

Report of the Chair of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the meeting of the Committee to be held on Tuesday 7 June 2016.

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Subject:

Subject: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Draft Work Programme 2016-17

Summary statement:

This report presents the Committee's draft Work Programme 2016-17

Cllr Dale Smith
Chair – Children's Services O&S Committee

Portfolio:

**Education, Employment and Skills
Health & Well Being**

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1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report presents the Committee's draft Work Programme 2016-17.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required by the Constitution of the Council to prepare a work programme (Part 3E – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, Para 1.1).

3. REPORT ISSUES

3.1 **Appendix 1** of this report presents the draft Work Programme 2016-17. It lists issues and topics that have been carried forward from the 2015-16 Municipal Year.

3.2 **Work planning cycle**

Best practice published by the Centre for Public Scrutiny suggests that 'work programming should be a continuous process'. It is important to regularly review work programmes so that important or urgent issues that come up during the year are able to be scrutinised. In addition, at a time of limited resources, it should also be possible to remove projects which have become less relevant or timely. For this reason, it is proposed that the Committee's work programme be regularly reviewed by Members throughout the municipal year.

Members may wish to amend the current work programme (Appendix 1) and / or comment on the proposed work planning cycle set out above.

Also attached for information at Appendix 2 is the Terms of Reference for the detailed scrutiny of "Home Educated Children" which was agreed at the meeting of the Committee held on 12 April 2016.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

None

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

None

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

None

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS



7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

None

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

None

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

None

7.6 TRADE UNION

None

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

None

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Work Programme 2016-17 continues to be regularly reviewed during the year.

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1 – Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee draft Work Programme 2016-17

10.2 Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference – Home Educated Children



Democratic Services - Overview and Scrutiny

Childrens Services O&S Committee

Scrutiny Lead: Licia Woodhead tel - 43 2119

Work Programme 2016/17

Description

Report

Agenda

Tuesday, 26th July 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 11/07/2016. Secretariat deadline 14/07/2016.

- 1) Young Carers
- 2) Schools Forum Update
- 3) Post 16 Review
- 4) Changing Landscape of Education Services: Identifying Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee will receive an update report on the work with Young Carers.

Jim Hopkinson

The Committee will receive an update on the work of the Schools Forum.

Andrew Redding

The Committee will receive a report on the Post 16 review

Jenny Cryer

The Committee will receive a report considering what the implications of recent policies might have on the district.

Michael Jameson

Tuesday, 6th September 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 18/08/2016. Secretariat deadline 24/08/2016.

- 1) The development and publication of Bradford's local offer.
- 2) Ofsted Inspection report
- 3) Workloads of Children's Social Care
- 4) Child Sexual Exploitation

That an update report be presented in the new municipal year.

The Committee will receive an update on the developments following on from the Ofsted inspection.

Judith Kirk

The Committee will receive a report on the workloads of Children's Social Care Services.

Jim Hopkinson

The Committee will receive a report on the work being undertaken to combat Child Sexual Exploitation.

Jim Hopkinson

Wednesday, 12th October 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 26/09/2016. Secretariat deadline 29/09/2016.

- 1) Schools Forum Update
- 2) Children's Centres
- 3) Children Missing from Home and Care
- 4) Education Standards and School to School Partnership arrangements

The Committee will receive an update on the work of the Schools Forum.

Andrew Redding

The Committee will consider an update report on the current position regarding Children's Centres.

The Committee will receive a report detailing numbers of children missing from home and care and work being undertaken to address this.

Jim Hopkinson

The Committee will receive a report on Educational Standards 2016 - Early Years to Key Stage 4.

Judith Kirk

Childrens Services O&S Committee

Scrutiny Lead: Licia Woodhead tel - 43 2119

Work Programme 2016/17

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Tuesday, 1st November 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 17/10/2016. Secretariat deadline 20/10/2016.

- 1) Schools Forum Update
- 2) Review of School Admissions
- 3) Annual Safeguarding report

The Committee will receive an update on the work of the Schools Forum.

Andrew Redding

The Committee will receive a report which demonstrates the impact of the changes and improvements made to the School Admissions procedure.

Judith Kirk

The Committee will receive the Annual Safeguarding report

Jim Hopkinson

Wednesday, 7th December 2016 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 21/11/2016. Secretariat deadline 24/11/2016.

- 1) Workloads of Children's Social Care
- 2) Recruitment and Retention of Teachers

The Committee will receive a report on the workloads of Children's Social Care Services.

Jim Hopkinson

The Committee will receive an update report which includes figures for Special Educational Needs Schools and Pupil Referral Units.

Sarah Rawnsley

Tuesday, 24th January 2017 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 09/01/2017. Secretariat deadline 12/01/2017.

- 1) Schools Forum Update
- 2) Better Start Bradford

The Committee will receive an update on the work of the Schools Forum.

Andrew Redding

The Committee will receive a progress report on the work of the Better Start Programme.

Michaela Howell / Shirley Brierley

Tuesday, 14th February 2017 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 30/01/2017. Secretariat deadline 02/02/2017.

- 0)

Tuesday, 14th March 2017 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 27/02/2017. Secretariat deadline 02/03/2017.

- 1) Standards Report
- 2) Workloads of Children's Social Care

The Committee will receive a report on the workloads of Children's Social Care Services.

Judith Kirk
Jim Hopkinson

Childrens Services O&S Committee

Scrutiny Lead: Licia Woodhead tel - 43 2119

Work Programme 2016/17

Description

The Committee will receive an update on the work of the Schools Forum.

The Committee will receive a progress report on the Youth Offer.

Agenda

Tuesday, 11th April 2017 at City Hall, Bradford.

Chair's briefing 27/03/2017. Secretariat deadline 30/03/2017.

1) Schools Forum Update

2) Youth Offer

Report

Andrew Redding

Ian Day / Heather Wilson

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Scrutiny of Home Educated Children in the Bradford District

Terms of Reference

See Part 3E paragraphs 2.1-2.11 of the Council Constitution

1. Background

In December 2015 Sir Michael Wilshaw, Head of Ofsted warned the safety and well-being of hundreds of children could be at risk by their education in unregistered schools illegally operating in several parts of England.

Earlier this year, a senior delegation from Ofsted met with Council officers and members of the Executive. Ofsted raised some legitimate concerns, but also made some general statements regarding home educated children in the District.

At its meeting on 22 March 2016 the Council resolved to:

“Ask the Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to ensure that a comprehensive and robust review of the Council’s approach to elective home education is carried out over the next six months in which the safeguarding of children is central”.

2. Key Lines of Enquiry

The key lines of enquiry for this scrutiny review are as follows:

- An understanding of the Council’s approach to identifying children not registered at school
- How does the Council minimise the risk of children missing education
- Understanding why some parents / carers choose home education
- How the Council can ensure the safeguarding of children outside the “regular” school system

3. Methodology

The Committee will receive and consider a variety of evidence/ information provided by a range of interested parties. The Committee may adopt one or more of the following methods to collect evidence/ information:

- Request specific briefing materials and/or reports from officers of the Council;
- Invite written evidence from other interested parties;
- Commission specific research and consider any subsequent findings;
- Hold open meetings at which members of the public or interested organisations can present their views and evidence;
- Hold “Committee hearings” i.e. meetings in public, with specific interested parties invited to give a brief presentation (with a previously submitted written submission), followed by questioning by the Committee;

4. List of Interested Parties

An indicative list of interested parties is provided below. This is not definitive or exclusive and can be developed as the scrutiny progresses.

- Department for Education
- Ofsted
- Children’s Services Department
- Private Tutors / schools
- Teachers
- Young People
- Trade Unions
- Parents
- Governors
- Portfolio Holder
- Telegraph & Argus

5. Indicative Timetable

Dates of meetings – to be arranged