

Lancashire County Council

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 22nd February 2022 at 10.30am in Committee Room 'A' - The Tudor Room, County Hall, Preston

Agenda

No. Item

1. Apologies

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

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. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2022 (Pages 1 - 6)

4. Lancashire Schools - Attainment Priorities Overview (Pages 7 - 30)

5. Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22 (Pages 31 - 38)

6. Urgent Business

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. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee will be held on Wednesday 16 March 2022 at 10.30am in Committee Room C – The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston.

L Sales
Director of Corporate Services

County Hall
Preston

Lancashire County Council

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 18th January, 2022 at 10.30 am in Teams Virtual Meeting - Teams

Present:

County Councillor Andrea Kay (Chair)

County Councillors

J Berry	J Mein
A Cheetham	M Salter
S Clarke	A Sutcliffe
S Hind	R Swarbrick
T Hurn	R Woollam
S Jones	B Yates
N Khan	S Serridge
S Malik	

Co-opted members

Daniel Ballard, Representing CE Schools

County Councillor Samara Barnes was replaced by County Councillor Sean Serridge.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Simon Smith, Co-Optee Voting, representing Roman Catholic Schools.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

No interests were declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2021

Resolved: The minutes from the meeting held on 7th December 2021 were confirmed as an accurate record.

4. Children Looked After - Education, Employment and Training, Housing, School Transitions, and Health

The Chair welcomed Barbara Bath, Interim Director of Children's Social Care and Brendan Lee, Head of Service Looked After Children and Leaving Care from Lancashire County Council to discuss a report has been prepared for the

committee to provide a progress update in relation to work being carried out in three specific key areas:

- Children and Young People not in Education, Employment or Training (EET);
- Children, Young People and Housing; and
- Children, Young People and School Transitions.

Following the remodelling of Lancashire County Council's Children's Services implemented on 4 January 2021, the Permanence Service was formed and is made up of the Children in Our Care teams and Leaving Care teams. The service focusses on supporting children who are Looked After with a plan of permanence and Care Experienced young people.

Members thanked Brendan Lee for his presentation.

Comments and queries were raised by the committee as follows:

- In response to how success is measured, the county council hope for 98%+ of Looked After children in EET. In a year's time, they would want to see progress increase month-on-month and hope to see 16-17 year olds at 90%, with care leavers where the young people are now. Then in a year's time, the 16-17 year olds will become the 18-19 year olds, and hope that they can remain high figures at 80%.
- It was confirmed that the county council's Business Intelligence team are involved in the tracking. To measure progress, officers would look to compare figures with partners in nearby authorities by understanding their stories and progress.
- It was clarified that the house project base, would be an accessible place for young people, not just Monday–Friday during the hours of 9:00am-5:00pm, where they can touchdown and receive support from a personal adviser or social worker. There would need to be more than one base in a geographical area. Officers informed the committee they intend to pilot one base, to make sure they get everything right before opening more in Lancashire. They would like it to be near other National House Project properties to build on partnerships.
- Members queried about Looked After children living in Lancashire who are under the responsibility of a different authority and living in private provision. It was explained that private provisions are regulated by Ofsted. Ofsted are responsible for approving their registration and then responsible for inspecting them. Since September 2021, it is unlawful to place a child under the age of 16, requiring care in an unregistered placement and by autumn 2023, it is expected that establishments providing care to 16-17 year olds, will also require to register with Ofsted. For other authorities placing a child into an establishment in Lancashire, there is a statutory requirement for them to notify Lancashire County

Council, education, and health. Day to day care and planning of the child remains the responsibility of the host authority, however, if an emergency safeguarding issue rises then the county council must respond to this immediate issue and work with the host authority to forward plan.

- In terms of five short-medium term homes for children with complex needs, it was noted that children who cannot cope in large (six bedded) children's homes due to complexities were moved into the private sector. However, it has proved more challenging to place children in the private sector who need smaller homes, therefore it was agreed by Cabinet to restructure residential provision and now some larger homes are being converted to small (three bedded) children's homes. One property has been converted, one is currently being proposed with an addition of an adolescent support unit, one other home to be repurposed from existing property in Lancashire, and an emergency provision home. There are also plans to create two adolescent support units, these will not be a permanent home, but offer a range of outreach and weekend respite support for children and families who are at crisis and risk of coming into care.
- In terms of length of stay in care homes and integrating into the local community, it was clarified that permanence and lasting homes are a priority if a child requires to stay in care, but there is also the option to return home, as each child's reason for being in care is different. Care plans are in place to know the child's hobbies and interests and how to access them in their local area.
- Members asked for the timeline of recruiting for the house project, it was explained the recruitment process has begun. Adverts have been posted and some interviews have been set-up.
- It was clarified if members receive complaints about private provision homes, they should approach the county council first.

The Chair thanked Brendan and Barbara for the report and for answering questions from the committee.

Resolved: that;

- i. The report and information presented be considered.
- ii. An update be provided to the committee in six-months.

5. Public Health Children's Update and Areas of Concern

The Chair welcomed Ruksana Sardar-Akram, Interim Public Health Consultant, Karen Gosling, Senior Public Health Practitioner, and Chris Lee, Public Health Specialist (Behaviour Change) from Lancashire County Council to provide the committee with a Public Health update on children's health and wellbeing and to highlight inequalities and areas of concern.

The pandemic has had a huge impact on the health and wellbeing of children and young people. The demand on Public Health to manage COVID-19 within

education settings continues to be a challenge, which also impacts on the delivery and commissioning of services for children and young people. This inevitably has some impact on the outcomes for children and young people and their families.

The report provided an overview in relation to Coronavirus in children, as well as an update on child health outcomes based on national indicators and child health profiles. The true extent of inequality is not yet known.

Members thanked Ruksana, Karen and Chris for the report.

Comments and queries were raised by the committee as follows:

- In terms of delivering education to reduce obesity rates, it was noted that as part of the National Child Measurement Program, each child in Reception and year 10 is assessed by the school nursing team. There is also a program being developed in conjunction with district councils to promote physical activity and healthy nutrition. Personal, Social, Health and Economic resources from the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities are also shared with schools. Members expressed that they would like to see more nutrition advice for young people and their families.
- It was noted that as part of the Oral Health Strategy, advice is being provided along with free toothbrushes and toothpaste and supervised brushing in schools.
- Regarding the use of social media and mental health and self-harm resources in colleges, it was explained that there has been a focus on colleges and Lancashire County Council have commissioned a program of work called Emotional Health and Wellbeing in Schools and Colleges from a team of clinical psychologists based in Lancaster University. They provide structured support and build the skill level and resilience of staff working in education settings. There is also a range of programs available online. The Public Health team also work with other authorities in Lancashire to ensure they are not duplicating training and with the Child Death Overview Panel to develop a contagion protocol to look at a range of interventions. Colleges also have access to a named school nurse and a service is commissioned to provide an app library to young people as part of early self-care.
- Members requested for the source of data for children killed on the roads in Lancashire to be shared with the committee and to be able to breakdown the data.
- It was clarified that the school nursing team are available to young people suffering with mental and emotional health issues. As part of the Healthy Lifestyle questionnaires offered to children in years 6 and 9, the school nurses have access to the individual responses to be able to triage. The questionnaire also provides an anonymised summary which goes to the school to be able to understand health needs at a local level.

- In response to queries on attainment, it was understood that school readiness is the key factor to ensure young people are prepared for school. There is the Best Start in Life subgroup which focusses on this topic and looks if targeted support is needed in specific areas.
- In regard to Health Visitors following up on the two and a half year old review, any issues should be signposted to the relevant service. With support from the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities, the health visitor and nursery nurse team have been trained in Early Language Identification Measure, a new best practice tool. Some children go down the referral pathway, whilst others will receive a follow-up from the nursery nurse to check for improvements in their development.
- It was confirmed that Lancashire County Council do have a relationship with UCLAN dental clinic, who deliver the dental epidemiology survey contract on behalf of the county council every year.
- The committee asked for an action plan to come back at a future meeting, which demonstrates how to achieve more statistical equity across Lancashire for health improvements.
- In answer to concerns about the youth justice system, it was clarified that data shows this is improving. There is commissioned targeted youth alcohol and drugs services that received extra funding from the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities. Lancashire County Council also works with the Violence Reduction Network led by the police.

The Chair thanked Ruksana, Karen and Chris for their time.

Actions:

- Action plan to be fed back to the committee to demonstrate how the county council aims to achieve statistical equity for health improvements across Lancashire.

Resolved: That the update and areas of concern be acknowledged.

In addition, the following county councillors be appointed as 'rapporteurs':

- i. County Councillors Hind and Sutcliffe to work with the Public Health service to further explore healthy eating with a view to reporting findings back to the committee
- ii. County Councillors Cheetham and Jones to work with the Public Health services to further explore healthy teeth with a view to reporting findings back to the committee; and
- iii. County Councillors Berry, Woollam and Swarbrick to further explore information behind the data on children seriously injured or killed on Lancashire roads to report back at the March meeting of the committee.

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

The committee received a report which provided information on the 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 and at subsequent meetings.

Members enquired about the following subjects:

- The number of schools within districts that have a sixth form attached and the nearest further education institutions.
- An update from Mel Ormesher, Head of Service Asset Management, Lancashire County Council regarding school place provision.

Resolved: That,

- i. The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22 be noted.
- ii. A review be undertaken on the actions and recommendations from previous scrutiny meetings.

7. Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

8. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted the next meeting of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee will be held on Wednesday 22nd February 2022 at 10:30am in Committee Room A – The Tudor Room, County Hall, Preston.

L Sales
Director of Corporate Services

County Hall
Preston

Agenda Item 4

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday 22 February 2022

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
Caring for the vulnerable;
Delivering Better Services

Lancashire Schools - Attainment Priorities Overview

(Appendices 'A' and 'B' refer)

Contact for further information:

Delyth Mathieson, Head of Service Education Improvement

Delyth.Mathieson@lancashire.gov.uk, Tel: 01772 530700

Kevin Smith, Head of Service Schools Finance

kevin.smith@lancashire.gov.uk, Tel: 01772 538221

Brief Summary

This report from the Education Improvement Service includes an overview of the context of education provision and the COVID-19 pandemic; steps taken to improve outcomes across Lancashire to date; proposed strategies to improve outcomes going forward including COVID catch up; Ofsted inspection outcomes in Lancashire schools and settings since the start of the 2021-22 school year and an overview of attainment and progress.

Recommendation

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the information as presented with a focus on Ofsted progress and outcomes and the priorities in the Education Strategy 2022-2025.

Detail

This report and Appendix 'A' cover both the current context and the steps taken across the period of the COVID-19 pandemic to improve outcomes in Lancashire schools and settings. Coronavirus has had a considerable impact across the county and information on COVID catch up funding and actions is also included at Appendix 'B'.

Ofsted resumed a full programme of school inspections from 1 September 2021, alongside revision to the framework for inspection which are also highlighted within the main report at Appendix 'A'.

As of 8 February 2022, 63 inspections had taken place since resumption. An outline of published outcomes to date are also included at Appendix 'A'.

No national statutory assessments and data collection took place in 2019-20 or 2020-21 for end of Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, or Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). As a consequence, there is no published data for these cohorts.

The national data is provided by the National Consortium for Examination Results (NCER) from their data gathered from schools nationally. NCER is a not-for-profit Community Interest Company owned by all upper tier local authorities in England. However, this data set cannot be used for true comparative purposes.

Phonics data was collected nationally in Autumn 2020-2021 and 2021-22 and was a statutory requirement for Year 2 pupils. The administration of the phonics assessment in schools differed to that in previous years and was not subject to statutory monitoring.

The source of data for secondary school outcomes for 2020-21 is the Department for Education (DfE) release, which is collected directly from awarding bodies. This contains all secondary maintained schools, academies, and free schools.

It should be noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all summer exams were cancelled. GCSE grades awarded to pupils in August 2021 were through Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs). As a result, a variation in grades compared to previous years is to be expected due to the different process in place in the context of the pandemic.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated: Focus on Education Strategy priorities.

Risk management

Financial:

This report contains an overview of funding allocated to catch up funding. There are no financial implications at this point.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

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

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

22 February 2022

Our vision

Children, young people and their families are safe, healthy and achieve their full potential.

Lancashire Children, Young People and Families Partnership Vision

Key Strengths of the Education Strategy

Sets the political and corporate priorities for Lancashire to deliver our statutory duties by mobilising and driving a shared vision for all children and young people.

In Lancashire, we have high aspirations for all our children and young people, whatever their starting point. Access to a quality learning pathway from childhood through to adulthood enabling them to thrive and develop the life skills that will support them into a productive and happy adulthood is at the root of our council ambitions.

Focus

- Context
- Steps taken to improve outcomes to date
- Proposed strategy to improve outcomes going forward including COVID catch up
- Ofsted inspection outcomes in Lancashire schools and settings since the start of the 2021-22 school year
- Early Years
- Attainment and progress overview

Context

- High number of schools in outbreak situations throughout the pandemic - 124 currently
- 24,099 pupils, which equates to 13.5% of the entire state-funded schools cohort tested positive so far this academic year and 4,419 staff members (from click sheet data only)

Strategies Implemented in 2020-22

- Catch-up funding
- National Tutoring Programme
- Lancashire Education Partnership Board and 5 Locality Groups
- Weekly Bulletin to all schools, setting, and partners
- Dedicated COVID support for schools
- School leadership support and developments
- SEND provision
- Early Career Teachers support and partnership with Teaching Hubs

COVID-19 Catch Up Funding

- Government have allocated additional funding to schools to assist with the educational recovery, with grants including:
 - COVID Catch Up Premium
 - The National Tutoring Programme
 - COVID-19 Summer School Grant
 - COVID Recovery Premium
 - School Led Tutoring Grant

COVID-19 Catch Up Funding

- Lancashire maintained schools allocated funding:
 - FY 2020/21 - £6.7m
 - FY 2021/22 - £8.2m (to December 2021)
 - Total £14.9m to date
- Additional funding welcomed by schools to assist in educational recovery
- Schools have concerns that grants require too much administrative work and are overly bureaucratic

National Tutoring Programme 2020-21

- 75 schools and 558 pupils across Lancashire accessed subsidised EAL tuition
- Pupils were able to access up to 15 sessions of tutoring
- DfE funding received = £128,786.50

Pupil progress:

	OVERALL	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
Average number of levels gained	1.06	1.07	1.09	1.05	1.05

School Leadership

- Growing Lancashire Leaders
- National training opportunities
- Headteacher Wellbeing Matters
- Appraisal

Ofsted: September 2021

Main changes:

- Inspection intervals (6 term extension could be applied)
- All formerly exempt schools must receive an initial inspection before 1 August 2026
- COVID-19 'transitional period'
- Teacher assessed grades from 2020 and 2021 will not be used to assess curriculum impact
- Reflects the new early career framework for teachers
- A new section on harmful sexual behaviour
- Evaluate the use of tutors supporting education recovery
- Changes to the "Good" grade descriptors for leadership and management and sixth-form provision
- EYFS disapplication ceased August 2021

Ofsted Inspections: Summary position

Ofsted inspections since September 2021 across nursery (PVI and maintained), primary and secondary phases, including special schools.

There have been 63 school and maintained nursery inspections since September 2021. Of these 48 have published reports to date. From these published reports:

- the vast majority have remained at the same grade
- 8 have improved from Requires Improvement to Good
- 1 has improved from Good to Outstanding
- 5 have declined, 1 from Outstanding to Requires Improvement, 2 from Outstanding to Good, and 2 from Good to Requires Improvement

Ofsted Inspections: Summary position

There have been 43 childcare and early education reports published since 1 September 2021 to date:

- 32 Good
- 2 Requires Improvement
- 5 Inadequate
- 4 Met

Early Years

- Early Education Funding 2 year olds current take up of 86%
- up from 62% in January 2021
- Targeted Early Education Funding Media and Communications Campaign launched in December
- 97% of 2 year old funded children accessing Good or Outstanding Provision
- Team Around the Setting Networks established

Early Years

Funding Type	Take Up of Places				
	Year	Term	No. of eligible children taking up a funded place	Percentage of eligible children taking up a funded place	Percentage of children taking up a funded place in good or outstanding provision
2 Year Olds	2020/21	Autumn	3169	70.7	96.7
	2020/21	Spring	3054	70.2	97.4
	2020/21	Summer	3316	74.6	96.6
	2021/22	Autumn	3833	86.4	96.8
3&4 Year Olds	2020/21	Autumn	27048	97.5	94.5
	2020/21	Spring	26114	96.6	95.4
	2020/21	Summer	26311	97.3	95.3
	2021/22	Autumn	26569	98.2	95.1

Attainment and Progress Overview

- No national statutory assessments and data collection took place in 2019-20 or 2020-21 for end of Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, or EYFS.
- The national data is provided by NCER from their data gathering from schools nationally. NCER is a not for profit Community Interest Company owned by all upper tier local authorities in England. However, this data set cannot be used for true comparative purposes.
- Phonics data was collected nationally in Autumn 2020-2021 and 2021-22 and was a statutory requirement for Year 2 pupils. The administration of the phonics assessment in schools differed to that in previous years and was not subject to statutory monitoring.
- The source of data for secondary school outcomes for 2020-21 is the DfE release, which is collected directly from awarding bodies. This contains all secondary maintained schools, academies, and free schools.

Questions

Catch Up Funding

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee: 22 February 2022

COVID-19 Catch Up Funding

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the government have allocated additional funding to schools to assist with the educational recovery. The extra catch-up funding has been allocated via a number of additional grants, including:

COVID Catch Up Premium

Additional funding to support children and young people to catch up on missed learning caused by Coronavirus (COVID-19). This funding was available for the 2020 to 2021 academic year and school allocations were calculated on a per pupil basis:

- Mainstream schools at £80 per pupil from reception to year 11 inclusive;
- The following settings got £240 for each place:
 - special schools, including special units in mainstream schools;
 - Alternative Provision schools;
 - hospital schools.

The National Tutoring Programme

The National Tutoring Programme provides additional, targeted support for those children and young people who need the most help, which included:

- a schools programme for 5 to 16-year;
- a 16 to 19 tuition fund;
- an oral language intervention programme for reception-aged children.

Lancashire was the only local authority to be approved as Tuition Partners. The Ethnic Minority Gypsy Roma Traveller Achievement Service was approved as one of the Tuition Partners for the National Tutoring programmes in 2020-21. This means schools could access English as an Additional Language tuition to help their EAL pupils catch up at a highly subsidised rate – subsidised by 75% by DfE funding

COVID-19 Summer School Grant

Schools could express an interest in delivering a summer school programme and could claim grant funding to support the costs. Payments are awarded based on actual costs incurred, up to the value of a maximum allocation.

COVID Recovery Premium

The recovery premium provides additional funding for state-funded schools in the 2021 to 2022 academic year. Building on the pupil premium, this funding helps schools to deliver evidence-based approaches for supporting disadvantaged pupils. The recovery premium is allocated using the same data as the pupil premium, with the following funding allocations:

- Mainstream schools allocations:
 - £145 for each eligible pupil in mainstream education;
 - £290 for each eligible pupil in a special unit.
- Other types of eligible schools get £290 for each eligible pupil.

School Led Tutoring Grant

The School-Led Tutoring is part of the National Tutoring Programme (NTP) in 2021/22. Eligible schools receive a ring-fenced grant to source their own tutoring provision for disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils who have missed the most education due to COVID-19.

Funding is allocated for around 60% of pupils, in Year 1 to 11, eligible for pupil premium, per school. 75% of the cost is subsidised in academic year 2021/22, 60% in 2022/23 and 25% in 2023/24. Schools need to fund the remaining unsubsidised percentage (25%, 40%, 75%) through other budgets, for example recovery premium or pupil premium etc.

Allocations for maintained schools are passported via the local authority and the table below sets out the funding received by Lancashire in the financial year 2020/21 and in 2021/22, up to December 2021. Further 2021/22 allocations will be received up to March 2022 and some will continue until the end of the 2021/22 academic year.

DfE COVID Catch Up Grant Allocations to Lancashire Maintained Schools	
Financial Year 2020/21	
Grant	Allocation
COVID Catch Up Premium	£6,693,920
The National Tutoring Programme	£38,552
Total	£6,732,472
Financial Year 2021/22 (to Dec 2021)	
Grant	Allocation
COVID Catch Up Premium	£4,760,820
The National Tutoring Programme	£94,115
COVID 19 Summer School Grant	£1,004,589
COVID Recovery Premium	£1,236,964
School Led Tutoring Grant	£1,144,812
Total	£8,241,299
Total COVID Catch Up Funding to date	£14,973,771

It should be noted that the government has also made available other COVID related grants to schools, but the other funding allocations relate to additional operational costs, rather than educational recovery, so are not included here.

As part of the assessment for the catch-up funding, colleagues from the Schools Forum were asked for feedback about the access to these COVID related grants and their usage from a financial perspective.

Overall, Schools Forum members welcomed the additional funding from the government to assist in the educational recovery from the pandemic impacts but expressed a view that there was too much 'jumping through hoops' in accessing some of the funding.

Of particular concern was the school-led tutoring grant. The complexity of this grant was emphasised, with forum members indicating that the administration of the grant was onerous and very bureaucratic.

Concern was also expressed that the grant conditions were burdensome and the DfE have indicated that they will claw back unspent grant or grant funding not used in accordance with the conditions. Forum members indicated that many schools had no capacity to undertake the administration associated with grants, or release staff to undertake the pre-requisite training.

The forum was also worried that many schools maybe unaware of the conditions of grant and could therefore be at increased risk of the funding being clawed back, although it was noted that the local authority had published information on the Schools Portal about the grant conditions and the full list of school allocations.

Concern was also expressed about the initial lack of clarity around some of the outcomes data that would be required. Forum members felt that the outcomes data required should be much clearer in advance.

Comment was also made that the DfE level of contribution for the school-led tutoring grant dropped in future years making the costs associated with the administration even less appealing to schools. Some schools indicated that they may therefore not use the funding in future years, as the burden of applying outweighed the benefits, particularly as the proportion of government funding reduced.

Some forum representatives expressed a more positive view about the National Tutoring Programme, although it was noted that accessing the required systems was not easy at first.

Many forum members welcomed the Recovery Premium, as the similarities to the ongoing Pupil Premium Grant meant that schools were already organised for expenditure of this type and for the DfE's reporting requirements.

There was also a view expressed that some of the recovery funding was replacing other funding streams that had been discontinued, for example year 7 literacy and numeracy catch up funding.

Agenda Item 5

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 22 February 2022

Electoral Division affected: (All Divisions);
--

Corporate Priorities: N/A

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

Brief Summary

The draft 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 and subsequent scrutiny committee meetings.

Recommendation

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

- i. Discuss and agree the work programme as set out in Appendix 'A'.
- ii. Consider key lines of enquiry for future meeting topics.
- iii. Discuss any additional representation required from key officers/partners.

Detail

A draft 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 and agree the current work programme, consider key line 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 council's 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.

Topic	Scrutiny Purpose	Lead Officers/organisations	Proposed Meeting Date
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 2022-25	Review of the draft School Place Provision Strategy 2022-25 prior to Executive decision taken	Director of Strategy and Performance/Head of Asset Management	9 November 2021
Lancashire Education Strategy 2022-25	Review of strategy prior to Executive decision taken	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/Youth Council reps/School reps	7 December 2021
Children Looked After	Housing, EET, services/schools' transitions	Director of Children's Services/Head of Service Looked After Children Leaving Care	18 January 2022
Children's Health	Update on children's health in Lancashire post covid	Public Health Consultant	18 January 2022
Lancashire Schools Attainment Outcomes	Annual report on attainment outcomes in schools across Lancashire. To include impact of the catch up funding on attainment.	Acting Director of Education, Culture and Skills/Head of Service Education Improvement 0-11/Finance	22 February 2022
Road Safety	Update from Cllrs on the 'rapporteur' exercise to review data on children seriously injured and killed on Lancashire's roads	CC's Julia Berry, Ron Woollam and Rupert Swarbrick	16 March 2022

Topic	Scrutiny Purpose	Lead Officers/organisations	Proposed Meeting Date
Shaping Care Together	Update from NHS colleagues	NHS	16 March 2022
School Transport	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	20 April 2022
Children's Health	Update from Cllrs on 'rapporteur' exercises to review: Dental health Healthy Eating	CC's Cheetham and Jones CC's Hind and Sutcliffe	20 April 2022
Employment, Education or Training (EET)	Review of apprenticeships data, work based training, district data link, accessibility Review of measures in place and lessons learned - data trends, CLA, young carers, alternative provision colleges	Lancashire Enterprise Partnership District Council leads Director of Education, Culture and Skills Alternative Provision	17 May 2022

Bite size briefings (BSB) for councillors:

Subject	Delivered by	Date of session/recording
Responsibilities of the county council and school governing bodies for schools	Sarah Callaghan	21 September View and Review (lancscc.net)
SEND sufficiency	Sally Richardson	21 September View and Review (lancscc.net)
School Place Planning	Mel Ormesher	13 October View and Review (lancscc.net)

SEND Overview and APP Update	Sally Richardson	24 November 10am View and Review (lancscc.net)
Early Years	Andrew Cadman	6 December 11.15am View and Review (lancscc.net)
Children's Permanence Service	Brendan Lee	26 January 2pm View and Review (lancscc.net)
Family Safeguarding	Mandy Williams	2 February 2022, 10am View and Review (lancscc.net)

Additional topics identified:

- SEND – COVID recovery, in-house ed psych and assessors vs costs to external agencies, auditory and sensory disorder, costs, short breaks - BSB
- Provision in Lancashire schools for bilingual children
- PHSE and life planning in schools
- Maintained nurseries update to Cabinet
- Child poverty
- Children and young people's mental health update – impact and outcomes from information presented at Dec meeting and BSB for members
- Potential inquiry day on children and young people's mental health – recommendation from Dec meeting

Task Group recommendation updates:

- Schools Causing Concern
- Pupils in special schools with medical conditions

