

Children and Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme October 2021

(to be updated following each Panel meeting)

The 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. This is a "live" document and is subject to change as priorities or circumstances change.

1(A) ACTIVE PROJECTS (i.e. within the current Municipal Year) – limited ideally to two items at any one time

Topic	Reason for scrutiny	Method of scrutiny and reporting process	Timeline	Progress since Last Panel meeting	Contact
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<p>CYPS Working Group – Careleavers Not in Education, Employment or Training</p>	<p>This group would involve building on the work that Carolann James was leading on with partners around our Care Leavers who are not in education, employment or training – there was also the informative report that went to the CYPS Panel in October 2021 and Full Council in November 2021 (attached).</p>	<p>It is intended that the Working Group focus on understanding the barriers along with the opportunities. The Group to construct an appreciative enquiry sort of approach, bringing in the learning from Carolann James’ group and also other council services as well as partner agencies and maybe the Corporate Parenting Panel</p>	<p>Members – Wendy Griggs, Ann Harley, Caroline Cherry, Ruth Jacobs</p> <p>Officers – Paul Johnson, Wendy Packer, Bethany Swan, Jaida Aldred</p>	<p>3 February 2022 – to discuss draft Terms of Reference of Group</p> <p>Date of Next – 17 March 2022</p> <p>Draft Terms of Reference and Forward Plan presented to CYPS Panel Meeting 10 March 2022</p>	
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<p>CYPS Working Group - Accelerated Progress Plan (APP)</p>	<p>The working group will identify and recommend further effective delivery of the Council SEND Improvement plan in relation to the experiences of Parents and Carers.</p>	<p>Scrutinise parents and carers experiences with SEND services in North Somerset and their partners.</p>	<p>Members: Wendy Griggs, Ann Harley, Caroline Cherry, Ruth Jacobs</p> <p>Representative from the parents Carers forum to be invited as appropriate Representatives from Partner agencies to be invited as appropriate Parents/ carers will be invited to contribute</p> <p>Officers Pip Hesketh Other officers who work in the SEND arena to be invited as appropriate</p>	<p>Draft Terms of Reference and Forward Plan presented to CYPS Panel Meeting 10 March 2022</p>	
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<p>Joint CAMHS (CYPS/ HOSP) Working Group</p>	<p>1. To understand the parity of funding issues for children's mental health services across North Somerset (when compared with South Gloucestershire and Bristol) 2. To understand the CAMHS access issues and to engage with the plan to redesign the referral pathway</p>	<p>Working Group: CYPS Councillors: Ciarán Cronnelly Wendy Griggs, Caroline Cherry, Huw James, Ann Harley, Ruth Jacobs, Steve Hogg, HOSP Councillor: Sandra Hearne NHS representatives North Somerset Parent Carers Working Group Representatives from Head of Youth Justice, Youth Offending and Prevention Services, Service Leader Resource Service, Head of Service, Family Support & Safeguarding, Health Improvement Advanced Specialist, Public Health, Scrutiny Support officers</p>	<p>Varied, depending on work strand</p>	<p>15 April 2021 Parity of funding exploration (scope and remit Access to CAMHS 8 July 2021 Terms of reference amended to capture the transition into adulthood 0-25; Cllr Cronnelly to liaise with Anna Norris re timing of meetings with LA to address any gaps. Interim report to Panel 21 October 2021 1 December 2021 Progress on the Gap Analysis Progress report to March 22 CYPS Panel meeting</p>	<p>Cllr Ciarán Cronnelly</p>
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<p>School Organisation Scrutiny Steering 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>Steering Group</p> <p>Corporate Aim: Promoting lifelong learning opportunities</p> <p>Key issues for the public</p> <p>New National Code</p> <p>To include Education Transformation (see below)</p>	<p>Varied, depending on work strand</p> <p>Ongoing - to meet as required.</p> <p>Regular reporting to Panel</p>	<p>10 September 2021</p> <p>School Admission policies for consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - co-ordinated schemes (primary and secondary) - community and VC schools - Fair Access Protocol <p>Update Winterstoke Hundred Expansion</p> <p>Haywood Village – need for a 2nd primary school for 630 pupils to open in 2023</p> <p>Update on Baytree Expansion Update: SEMH New School Update: Chestnut Park Primary School</p> <p>15 December 2021 Overview of the SEND improvement plan and outline plans for Nurture Groups/Hubs Baytree Consultation Review</p>	<p>Cllr Wendy Griggs/ Sally Varley</p>
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				<p>Education Commissioning Strategy – update on actions</p> <p>18 January 2022</p> <p>Update on the Winterstoke Hundred Academy and Baytree Expansions Term Date Consultation – 2023/24 School Year School Admission Policies: Draft Community and Voluntary Controlled School Admission Arrangements 2023-24 North Somerset Coordinated Schemes - 2023/24 School Year</p>	
Children's Improvement Focus Group – Front Door	At the Children and Young People Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel (CYPS) on 29 October 2020 a report was presented by the Chairman on Scrutiny of the Children's Improvement Plan. It was agreed that the sub-group	Focus Group members: Councillors Wendy Griggs, Caroline Cherry, Steve Hogg, Lisa Pilgrim, Huw James, Nicola Holland	Varied, depending on work strand	19 April 2021 presentation by officers to members on Children's Improvement Plan – Quality Assurance Development and impact of changes at this early stage	

		<p>Officers: Becky Hopkins, Dawn Newton</p>		<p>of development – April 2021</p> <p>24 June 2021 - Feedback on Members' experiences with individual case audits</p> <p>23 November 2021 - Current progress (including relevant data quantitative and qualitative data showing improvement) Discussion on how to engage with partner agency representatives</p> <p>8 February 2022 Visit of Focus Group Members to Front Door, Children Social Care and Family Wellbeing, Floor 3, Town Hall to meet with staff.</p> <p>Forward Plan presented to CYPS Panel Meeting 10 March 2022</p>	
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	<p>needed to progress from being a Task and Finish group to becoming a longer-term group focused at a strategic level on scrutinising the delivery of the Children’s Improvement Plan and that the group be renamed the Children’s Improvement Focus Group.</p> <p>There was also a recognition that in order to fulfil such a role Members needed some peer support, via the Local Government Association, from colleagues who had been on a similar journey. As such Cllr Ann Hartley, Shropshire Council, agreed to meet with Focus Group members to provide support and share her scrutiny knowledge and experience.</p>	<p>to discuss and scrutinise a number of performance datasets in relation to the Children’s Improvement Plan-</p> <p>Children’s Improvement Performance Summary Key Performance Indicators – How are we Doing? Children’s Improvement Board Dataset – Highlights and Exceptions Report</p>			
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1(B) SCHEDULED PROJECTS (i.e. projects identified in the Strategic Work Plan that: may continue after the completion of the above or may be phased for commencement beyond the current Municipal Year). There is also the potential for these to be re-prioritised and escalated to 1(A) above for immediate action.

Topic	Reason for scrutiny	Method of scrutiny and reporting process	Timeline	Contact
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Draft Childcare Sufficiency Assessment	The Childcare Act 2006 (Sections 6, 8-11 & 13) require local authorities to assess the	Reports to Panel		Jenie Eastman
	local childcare market and to secure sufficient childcare for working parents. Childcare will only be deemed sufficient if it meets the needs of the community in general and in particular those families on lower incomes and those with disabled children. The term childcare includes provision for under 5's and for out of school care for 5 to 11-year olds.			
Adoption West – Implemented April 2019		Panel receives reports on progress of implementation		Shelley Caldwell
Education Commissioning Strategy	Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 provides Local Authorities (LAs) with a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient schools for primary and secondary education in their areas.	Regular updates to Panel and School Organisation Scrutiny Steering Group		Sally Varley
North Somerset Fostering Strategy		Panel receives updates on progress		

Independent Safeguarding and Reviewing Officers' (ISROS') Annual Report		Panel receives annual reports		
Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements		Panel receives updates		
Turning the Tide Edge of Care Service		Panel receives updates on progress		
Children's Services Budget Monitor	Forecast spend against budget for Children's Services highlighting key variances, movement and contextual information making reference to principles and outcomes associated with the setting of the Budget	Regular Reports to Panel		Katherine Sokol

<p>Performance Monitoring</p>	<p>The Children and Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel receive regular performance management reports to help members evaluate the extent to which the council and its partners are achieving key plans and objectives for children and young people's services, and to provide appropriate challenge and suggestions to improve performance.</p> <p>This report presents the following standard items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any recent Ofsted inspections of council services • an analysis of the performance of the relevant Key Corporate Performance Indicators (KCPIs) for Quarter 1 2020/21, that fall under the remit of the Panel. 	<p>Regular Reports to Panel</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an overview of the performance of various Key Service Measures for Support and Safeguarding services within the council. 			

Annual Directorate Statements (ADS)	<p>Each year the Directorates within North Somerset produce an Annual Directorate Statement translating the commitments in North Somerset's Corporate Plan into a series of Directorate level commitments.</p> <p>On an annual basis, the Panel to decide which, if any, of the People and Communities commitments for Children's Services should be subject of further detailed reports at future meetings</p>	Annually		
Home to School Transport				

SECTION TWO – proposed projects (listed in priority order). These must be agreed at Panel and will be referred for discussion at Chairs and Vice Chairs – for inclusion to the Strategic Work Plan:

Topic	Reason for scrutiny	Proposed method of scrutiny and reporting process	Timeline	Contact
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Youth Services and Youth Engagement Working group including the Youth Champions and any other interested CYPS Panel members.	To encourage the engagement of young people in the work of the CYPS Panel.	Working Group	Membership of working group and scope to be confirmed.	Cllr Huw James
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SECTION THREE – planned Briefings and Workshops. Outcomes may, with Chairman’s agreement, generate Panel agenda items (for inclusion in S4 below) or, with Panel agreement, be escalated to S2 above:

Topic	Reason for scrutiny	Date	Outcome	Progress	Contact
Children’s Services Performance Data and Direction of Travel (including RAG rating)	Agreed at Informal Panel Meeting 30 June 2021	Autumn 2021 TBC			Carolann James

SECTION FOUR - agenda reports to the Panel meetings as agreed by the Chairman. This section primarily provides for the forward planning of agendas for the coming year and a useful record of panel meeting activity. When considering reports at meetings, outcomes may include proposing a workstream, escalating it to S2 above for potential inclusion on the STRATEGIC WORK PLAN.

Panel 3 (11 March 2021)

Report Title	Purpose of Report	Outcome (actions)	Progress	Contact
SEND Action Plan Update	To provide Panel Members with an update of progress on the SEND action plan, which was provided at the June 2020 meeting. This paper notes specific actions and risks, and grades each area of work as green, amber or red based on the risk. Finally, the recommendations of the recent LGA Peer Review and feedback from the Department for Education and NHS England are considered in terms of our current plans.	(1) Note the update on the SEND Action Plan and the initial response to the LGA recommendations (2). Consider the highlights and risks identified (3) Identify any responses necessary via the Chair of the Panel, who sits on the SEND Programme Board		Mike Newman
SEND Presentation & Q&A	Presentation by NHS representatives on SEND and an opportunity for Q&A session			
Children's Improvement Focus Group Feedback	Update from Cllr Griggs on progress from Children's Improvement Focus Group	To update Panel members on the progress from the Children's Improvement Focus Group		Cllr Wendy Griggs
Corporate Parenting Report	To inform Panel members of the current issues pertaining to children who are looked after, young people leaving the Authority's care and the fostering service. This will enable the panel to evaluate how	(1) Note the updated information presented in this report (2) To offer comment on both areas for improvement and areas of good performance		Carolann James

	effectively the whole council is discharging the Council's Corporate Parenting Responsibilities and Duties, particularly in determining how effectively the council and its partners are achieving key plans and objectives for children and young people's services, and to provide appropriate challenge and suggestions to improve performance.	(3) To raise the profile of corporate parenting responsibilities among their colleague elected members		
Executive Member Report – The 2021-2022 Budget – What Does it Mean for our Children?	To update members on the 2021-2022 Budget implications and provide an opportunity to challenge via Q&A	(1) the panel receive and consider the report of the Executive Member		Cllr Catherine Gibbons

Panel 1 (Informal - due to Covid restrictions) (30 June 2021)

Report Title	Purpose of Report	Outcome (actions)	Progress	Contact
Annual Directorate Statement – Children's Services	<p>Each year the Directorates within North Somerset Council produce an Annual Directorate Statement (ADS). This in effect translates the commitments in the North Somerset Corporate Plan into a series of Directorate level commitments.</p> <p>In determining the future workplan of this committee Members may wish to decide which particular commitments should form the basis for future performance reporting to this committee.</p>	<p>(1) the panel receive and consider the report;</p> <p>(2) that the panel decide which, if any, of the Children's Services Directorate's commitments should be the subject of further detailed reports at future meetings;</p> <p>(3) the Panel consider and agree the Work Plan</p>		Sheila Smith

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Multi-agency response to SEND Re-visit	Panel Members to note the process following the recently completed LJAR revisit and consider the report when published.	(1) that the Panel receives details of the process following the LJAR revisit; (2) that the Panel consider the letter published by Ofsted following on from the SEND re-visit.		Sheila Smith/Mike Newman
Winterstoke Hundred Academy Expansion Progress Update	To update panel members on the Winterstoke Hundred Academy Expansion Progress	(1) that the Panel receive and consider the update on the Winterstoke Hundred Expansion.		Sally Varley/Nao mi Addicott

Performance Monitoring Q4	The Panel is asked to note the performance information presented in this report and to give comment on both areas for improvement and areas of good performance.	<p>(1) that the Panel receive the report;</p> <p>(2) that the Panel comment on areas for improvement and areas of good performance;</p> <p>(3) that the Panel receive a briefing in autumn 2021 on children's services performance data.</p>		Carolann James
Month 12 Children's Services Budget Monitor	The Panel is asked to note the 2020/21 final spend against budget for children's services and the risks and opportunities associated with the medium-term position.	(1) that panel members receive the 2020/21 final spend against budget for children's services and the risks and opportunities associated with the medium-term position		Katherine Sokol/Sindy Dube
North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together Annual Report	To update panel members on the work of North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together	<p>(1) that the Panel receive and consider the presentation on the Annual Survey and Report;</p> <p>(2) that the Panel members contact Kenton Mee via email with regards any questions in relation to the presentation and report.</p>		Kenton Mee

Executive Member Report	To update members on key themes in the Executive Member's portfolio and to provide an opportunity to challenge via Q&A.	(1) that the Panel receive and consider the oral report of the Executive member; (2) that the Panel be provided with a report on how the £20k care leaver's fund has been utilised including successes at the next CYPS Panel meeting on 21 October 2021.		Cllr Catherine Gibbons
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**Panel 2 – (Informal - due to Covid Restrictions)
(21 October 2021)**

Report Title	Purpose of Report	Outcome (actions)	Progress	Contact
LJAR – Response to DfE with proposed accelerated progress plan	Following the outcome of our LJAR revisit in May 2021 the response has been provided to the DfE and the proposed Accelerated Progress Plan. A response is awaited from the DfE. See attached.	To receive and consider the report		Carolann James

<p>Children's Improvement Plan: (1) Quality Assurance Update</p> <p>(2) Progress Update in relation to Corporate Parenting Care Leavers Performance for Education, Employment and Training</p>	<p>Children's Improvement Plan progress update in relation to Quality Assurance activity and its impact on social work practice</p> <p>This Corporate Parenting report updates on the challenges in North Somerset in relation to improving the performance for Care Leavers being in Education, Employment and Training and how we are progressing to improve this performance area which is one of our priority areas within our Children's Improvement plan.</p>	<p>To receive and consider the report</p> <p>To receive and consider the report</p>		<p>Carolann James</p> <p>Cllr Catherine Gibbons/Carolann James</p>
<p>Presumption Competition for a new 630 place Primary School In Haywood Village, Weston-super-Mare</p>	<p>The developer of new homes at Haywood Village is required to deliver the school as part of their contributions to local infrastructures needed a result of their development. The cost of the school will be met by the developer.</p>	<p>To support a decision to be taken by the Executive Member for Children's Services and Lifelong Learning to approve the progression of a Presumption Route competition to deliver a new 630-place primary school on the Haywood Village Development in Weston super Mare to open in September 2023 (subject to planning approvals and developer delivery).</p>		<p>Sheila Smith/Sally Varley</p>
<p>Performance Monitoring</p>	<p>The Children and Young People's Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel receive regular performance management reports to help</p>	<p>To note the performance information presented in this report and to give comment on both areas for</p>		<p>Carolann James</p>

	members evaluate the extent to which the council and its partners are achieving key plans and objectives for children and young people's services, and to provide appropriate challenge and suggestions to improve performance.	improvement and areas of good performance.		
Month 5 Children's Services Budget Monitor	<p>This report summarises and discusses the 2021/22 forecast spend against budget for children's services, highlighting key variances, movements and contextual information. It provides further details on the month 5 report which will be presented to the Executive on 20th October 2021.</p> <p>The report also makes reference to the principles and outcomes associated with the setting of the 2022/23 budget.</p>	To note the 2021/22 forecast spend against budget for children's services and the risks and opportunities associated with the medium-term position.		Sindy Dube

Panel Meeting 3 (10 March 2022)

Report Title	Purpose of Report	Outcome (actions)	Progress	Contact
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<p>Family Support and Safeguarding Update</p>	<p>To update panel members on family support and safeguarding.</p>	<p>Members receive an update and evaluation of the current position in the Family Support & Safeguarding Service so they have a full understanding of the strengths and ongoing areas for development.</p>		<p>Becky Hopkins, Assistant Director, Family Support and Safeguarding</p>
<p>Children's Improvement Focus Group – Front Door – Forward Plan</p>	<p>To update panel members and for discussion</p>	<p>Members to receive an update on the Children's Improvement Focus Group – Front Door and for discussion.</p>		<p>Councillor Wendy Griggs, Chair, CYPS Panel</p>

<p>CYPS Working Group – Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) – Terms of Reference and Forward Plan</p>	<p>To update panel members and for discussion</p>	<p>Members to receive an update on the CYPS Working Group – APP terms of reference and forward plan for discussion</p>		<p>Councillor Wendy Griggs, Chair, CYPS Panel</p>
<p>Q3 Performance Monitoring Report</p>	<p>The Children and Young People’s Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel receive regular performance management reports to help members evaluate the extent to which the council and its partners are achieving key plans and objectives for children and young people’s services, and to provide appropriate challenge and suggestions to improve performance.</p>	<p>To note the performance information presented in this report and to give comment on both areas for improvement and good performance.</p>		<p>Becky Hopkins, Assistant Director, Family Support and Safeguarding</p>

<p>CYPS Working Group – Care leavers NEET – Terms of Reference and Forward Plan</p>	<p>To update panel members and for discussion</p>	<p>Members to receive an update on the CYPS Working Group – Care Leavers NEET – Terms of Reference and Forward Plan for discussion</p>		<p>Councillor Wendy Griggs, Chair, CYPS Panel</p>
<p>Joint CAMHS (CYPS & HOSP) Working Group – Overview of Findings</p>	<p>To update Panel members on the findings from the CAMHS Working Group</p>	<p>HOSP/CYPS appreciates the collaboration and transparency of all parties involved in the working group discussions about parity of funding for children’s and young people’s mental health services in North Somerset.</p> <p>HOSP/CYPS believes it’s clear that North Somerset children and young people do not receive parity of funding – and service – for mental health services when compared with Bristol and South Gloucestershire.</p> <p>HOSP/CYPS calls on the council, CCG and system partners to work together to begin to close the estimated £700k funding gap and to specifically improve services for eating disorders, learning disabilities, and primary & infant mental health services</p>		<p>Councillor Ciaran Cronnelly, Chair, HOSP, Member CYPS</p>

		A progress report be provided to CYPS by no later than October 2022 outlining the steps that have been taken to improve parity from a funding and service delivery model perspective, and where gaps remain, what steps will be taken to improve these		
Month 10 Children's Services Budget Monitor	<p>This report summarises and discusses the 2021/22 forecast spend against budget for children's services, highlighting key variances, movements and contextual information as at month 10.</p> <p>The report also makes reference to the principles and outcomes associated with the setting of the 2022/23 budget.</p>	That the Panel notes the 2021/22 forecast spend against budget for children's services and the risks and opportunities associated with the medium-term position.		

SECTION 5 - Recommendations - Response from Executive Member

Area for investigation/ Recommendations	When were the recommendations to the Executive agreed?	Expect answer by (first panel meeting after recommendations were submitted)

SECTION 6 - Progress and follow-up on implementing Panel recommendations

Panel Recommendation	Date of Response	Actions – implementation progress