

Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee
Meeting to be held on Monday, 9 September 2024

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Corporate Priorities:
N/A;

Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee Work Programme, Actions and Assurances Update
(Appendices 'A' – 'D' refers)

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Brief Summary

This report provides members of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee with an update on the new work programme for 2024/25, as well as actions and assurances for the Committee to be aware of.

Recommendation

The Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- (i) Note the work programme for 2024/25 at Appendix 'A'.
- (ii) Note the formal written response from Cabinet Members to the outstanding recommendations of the Committee at Appendices 'B' and 'C'.
- (iii) Discuss and confirm information to be included in the reports for the 06 November 2024 meeting of the Committee.
- (iv) Review and note the information provided as part of the actions and assurances to the Committee at Appendix 'D'.

Detail

A plan of work for 2024/25 was drafted following an update from the Portfolio Holders and Senior Officers at an informal meeting of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee on 12 June 2023.



Following this meeting, the programme was finalised, reported and approved at the meeting of the Scrutiny Management Board on 23 July 2023.

Attached at **Appendix 'A'** is a copy of the new work programme for the Committee.

Actions and Assurances

The table below seeks to provide members outstanding committee recommendations progress, and work programme updates.

Further actions and assurances relating to items on the Corporate Risk Register are included for the Committee at **Appendix 'D'**.

Item	Information	Action/ Assurance
Work Programmes		
Work Programmes Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New work programme for the Committee ratified at the Scrutiny Management Board meeting held on 23 July 2024. 	Action - Committee to review and note the work programme attached at Appendix 'A' .
Work Programmes Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Development of a SEND Strategy 2025-2028" was a topic due to be brought to the committee at the meeting on 09 September 2024. At the discretion of the Monitoring Officer, this report has been deferred to a future meeting of the committee to allow for a more thorough report to be provided. 	Action – Committee to note and discuss a potential appropriate future committee date for the topic to be moved to.
Recommendations Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet Member responses to the recommendations of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee held on 13 March 2024 in relation to Contextual Safeguarding Re-Model and Implementation of the EmPower Contextual Safeguarding Multi Disciplinary Team, and Family Safeguarding Update attached at Appendix 'B' 	Action - For Committee to comment on and note.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member responses to the recommendations of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee held on 15 May 2024 in relation to Lancashire Education Strategy 2025 – 28 Update, Deep Dive Session on Inclusion April 2024, and Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Report attached at Appendix 'C' 	
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Future topics on the work programme

The committee is due to receive reports on the following topics at its next scheduled meeting on 06 November 2024:

- Principal Social Workers Report
- 0-3 Years Offer
- Family Hubs

The table below sets out the purpose of scrutiny for each topic.

Topic	Purpose of scrutiny
Principal Social Worker's Report	To receive the annual report of the Principal Social Worker. To consider the issues facing looked after children, endorse progress being made, and identify areas for future scrutiny.
0-3 Years Offer	To receive a report on the 0-3 years offer in Lancashire, including the current offer plans for the future and the influence of Family Hubs on this work area. To consider any issues and identify any areas for future scrutiny.
Family Hubs	To receive a report on the Family Hubs including an update on their implementation since September 2023. To consider progress being made and identify any areas for future scrutiny.

Members are asked to discuss and confirm information to be included in the reports and how the committee might add value.

Appendices



Appendices 'A' through 'C' are attached to this report. For clarification they are summarised below and referenced at relevant points within this report.

Appendix	Title
Appendix 'A'	Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2024-25
Appendix 'B'	Cabinet Member responses to the recommendations of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee held on 13 March 2024 in relation to Contextual Safeguarding Re-Model and Implementation of the EmPower Contextual Safeguarding Multi Disciplinary Team, and Family Safeguarding Update
Appendix 'C'	Cabinet Member responses to the recommendations of the Children, Families and Skills Scrutiny Committee held on 15 May 2024 in relation to Lancashire Education Strategy 2025 – 28 Update, Deep Dive Session on Inclusion April 2024, and Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Report
Appendix 'D'	Further actions and assurances for the Committee to note, relating to items on the Corporate Risk Register and upcoming reports to Cabinet.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Legal

There are no significant legal implications in this report.

Financial

There are no significant financial implications in this report.

Risk management

There are no significant risks identified in this report.

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

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
None		



Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

