

Education and Children's Services (2)

Scrutiny Work Programme 2016/17

16th June 16
Recruitment and Retention of Social Work Staff (task and finish group) Improvement Board - 11 May 2016
21st July 16
SCR Early Help Strategy Improvement Board - 22 June 16
15th September 16
'Stepping Up' and 'Stepping Down' Process for Social Care cases. Quality Assurance Auditing Staying Put Arrangements and Policy
13th October 16
Supervision of Social Care Staff recommendations Teen pregnancy and PSHE in schools Health Visiting Contract Improvement Board Report – 14 September 16
10th Nov 16 8th December 16
Improvement Board Report – 2 November 16
12th January 17
Education Performance Report Monitoring of SCR recommendations from 15/16 Improvement Board Report – 14 December 16
9th February 17
Improvement Board Report – 25 January 17
9th March 17 6th April 16
Progress Reports -These items will only be reported to the Board by exception. Where progress is on track reports will be circulated to the Board for information only
Changes to adoption agency – progress report Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children - briefing note LSCB Annual report Youth Offending Service – progress report Family Drugs and Alcohol Court – progress report MASH update - progress report 12 Jan 17 Children's Social Care Workforce Strategy – progress report 9 Feb17 Early Help Strategy – reported to meeting 21 July Progress on Audit Findings
Proposed Agenda Items
Voices of Care Consultation on proposed changes to the school transport service. Young Carers

Serious Case reviews
Commissioned Services including Residential Care
CAMHS
Academisation Programme
Short Breaks Review
School based police panels
Prevent in schools
SCR – Child F

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
16th June 16	Recruitment and Retention of Social Work Staff (task and finish group)	Members wanted to look in depth at the recruitment of social workers including consideration of reasons for lack of interest in previous recruitment campaigns and remuneration and responsibility levels of social workers. To include reputational factors as well.	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
	Improvement Board - 11 May 2016	A standing item as agreed by Council reporting progress against the areas identified in the improvement notice.	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
21st July 16	SCR	The Board will consider recommendations from a serious case review.	Janet Mokades Cllr Ruane
	Early Help Strategy	To receive a progress report on the Early Help Strategy including the Strengthening Families. Also to include hard to engage families (see SCR recommendations)	John Gregg Fran Doyle Cllr Ruane
	Improvement Board - 22 June 16	A standing item as agreed by Council reporting progress against the areas identified in the improvement notice.	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
15th September 16	'Stepping Up' and 'Stepping Down' Process for Social Care cases.	Following the Boards consideration of the SCR on Baby C Members requested more information on the new processes implemented as a result of the recommendations	John Gregg Fran Doyle Nancy Meehan Cllr Ruane
	Quality Assurance Auditing	Following the Boards consideration of the SCR on Baby C Members requested more information on the auditing of case work to ensure consistency and quality of practice	John Gregg Terri Cartwright Cllr Ruane
	Staying Put Arrangements and Policy	To look in more detail at the Staying Put Policy, involving representation from the Foster Carers Association. The report should cover promotion of the policy with young people, children social work support at 18, financial support to Foster Carers. The Voice of the Child Task and Finish Group raised the issue of independence training and the Chair suggested that it be looked at separately.	John Gregg Jivan Sembi Cllr Ruane
13th October 16	Supervision of Social Care Staff recommendations	A progress report on the recommendations accepted by the Cabinet Member on 14/4/16	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
	Teen pregnancy and	To consider what schools are doing to support the Teenage	Kirston Nelson,

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
	PSHE in schools	Pregnancy Strategy and how the Council is supporting them	Nadia Ingliss Judith Simmonds Cllr Maton
	Health Visiting Contract	Members wanted to know more about the current health visiting contract particularly Health Visitors involvement in CAF's.	Cllr Ruane Jane Moore
	Improvement Board Report – 14 September 16	A standing item as agreed by Council reporting progress against the areas identified in the improvement notice.	
10th Nov 16			
8th December 16	Improvement Board Report – 2 November 16	A standing item as agreed by Council reporting progress against the areas identified in the improvement notice.	
12th January 17	Education Performance Report	An annual report with the headline performance data from schools, including vulnerable groups including children educated out of school and excluded pupils.	
	Monitoring of SCR recommendations from 15/16	The Board wanted to know how the outcomes of recommendations from SCR's are monitored and whether implemented recommendations have been effective in protecting children	Elizabeth Edwards
	Improvement Board Report – 14 December 16	A standing item as agreed by Council reporting progress against the areas identified in the improvement notice.	
9th February 17	Improvement Board Report – 25 January 17	A standing item as agreed by Council reporting progress against the areas identified in the improvement notice.	
9th March 17			
6th April 16			
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	Changes to adoption agency – progress report	A regional adoption agency has been established. Members wanted a progress report and information on performance	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children - briefing note	Members requested to be kept up to date on numbers of UASC in the city and services to support them	John Gregg
	LSCB Annual report	The annual report of the local safeguarding children’s board	
	Youth Offending Service – progress report	An update on progress of the Youth Offending Service	Angie Parks Cllr Ruane
	Family Drugs and Alcohol Court – progress report	Progress on the work of the FDAC	John Gregg
	MASH update - progress report 12 Jan 17	Following the meeting in January 2016, Members requested a further progress update, particularly in relation to the recommendations made.	
	Children’s Social Care Workforce Strategy – progress report 9 Feb17	Following the introduction of the Workforce Strategy at their meeting on 25 February, Members requested a further progress report	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
	Early Help Strategy – reported to meeting 21 July	Members requested further progress reports following their meeting on 21 st July 2016	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
	Progress on Audit Findings	At their meeting on 15 th September, Members requested regular updates on progress against those areas where audits suggested improvement is required. 7. Care planning continues to cause concern, with drift and lack of contingency planning. 8. Neglect and “start again” syndrome is highly visible on a high proportion of cases including those held in early	John Gregg Cllr Ruane

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		<p>help.</p> <p>9. Focus is on assessment, rather than on intervention, impact and outcomes.</p> <p>10. Looked after Children, have too many moves.</p> <p>11. Life Story work continues to be inconsistent.</p> <p>12. Placement sufficiency has a negative impact on the ability of the service to identify appropriate placements for those young people ready for independence.</p> <p>13. Whilst children are being seen, it is sometimes unclear about the purpose of the visit or nature of the intervention.</p> <p>14. Recording is still inconsistent</p> <p>15. Use of chronologies is not routine or properly understood.</p> <p>16. Supervision is task focused and not reflective.</p>	
Proposed Agenda Items	Voices of Care	Members requested regular updates on the work and benefits of the Voices of Care Council, including the results of surveys with LAC	Sheila Bates
	Consultation on proposed changes to the school transport service.	Following the change in timescales to implementation of changes Members requested that the Board considers the new proposals as part of the new consultation process.	Jeanette Essex Cllr Maton
	Young Carers	Referred from the Corporate Parenting Board, to look at support offered to children and young people who are carers, especially those that are children in need, child protection or who come into care because of the health of their parents.	Suzanne Lawlor – Carers Strategy
	Serious Case reviews	The Board will consider recommendations from serious case reviews when they are published. To also include Wisteria Lodge investigation.	Cat Parker/Hardeep Walker Cllr Ruane/Janet Mokades
	Commissioned Services including Residential Care	Members requested further information about commissioned services and how contracts are awarded and monitored, including Barnardo's. Members requested information on	John Gregg/Sally Giles Cllr Ruane

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
		residential care provided by both the local authority and commissioned services	
	CAMHS	A follow up and progress report on work done with SB5 last year, especially in terms of prescription drug use. Also a task and finish group to investigate why there significantly high number of referrals through CAMHS on the ASD pathway.	Jacqueline Barnes
	Academisation Programme	The Board wanted to consider the implications of the Government white paper and the proposals for all schools to become academies by 2020. Also to include information on how the Council works with Free Schools as referred from Scrucro from a suggestion by a member of the public	Kirston Nelson Cllr Maton
	Short Breaks Review	To look in more detail at the provision of short breaks for disabled children	John Gregg Cllr Ruane
	School based police panels	A report on how the police are supporting improving behaviour in schools and tackling anti-social behaviour in partnership	Kirston Nelson Cllr Maton
	Prevent in schools	To look in more detail how the Prevent agenda is being delivered in schools	Kirston Nelson Cllr Maton
	SCR – Child F	The Board will consider recommendations from a serious case review.	