

CHILDREN’S SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

MEMBERS: Cllr Andrew Marchington (Chair), Cllr Paul White, Cllr Amanda Pinnock, Cllr Aafaq Butt, Cllr Richard Smith, Cllr Paul Davies, Linda Summers (Education Co-Optee), Dale O’Neill (Co-Optee), Toni Bromley (Co-Optee)

SUPPORT: Helen Kilroy, Principal Governance & Democratic Engagement Officer

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION		
ISSUE	APPROACH/AREAS OF FOCUS	OUTCOMES
1. Review of the Improvement Journey	The Panel will continue to review the Improvement Journey of Children’s Services.	(Lead Officer: Elaine McShane)
2. Educational Outcomes	<p>The Panel will consider the impact of children being out of school during the current pandemic and the measures in place to mitigate the impact, recognising the different experiences in respect of home schooling and digital inclusion/engagement.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to link in and scrutinise the work being undertaken by the Learning Partnership on this issue.</p> <p>The Lead Member agreed to keep a watching brief with regard to what the educational impact had been for the children who had transferred from Almondbury Community School to alternate schools and to ensure that the children were getting the right amount of results and opportunities.</p>	<p>(Lead Officer: Jo Sanders)</p> <p>(Lead Officer: Martin Wilby)</p>
3. Number of children in care	A standing item for each meeting containing details of how many children are in care, and particularly how many are placed out of area. *	(Lead Officer: Julie Bragg)
4. Youth Services and Initiatives	The Panel agreed to look at the Youth Practice Model, providing input into the development of the model with a view to scrutinising the effectiveness of the model following its introduction (based on data/evidence).	(Lead Officer: Elaine McShane)
5. Partnership arrangements	The Panel will continue to scrutinise partnerships and boards during the 2020/21 municipal year, for example, Corporate Parenting Board and Health and Wellbeing Board and the Panel	(Lead Officers: Elaine McShane/Jo Sanders/Tom Brailsford)

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	will look at how data was collected and used to improve outcomes. *	
6. Special Educational Needs and High Needs	6 monthly reports to be considered by the Panel and visits to be arranged to some of the SEN Teams to corroborate the information in the presentations provided to Panel Meetings. Arrangements to be made for virtual visits, where appropriate, during the current pandemic.	(Lead Officer: Ronnie Hartley/Jo-Anne Sanders)
7. Performance Information (Children's Services)	The Panel will continue to monitor the performance of the Learning Early Support Service and Child Protection & Family Support in the Informal meetings. *	(Lead Officer: Steve Comb/Julie Bragg – reports produced by Sue Grigg and Andrew Wainwright from Performance Team)
<p style="text-align: center;">Lead Member Briefings</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Bi-monthly LM Briefings to be arranged with Cabinet Members for Learning and Children's; and Mel Meggs/Elaine McShane and Jo-Anne Sanders during 20/21) – Actions from these meetings will be included within the Panel's Work Programme where appropriate</p>		
Exploitation Strategy	The Lead Member agreed to keep a watching brief to monitor the impact on children and young people in the borough.	(Lead Officer: Elaine McShane)

*It is suggested that arrangements be made for representatives from the Panel to attend relevant meetings of Partnership bodies to ensure relevant scrutiny of performance data and information is being effectively scrutinised "upstream". This will not prevent onward referral the Panel where appropriate but will act as a means of avoiding un-necessary duplication.