

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding)	Date of Meeting:	25 September 2018
Subject:	Work Programme 2018/19, Scrutiny Review Topics and Key Decision Forward Plan		
Report of:	Chief Legal and Democratic Officer	Wards Affected:	All
Cabinet Portfolio:	Children, Schools and Safeguarding		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt / Confidential Report:	No		

Summary:

To seek the views of the Committee on the draft Work Programme for 2018/19; identify potential topics for scrutiny reviews to be undertaken by a Working Group appointed by the Committee; and identify any items for pre-scrutiny scrutiny by the Committee from the latest Key Decision Forward Plan.

Recommendation:

That:-

- (1) the Work Programme for 2018/19, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be considered, along with any additional items to be included and agreed;
- (2) Subject to the agreement of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills), the Committee is requested to agree to the establishment of a joint working group to consider post-19 provision for Special Educational Needs and Disability, and to appoint at 2-3 Members of the Committee to the Working Group;
- (3) the Committee is requested to note the progress made to date by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Process of Assessment Working Group Final Report;
- (4) the Committee is requested to consider items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan, as set out in Appendix C to the report, that fall under the remit of the Committee and any agreed items be included in the work programme referred to in (1) above; and
- (5) Further to the outcome of the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) review, the Committee is requested to note the possibility of a future site visit to the Dewi Jones Unit, Waterloo.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

To determine the Work Programme of items to be considered during the Municipal Year 2018/19 and identify scrutiny review topics which would demonstrate that the work of the Overview and Scrutiny “adds value” to the Council.

The pre-scrutiny process assists Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues before making formal decisions.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

No alternative options have been considered as the Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs to approve its Work Programme and identify scrutiny review topics.

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Any financial implications arising from the consideration of a key decision or relating to a recommendation arising from a Working Group review will be reported to Members at the appropriate time.

(A) Revenue Costs – see above

(B) Capital Costs – see above

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None
Legal Implications: None
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.

Contribution to the Council’s Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: None directly applicable to this report but reference in the Work Programme to various reports could impact on the Council’s Core Purposes in which case they will be referred to in the report when submitted.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: As Above
Commission, broker and provide core services: As Above
Place – leadership and influencer: As Above
Drivers of change and reform: As Above
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: As Above
Greater income for social investment: As Above
Cleaner Greener: As Above

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Work Programme Report is not subject to FD/LD consultation. Any specific financial and legal implications associated with any subsequent reports arising from the Work Programme report will be included in those reports as appropriate.

(B) External Consultations

Not applicable

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

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Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:-

- Appendix A - Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme for 2018/19
- Appendix B - Criteria Checklist For Selecting Topics For Review
- Appendix C - Latest Key Decision Forward Plan items relating to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

Introduction/Background

1. WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

- 1.1 The proposed Work Programme of items to be submitted to the Committee for consideration during the Municipal Year 2018/19 is set out in **Appendix A** to the report. The programme has been produced in liaison with the appropriate Heads of Service, whose roles fall under the remit of the Committee.
- 1.2 Members are requested to consider whether there are any other items that they wish the Committee to consider, that fall within the terms of reference of the Committee. The Work Programme will be submitted to each meeting of the Committee during 2018/19 and updated, as appropriate.
- 1.3 **The Committee is requested to comment on the Work Programme for 2018/19 and note that additional items may be added to the Programme at future meetings of the Committee during this Municipal Year.**

2. SCRUTINY REVIEW TOPICS 2018/19

2.1 At the last meeting of the Committee held on 10 July 2018, the Committee considered a recommendation from the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Process of Assessment Working Group requesting the Committee to consider the establishment of a Working Group to examine post-19 provision for SEND. It was suggested that this could be a Joint Working Group with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills).

2.2 This Committee agreed that:-

“(3) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) be requested to consider the establishment of a joint working group to consider post-19 provision for Special Educational Needs and Disability, with Members of this Committee;” (Minute No. 12 refers).

2.3 At the time of drafting this report the request has been submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) and will be considered by that Committee at its meeting scheduled for 18 September 2018. The outcome will be reported verbally to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children’s Services and Safeguarding) at its meeting on 25 September 2018.

2.4 Subject to the agreement of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills), the Committee is requested to agree to the establishment of a joint working group to consider post-19 provision for Special Educational Needs and Disability, and to appoint at 2-3 Members of the Committee to the Working Group.

3. SCRUTINY REVIEW TOPICS 2017/18

Special Educational Needs and Disability Process of Assessment Working Group

3.1 At its last meeting held on 10 July 2018, the Committee considered the Final Report of the above Working Group and resolved as follows:-

“RESOLVED:

That provided the recommendations are subject to any budget implications and the inclusion of the revised recommendation 1 (h), the report and the (following) recommendations be supported and commended to the Cabinet for approval”.

3.2 The Final Report was subsequently considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on 26 July 2018, and the recommendations were approved.

3.3 A six-monthly monitoring report setting out progress made against each of the recommendations will now be submitted to the Committee at its meeting scheduled for 29 January 2019.

3.4 The Committee is requested to note the progress made to date by the Special Educational Needs and Disability Process of Assessment Working Group Final Report.

4. PRE-SCRUTINY OF ITEMS IN THE KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN

4.1 Members may request to pre-scrutinise items from the Key Decision Forward Plan which fall under the remit (terms of reference) of this Committee. The Forward Plan, which is updated each month, sets out the list of items to be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration during the next four month period.

4.2 The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.

4.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has requested that only those key decisions that fall under the remit of each Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be included on the agenda for consideration.

4.4 The latest Forward Plan is attached at **Appendix C** for this purpose. For ease of identification, items listed on the Forward Plan for the first time appear as shaded.

4.5 Should Members require further information in relation to any item on the Key Decision Forward Plan, would they please contact the relevant Officer named against the item in the Plan, prior to the Meeting.

4.6 There is just one item within the current Plan that falls under the remit of the Committee on this occasion, namely:-

- Sand Dunes Nursery School -Outcome of the Consultation

4.7 The Committee is invited to consider items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan as set out in Appendix C to the report, that fall under the remit of the Committee and any agreed items be included in the Work Programme referred to in (1) above.

5. POSSIBLE SITE VISIT

5.1 The Committee's former Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Working Group included a recommendation as follows:-

“(7) the Head of Regulation and Compliance be requested to approach Alder House with a view to extending an invitation to all Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding) to attend a site visit to Alder House;”

5.2 Further investigations have revealed that Alder Hey Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has a Unit, known as the Dewi Jones Unit, based in Park Road, Waterloo, that provides an in-patient mental health facility for children and young people aged 5 – 14.

5.3 At the time of drafting this report attempts are being made to investigate the possibility of a potential site visit for Members of the Committee to visit the Unit. The General Manager of the Unit has indicated that a visit by Members would be welcomed and a date for a visit is being determined. Members will be advised of arrangements once they are finalised. Any further developments will be reported verbally at the meeting.

5.4 Further to the outcome of the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) review, the Committee is requested to note the possibility of a future site visit to the Dewi Jones Unit, Waterloo.