

## Children's Services Scrutiny Committee: Work programme at a glance

**UPDATED: September 2009**

*Please note that this list is correct at the time of writing but may be subject to change. The order in which items are listed does not necessarily reflect the order they will appear on the final agenda for the meeting.*

<b>Standing Items</b>	<b>Objectives and summary</b>
Announcements	Update, for information, on any matter of significant public or member concern listed not on the agenda elsewhere.
Cabinet Forward Plan	<p>Opportunity for members to identify and highlight relevant issues from the Plan for scrutiny to consider. Members can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- request a briefing paper to be sent to committee members,</li> <li>- request an item on a future scrutiny committee agenda to address specific questions raised</li> </ul>
Quarterly Performance Monitoring reports against the Council Plan	<p>Exception report providing a summary on the performance targets relating to the ASC department which are not currently on target. Opportunity for members to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- question and challenge action being taken to bring the target back on track</li> <li>- request a more detailed report on the issue</li> <li>- consider carrying out a scrutiny review on the issue</li> </ul>
Committee work programme	<p>Opportunity for members to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consider the items programmed in for future meetings</li> <li>- highlight any additional issues they wish to add to the programme</li> </ul>

<b>Topic Issue</b>	<b>Objectives and summary</b>	<b>People providing evidence</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009</b>		
<b>Themed meeting – education</b>		
14-19 Agenda	The educational system is undergoing fundamental changes around creating a new curriculum which is relevant and engaging for all children and young people, raising participation (until 18 by 2015) and improving achievement levels.  Presentation and discussion on how these challenges are being met and taken forward in East Sussex	Fiona Wright , Head of Strategic Development (Quality, Learning & Skills)
Report on part time timetables	Update report on the number of children currently on part-time timetables, support available for them and the work being carried out to integrate them back into education.  Youth Justice Worker to be invited to attend the meeting.	Sarah-Jane Pateman, Acting Principal Education Welfare Officer
Recruitment and Retention of Teachers	Update report on the issues highlighted by the previous tabletop review. A key concern is around succession planning and future head teacher appointments.	
Not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Performance against National Indicator 117 (number of 16 to 18 year olds who are NEET) is currently poor. Report to highlight the work being done in this area.  (item to be included on the agenda if not taken forward as a scrutiny review)	
Scrutiny review of support for school governors	Initial update report on progress by the department in taking forward the recommendations outlined in the final report by the review board.	Peter Davidson, Governor Services Manager
<b>December 2009 - RPR Board</b>		
Reconciling policy and Resources (RPR)	Opportunity for members to comment on the proposed savings in the department and to consider whether these are in line with the policy steers.	Matt Dunkley, Director of Children's Services

<b>Topic Issue</b>	<b>Objectives and summary</b>	<b>People providing evidence</b>
<b>March 2010</b>		
Standing items as listed on page one		
Reconciling policy and Resources	Opportunity for members to consider the action taken by the department in response to scrutiny comments earlier in the process. Also provides an opportunity for members to highlight ways of improving scrutiny involvement in the process in the future	Matt Dunkley, Director of Children's Services
Reducing teenage pregnancies	Update on the number of teenage pregnancies in the county and the ongoing work to reduce this figure. Report to includes information on conception rates for all ages, so that the teenage figures can be put in context.	
Children's Centres	Report to focus on take up at Children's Centres and the impact centres are having on improving outcomes for children.	
Youth Development Service (YDS)	Report on the progress to date on redeveloping the service following a previous departmental review and the implementation of a new strategy and core mission statement for the service	
Scrutiny Review of Governing Body Clerks	Initial update report on progress by the department in taking forward the recommendations outlined in the final report by the review board.	Peter Davidson, Governor Services Manager
Reintegration and Secondary Behaviour Support Service	The Behaviour Support and Reintegration Service have now been brought together as one team, with a geographical operational split (one team in the west and another in the east)  Report to concentrate on how the combined service is working in practice and the outcomes of further reviews on the Primary Behaviour Support Service, Pupil Retention Grant and Pupil Referral Units.	
Scrutiny review of the effect of alcohol misuse on the health of children and young people	Final update report on progress in taking forward the recommendations outlined in the final report by the review board. Committee requested a more detailed evidence based report be submitted  Report also to include a more detailed breakdown of the data available on drugs in East Sussex. Police representative to be invited to present the information.	Vicky Finnemore, Operations Manager, Children's Services Department

<b>June 2010</b>		
<b>Themed meeting – Special educational needs</b>		
Access and Disability Service	Report to focus on how the service is working in practice following the amalgamation of the Special Educational Needs (SEN) Team and the Disability Team and the impact that the amalgamation has had on service users accessing educational and social care provision	
Aiming High for Disabled Children	Report to focus on the take up of provision of short breaks for disabled children and their families following the development of Aiming High for Disabled Children	
Autism	Report to focus on the number of children in East Sussex with autism, the services available to support them, whether demand for support in this area is increasing and if so, how this demand is being met.	
Special Education Needs funding	Update report on the impact that changes to the Special Educational Needs funding will have on children, schools and provision of services	

Contact Officer:  
 Gillian Mauger, Scrutiny Lead Officer  
 01273 481796 or [gillian.mauger@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.mauger@eastsussex.gov.uk)