

Children and Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel

Work Plan – January 2016

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This Panel will consider issues of significant public concern, areas of poor performance, and areas where members think the Council could provide better value for money

1. CURRENT WORK

Area for investigation	What does the topic include?	Why should panel consider?	How should panel proceed?	Timescale
<p>School Organisation Group</p>	<p>1. In-depth investigations of proposed school changes 2. Pupil Projections – methodology as applied generally and in particular in respect of new builds, including affordable housing 3. Admission Arrangements</p> <p>Note: The School Organisation Group is a standing sub-group of the CYPS Policy and Scrutiny Panel and not a task and finish scrutiny working group.</p>	<p>Corporate Aim: Promoting lifelong learning opportunities</p> <p>Key issues for the public</p> <p>New national Code</p>	<p>Working Group: Cllrs Ann Harley (Chairman), Donald Davies, Bob Garner, David Oyns, Kate Stowey, Richard Tucker, Martin Williams, Deborah Yamanaka; Added Members - Ms Clare Hudson and Ms Caroline Hostein</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p>Budget Working Group – Foster Carers (see below)</p>	<p>To consider- (1) Is there an opportunity to extend directorate savings targets further? (2) What opportunities are there for maximising income? (3) What opportunity is there for re-providing services either through different delivery methods or by using partner agencies?</p>	<p>To scrutinise the People and Community Directorate budget and in a timely manner, to feed into the 2016/17 budget process.</p> <p>Budget Scrutiny conducted by way of 3 consecutive briefing sessions for all Councillors</p>	<p>Working Group Members Councillors Ann Harley, Bob Garner, Donald Davies, Roz Willis, Deborah Yamanaka</p>	<p>Reported to Panel in November 2015</p> <p>To focus on specific service area for review and improvement (see below)</p>
<p>In-house Foster Carers</p>	<p>Task and Finish Group to identify a) how best to recruit foster carers b) how to provide incentive for them to remain</p>	<p>North Somerset is experiencing a particular pressure in recruiting and retaining sufficient numbers of in-house foster carers.</p>	<p>Working Group Members: Councillors Mary Blatchford, Donald Davies, Ann Harley, Bob Garner, Kate Stowey</p>	<p>To focus on specific service area for review and improvement – foster carer recruitment and retention</p>

2. ISSUES AWAITING RESPONSE FROM EXECUTIVE

Area for investigation	Date recommendations were agreed	Expect answer by (first panel meeting two months after recommendations were agreed)
<p>CSE Working Group recommendations:</p> <p>That the Executive Member for Children and Young People’s Services be recommended to approve</p> <p>(i) that the Police and Crime Commissioner Office be requested in her budget considerations to give high priority to the resourcing of child protection and safeguarding operations;</p> <p>(ii) that the development of IT systems to improve the sharing of information between partner agencies be welcomed and supported;</p> <p>(iii) that Licensing Officers make use of the licensing process to raise awareness of CSE among hoteliers and proprietors of bed and breakfast establishments and continue to use that licensing process with regard to taxi drivers;</p> <p>(iv) that the Clinical Commissioning Group be requested to ensure that the walk-in medical service have the right knowledge and procedures in place to deal and recognise indicators of CSE;</p> <p>(v) that the appointment of a full-time CSE Co-ordinator post be strongly supported but that that this be a permanent and not a temporary position because of its key ongoing role;</p> <p>(vi) that the Strategic Schools’ Forum consider the role of Healthy Relationships in North Somerset schools as effective measures to prevent later life difficulties for children, one of which may be sexual</p>	<p>11th September 2015</p>	<p>15th January 2016</p>

<p>exploitation;</p> <p>(vii) that the satisfaction of the Working Group with governance arrangements be endorsed;</p>		
<p>CYPS Budget Working Group recommendations:</p> <p>(1) That the Executive Member for Children and Young People’s Services be recommended to agree:</p> <p>(i) that assurance be sought from the North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group regarding their financial contribution to the CAMHS Transformation Programme;</p> <p>(ii) that Members be provided with information and clarity about the Home to School Transport element of the transportation review;</p> <p>(iii) that with regard to the budget for children looked after and under funding of the base budget for children’s services, that the base budget be realigned (this has now been done);</p> <p>(iv) that with regard to Digital First, assurances be given received that existing technical issues are being resolved;</p> <p>(2) That the Panel’s consideration of the above be taken in conjunction with the details provided by the officers regarding the children’s services budget savings lines submitted as part of the Medium Term Financial Planning process.</p>	<p>13th November 2015 – informal support from Panel members (note: dissent from Cllr Davies)</p>	<p>15th January 2016</p>

3. PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTING PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Panel Recommendation	Date of Executive's response	Executive actions – implementation progress
Endorsed recommendations of the Life Course Working group		To be reviewed in line with Health and Social Care Integration - 2016
Endorsed recommendations of the CSE working group		Working Group members to review March/April 2016

4. FOR POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION IN FUTURE

Area for investigation	What does the topic include?	Why should panel consider?	How should panel proceed?	Timescale
Children looked after in residential care	Understanding the needs of our children in residential care and whether we can provide a better way of meeting their needs	Reduction in demand and preventative services are key areas in keeping spending at a minimum	Task and Finish Group	To be brought forward on the completion of one of the Panel's existing work commitments

5. PERFORMANCE MONITORING / ONGOING ISSUES

Item	Dates
Performance and Finance Monitor	Report to each Panel meeting.
Merger of Adult Services and Housing and the Children and Young People's Services Directorates	The Director of People and Communities will update Members as necessary on issues.
Social Impact Bonds	To consider further updates on the progress of the project prior to a key decision for the Executive on awarding a contract
Strategic Schools Forum budget implications 2016/17 (caveat, National Funding Formula consultation paper due in January 2016)	January Panel meeting (for all Councillors) for 2016/17 budget implications

Notes - Reports on the following matters will be submitted to the Panel 2015/16

Report to each Panel meeting from Assistant Executive Member

Annual Report from Local Safeguarding Children's Board – January 2016