## Children's Services Scrutiny Committee: Future work at a glance

## **UPDATED:** August 2010

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.

Standing Items	Objectives and summary
Announcements	Update, for information, on any matter of significant public or member concern not listed elsewhere on the agenda.
Cabinet Forward Plan	Opportunity for members to identify and highlight relevant issues from the Plan for scrutiny to consider. Members can: - request a briefing paper to be sent to committee members - request an item on a future scrutiny committee agenda to address specific questions raised
Quarterly Performance Monitoring reports against the Council Plan	Exception reports provide a summary on action being taken by the department for those performance targets which are 'amber' (indicating concern about the likelihood of achieving the performance measure by the end of the year) and 'red' (indicating that the performance measure is assessed as inappropriate or unachievable). Opportunity for members to:
	<ul> <li>question and challenge action being taken to bring the target back on track</li> <li>request a more detailed report on an issue where there is concern</li> <li>consider carrying out a scrutiny review to explore an issue in more depth</li> </ul>
Committee work programme	Opportunity for members to: - consider the items programmed in for future meetings - highlight any additional issues they wish to add to the programme



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Topic Issue	Objectives and summary	People providing evidence
14 <sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Sci	rutiny Committee Away Day	
9 <sup>th</sup> November		
Standing items		
Recruitment and Retention of Teachers	Update report on the issues highlighted by the previous tabletop review. An area which the review suggested should be monitored in the future by the committee was around succession planning and future head teacher appointments.	
Annual report of Local Safeguarding Children Board	The committee receives the Safeguarding Board business plan and annual report on an annual basis so that the committee can monitor the work of the Board.	Douglas Sinclair, Head of Children's Safeguards & Quality Assurance
Annual report - Safeguarding Children – Member and Senior Management monitoring	The Lead Member for Children and Families and senior managers with Children's Services carries out a series of visits to the social care duty teams and conduct quarterly file audits to ensure that services to safeguard children are properly co- ordinated and managed effectively.	Douglas Sinclair, Head of Children's Safeguards & Quality Assurance
	Opportunity for the committee to monitor concerns and ensure improvements are put in place where necessary.	
Scrutiny review of maths attainment at Key Stage 2	Final report from the Review Board on the work undertaken during this review and the recommendations being put forward.	Review Board
Scrutiny review of support for school governors	Final 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
7 March 2011		
Standing items		
Virtual College	Report outlining the outcomes achieved since the establishment of the virtual college to work with pupils who have been permanently excluded or for whom a school place is not appropriate	Nathan Caine, Operations Manager, Reintegration and Behaviour Support Services (West)

Topic Issue	Objectives and summary	People providing evidence
Reducing teenage conceptions	Report outlining current data on teenage conceptions and the work being done across the county to help reduce this figure.	Trudy Mills, Joint Commissioner for Teenage Pregnancy and CAMHS
Reintegration and Secondary Behaviour Support Service	The Behaviour Support and Reintegration Service have been brought together as one team, with a geographical operational spilt (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.	Nathan Caine, Operations Manager, Reintegration and Behaviour Support Services (West)
Reduced timetables	The committee has previously considered the results from audits of schools on the use of reduced timetables. This report enables the committee to consider the results of the latest audit.	Penny Laven
Scrutiny Review of Governing Body Clerks	Final 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

**Future items** - new ideas and suggestions from the Committee for scrutiny reports and reviews appear here whilst awaiting a decision on how to deal with them:

**NEETs** – Members requested a briefing on NEETs prior to a future committee meeting

**Transition** – The Committee identified transition as an area for a review so that members could ensure that young people were receiving sufficient support as they transferred from a service or support from Children's Services to one provided by Adult Social Care. Joint review board with members from both Children's Services and Adult Social Care (initial interest - Cllr Field).

**Support for young carers** – Members had highlighted that they found it hard to get a handle on the number of young people who were caring for their parents, how this impacted on their lives and what support the County Council was able to provide. Agreed that a tabletop review be carried out so that members could explore these issues further (initial interest - Cllr Field, Cllr Waite and Cllr Shing)

**Early years education** - The Key Stage 2 Review Board recognised the impact that good early years education can have on beginning the learning process for children, which in turn can help lead to better outcomes at all stages in education. A tabletop review to be carried out in once departmental changes have bedded in (initial interest - Cllr Shing and Cllr Ensor)

**Distribution list** 

Scrutiny committee members	Vicky Stanton
Matt Dunkley	Becky Haynes
Penny Gaunt	Louise Carter
Liz Rugg	Hazel Cunning

ky Haynes ise Carter el Cunningham

Contact Officer: Gillian Mauger, Scrutiny Lead Officer 01273 481796, gillian.mauger@eastsussex.gov.uk