

People Scrutiny Committee - Work Programme

Current Scrutiny Reviews		
Title of Review	Detail	Proposed Completion Date
ASC Equality and Inclusion	<p>The Committee has accepted the recommendation of the Initial Scoping Board that the Committee proceed with a review of this area, looking at how the Department engages with 'seldom heard' groups and whether residents of all backgrounds know how to access ASC services.</p> <p>Membership of the Review Board: Councillors di Cara, Geary, Ungar (Chair) and Webb.</p>	July 2023
School Exclusions	<p>The previous Committee agreed in March 2020 to undertake a Scrutiny Review of issues relating to school exclusions. The Committee also agreed the Terms of Reference proposed by the Initial Scoping Board. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on the availability of schools to contribute to further work on this review, it was subsequently paused with the intention to recommence it at a suitable future date.</p> <p>Following the pause in the Review, a second Scoping Board meeting took place in January 2023 to consider the latest position and progress with work across the local education system to prevent use of school exclusions. The Scoping Board has recommended the Committee should proceed with re-starting this scrutiny review to consider preventative strategies, the role of early help, appropriate responses to a child at risk of exclusion, the role of governors and clarity of messaging.</p> <p>Membership of the Scoping Board Board: Councillors Adeniji, Field, Howell, Maples and Nicola Boulter, Parent Governor Representative. John Hayling?</p> <p>Membership of the Review Board to be confirmed.</p>	November 2023
Initial Scoping Reviews		
Subject area for initial scoping	Detail	Proposed Dates
School Attendance	<p>The Committee heard at their 2021 work planning awayday that overall school absence and persistent absence rates across East Sussex are high, when compared to national and statistical neighbours; and that East Sussex has a significant number of children and young people deemed too ill to attend school due to anxiety and poor mental health, and increasing levels of Emotionally-Based School Avoidance.</p>	To be confirmed following a further short scoping board in 2023.

	<p>A scoping board meeting was held on 10 March 2022 and the Board agreed that although the subject was appropriate for a Scrutiny Review, as so much of the current situation regarding school absence rates in East Sussex was related to the ongoing impact of, and disruption from, the coronavirus pandemic, it was too early for the Committee to undertake a scrutiny review of school attendance.</p> <p>The Board therefore agreed that the review should commence in 2023 when we expect to have a clearer sense of the long-term impact of COVID on school absences. A further short scoping board meeting will be held in 2023 to build on issues discussed at the 2022 scoping board and draft Terms of Reference for this review.</p> <p>Membership of the Scoping Board: Cllrs Adeniji, di Cara, Field and Howell (Chair) and Nicola Boulter, Parent Governor Representative.</p>	
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Suggested Potential Future Scrutiny Review Topics

Suggested Topic	Detail

Scrutiny Reference Groups

Reference Group Title	Subject area	Meeting Dates
Prevention in Children's Services	<p>Subject to agreement at the March 2023 Committee, the previously agreed Scrutiny Review of Use of Prevention in Children's Services is recommended by the Review Board to be converted to a reference group to enable more effective, impactful and timely scrutiny of the topic. The reference group will consider and provide input to work underway (e.g. through the Family Hubs Programme) to strengthen use of prevention in Children's Services.</p> <p>Membership of the Reference Group (TBC): Councillors Adeniji, Field, Howell (Chair) and John Hayling, Parent Governor Representative.</p>	Next meeting: To be confirmed
Health and Social Care Integration Programme (HASCIP) Reference Group	<p>The Committee agreed to establish a Reference Group to monitor progress of the East Sussex Health and Social Care Integration Programme and identify areas for future scrutiny. It will review HASCIP progress reports provided to the Health and Wellbeing Board and meet on an ad hoc basis as required to consider issues arising in more detail.</p> <p>The group last met on 22 November 2022 to consider and comment on key elements of the draft Sussex Integrated Care Strategy ahead of it being considered by the Lead</p>	Next meeting: Expected June 2023

	<p>Member for Strategic Management and Economic Development. It was agreed at this meeting that the Strategy's action plan would be presented to a future HASCIP Reference Group meeting, expected to be in June 2023.</p> <p>The group has also requested to consider progress with work at the locality level in East Sussex and a meeting to consider this is expected to take place in 2023 when this work is further progressed.</p> <p>Membership of the group: Councillors Clark, di Cara, Geary (Chair), Ungar and Webb.</p>	
Educational Attainment and Performance Scrutiny Reference Group	<p>The Committee agreed in June 2018 to establish a Reference Group to focus on reviewing data on educational attainment in East Sussex and related issues. The group meets on an annual basis.</p> <p>The Group met on the 7 March 2023 to review the attainment data is for the 2021/22 academic year.</p> <p>Membership of the group: Councillors Adeniji, Field (Chair) and Howell and Nicola Boulter, Parent Governor Representative.</p>	Next meeting: 2024
Adult Social Care reforms Reference Group	<p>The Committee agreed at its 2022 work planning awayday to establish a reference group to consider the impact and implementation of the national Adult Social Care reforms. Implementation of the reforms was subsequently delayed in the 2022 Autumn Statement from October 2023 to October 2025 and the first meeting of the Group will take place closer to implementation.</p> <p>Membership of the group: Councillors di Cara, Geary and Ungar.</p>	First meeting: closer to implementation of the reforms in Oct 2025
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR) Board	<p>RPPR Board meets annually to agree detailed comments and any recommendations on the emerging portfolio plans and spending and savings proposals to be put to Cabinet on behalf of the scrutiny committee.</p>	Next meeting: December 2023
Reports for Information		
Subject Area	Detail	Proposed Date
Market Sustainability Plan	<p>At its September 2022 meeting the Committee asked to receive a copy of the Market Sustainability Plan once it was finalised. The report was circulated to the Committee on 22 February 2023.</p>	Complete

Training and Development		
Title of Training/Briefing	Detail	Proposed Date
Questioning Skills	A session to look at making a difference through effective questioning.	21 March 2023
Future Committee Agenda Items		Author
17 July 2023		
Implementation of Schools White Paper Reforms	The Committee requested at its July 2022 meeting an update in 12 months on progress with implementing reforms set out in the Schools White Paper.	Assistant Director, Education
Elective Home Education	The Committee requested at its November 2022 meeting an update in 6 months on the work of the Elective Home Education service.	Assistant Director, Education
Use of Digital and Technology in Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Review	6 month monitoring report on progress with the Review's recommendations.	Director of Adult Social Care and Health
Committee Work Programme	To manage the Committee's programme of work including matters relating to ongoing reviews, initial scoping boards, future scrutiny topics, reference groups, training and development matters and reports for information.	Senior Policy and Scrutiny Adviser
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)	To commence the Committee's involvement with the RPPR process for 2024/25 financial year by reviewing the information in the Quarter 4 (end of year) (2022/23) Council Monitoring report and the 2023 State of the County report.	Becky Shaw, Chief Executive
25 September 2023		
Committee Work Programme	To manage the Committee's programme of work including matters relating to ongoing reviews, initial scoping boards, future scrutiny topics, reference groups, training and development matters and reports for information.	Senior Policy and Scrutiny Adviser
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)	To continue the Committee's work on the RPPR process for 2024/25 financial year.	Becky Shaw, Chief Executive
Safeguarding Adults Board - Annual Report	The Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) Annual Report outlines the safeguarding activity and performance in East Sussex during the previous financial year, as well as some of the main developments in place to prevent abuse from occurring.	Chair, Safeguarding Adults Board

Annual Review of Safer Communities	To update the Committee on performance in relation to Safer Communities in 2022/23 and the priorities and issues for 2023/24 that are highlighted in the Partnership Business Plan.	Assistant Director - Planning, Performance and Engagement
East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership (ESSCP) Annual Report	<p>Presentation of the annual report of the East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership.</p> <p>This report will include a progress update on the work of multi-agency exploitation coordinators as requested at the March 2022 Committee.</p>	Independent Chair, East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership
13 November 2023		
Committee Work Programme	To manage the Committee's programme of work including matters relating to ongoing reviews, initial scoping boards, future scrutiny topics, reference groups, training and development matters and reports for information.	Senior Policy and Scrutiny Adviser
Reconciling Policy, Performance and Resources (RPPR)	To continue the Committee's work on the RPPR process for 2024/25 financial year.	Becky Shaw, Chief Executive
March 2024		
Loneliness Stewardship Group	The Committee agreed at its December 2022 meeting to request an update on progress with partnership work to address loneliness, particularly on the work of the Stewardship Group established following the conclusion of the 'Community Wellbeing: Connected People and Places' Project.	Assistant Director – Planning, Performance and Engagement
Use of Digital and Technology in Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny Review	12 month monitoring report on progress with the Review's recommendations.	Director of Adult Social Care and Health