



Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee: Work Programme 2022/23

Chair:	Cllr Kerry Jenkins
Deputy Chair:	Cllr Des Hughes (elect)
Committee Members:	Cllrs: Shabina Bano, Jilly Bermingham, Debbie Clancy, Shehla Moledina, Simon Morrall, and Penny Wagg Education Representatives: Justine Lomas, Roman Catholic Diocese, Osamugi Ogbe, Parent Governor, Rabia Shami, Parent Governor, and Sarah Smith, Church of England Diocese
Officer Support:	Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager: Fiona Bottrill (303 1731) Scrutiny Officer: Amanda Simcox: (675 8444) Committee Manager: Sofia Mirza (675 0216)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The remit of the Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee is 'to fulfil the functions of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee as they relate to any policies, services and activities concerning schools and education, the Children's Trust, vulnerable children, corporate parenting, children and young people's health and wellbeing and other child social care and safeguarding functions of the council'.
- 1.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee dealing with education matters shall include in its membership the following voting representatives: a) Church of England diocese representative (one); b) Roman Catholic diocese representative (one); and c) Parent Governor representatives (two, who are on the Committee until 30th April 2026).
- 1.3 This report provides details of the proposed scrutiny work programme for 2022/23.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee considers its work programme, attached at Appendix 1, and agrees any amendments required.
- 2.2 Notes the Inquiry proposal attached at Appendix 2 and receives a verbal update at the meeting following the decision of the Co-ordinating O&S Committee on the 8th July 2022.



3 Background

- 3.1 *"Scrutiny is based on the principle that someone who makes a decision...should not be the only one to review or challenge it. Overview is founded on the belief that an open, inclusive, member-led approach to policy review...results in better policies in the long run."* (Jessica Crowe, former Executive Director, Centre for Governance and Scrutiny).
- 3.2 Developing an effective work programme is the bedrock of an effective scrutiny function. Done well, it can help lay the foundations for targeted, inclusive and timely work on issues of local importance, where scrutiny can add value. Done poorly, scrutiny can end up wasting time and resources on issues where the impact of any scrutiny work done is likely to be minimal.
- 3.3 As a result, the careful selection and prioritisation of work is essential if the scrutiny function is to be successful, add value and retain credibility.

4 Work Programme

- 4.1 Appendix 1 sets out the future work programme for this Committee. This provides information on the aims and objectives, together with lead officers and witnesses, for each item. The attached work programme also includes items to be programmed where dates are still to be confirmed, and any outstanding items including the tracking of previous recommendations.
- 4.2 Appendix 2 sets out the Inquiry proposed at the 15th June 2022 informal meeting. This will be considered by the Co-ordinating O&S Committee on the 8th July 2022.

5 Other Meetings

- 5.1 There are no other meetings scheduled at this time.

Call in Meetings:

None scheduled

Petitions

None scheduled

Councillor Call for Action requests

None scheduled

It is suggested that the Committee approves Wednesday at 10.00am as a suitable day and time each week for any additional meetings required to consider 'requests for call in' which may be lodged in respect of Executive decisions.



6 Forward Plan for Cabinet Decisions

- 6.1 Since the implementation of the Local Government Act and the introduction of the Forward Plan, scrutiny members have found the Plan to be a useful tool in identifying potential agenda items.
- 6.2 The following decisions, extracted from the CMIS Forward Plan of Decisions, are likely to be relevant to the Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee's remit. The Committee may wish to consider whether any of these issues require further investigation or monitoring via scrutiny. The Forward Plan can be viewed in full via Forward Plans (cmis.uk.com).

ID Number	Title	Proposed Date of Decision
	There are currently none from the July 2022 Forward Plan.	

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

8 Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.

9 Public Sector Equality Duty

- 9.1 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
 - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 9.2 The Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them during work programme development, the scoping of work, evidence gathering and making recommendations. This should include considering: How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share a relevant protected characteristic; 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 Birmingham; Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people are being realised.



- 9.3 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments, and any recommendations, are based on evidence. This should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

10 Use of Appendices

10.1 Appendix 1 – Work Programme for 2022/2023

10.2 Appendix 2 – Inquiry Proposal

APPENDIX 1 - 2022-23 WORK PROGRAMME

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 20th July 2022

Item/ Topic	Type of Scrutiny	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information (Including joint working / links with other O&S Committees)
SEND Improvement and the Accelerated Progress Plan	Update Report	Advise current position on SEND Improvement, and the Accelerated Progress Plan (APP).	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families Victor Roman, SEND Improvement Programme Manager	None Required	
Home to School Transport (HTST) and Stocktake	Update Report	Assurances on improvements to the HTST service including arrangements for Sep 2022.	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Mike Fagan, AD, Home to School Transport Satinder Sahota, Interim City Solicitor & Monitoring Officer	None Required	
Youth Justice Plan	Consultation	To discuss the priorities prior to the plan going to Cabinet and City Council for adoption.	Seamus Gaynor, Head of Executive, Children's Trust	Dionne McAndrew, AD, Vulnerable Young People, Children's Trust Janine Saleh, Head of Service, Youth Offending Service	None Required	
Work Programme Development	Decision	Approve work programme for 2022-23	Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager	None	None Required	

Final Deadline: Monday 11th July 2022

Publication: Tuesday 12th July 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 7th September 2022

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
SEND Improvement SEND Commissioner (tbc)	Update Report	Improvement Journey	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families John Coughlan, DFE Commissioner (tbc)	None Required	
Cabinet Member Portfolio Overview	Update Report	Report providing a summary of Cabinet Member priorities for 2022-23, and identify opportunities for O&S to add value	Suman McCarthy, Cabinet Support Officer	Cllr Karen McCarthy, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families	None Required	Cabinet Member Portfolio Overview <i>This may include CYP Plan</i>
Work Programme Development / Inquiry Proposal	Decision	Approve work programme for 2022-23	Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager	None	None Required	

Final Deadline: Friday 26th August 2022

Publication: Tuesday 30th August 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 19th October 2022

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
HTST Update (tbc)	Update Report	Update on the service delivery for Sep 2022.	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families Mike Fagan, AD, Home to School Transport	None Required	
Work Programme Development / Inquiry	Decision	Approve work programme for 2022-23	Fiona Bottrill, Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager	None	None Required	Work Programme Development

Final Deadline: Monday 10th October 2022

Publication: Tuesday 11th October 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 30th November 2022

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP)	Update Report	To receive the BSCP Two-Year Report and the Independent Chair's Accountability Report	Simon Cross Business Manager, BSCP	Penny Thompson, Independent Chair, BSCP Simon Cross Business Manager, BSCP		Last attended on 16 th February 2022

Final Deadline: Monday 21st November 2022

Publication: Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 4th January 2023

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information

Final Deadline: Thursday 22nd December 2022

Publication: Friday 23rd December 2022

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 22nd February 2023

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information
School Attainment	Update Report		Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years	Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years Alan Michell, Head of Service for Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking		

Final Deadline: Monday 12th February 2023

Publication: Tuesday 13th February 2023

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 5th April 2023

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information

Final Deadline: Monday 27th March 2023

Publication: Tuesday 28th March 2023

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 17th May 2023

Item/ Topic	Type	Aims and Objectives	Lead Officer	Witnesses	Visits	Additional Information

Final Deadline: Monday 8th May 2023

Publication: Tuesday 9th May 2023

TO BE SCHEDULED:

1. Grand Challenges, City Observatory data indicators by committee remit
2. Children's Trust Update
3. Proposed inquiry: Child Exploitation and County Lines
4. Proposed joint inquiry with Health and Social Care O&S Committee: Children and Young People Mental Health
5. Visits

Appendix 2

Proposed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Title of Inquiry	Child Exploitation and County Lines
Aims and Objectives	<p>To understand how the Council, Children's Trust, Police, schools and Violence Reduction Partnership work together to address child criminal exploitation, County Lines and knife crime.</p> <p>Are services based on best practice?</p> <p>Possible focus to be discussed when scoping Inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the voice of children and young people inform policy and services? • Consider focussing on prevention or protection / intervention • How is the Council working with schools to develop alternative to exclusions to reduce the risk of exploitation for children and young people?
Why is this Inquiry being proposed and desired Outcome?	<p>Information presented to the Education and Children's Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee in March 2022 showed that there were more children in Birmingham at risk of criminal exploitation than sexual exploitation. CMIS > Meetings</p> <p>Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) have today announced the focus for the programme of Joint Targeted Area Inspections. One of the themes that the JTAI will focus on is multi-agency response to the criminal exploitation of children.</p>
Other Relevant Information e.g. Links to other Overview & Scrutiny Committees	<p>The scope and governance relating to this inquiry will be agreed with partners.</p> <p>This Inquiry could link with the Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report to the Committee.</p> <p>Members of the Housing and Neighbourhood Overview and Scrutiny Committee may be interested in taking part in this inquiry as this Committee has the statutory function to scrutinise the work of the Community Safety Partnership.</p> <p>There was a Scrutiny Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation completed in 2014. This work may help inform this Inquiry.</p>

	<p>Further information that can inform the Inquiry include:</p> <p>The LGS Tackling Child Exploitation Resource Pack: Tackling child exploitation: resources pack Local Government Association</p> <p>Tackling Child Exploitation (TCE) Support Programme Key Lines of Inquiry:</p> <p>the Home Office Child Exploitation Disruption: Child exploitation disruption toolkit - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>
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