

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2019/20

The 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 Children's Services Scrutiny Committee will:

- 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 Children's Services Scrutiny Committee will review the item, however they may need to be rescheduled and new items added as required.

Topic	Purpose	Lead Officers/ Organisation	Proposed Date(s)	Recommendations	Progress
Committee Meetings					
Lancashire SEND Partnership Improvement Plan	Progress update on the Improvement Programme and Plan as requested at the meeting of the committee on 13 May 2019	Sally Richardson Samantha Jones (LPCF) Hilary Fordham (Health) Ajay Sethi	3 July 2019	An update to be provided on the speech and language services, the progress of actions delayed and progress of the 12 areas set out in the WSoA	To be reported to Education Scrutiny Committee at 29 Oct 2019 meeting
Children and Families Partnership Arrangements	Progress update on the review of current partnership arrangements	Dave Carr Rob Dobson (Burnley BC)	3 July 2019	Noted	NA
Youth Offending Team (YOT)	Inspection outcomes and action plan	Head of Fostering, Adoption, Residential and YOT	9 Oct 2019	A briefing note be provided to committee members in March 2020 on the post inspection action plan progress.	Added to work programme

Appendix A

Participation Strategy	Enhancing participation practice – new draft strategic framework	Strategy Lead for Participation Youth Council representative Head of Policy, Information and Commissioning (Start Well)	9 Oct 2019	<p>Details of the network of participation champions when identified be circulated to all councillors to assist with supporting a 'culture of participation'.</p> <p>A progress report be provided to a future meeting of the committee.</p> <p>Information on the questionnaire to schools be circulated to committee members to support generating responses.</p>	<p>Awaiting details</p> <p>Added to WP</p> <p>Awaiting details</p>
Child Poverty	Holiday hunger and food banks Poverty and knife crime Impact of Universal Credit Housing and housing conditions	Director of Children's Social Care Partners TBC Business Intelligence	15 Jan 2020	A briefing note on Holiday Hunger and Food Banks be circulated to the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.	
Permanence	Overview of Permanence and the new Permanence plan	Director of Children's Social Care Head of Children's Social Care	15 Jan 2020	The evidence of improvements included in the 'Getting to Good Plan' be presented to the committee in six months' time	

Appendix A

Neglect Strategy	Update on implementation of strategy and partnership working	Director of Children's Social Care	15 Jan 2020	A request be made to Education Scrutiny Committee to include the Neglect Strategy as part of any discussions around Elective Home Education.	Included on ESC work programme
CAMHS	Update on progress of service redesign programme for Lancashire and South Cumbria	Sally Nightingale Head of Policy, Information and Commissioning (Start Well)	26 Feb 2020		
Children's Health	Update on current data/trends on children's health including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childhood obesity trailblazer programme • Childhood immunisations** • Dental health inc Orthodontic Service procurement 	Ruksana Sardar-Akram	24 March 2020		
Area Safeguarding Arrangements	Future focus and plans	Director of Children's Social Care	23 Apr 2020		
Adoption Service	Review of new Regional Adoption Agency – update on implementation plan for new Pan Lancashire arrangements	Head of Fostering, Adoption, Residential and YOT	23 Apr 2020		

Looked After Children	Update on Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) service annual report priority to improve the quality of IRO challenge in respect of quality of care plans and drift and delay with a focus on improving outcomes for the child. Ensuring that challenge is evident and effective	Head of Safeguarding, Inspection and Audit	23 Apr 2020		
Participation Strategy	Update on progress of the strategy implementation	Strategy Lead for Participation Head of Policy, Information and Commissioning (Start Well)	TBC		
0-19 Healthy Child Programme	Virgin Care contract review of service provision	Health	TBC		
Briefing Notes					
Road Safety	Update on Lancashire road safety data following release of national data	TBC			
Domestic Abuse	Update following conclusion of the cabinet working group	TBC			
Suicide Prevention	Data update at district level and bereavement support work undertaken. Links to child poverty, safeguarding and social media for school age children	Head of Health, Equity, Welfare and Partnerships			

Independent Visitors	Update on recruitment and strategy to increase diversity	TBC			
YOT	Action plan progress post inspection	Barbara Bath	March 2020		
Child Poverty	Information on holiday hunger and food banks – where is provision – what are districts doing?	Scrutiny Officer			
Proposed Information Sessions (BSB's)					
Inspection outcomes	Inspection outcomes across children's services	Director of Children's Social Care	TBC		
Reports for Review					
LSCB Annual Report					
IRO Annual Report					
LGO Annual Complaints Review					
Lancashire Getting to Good Plan					

Potential topics:

- Road safety
- Independent children's homes
- Peer review outcomes
- Family Safeguarding Model – end 2020/early 2021
- Child poverty – money management and support from agencies
- Getting to Good plan – Sept 2020

