

Report for Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel – 7 November 2019

Title: Work Programme 2018-20 - Update

Report authorised by: Ayshe Simsek, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

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Ward(s) affected: N/A

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 This report provides an update on the Panel's work plan for 2018/20.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Panel notes its current work programme, attached at **Appendix A**, and considers whether any amendments are required;
- 2.2 That the Panel selects one of the four issues outlined within **Appendix B** for development as an in-depth scrutiny review project once the current review on SEND has been completed; and
- 2.3 That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to endorse the updated workplan at its next meeting.

3. Reasons for decision

- 3.1 The work programme for Overview and Scrutiny was finalised by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 19 November 2018. Arrangements for implementing the work programme have progressed and the latest plans for the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel are outlined in **Appendix A**.

4. Alternative options considered

- 4.1 The Panel could choose not to review its work programme but this could diminish knowledge of the work of Overview and Scrutiny and would fail to keep the full membership updated on any changes to the work programme.

5. Background information

- 5.1 The work programme for the Committee and its Panels that was agreed is for two years – 2018/19 and 2019/20. It was finalised following a wide ranging consultation process that included partner organisations, stakeholders, the

community and voluntary sector and local residents. There is nevertheless scope for flexibility and the Panel may update and amend it to taken into account any emerging issues not currently included as it feels fit.

- 5.2 A copy of the current work plan for the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel is attached as Appendix "A" to this report.

Scrutiny Review Projects

- 5.3 The Panel has held two further evidence sessions as part of its review on Special Educational Needs and Disability provision since the last meeting. At the session on 30 September 2019, it received further evidence from officers in the Children and Young People's Service, Commissioning and Haringey CCG. In particular, they outlined recent developments and improvements that had taken place in support for children and young people with autism and Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. On 28 October, the Panel met to consider its conclusions and recommendations based on all of the evidence that it had received since the start of the review. The final report is currently being drafted and, once endorsed by the Panel, will be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval.
- 5.4 Once the review has been completed, the Panel will be in a position to undertake a new review. Alternative Provision is currently specified as the next review but the Council is currently already in the process of undertaking a review on this, led by the Commissioning Service. The Panel has already selected four alternative matters for review. These are:
- Unregulated care homes;
 - County lines and vulnerable young people;
 - Fragmentation of school structures; and
 - Falling school rolls.
- 5.5 Further information on each of these potential reviews and their potential scope and terms of reference is attached as Appendix B. The Panel is requested to select one of these for further development. A detailed scope and terms of reference for the issue selected will be drafted in consultation with the Chair.

Forward Plan

- 5.6 Since the implementation of the Local Government Act and the introduction of the Council's Forward Plan, scrutiny members have found the Plan to be a useful tool in planning the overview and scrutiny work programme. The Forward Plan is updated each month but sets out key decisions for a 3-month period.
- 5.7 To ensure the information provided to the Panel is up to date, a copy of the most recent Forward Plan can be viewed via the link below:

<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RP=110&RD=0&J=1>

5.8 The Panel may want to consider the Forward Plan and discuss whether any of these items require further investigation or monitoring via scrutiny.

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

6.1 The contribution of scrutiny to the corporate priorities will be considered routinely as part of the Panel's work.

7. Statutory Officers comments

Finance and Procurement

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report. Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications these will be highlighted at that time.

Legal

7.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from the report.

7.3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the approval of the future scrutiny work programme falls within the remit of the OSC.

7.4 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an OSC has the power to appoint one or more sub-committees to discharge any of its functions. In accordance with the Constitution, the appointment of Scrutiny Panels (to assist the scrutiny function) falls within the remit of the OSC.

7.5 Scrutiny Panels are non-decision making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each scrutiny panel produces must be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.

Equality

7.6 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;

- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

7.7 The Panel should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work plan, as well as individual pieces of work. This should include considering and clearly stating;

- How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics;
- Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
- Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Haringey;
- Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.

7.8 The Panel should ensure equalities comments are based on evidence. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service users views gathered through consultation.

8. Use of Appendices

Appendix A – Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel; Work Plan for 2018/20

9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A