

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – Future programme

Standing items for committee:

- Council Plan quarterly monitoring (except September committees)
- Forward plan of key decisions to be made by lead cabinet members
- Future programme for scrutiny committee meetings
- Children's Trust governance arrangements

| Subject / title of report | Key issues | Current work | History |
|---|---|--|--|
| Progress & Evaluation report on the Educational attainment / prospects of looked after children (LAC) | The attainment results for LAC were published in November 2005. | Ongoing monitoring carried out by Corporate Parenting Panel. | A best value review of children in public care was completed in Dec 2002 |
| Behaviour Management and Alternate Provision for Excluded Pupils | | Review currently being carried out within the department | The Committee requested a progress report (in September 2005) with regard to the scope and variety of behaviour support provided to schools in supporting those pupils at risk of exclusion and the improvements made in securing provision for permanently excluded pupils within stipulated timeframes |
| Direct Payments | Inform committee how direct payments in respect of children are dealt with | | Adult Social Care committee raised concerns over this at September 2005 meeting and asked that this committee to consider it |
| Centrally Managed School Meals Service in East Sussex | Review the provision of support to schools regarding food and health related issues | | The Committee received a report on this in June 2005 and requested a future update |
| Music Service | | Overseen by the East Sussex Music Service Management Committee | Committee requested a written position statement on this at the November 2005 meeting |

| Subject / title of report | Key issues | Current work | History |
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| Recruitment & retention of teachers | | | Committee requested a progress report on this at the March 2005 meeting |
| Six term year evaluation | The organisation of the school year into six terms began in September 2005 | | Education & Libraries Scrutiny Committee agreed in September 2004 to evaluate the six term school year in 2006 |
| Local Area Agreements | Local Area Agreements relating to Children's Services | | Committee requested this report at November 2005 meeting |
| Local Safeguarding Children Board | The Local Safeguarding Children Board is replacing the ACPC (first meeting to be April/May 2006) | | Feedback to the Committee following its first meeting. From autumn 2007 an annual report will go to the committee. |
| Special Educational Needs – Progress Report on Departmental Review | Two representatives from the Committee (Cllr Field & Kramer) were nominated to sit on this project board in June 2005. | | |

Suggested scrutiny reviews

| Title | key issues | Reason suggested |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Anti-bullying strategy | A new strategy was implemented in Jan 2005. | A scrutiny review was scoped in spring 2004 but delayed, with a recommendation by the Education & Libraries Scrutiny Committee in March 2005 to reconsider the strategy and its outcomes a year after implementation. |
| 14 – 19 curriculum | Wide ranging review being carried out at present with schools regarding national strategies. Area too big for a single review – would need to consider a particular area eg level 2 vocational | Suggested at a review topic at Education & Libraries committee in March 2005. (Review could investigate the additional education (excluding the prescribed curriculum) provided to pupils and the outcomes for pupils in terms of attainment and prospects for continuing education). |

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