model to come to a future meeting of the committee.

Regarding the item on the Education Strategy in November, there was a request for what the school provision was for children with dual languages.

**Resolved:** That;

1. The report presented be noted.
2. Additional topics identified be included in the work programme.

## **7. Urgent Business**

There were no items of Urgent Business.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee would take place on Tuesday 5 October 2021 at 10.30am at County Hall, Preston.

L Sales  
Director of Corporate Services

County Hall  
Preston





## Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 5 October 2021

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

### Maintained Nursery Schools Consultation Update

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Andrew Cadman, Interim Head of Early Years,  
andrew.cadman@lancashire.gov.uk

#### Executive Summary

The maintained nursery schools in Lancashire possess a rich source of skills and knowledge, this is reflected in how they are graded in their inspections by Ofsted, with the quality of delivery being highlighted. The maintained nursery schools have served some of the most deprived communities in Lancashire for decades and are integral to the history and cultural make-up of those communities.

The current context is very different from when most the of the maintained nursery schools were established, and to ensure their ongoing viability, adjustments need to be considered, opportunities need to be seized, with transparency and accountability being key.

#### Recommendation

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- i. Consider and discuss the information provided in the report and presentation.
- ii. Consider inclusion of future reports to Cabinet on the delivery of maintained nursery provision on the work programme.
- iii. Consider inclusion of future consultations on funding in the Early Years sector on the work programme.

#### Background and Advice

Maintained nursery schools were set up more than a century ago to provide early education and childcare to disadvantaged children in the most deprived areas of England. Although maintained nursery schools are early education providers, they are legally constituted as schools. A maintained nursery school is funded and controlled by the local authority, just like any other local authority maintained school.

There are currently just under 400 maintained nursery schools nationwide, Lancashire has 24 Maintained Nursery Schools, the second highest number in England. The majority of these, 19, are located in the east of the county.

In terms of funding, since its introduction in April 2017, the Early Years National Funding Formula has set the national hourly funding rates that each local authority is paid to deliver the universal and additional entitlements for 3 and 4 year olds. There is a separate formula that sets the national hourly funding rates for 2 year olds.

Supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools is allocated to local authorities to protect the level of funding to maintained nursery schools that existed for universal hours delivery prior to the introduction of the Early Years National Funding Formula.

The Cabinet decision to consult on the future of maintained nursery schools in Lancashire made on 16 January 2020, was put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the decision to set out to fact find through consulting with the maintained nursery schools remained a priority for the local authority. The consultation aimed to capture qualitative information relating to service delivery as well as the financial position of each of the 24 maintained nursery schools.

The financial element is integral to assist the local authority in managing its financial risks and responsibilities, alongside ensuring that it is meeting its statutory duties. The qualitative element provides detailed information relating to the service offer provided by the maintained nursery schools and potential opportunities moving forward.

The consultation's focus was to provide the level of information required for a full analysis of the maintained nursery schools as individual settings, part of a group of 24 maintained nursery schools, and part of the wider early years provision in Lancashire. The local authority has a duty to ensure that such decisions are based on evidential fact, with a pro-active position to mitigate and manage any future risk.

## **Information and Data**

### **Demographics**

Historically, maintained nursery schools were located in areas of high deprivation and local need. This remains the overarching case for maintained nursery schools in Lancashire with 16 of them located in the 4 most deprived districts of the county.

Lancashire County Council is a large, diverse local authority covering an area of 2,903 square kilometres. It is the fourth largest local authority in the country with a population of 1.18 million people within its boundaries. There are an estimated 277,000 children and young people aged up to 19 years living in the county (2011 Census data).

Lancashire's defining characteristics are its size and diversity. Each district has its own unique demography and geography. It is an area of vast contrasts with busy urban centres, coastal regions, and large agricultural areas. Lancashire has 12 districts within its borders and for the purposes of this report these districts are broken down further into geographical areas.

### **Deprivation**

As well as some of England's most prosperous communities, Lancashire also has pockets of very severe deprivation. The 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation indicates that Burnley falls into the 10% most deprived areas of England. The districts of

Pendle and Hyndburn are within the top 20% of most deprived authority areas in the country. In contrast, Ribble Valley is in the top 20% least deprived authorities in the country.

### Housing Projections

Household numbers in Lancashire are projected to grow from an estimated 507,980 in 2016, to 551,312 by 2041, an increase of 8.5%. This is significantly lower than the England growth rate of 17.3%.

Within Lancashire, Chorley, Fylde and Wyre are estimated to see the largest housing increases in the area, although Ribble Valley and Rossendale are also projected to see percentage increases above 10.0%. Locally, only Chorley's percentage rise is estimated to be greater than the England average of 17.3%. Hyndburn and Preston are projected to see the lowest percentage growth in Lancashire.

There may be localised housing developments of various sizes that will be applied for in the coming years, one maintained nursery school reported that a development of over 450 home is proposed for construction. However, the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is updated yearly and is able to monitor housing developments for inclusion within its sufficiency analysis.

### New Births

The birth rate across the county has dropped by 5.1% from 2019 to 2020. There is a decline in the birth rate in all but 1 of Lancashire's districts. The importance of this information links to future planning for services, as the children born in 2020 may be eligible for 2 year old funding next year, and if this rate has reduced this will be reflected in demand for early years places. This doesn't consider any migration into the county or specific areas, especially those that are subject to any local housing regeneration and housing stock increase.

### Finance

The introduction of the Early Years National Funding Formula in 2017 saw changes in how maintained nursery schools were funded. Following the changes, maintained nurseries received the same hourly rate as any other providers delivering Early Education Funding, but in addition they also receive a supplementary hourly rate for universal hours. This additional supplement is in recognition of the additional financial costs that maintained nursery schools incur; primarily additional staff cost due to teacher qualified requirements.

Approved settings are able to provide funded childcare places for 2, 3, 4 years olds. The setting receives an hourly rate amount for each hour that the child attends. The rates are set via a funding formula, to distribute funds received from central government.

The current hourly rate paid to providers is £5.16 for 2 year olds and £4.35 for 3 and 4 year olds. Maintained nursery schools receive a supplementary amount of £3.50 for the universal element of the 3 and 4 year olds funded entitlement. Additional funding is also available through Disability Access Funding. If a setting provides places for any 3 or 4 year olds who receive Disability Living Allowance (DLA), the setting is eligible to receive disability access funding, which is £615 per child per year. Additionally, If a setting has a disadvantaged 3 or 4 year olds at their setting,

they may be eligible for the Early Year's Pupil Premium at 53p per hour. Deprivation payments, ranging from 0-40p per hour, depending on location, can also be accessed.

## **Early Education Funding**

### **3 and 4 year olds Early Education Funding – Universal Entitlement**

Every 3 and 4 year old is eligible for 15 hours funded childcare the term after their third birthday until they start school. Parents can choose to access this provision flexibly and use more than one provider to meet their childcare needs. The funding is available for 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year. Some parents may choose more flexibility and use less hours per week, over more than 38 weeks of the year, a total of 570 hours is available.

### **30 hours Extended Entitlement**

September 2017 saw the introduction of the extended entitlement 30 hours childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. This funding is targeted at working families who can access a total of 1,140 hours per year either 30 hours a week for 38 weeks of the year, or it can also be used more flexibly over the year and with one or more childcare providers.

### **2 year old Early Education Funding**

Some 2 year old children are eligible to access up to 15 hours of Early Education Funding. A child is eligible to access a place the term after their 2nd birthday, 570 hours are available, either 15 hours for 38 weeks per year or parents may choose more flexibility and use the funding throughout the year.

## **Staffing**

Operating within a school regime, the staff to child ratios are different for 3 and 4 years olds than they are in the Private, Voluntary, and Independent sector.

The early years provision in each class or group of pupils must be led by a schoolteacher. There should be a minimum of one staff member for every 13 children (1:13) and a minimum of one staff member must hold a full and relevant level 2 qualification.

Whilst the ratio for 3 and 4 year olds in a maintained nursery school is 1:13 rather than the 1:8 it is in Private, Voluntary and Independent, which should result in lower staff costs, this does not appear to generate enough income to offset the additional staffing costs.

The ratio for 2 year olds is 1:4, for both Private, Voluntary, and Independent and maintained nursery schools. This can impact on overall staff costs if teacher qualified staff are utilised within the ratios for the 2 year old provision. For example, at a ratio 1:13, it would require two staff in the 3 and 4 year element, whilst for 2 year olds at a ratio of 1:4 would require six staff for 24 children. Currently 17 maintained nursery schools deliver funded places for 2 year olds.

## Ofsted

Lancashire's early years provision has excellent Ofsted grades, currently 96% of Lancashire's Maintained Nursery Schools are rated either Good or Outstanding, this compares to the national average of 98% (Education, Children's Services and Skills, 2020). The percentage amount needs to be considered in the context of how many maintained nursery schools are located in Lancashire. For example, Lancashire has 23 out of its 24 maintained nursery schools rating Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, giving a percentage of 96%. An authority with 4 maintained nursery schools may have all 4 rated good or outstanding so has a percentage rating of 100%. Local authorities with fewer maintained nursery schools can skew the overall percentage comparison for Lancashire due to the number of maintained nursery schools located in the county.

Private, Voluntary, and Independent early years provision, this includes day nurseries, pre-schools, childminders currently have 98% rated as either good or outstanding, this compares to the national average of 96%.

5 maintained nursery schools are due an inspection within the coming months as their last full inspections took place in 2016. Since then there have been changes in how maintained nursery schools are funded and this has led to some altering their team structure or delivery offer to meet the challenges faced.

### Comparative County vs National Ofsted grades for Maintained Nursery Schools

	Outstanding	Good	Requires Improvement	Inadequate
Number (Lancashire)	17	6	1	0
Percentage (Lancashire)	71	25	4	0
Percentage (national)	63	35	1	0

## SEND/Inclusion

A child or young person has a special educational need (SEN) if he or she has a learning difficulty or disability which requires special education provision. This is defined as when a child or young person has significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of their peers of the same age. It also includes disability which prevents or hinders them from making use of educational facilities of a kind generally provided for their peers of the same age in schools maintained by the county council.

The range of child's needs includes speech & language support, multi-sensory impairment, genetic abnormalities, and autism. The additional staffing costs (reduced ratios, 1:1 support) has an impact on overall staff budgets which in turn can limit overall places and restrict access to services.

## **Buildings & Premises**

The majority of the maintained nursery schools are over 30 years old, 17 of them were built between 1930 and 1971, one of them dates back to 1868. Out of 24 maintained nursery schools, 16 have undertaken significant renovation works in the last 10 years, the primary focus for these works was to expand and improve the service offer.

The age of the buildings creates financial and operational challenges due to increasing maintenance costs and the potential for any significant works required due to the age of the buildings.

## **Consultations**

24 maintained nursery schools were consulted on their current delivery models, providing details on how they operate, including risks and opportunities. Lancashire County Council Officers also provided information relating to the financial and operational elements of each of the 24 maintained nursery schools. Responses were received from all 24 maintained nursery schools.

Observation and analysis summary to be presented at the meeting with the presentation (as at Appendix A).

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk management**

The risks associated with not following the proposals within the presentation (Appendix A) include financial risk to the Local Authority, risk of closure of a percentage of maintained nursery schools and, subsequently loss of high quality early years provision and loss of expertise and knowledge of staff:

- i. Financial – Local Authority is ultimately responsible for any negative budget should a maintained nursery school close
- ii. Legal – Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide sufficient childcare places, loss of provision may impact on that meeting that duty
- iii. Property Asset Management – Vacant buildings that do not generate income provide financial and practical cost to the Local Authority
- iv. HR – loss of expertise and knowledge as staff potential exit the sector

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

### **List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
The Future of Maintained Nursery Schools – Cabinet report	16 January 2020	Delyth Mathieson 01772 530700

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A





# Maintained Nursery School Consultation Update

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# Agenda

- Update on February Presentation Actions
- Maintained Nursery Schools Consultation

# Update on February Presentation Actions

- EEF 2YO – Targeted activity to enable access to funded childcare places for those that need it the most
- Financially Secure Providers – PVI and MNS to be consulted on financial vision for the whole sector
- Outcome Measurement - Data collection & analysis of current position and future pathways

# Maintained Nursery Schools Consultation

- Background of Maintained Nursery Schools
- Rationale for Consultation
- Methodology & Engagement
- Challenges and Recommendations

# Maintained Nursery School Consultation Recommendations

- Finance
- Staffing
- Capacity
- Ofsted
- SEND
- Building & Premises

# Progress and Next Steps

- Meetings with Maintained Nursery Schools via Priority Group allocation
- Financial deep dives, Business guidance
- Buildings
- SEND
- Sector wide consultation on Early Years Funding Formula Allocation
- Cabinet to consider financial report for Maintained Nursery School in new year

# Agenda Item 5

## Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 5 October 2021

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

## Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

Samantha Parker, Tel: (01772) 538221, Senior Democratic Services Officer,  
sam.parker@lancashire.gov.uk

### Executive Summary

The work programme for the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee is attached at Appendix 'A'.

The topics included in the work programme were identified at the work planning workshop held on 5 July 2021.

### Recommendation

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- i. Consider key lines of enquiry for future meeting topics.
- ii. Discuss any additional representation required from key officers/partners.

### Background and Advice

A statement of the work to be undertaken by the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee for the 2021/22 municipal year is set out at Appendix 'A'.

The work programme will be presented to each meeting for consideration by the Committee.

Members are requested to discuss the current work programme, consider key lines of enquiry for future meeting topics and representation.

### Consultations

NA

**Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

**Risk management**

This report has no significant risk implications.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985  
List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
NA		
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		
NA		



## Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

### Work Programme 2021-22

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme details the planned activity to be undertaken over the forthcoming municipal year through scheduled Committee meetings, task group, events and through use of the 'rapporteur' model.

The items on the work programme are determined by the Committee following the work programming session at the start of the municipal year in line with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees terms of reference detailed in the County Councils Constitution. This includes provision for the rights of County Councillors to ask for any matter to be considered by the Committee or to call-in decisions.

Coordination of the work programme activity is undertaken by the Chair and Deputy Chair of all of the Scrutiny Committees to avoid potential duplication.

In addition to the terms of reference outlined in the [Constitution](#) (Part 2 Article 5) for all Overview and Scrutiny Committees, the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee will:

- Scrutinise matters relating to education delivered by the authority and other relevant partners.
- Fulfil all the statutory functions of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee as they relate to education functions of a Children's Services Authority.
- Scrutinise matters relating to services for Children and Young People delivered by the authority and other relevant partners.
- Review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area and make reports and recommendations to NHS bodies as appropriate
- Invite interested parties when reviewing any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in the area, to comment on the matter and take account of relevant information available, particularly that provided by the Local Healthwatch
- Review and scrutinise any local services planned or provided by other agencies which contribute towards the health improvement and the reduction of health inequalities in Lancashire and to make recommendations to those agencies, as appropriate
- Take steps to reach agreement with NHS body, in the case of contested NHS proposals for substantial service changes

- Refer a matter to the relevant Secretary of State in the case of contested NHS proposals for substantial service changes where agreement cannot be reached with the NHS
- Refer to the relevant Secretary of State any NHS proposal which the Committee feels has been the subject of inadequate consultation
- Scrutinise the social care services provided or commissioned by NHS bodies exercising local authority functions under Section 31 of the Health Act 1999
- Draw up a forward programme of health scrutiny in consultation with other local authorities, NHS partners, the Local Healthwatch and other key stakeholders
- Acknowledge within 20 working days to referrals on relevant matters from the Local Healthwatch or Local Healthwatch contractor, and to keep the referrer informed of any action taken in relation to the matter
- Require the Chief Executives of local NHS bodies to attend before the Committee to answer questions, and to invite the chairs and non-executive directors of local NHS bodies to appear before the Committee to give evidence
- Invite any officer of any NHS body to attend before the Committee to answer questions or give evidence

The Work Programme will be submitted to and agreed by the Scrutiny Committees at each meeting and will be published with each agenda.

The dates are indicative of when the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee will review the item, however they may need to be rescheduled and new items added as required.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Scrutiny Purpose</b>	<b>Lead Officers/organisations</b>	<b>Proposed Meeting Date</b>
School Place Planning	'How to' guide on school place planning ahead of the updated School Place Provision Strategy 2021-2026 release	Director of Strategy and Performance/Head of Asset Management/Admissions Manager	1 September 2021
Maintained Nurseries	Update on the local authority's engagement with maintained nurseries	Acting Director of Education, Culture and Skills/Interim Head of Early Years	5 October 2021
School Place Provision Strategy 2021-26	Review of the draft School Place Provision Strategy 2021-26 prior to Executive decision taken	Director of Strategy and Performance/Head of Asset Management	Nov or Dec 2021 (TBC)
Education Strategy	Review of strategy prior to Executive decision taken	Acting Director of Education, Culture and Skills/Head of Service Education Improvement 0-11	9 November 2021
Children and Young People's Mental Health	Post Covid impact and progress update on CAMHS redesign	Director of Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health/NHS	7 December 2021
SEND Partnership Plan	SEND partnership plan update	Head of Service Inclusion/Zoe Richards	7 December 2021
Children Looked After	Housing, NEET, services/schools' transitions	Director of Children's Services/Head of Service Looked After Children Leaving Care	18 January 2022
Children's Health	Updates and areas of concern	Director of Public Health	18 January 2022 (TBC)
Lancashire Schools Attainment Outcomes	Annual report on attainment outcomes in schools across Lancashire	Acting Director of Education, Culture and Skills/Head of Service Education Improvement 0-11	22 February 2022

Topic	Scrutiny Purpose	Lead Officers/organisations	Proposed Meeting Date
School Travel	Review of current travel schemes and potential initiatives (walking school buses, mums for lungs, school streets, shared rides, community bus schemes, road safety, update on the SEND home to school transport policy review	TBC	22 February 2022 (TBC)
School Travel (ctd)	Air pollution, bus service redesign, new homes – joint session with other scrutiny committees TBC	TBC	16 March 2022
Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)	Review of measures in place and lessons learned - data trends, CLA, young carers, alternative provision colleges	Director of Education, Culture and Skills Alternative Provision	20 April 2022
NEET (ctd)	Review of apprenticeships data, work based training, district data link, accessibility	Lancashire Enterprise Partnership District Council leads	17 May 2022

## Additional topics identified:

- SEND – covid recovery, in house ed psych and assessors vs costs to external agencies, auditory and sensory disorder, costs, short breaks
- Attainment – funding to support
- Cabinet work on low carbonisation (9 July Cabinet meeting) – education/waste renewables
- Family Safeguarding Model update
- Provision in Lancashire schools for bilingual children

## Task Group recommendation updates:

- Schools Causing Concern
- Pupils in Special Schools with Medical Conditions