

# Children and Young People’s Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme February 2023

(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
CYPS Working Group – Careleavers Not in Education, Employment or Training	This group involves building on the work with partners around North Somerset Care Leavers who are not in education, employment or training	The Working Group focusses on <b>understanding the barriers along with the opportunities</b> . The Group to construct an appreciative enquiry sort of approach, bringing in the <b>learning from across council services as well as partner agencies and the Corporate Parenting Panel</b>	Final meeting 14 October 2022	<b><u>14 October 2022</u></b>  Discussed was: actioning mentoring help for care leavers.	Lisa Zakheim / Bethany Swann
CYPS Working Group – SEND Improvement Plan (Formerly the Accelerated Progress Plan working group)	The working group to identify and recommend further effective delivery of the Council SEND Improvement plan in relation to the experiences of Parents and Carers.	Scrutinise parents and carers experiences with SEND services in North Somerset and their partners.	Final meeting 17 January 2023	<b><u>1 November 2022; 17 January 2023</u></b> Updates on previously identified actions; feedback on the visit to Baytree School, Home to School Transport, direct payments; update on SEND review; SEND update from new Head of SEND.	Pip Hesketh

CYPS Working Group – Front Door	To hear from partner agency representatives		Final meeting to be 27 February 2023	<b>28 November 2022</b> Discussed were: the Ofsted review; Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub	Becky Hopkins
School Organisation Scrutiny Steering Group	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 <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.	Steering Group  Corporate Aim: Promoting lifelong learning opportunities  Key issues for the public  New National Code  To include Education Transformation (see below)	Varied, depending on work strand  <b>Ongoing</b> - to meet as required.  Regular reporting to Panel	<b>1 February 2023</b> Discussed were: Term dates and admission arrangements 2024-25	Cllr Wendy Griggs/ Sally Varley

**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
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

**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
Joint CYPS/ASH: Recommissioning of Pizey	To brief Members on the recommissioning of the Pizey Road respite centre	28/11/22	Members briefed.	Members support recommissioning	Alison Stone, Kate Williams, Teresa Stanley
Joint CYPS/HOSP: Mental Health Needs Assessment update briefing	To brief Members on the findings from the Mental Health Needs Assessment	07/02/23	Members briefed.		Matt Lenny, Georgie MacArthur

**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 Meeting 1 (16 June 2022) – informal meeting

Report Title	Purpose of Report	Outcomes (Actions)	Progress	Contact
Annual Directorate Statement – Children’s Services	To outline the key commitments of each directorate for the year ahead to show how we will contribute to the Corporate Plan. Annual Directorate Statements are then used to inform Service Strategies, Team Plans and appraisals.	i) That the Panel notes the plans for 2022/23. ii) That the Panel consider the ADS when setting their Work Plan.		Sheila Smith
Overview of Findings from CAMHS Working Group	To update Scrutiny Panels on Findings from CAMHS Working Group	i) 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 ii) 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.		Councillor Ciarán Cronnelly
Resetting the Education Agenda for North Somerset	To update the Panel on work to re-set the education agenda for North Somerset	Members to receive an update on resetting the education agenda in North Somerset.		Pip Hesketh
Community of Practice SEND	To update the Panel on Community of Practice in North Somerset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with work programme</li> <li>• Ensure the Community is credited with its work</li> </ul>		Councillor Catherine Gibbons,

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build habits and new ways of working</li> <li>• Consider transferability to other areas of work</li> </ul>		Pip Hesketh
North Somerset's Annual Children's Social Care Complaints and Complements Report for 2020/21 Financial Year	The annual report for 2020/21 covers the Council's actions and responses to complaints and complements about Children's Social Care.	That the panel review and consider the content of the Annual Report on Children's Services Complaints and Complements and any further actions.		Steve Devine, Sally Varley
Adoption West Update Report	To update the Panel on Ofsted's inspection of Adoption West.	<p>i) That the Panel notes the outcome of Ofsted's inspection of Adoption West.</p> <p>ii) That the Panel highlights any risks or areas for further scrutiny.</p> <p>iii) That the Panel considers feedback it would wish to give to Adoption West via the current joint scrutiny arrangements.</p>		Sheila Smith, Becky Hopkins
Performance Monitoring Report	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.	To note the performance information presented in this report and to give comment on both areas for improvement and good performance		Becky Hopkins

Month 12 Children's Services Budget Monitor	<p>This report summarises and discusses the 2021/22 spend against budget for children's services, highlighting key variances, movements and contextual information.</p> <p>The report also makes reference to the principles and outcomes associated with the setting of the 2022/23 budget and on-going financial risks.</p>	That the Panel notes the 2021/22 final spend against budget for children's services and the risks and opportunities associated with the medium-term position.	Sindy Dube,  Katherine Sokol
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## Panel Meeting 2 (20 October 2022)

Report Title	Purpose of Report	Outcomes (Actions)	Progress	Contact
Children's Improvement Progress	That Members note the progress made in relation to two different service areas: the Front Door and our Care Leavers' Service.	Progress noted.		Sheila Smith
Update on CYPS task-and-finish groups	i) That the Panel considers the activities of the CYPS working groups; and ii) That Members take this into account when setting the Panel's Work Plan.	Panel updated.		Cllr Wendy Griggs
Schools Capital Programme	That the Panel notes the progress made on schemes to date and comments, if required, on future plans.	Progress noted.		Sally Varley
Adoption West Annual Report	That Members note the report and advise officers of any areas about which they would like further information.	Report noted.		Becky Hopkins
Month 5 Budget Monitor	That the Panel notes the 2022/23 forecast spend against budget for children's services and the risks and opportunities associated with the medium-term position.	Budget forecast noted.		Sindy Dube

Annual Complaints and Compliments report 2021-22	That Members review the content of the Annual Report on Children's Services Complaints and Complements referred to this panel for consideration and any further actions.	Contents of report reviewed.		Katherine Webb
Future Governance of the Music Service	i) To recommend approval to the Executive of the proposal that the Music Service form a tri-LA shared service with B&NES and South Gloucestershire. ii) To recommend approval to the Executive of the shared service being established as an independent organisation outside the 3 Councils, taking forward and expanding a broader, universal youth music education offer on behalf of the 3 Councils.	Approvals to Executive Member noted.		Simon Lock

### Panel Meeting 3 (24 February 2023)

Report Title	Purpose of Report	Outcomes (Actions)	Progress	Contact
Month 9 Budget Monitor	Budget monitoring			Sindy Dube
Improvement in Children's Services	To update the Panel on the directorate's progress since the Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS) in 2020 and the Ofsted/CQC SEND Revisit in 2021.			Sheila Smith
Development of Family Hubs	To provide the Panel with the vision for the system wide Family Hub model within North Somerset.			Tracey Lewis / Dawn Newton
Corporate Parenting	To note the progress since 2019 and take the opportunity to consider what more this Panel could contribute in its role as a Corporate Parent.			Sheila Smith

**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

**Appendix**

**Chair’s recommendations for Panel priorities (in the new administration following local elections in May 2023)**

**For Panel discussion/endorsement**

Members to continue to contribute to the implementation of strategies to continue the improvement of children's services so to ensure a GOOD in the next Ofsted Inspection.

Members to continue to engage with our service users - families, schools, young people etc - to ensure the officers are further informed of the perceived successes and weaknesses of the services they receive.