

## **SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMMES**

### **Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee**

***'Holding the Executive to account in respect of all three priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan....Economy (Building a strong economy), People (Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone), Place (Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live and work).'***

Each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees is responsible for setting and agreeing its own work programme by identifying a list of themes and topics which fall under the remit of each individual Scrutiny Committee. Following discussion with the Chair, Vice Chair and Scrutiny Members a practical, realistic and timetabled programme can then be developed.

The scrutiny forward work programmes should provide a clear rationale as to why particular issues have been selected; be outcome focussed; ensure that the method of scrutiny is best suited to the topic area and the outcome desired; align scrutiny programmes with the council's performance management, self-evaluation and improvement arrangements.

Throughout the year, there are a number of ways in which additional issues can be considered for inclusion in the Scrutiny Work Programme and ideas for inclusion may come from a number of sources such as:-

- Individual Councillors;
- Performance or budget monitoring information;
- Inspection reports;
- Referrals from Council (such as Notices of Motion), Cabinet/Audit or other scrutiny committees;
- Service users;
- Monitoring the implementation of recommendations previously made by the Committee; and
- Local Residents

The Cabinet is also required to produce forward work programmes and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee keeps abreast of forthcoming items or topics which may enable scrutiny to be involved in the development of Council policy prior to its formal consideration by Cabinet. It is important to bear in mind that an element of flexibility is applied to each individual work programme that provides Committees with the capacity to scrutinise new / urgent issues that arise during the year.

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Date/Time	Overarching Item	Officer	Cabinet Member	Invited/ In attendance	Scrutiny Focus
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020, 5pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children &amp; Young People Scrutiny Work Programme</li> </ul>	Director of Education & Inclusion Services  Director of Children's Services  Service Director of Democratic Services & Communications			<b>Scrutiny &amp; Challenge –</b> For Members of the CH&YP Scrutiny Committee to consider the work programme for 2020/2021.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the latest position within the Education Service regarding COVID 19</li> </ul>	Director of Education & Inclusion Services  Head of Capital Projects & Support Services Management			Scrutiny & Challenge – For Members to consider the ongoing work of the Service.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training Needs</li> </ul>	Director of Education & Inclusion Services  Director of Children's Services  Service Director of Democratic Services & Communications			To consider and develop a schedule of training requirements for members of the CH&YP Committee.

<b>4<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 5pm Children's Services</b>	<b>Recovery Plan to contingency Planning in respect of COVID 19 Update.</b>	<b>Director of Children's Services</b>			<b>Scrutiny &amp; Challenge – To receive an update on the recovery and service planning process.</b>
	<b>Update in respect of the Disabled Children's Team Review carried out by CIW</b>	<b>Director of Children's Services Head of Service</b>			<b>Scrutiny &amp; Challenge – To consider the work undertaken by the service in response to the review of the Service</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 5pm Education</b>	<b>CSC Update in respect of work carried out during the COVID 19 Pandemic</b>	<b>Director of Education &amp; Inclusion Officers from CSC</b>			<b>To receive an overview of work carried out by CSC in respect of the COVID 19 Pandemic and consider their forward plan.</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> December , 5pm  Joint Meeting with both services</b>	<b>Resilience and wellbeing of Children &amp; Young People</b>	<b>Director of Children's Services Head of YEPS Service Resilient Family Service, ALN Service Attendance &amp; Wellbeing Service  Director of Education</b>			<b>Scrutiny &amp; Challenge – To receive an update from both Service Areas in respect of the work carried during the COVID 19 Pandemic and future plans</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>	<b>• Report on the N.OM for Kinship Care</b>	<b>Director of Children's Services</b>			<b>To consider and address the N.O.M in respect of</b>

<p><b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Carers Report</li> <li>• Annual Corporate Parenting Report</li> </ul>	<p>Director of Children's Services</p> <p>Cabinet Member for Children's Services.</p>			<p>Kinship Care and consider a way forward.</p> <p>To receive the Annual Carers Report and scrutinise and challenge the work done.</p> <p>Assess the work carried out by the Corporate Parenting Board</p>
<p>27<sup>th</sup> January 2021</p> <p><b>EDUCATION SERVICES</b></p>	<p>1.WESP REPORT</p> <p>2. EYE TO EYE COUNSELLING SERVICE</p> <p>3. Children &amp; Young People Scrutiny Committee Work programme 2020/2021 (From January 2021 to April 2021 )</p>	<p>Director of Education and Inclusion Services</p> <p>Head of Access &amp; Inclusion</p> <p>Service Director Democratic Services&amp; Communications</p>			<p>To Scrutiny&amp; Challenge the Annual WESP Report</p> <p>To receive an update in respect of the Eye to Eye counselling Services.</p> <p>To agree the future work programme for 2020/2021</p>
<p>3<sup>RD</sup> FEBUARY 2021</p> <p><b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b></p>	<p>1. Annual Young Carers report</p>	<p>Director of Children's Services</p>			<p>To receive the report in respect of work carried out with Young Carers.</p>

	2. Youth Offending Service Report	Head of Youth Offending Service.			To receive a report for the Head of the Youth Offending Service. Member scrutinise and Challenge the work carried out by the Service.
24 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021  <b>EDUCATION</b>	1. CSC ANNUAL REPORT  2. Childcare Sufficiency Update (Pre Scrutiny)	Director of Education & Inclusion Managing Director CSC  Director of Education and Inclusion Services			To scrutiny & Challenge the work carried out by the Central South Consortium in respect of Supporting schools in Rhondda Cynon Taf.  Pre – Scrutiny of the Childcare Sufficiency Audit undertaken in line with Welsh Government Requirements
3 <sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2021  <b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b>	UPDATE REPORT FROM CAMHS IN RESPECT OF COVID 19	Director of Children's Services  (Invite officer from Education )			To receive an update from CAMHS in relation to how the service has dealt with the Pandemic. Scrutiny & Challenge the work carried out and the actions for recovery.

<p><b>24<sup>th</sup> MARCH</b></p> <p><b>EDUCATION</b></p>	<p><b>ALNET UPDATE</b></p> <p>School Admissions</p> <p>School Attendance &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> Form Attendance</p>	<p>Director of Education &amp; Inclusion Services</p> <p>Head of Service Transformation</p> <p>Head of Attendance &amp; Wellbeing Service.</p>			<p>To receive an update on the activity so far.</p> <p>To receive an update on the activity so far.</p> <p>To consider the report and scrutiny &amp; Challenge School attendance and 6<sup>th</sup> Form Attendance in RCT Schools. ( referred from the Audit Committee)</p>
<p><b>21<sup>st</sup> APRIL</b></p> <p><b>JOINT COMMITTEE EDUCATION &amp; CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b></p>	<p><b>YEPS SERVICE REPORT.</b></p> <p><b>JOINT COVID UPDATE</b></p>	<p>Director of Children's Services</p> <p>Director Of Education</p>			<p>To consider the work carried out by the YEPS Service</p> <p>To receive an update on the current Covid 19 measure that connect both services.</p>

**Other Areas for exploration:-**

FPN Working Group Report

Engaging Young People

Counselling Services (especially looking at the Children's mental health what work could be done to address the trauma that children have suffered during Covid 19)

Young Carers mental health and wellbeing

Play therapy for Children to address their worries going forward from the effect of Covid 19 on their Health & Wellbeing.

**(N.O.M RE: Kinship Carers) will continue to monitor as part of our work programme going forward.**

To consider the under-mentioned Notice of Motion standing in the names of County Borough Councillors J James and L Hooper. It is estimated that there are 200,000 children being brought up by family members or friends in the United Kingdom in what is termed as 'Kinship Care'. These kinship carers have stepped in to care for children whose parents are unable to look after them and keep their families together, and it represents three times the number of children in the national foster care system – and is a growing figure. Kinship care is one of the main ways to provide a sense of security, continuity and belonging for children who cannot live with their parents and it provides high levels of stability and enduring support well into young adulthood. However, the support that is offered to kinship carers throughout the country lacks consistency, and carers often feel isolated, abandoned and 'hung out to dry'. This is in marked contrast to the support that foster carers and adoptive parents can receive. This Council recognises the invaluable work that kinship carers do for their loved ones, often under the most trying of situations, and is committed to providing the help, engagement and support that they need. This Council requests that a report be considered by the Children & Young People's Scrutiny Committee to look further into the role of kinship care in the County Borough and to work closely with Grandparents Plus to identify ways in which it can meet the needs of kinship carers and those in kinship care.