

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

UPDATED: November 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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 style="list-style-type: none">- question and challenge action being taken to bring the target back on track- request a more detailed report on an issue where there is concern- consider carrying out a scrutiny review to explore an issue in more depth
Committee work programme	Opportunity for members to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- consider the items programmed in for future meetings- highlight any additional issues they wish to add to the programme

Topic Issue	Objectives and summary	People providing evidence
10th January		
RPR Board Membership - Councillors Ensor, Field, Webb and Whetstone and Kym Hearn (Parent Governor Representative) (Committee Room – 10am to 12.30pm)		
7th March		
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)
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 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.	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
14th June		
Scrutiny Review of Recruitment and Retention of Foster Carers	Report of the review board on the findings and recommendations of their work	Review Board

Topic Issue	Objectives and summary	People providing evidence
Scrutiny Review of KS2 mathematics	Update report on progress by the department in taking forward the recommendations outlined in the final report by the review board.	Nina Siddall, Head of Standards and Learning Effectiveness (0-11)

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)

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