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](http://mgintranet/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=914&MId=2916&Ver=4&info=1&bcr=1) (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 |
| 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 | Details of the network of participation champions when identified be circulated to all councillors to assist with supporting a 'culture of participation'.  A progress report be provided to a future meeting of the committee.  Information on the questionnaire to schools be circulated to committee members to support generating responses. | Awaiting details  Added to WP  Circulated to members 6/3/2020 |
| 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. | Circulated to members 17/3/19 |
| 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 | To be added to new WP |
| 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 | A further review of the Clinical Model and Transition & Implementation Plan be provided at the end of the year.  Consideration be given by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools to:  A review of the current county council prevention/early intervention services with a view to supporting more effective, collaborative working with partner agencies.  A review of the support currently provided across county council services to high risk children and young people, to support the identification of a package of care working with partner agencies, with a view to reducing potential duplication of services and ensuring more effective investment of funding. | To be added to new WP  Request sent for a response from the Cabinet Member |
| Children's Health | Update on current data/trends on children's health | Head of Health, Equity, Welfare and Partnerships  Interim Public Health Consultant | 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 | April 2020 |  |  |
| Child Poverty | Information on holiday hunger and food banks – where is provision – what are districts doing? | Scrutiny Officer | March 2020 |  |  |
| **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 update – Sept 2020 * CAMHS Implementation Plan – end 2020 | | | | | |