

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
25 November 2021

Work Programme

Report of the Head of Legal and Governance

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the Committee's work programme for 2021/22 based on areas of work identified by the Committee at previous meetings and any further suggestions raised at this meeting.

2. Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- a) note that the work programme is in the process of being reviewed in line with the recommendations of the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny's review of the scrutiny function; and
 - b) comment on how the work programme could be amended in line with these recommendations.

3. Background information

- 3.1 The purpose of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is to provide robust scrutiny of issues and services relevant to the wellbeing and safeguarding of children and young people, in the light of recommendations from the Council's Ofsted Inspection April 2014, and the Jay and Casey Reports (Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham).
- 3.2 The Committee is responsible for setting and managing its own work programme to fulfil this role.
- 3.3 In setting a programme for scrutiny activity, the Committee should aim for an outcome-focused work programme that has clear priorities and a clear link to its roles and responsibilities. The work programme needs to be flexible so that issues which arise as the year progresses can be considered appropriately.
- 3.4 Where there are a number of potential items that could be scrutinised in a given year, consideration of what represents the highest priority or area of risk will assist with work programme planning. Changes and/or additions to the work programme will need to take account of the resources available to the Committee.
- 3.5 The current work programme for the municipal year 2021/22 is attached at Appendix 1. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed an action plan to respond to the recommendations of the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) review of the Council's scrutiny function. The recommendations included that scrutiny should be repurposed and focused on the financial and commercial challenges confronting the Council, service delivery within a tighter financial envelope and the risks involved achieving this at pace. The CfGS recommended that the scrutiny committee work programmes should be almost exclusively focused on topics that address and support the Council's recovery plan and any additional items should only be added where councillors are confident of scrutiny making an impact through its recommendations. In

addition, it was also recommended that agendas are limited to two substantive items. Therefore, the Committee's work programme is in the process of being reviewed in line with these recommendations. Committee members may wish to comment/ make suggestions for how the work programme is amended to accord with these agreed principles.

4. List of attached information

4.1 Appendix 1 – Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee 2021/22 Work Programme

5. Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6. Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None

7. Wards affected

7.1 All

8. Contact information

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