



Report to Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Thursday 21st January 2021

Report of: Policy and Improvement Officer

Subject: Draft Work Programme 2020/21: Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

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The usual pattern of meetings has been disrupted by Covid-19, meetings are being held virtually, and this Committee met May, June, October, November and now January 2021. There is one more meeting scheduled February 2021.

The work programme 2020/21 is attached at Appendix 1, it includes a list of possible agenda items, the Committee is asked to prioritise and agree the remaining item(s) they would like to see scheduled for February 2021, in line with sections of this report that refer to role of scrutiny. Section 2.0 is a guide to assist with determining the work programme.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	X

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Prioritise and agree item(s) for remaining meeting this municipal year

Background Papers: [Sheffield Council Constitution](#)

Category of Report: OPEN

Draft Work Programme 2020/21: Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee - Thursday 21st January 2021

1.0 What is the role of Scrutiny?

1.1 Scrutiny Committees exist to hold decision makers to account, investigate issues of local concern, and make recommendations for improvement. The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (formerly the Centre for Public Scrutiny) has identified that effective scrutiny:

- Provides 'Critical Friend' challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers
- Enables the voice and concern of the public and its communities
- Is carried out by independent minded governors who lead and own the scrutiny process
- Drives improvement in public services and finds efficiencies and new ways of delivering services

1.2 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny has updated its activity with several blogs and handy advice for scrutiny in Covid-19, and the Covid Act. These can be found on their web pages - <https://www.cfgs.org.uk/> .

1.3 Scrutiny Committees can operate in a number of ways – through formal meetings with several agenda items, single item 'select committee' style meetings, task and finish groups, and informal visits and meetings to gather evidence to inform scrutiny work. Committees can hear from Council Officers, Cabinet Members, partner organisations, expert witnesses, members of the public. Scrutiny Committees are not decision making bodies, but can make recommendations to decision makers.

2.0 Determining the work programme

2.1 It is important the work programme reflects the principles of effective scrutiny, outlined above at 1.1, and so the Committee has a vital role in ensuring that the work programme is looking at issues that concern local people, and looking at issues where scrutiny can influence decision makers. The work programme remains a live document, and there will be an opportunity for the Committee to discuss it at every Committee meeting, this might include:

- Prioritising issues for inclusion on a meeting agenda
- Identifying new issues for scrutiny
- Determining the appropriate approach for an issue – e.g. select committee style single item agenda vs task and finish group
- Identifying appropriate witnesses and sources of evidence to inform scrutiny discussions
- Identifying key lines of enquiry and specific issues that should be addressed through scrutiny of any given issue.

- 2.2 Where an issue is not appropriate for inclusion on a meeting agenda, but there is significant interest from members, the Committee can choose to request a written briefing.
- 2.3 Members of the Committee can also raise any issues for the work programme via the Chair or Policy and Improvement Officer at any time.

3.0 Meeting Dates 2020/21

- 3.1 Meetings have been scheduled for Thursdays 10am-12pm, the final one this municipal year is on 25th February 2021.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:
- Prioritise and agree item(s) for remaining meeting this municipal year

Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

CURRENT WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

Last updated: 13th January 2021

Please note: the work programme is a live document and so is subject to change.

Children, Young People & Family Support		Thursdays 10am-12pm	
Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Lead Member/Officer/contact	Agenda Item/ Briefing Paper/Task Group
Thursday 21st May 2020 3:00pm			
Call-in of the Cabinet Decision on Investing in Young People	<i>Scrutinise this decision and agree Committee's course of action</i>	<i>Jackie Drayton, Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Abtisam Mohammed, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills; John Macilwraith, Executive director, People, Sam Martin, Head of Commissioning</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
Friday 26th June 2020 10:00am			
<i>Request by the Scrutiny Committee for Further Information Following the Call-in of the Decision on Investing in Young People</i>	<i>Consider the further information supplied and as per the Scrutiny Procedure rules determine if it wishes to make recommendations to the Executive on the called-in decision "Investing in Young People"</i>	<i>Jackie Drayton, Cabinet Member for Children and Families; John Macilwraith, Executive director, People</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>

Thursday 15th October 2020 2:00pm			
<i>Return to School in Covid-19 - Update on Schools Fully Opening</i>	<i>Consideration of update on schools returning September 2020, support for and issues faced</i>	<i>Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Andrew Jones, Interim Director for Education, School Leaders across the city estate</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
<i>Draft Work Programme 2020/21</i>	<i>Consideration of draft work programme for remainder of this municipal year</i>	<i>Policy & Improvement Officer</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
Thursday 19th November 5:00pm			
<i>Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on Young People in Sheffield</i>	<i>Hear from Young People in Sheffield (Sheffield Youth Cabinet) the impact of the pandemic on their education, work, health, and pressing issue that scrutiny could investigate further - future restrictions, educational disadvantage, what do young people want to see happen to minimise impact</i>	<i>Members of Sheffield Youth Cabinet</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
<i>Draft Work Programme 2020/21</i>	<i>Consideration of draft work programme for remainder of this municipal year</i>	<i>Policy & Improvement Officer</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
Thursday 21st January 2021 10:00am			
<i>Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2019-20</i>	<i>Holding to account - consider Annual Report; and impact of new safeguarding policies and practices</i>	<i>David Ashcroft (Independent Chair of Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership); others TBC - Tina Gilbert (Safeguarding Board Manager); Cabinet Member for Children and Families;</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>
<i>Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Services Annual Report 2019-20</i>		<i>Dan White</i>	<i>Agenda Item</i>

Youth Services - Sheffield City Council – <i>interim update</i>	Update on Youth Services after bringing in house October 2020	Cabinet Members for Children and Families and for Education and Skills; John Macilwraith, Dawn Shaw, Laura Hayfield	Agenda Item
Thursday 25th February 2021 10:00am			
Possible items to be scheduled - Agenda Item/ Briefing Paper/Task Group			
Ryegate House & CAMHS	Ryegate House – impact of Covid-19 and accessibility to services; CAMHS - impact of Covid-19 pandemic	TBC	Agenda Item
Exams 2021, educational disadvantage and catch up plans	Should 2021 exams be cancelled, what are catch up plans, is there evidence of increased educational disadvantage in Sheffield due to Covid-19 /lockdown?	TBC – to be revised considering recent Government guidance and Youth Cabinet input	
Education and Skills Strategy	Consider this new strategy	Agenda Item	
Home Schooling	Impact of Covid-19, an alternative to school; and safeguarding of those home schooled	TBC	
MAST	Update on provision, a current position briefing on this service, and its support role in pandemic response	TBC	

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