

# Children and Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel

## Work Plan – November 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
<b>School Organisation Steering Group</b>	<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><b>Note:</b>                      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>Specific recommendations regarding proposed expansions of Flax Bourton and Winford Schools</p>	<p>Steering Group: Cllrs <u>Ann Harley (Lead Member)</u>, Donald Davies, Bob Garner, David Oyns, Kate Stowey, Richard Tucker, Deborah Yamanaka; Added Members - Ms Clare Hudson and Ms Caroline Holstein</p>	<p><b>Ongoing</b> - to meet three times a year, as required:</p> <p>08/02/16                      01/07/16                      17/10/16</p>
<b>School Organisation – Home to School Transport / SEN Task and Finish Working Group</b>	<p>Review of Home to School Transport policy to include</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) mainstream</li> <li>2) SEN</li> <li>3) post-16 SEN</li> </ol>	<p>An identified need to have an agreed policy framework endorsed by Councillors.</p>	<p>Task and Finish Working Group: Cllrs <u>Donald Davies (Lead Member)</u>, Ann Harley, Bob Garner, David Oyns, Kate Stowey, Richard Tucker, Deborah Yamanaka</p>	<p>To be completed by the end of the 2016/17 financial year</p>

<b>In-house Foster Carers (to focus on specific service area for review and improvement)</b>	Task and Finish Group to identify a) how best to recruit foster carers b) how to provide incentive for them to remain Foster Carer Strategy Review	North Somerset is experiencing a particular pressure in recruiting and retaining sufficient numbers of in-house foster carers.	Working Group Members: Cllrs Mary Blatchford, Donald Davies, <u>Ann Harley (Lead Member)</u> , Bob Garner, Kate Stowey	WG meeting 19/02/16 27/10/16
<b>White Paper: Educational Excellence Everywhere</b>	To review the potential impact and respond to the proposals in the Government's White Paper	To assess the impact the proposals may have in North Somerset and make recommendations as appropriate	Steering Group: Cllrs <u>Ann Harley (Lead Member)</u> , Donald Davies, Bob Garner, Kate Stowey, Richard Tucker, Deborah Yamanaka	

## 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><b>School Organisation Steering Group:</b></p> <p>The steering group considered the implications of the changes proposed in the White Paper: Educational Excellence Everywhere in relation to Council land. The group raised a number of concerns in relation to the proposals in the White Paper, the detail of which is provided in the letters to North Somerset MPs. These concerns included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer of ownership of the freehold of academy land under the new proposals;</li> <li>• The possible complexity of multi-agency trusts potentially having both freehold and leasehold land depending on the stage at which some schools join;</li> <li>• Land ownership and use arrangements in the event of the failure of a multi-agency trust; and</li> <li>• The potential complexity of CIL and s106 negotiations under these new proposals.</li> <li>• The ability to retain skilled governors given the added responsibilities outline in the White Paper</li> </ul>	September 2016	<p>Endorsement from Cllr Jan Barber, Executive Member for CYPS and Cllr David Pasley, Executive Member with responsibility for Asset Management</p> <p><i>Response from John Penrose MP</i></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		Reviewed July 2016 Members to review Summer 2017

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

**Notes - Reports on the following matters will be submitted to the Panel 2016/17**

Report to each Panel meeting from Assistant Executive Member

Annual Report from Local Safeguarding Children's Board – 6 October 2016 (to be considered in a session for all Councillors)