

Children and Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel

Work Plan – March 2018

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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
School Organisation Steering Group	<p>1. In-depth investigations of proposed school changes</p> <p>2. Pupil Projections – methodology as applied generally and in particular in respect of new builds, including affordable housing</p> <p>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>Steering Group: Cllrs <u>Ann Harley (Lead Member)</u>, Donald Davies, Bob Garner, David Oyns, Kate Stowey, Richard Tucker, Martin Williams, Deborah Yamanaka.</p>	<p>Ongoing - to meet as required.</p> <p>Meeting held on 21st November 2017 to consider the new Education Commissioning Strategy</p> <p>Report to Panel March 2018</p>
In-house Foster Carers (to focus on specific service area for review and improvement)	<p>Task and Finish Group to identify</p> <p>a) how best to recruit foster carers</p> <p>b) how to provide incentive for them to remain</p> <p>Foster Carer Strategy Review</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: Cllrs Mary Blatchford, Donald Davies, <u>Ann Harley (Lead Member)</u>, Bob Garner, Kate Stowey, David Oyns</p>	<p>WG meeting 19/02/16 27/10/16 April 2017</p> <p>Foster Carer Conference 9th March. Report to Panel in June 2018</p>

Education Transformation	To review the potential impact and respond to the proposals as initially outlined in the Government's White Paper Educational Excellence Everywhere, and school funding proposals	To assess the impact the proposals may have in North Somerset and make recommendations as appropriate	Steering Group Members: Cllrs Donald Davies, Bob Garner, David Oyns, <u>Ann Harley (Lead Member)</u> , Kate Stowey, Richard Tucker, Deborah Yamanaka	Ongoing - Correspondence with North Somerset MPs Response submitted to DfE consultation Ongoing review of developments
Child Sexual Exploitation Steering Group	To engage with the review of current policies and procedures in line with national guidance and legislation	Timely review, as per previous recommendations of the previous CSE Working Group	Steering Group Members: Cllrs Donald Davies, Bob Garner, <u>Ann Harley (Lead Member)</u> , David Oyns, Martin Williams	SG Meeting 19/04/17 CSE presented to Panel March 2018 Ongoing review until Policy completion
Young People in North Somerset Democracy Project	To support the project to help students learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the basics of local and national politics; • the importance of having a vote; • how to influence decisions in NS that will affect them; • how to be involved in their local community and to understand how our democracy works 	Relevant and topical project	All Councillor engagement	National Democracy Plan being developed By Cabinet Office National Democracy Week scheduled for 2-6 July 2018

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)
Executive Member Decision CSD109 regarding Welfare Provision Scheme amendments 2017	Recommendations were agreed by the Panel at the Call-in meeting held on 23 rd January 2018	<p>Response of the Executive Member was on 9th March 2018:</p> <p>“I write further to the CYPs Panel Call-in meeting held on 23rd January 2018 when I was invited, as Executive Member, to reconsider my decision CSD 109: Welfare Provision Scheme 2018/19.</p> <p>Reconsideration was in the light of the information and specific issues discussed by the Panel, as reflected in the minutes <i>[see agenda item 4.2]</i>. Having undertaken that review, I have concluded that the decision is not to be implemented at this stage. Taking account of the matters raised by the Panel, it is proposed to defer the decision to allow consideration for a redesign of the scheme, and a new decision will be presented later in the year.”</p>

3. PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTING PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Panel Recommendation	Date of Executive's response	Executive actions – implementation progress
Recommendations of the Home to School Transport Scrutiny Working Group	September 2017, reported to panel with revised policy in November 2017	Complete

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, to focus on relevant key areas throughout the year
High Impact Families (Troubled Families) Programme	Joint monitoring of Phase 2 with ASH Panel members – further engagement to be held 2018
Social Impact Bonds	Implementation monitor following key decision on award of contract taken in 2016 Progress on implementation to Panel meeting on 21 st June 2018

Adoption West	Progress on implementation approximately 6 months after commencement in April 2018 (to Panel meeting on 11 th October 2018)
Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health: Green Paper consultation	Agreed response from a group of North Somerset Councillors to the Green Paper consultation (attached as Appendix 1)
Ofsted Inspection – Action Plan	To review progress of the Ofsted Action Plan (attached as Appendix 2)

Notes - Reports on the following matters submitted to the Panel 2017/18

Report to each Panel meeting from Assistant Executive Member

Annual Report from Local Safeguarding Children's Board (all Councillors invited)