

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2016/17

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

14th JULY 2016

AGENDA ITEM No. 5

**DRAFTING A SCRUTINY WORK
PROGRAMME FOR THE 2016/17
MUNICIPAL YEAR**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- I. To inform members of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee of the proposed new arrangements in respect of the frequency of meetings to reflect the need to apportion equal consideration to the areas of Education & Children's Social Services.
- II. To devise a Scrutiny Work Programme for the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee for the 2016/17 municipal year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Agree that meetings of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee take place on a three weekly cycle (to reflect the need to consider those topics dealt with under the individual Education and Children's Social Services Work Programmes at separate meetings. The meeting on the sixth week is proposed to be a combined meeting to consider those issues which bridge the two service areas:-

Week 1 - Children's Social Services

Week 3 – Education

Week 6 – Combined;

- 2.2 Agree the proposed dates of meetings, below, to reflect the new cycle of Scrutiny meetings:-

- 7th September 2016 – Children’s Social Services
- 29th September 2016 – Education
- 19th October 2016 – Combined
- 8th November 2016 – Children’s Social Services
- 29th November 2016 – Education
- 19th December 2016 - Combined

- 2.3 Agree that following a period of 6 months the revised approach will be reviewed by members of the Scrutiny Committee to assess the effectiveness of the new arrangements(19th December 2016);
- 2.4 Identify potential work topics and instruct officers to compile relevant information on these areas to enable Committee to determine whether they should be part of the 2016/17 Work Programme (at its September 2016 meeting);
- 2.5 Agree an initial list of work topics for the 2016/17 Municipal Year (as set out in **Appendix 1**), as informed by the work of the Committee during 2015/16.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The new Scrutiny Committee framework which was implemented following ratification at the Council AGM in 2015 brought the two service areas of Education and Children’s Social Services together under the remit of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2 Bringing the two large service and highly regulated areas together has not been without its challenges for the members of the Scrutiny Committee and therefore it was felt that further consideration should be given as to how the wide remit of this committee could be managed in a more effective way for the Municipal Year 2016/17.
- 3.3 It is felt that separate meetings dedicated to the individual service areas of both Education and Children’s Social Services would be the best ‘fit’ in terms of being able to dedicate more time to properly consider the topics sitting within each service area and the best use of Member and Officer time (and that of the Education Co-opted Members)
- 3.4 It is therefore suggested that a revised approach is taken and the meetings of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee are arranged on a three weekly cycle as follows:-
- Week 1 – To consider those topics under Children’s Social Services
 - Week 3 –To consider those topics under Education
 - Week 6 – To consider the themes which cut across both the Education & Children’s Social Services areas

3.5 It is recognised that this revised approach will need to be subject to Member/officer reflection and therefore it is recommended that a review of the proposed arrangements takes place at the meeting scheduled for the 19th December 2016 (a combined approach committee).

4. **WORK PROGRAMME**

- 4.1 Members will recall that the approach used to assist the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee in devising a work programme for the 2015/16 municipal year commenced in July 2015 when Members identified a list of service areas/themes that came within the remit of the Committee.
- 4.2 From a long list of topics identified and by applying a set criteria the Committee produced a shortlist of potential topics from which the 2015/16 Work Programme was agreed. Thereafter, the Scrutiny Committee set out a timetable for the delivery of its Work Programme and the method of scrutiny to be applied to each agreed topic area.
- 4.3 Following on, during the 2015/16 municipal year reviews were undertaken in more detail which resulted in recommendations being formulated , the impact of which was set out in the Overview and Scrutiny 2015/16 Annual Report that was reported to Council on 25th May 2016. This report can be viewed by clicking [here](#).
- 4.4 Given the size of the 2015/16 Work Programme, it was determined that an element of flexibility would be applied so that topics could be re-visited as the Committee gained a better understanding of the areas assigned to it. In view of this, it was determined that the programme of work should become a 'rolling' work programme.

5. **2015/16 Performance Results Against Nationally Set Performance Indicators**

- 5.1 **Appendix 2** sets out the Council's 2015/16 performance against nationally set performance indicators that come within the remit of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee. Members will note that:
- The latest all Wales comparative performance information (i.e. relating to 2014/15) has been used together with also including the Council's performance for the previous two financial years; and
- 5.2 The information set out at **Appendix 2** is for information purposes as the areas of concern have been previously addressed by this Committee.

6. **INITIAL LIST OF WORK TOPICS FOR THE 2016/17 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

- 6.1 As Members will be aware, the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee identified a number of topic areas to carry forward from 2015/16 into compilation of an initial list of work topics for 2016/17 (and is set out the 2016/17 Municipal Year. This information has been used to inform the draft Work Programme at **Appendix 1**).

7. **Training**

- 7.1 In addition to the fundamental scrutiny skills of questioning, challenging and listening, Members are asked to consider what skills / knowledge could be enhanced to help further improve their impact as a Scrutiny Member, for example, should more regard be paid to the specific topics which feature within the individual Scrutiny Work Programme and focussed training aligned to these?

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

July	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April
14th July 2016	7th Sept 2016	19th Oct	8th Nov 2016	19th Dec 2016	12th Jan 2016	1st Feb 2016	15th March 2016	5th April
Report of the Director of Social Services	Regional Adoption Agency	Confirm Work Programme	CSSIW Report	Invitation to a member of the Child & Mental Health Service	YOS – Feedback from Youth Justice Board Audit Submission	Fixed Term Exclusions School Exclusion Data		School Attendance Performance Figures
Corporate Parenting Annual Report	Social Services Annual Complaints	Annual Safeguarding Board Report 2015/16 plus Business Plan				<u>Attainment</u> Key Stage 4 Results - attendance by Consortium		
Estyn Report-Central South Consortium	29th Sept 2016	CAMHS	29th Nov 2016			Reporting of performance - Estyn School Inspections		26th April
Developing a work programme	<u>Attainment</u> Key Stage Performance Report		Seren			23rd Feb 2016		
	LAC update		Feedback from Cabinet – Governor Support recommendations??			Preparation - Scrutiny Annual Report		
	Report of the Governor Support Working Group							

Work for 2016/17

LA Education Services Self Evaluation report
Additional Learning Needs Fund – update report
Update WESP Education Strategic Plan?

On-going Working Groups:

- Governor Support – report to go to September 2016 meeting

2016/17

Update – moderation of teacher assessments
Early Intervention/Prevention/TAF - areas for targeted scrutiny
Monitor impact of new Vale, Valleys and Cardiff Regional Adoption Collaborative – 2015/16 end of year progress report
LAC Scrutiny Recommendations Action Plan –update - @June/July
Invite to CAMHS – autumn 2016
Success of Seren Programme – autumn 2016
Special Educational Needs
Educational Outcomes for Vulnerable Groups of Children
YOS – feedback from **Youth Justice Board audit submission**
- understanding of those services provided to young people with complex needs and impact

Use of service self evaluations?

Training

Sessions to be delivered on Children's Services ie

- Early intervention & Prevention
- Looked After Children
- Safeguarding
- Workforce

- Session to follow with Tony Garthwaite?

2015-16 Performance (RCT and All Wales) compared with 2013-14 & 2014-15

Children & Young People

		Performance												
		2013/14		2014/15			2015/16							
PI Ref:	Nationally Set Data Description	RCT Actual	What was our position in Wales in 2013/14 (Quartile)	RCT Actual	2014/15 All Wales Average	What was our position in Wales in 2014/15 (Quartile)	RCT Actual	How does our 2015/16 performance compare with 2013/14 Actual	How does our 2015/16 performance compare with 2014/15 Actual	How does our 2015/16 data compare with the 2014/15 Wales Average	2015/16 Target	Did we meet our 2015/16 target	What was our position comparing our 2015/16 data with the rest of Wales for 2014/15 (Quartile)	Was our position in Wales 2015/16 better or worse than 2014/15 (Quartile)
SCC/002	% of children looked after at 31 March who have experienced one or more changes of school, during a period or periods of being looked after, which were not due to transitional arrangements, in the 12 months to 31 March	13.5	3	18.3	13.5	4	13.9	Worse	Better	Worse	13.5	Within 5%	2	Better
SCC/004	% of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year	6.6	2	5.8	9.0	1	5.9	Better	Worse	Better	6.0	Yes	1	Same
SCC/011b	% of initial assessments that took place during the year where there is evidence that the child has been seen alone by the social worker	27.9	4	36.6	44.8	4	46.9	Better	Better	Better	40.0	Yes	3	Better
SCC/033d	% of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact at the age of 19	100.0	1	97.9	93.3	2	89.6	Worse	Worse	Worse	97.0	No	3	Worse
SCC/033e	% of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact, who are known to be in suitable, non-emergency accommodation at the age of 19	92.1	3	95.7	93.1	1	93.0	Better	Worse	Worse	98.0	No	2	Worse
SCC/033f	% of young people formerly looked after with whom the authority is in contact, who are known to be engaged in education, training or employment at the age of 19	68.4	1	69.6	59.5	1	62.8	Worse	Worse	Better	75.0	No	2	Worse
SCC/037	Average external qualifications points score for 16 year old looked after children, in any local authority maintained learning setting	250	2	317	276	1	248	Worse	Worse	Worse	265	No	3	Worse
SCC/041a	% of eligible, relevant and former relevant children that have a pathway plan as required	96.8	3	94.9	91.2	3	97.8	Better	Better	Better	97.0	Yes	3	Same

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		2013/14		2014/15			2015/16							
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SCC/045	% of reviews of looked after children, children on the Child Protection Register and children in need carried out in line with the statutory timetable	93.6	2	93.4	88.9	3	95.2	Better	Better	Better	94.0	Yes	2	Better
SCC/025	% of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations	82.7	4	89.9	87.7	3	92.7	Better	Better	Better	90.0	Yes	1	Better
EDU/002(i)	% of all pupils, including those in care, in any local authority maintained school, aged 15 as at preceding 31 August who leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without qualification	0.5	4	0.1	0.4	1	0.1	Better	Same	Better	0.1	Yes	1	Same
EDU/002(ii)	% of pupils in local authority care and in any local authority maintained school aged 15 as at the preceding 31 August who leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved external qualification	3.2	4	0.0	0.0	1	0.0	Better	Same	Same	6.5	Yes	1	Same
EDU/003	% of pupils assessed at the end of key stage 2, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving Core Subject Indicator as determined by Teacher Assessment	82.6	4	84.3	86.4	4	85.8	Better	Better	Worse	86.0	Within 5%	2	Better
EDU/006(ii)	% of pupils assessed, in schools maintained by the local authority, receiving a Teacher Assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 3	17.9	1	18.9	17.2	1	19.2	Better	Better	Better	19.6	Within 5%	1	Same
EDU/011	Average point score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August, in schools maintained by the local authority	483.5	3	536.7	530.4	2	546.7	Better	Better	Better	540.0	Yes	2	Same
EDU/015a	% of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks, including exceptions	80.4	3	65.9	64.5	3	72.0	Worse	Better	Better	82.68	No	3	Same

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		2013/14		2014/15			2015/16							
PI Ref:	Nationally Set Data Description	RCT Actual	What was our position in Wales in 2013/14 (Quartile)	RCT Actual	2014/15 All Wales Average	What was our position in Wales in 2014/15 (Quartile)	RCT Actual	How does our 2015/16 performance compare with 2013/14 Actual	How does our 2015/16 performance compare with 2014/15 Actual	How does our 2015/16 data compare with the 2014/15 Wales Average	2015/16 Target	Did we meet our 2015/16 target	What was our position comparing our 2015/16 data with the rest of Wales for 2014/15 (Quartile)	Was our position in Wales 2015/16 better or worse than 2014/15 (Quartile)
EDU/015b	% of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks, excluding exceptions	91.5	4	83.7	95.6	4	87.6	Worse	Better	Worse	92.1	Within 5%	4	Same
EDU/017	% of pupils aged 15 at the start of the academic year who achieved L2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh (first language) and Maths	46.3	4	50.5	55.5	4	54.6	Better	Better	Worse	55.0	Within 5%	3	Better
EDU/004	% of pupils assessed at the end of Key Stage 3, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the Core Subject Indicator, as determined by Teacher Assessment	73.6	3	78.4	81.2	4	81.6	Better	Better	Better	82.0	Within 5%	3	Better
EDU/016a	% of pupil attendance in primary schools	93.4	3	94.5	94.8	4	94.8	Better	Better	Same	94.9	Within 5%	2	Better
EDU/016b	% of pupil attendance in secondary schools	91.9	4	93.2	93.6	4	93.7	Better	Better	Better	93.7	Yes	2	Better

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