

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH 2022 AT 10:00 HOURS
**IN CHARLES DICKENS HALL, BMI, MARGARET STREET, [VENUE
ADDRESS]**

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chair to advise/meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's meeting You Tube site (www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6_5dnVnYlw) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE

To note the resolution of the City Council appointing Justine Lomas to replace Adam Hardy as the Roman Catholic diocese representative on the Committee and Councillor Simon Morrall to replace Councillor Saddak Miah for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2022.

3 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members are reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non pecuniary interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not speak or take part in that agenda item. Any declarations will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

5 ACTION NOTES AND ACTION TRACKER

To confirm the actions notes of the formal meeting held on the 16 February 2022 and note the action tracker.

- 21 - 34**
- 6 **CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) (10.00 - 10.40)**
- Cllr Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member, Vulnerable Children and Families, Jenny Turnross, Director of Practice, Children's Trust (on-line) and Clair Graham, Head of Service Contextual Safeguarding, EMPOWER U Hub, Exploitations & Missing Team, Children's Trust (on-line) in attendance.
- 35 - 40**
- 7 **YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE (10.40 - 11.20)**
- Ilgun Yusuf, Acting AD, Skills and Employability and, Soulla Yiasouma, Joint Head of Youth Service in attendance.
- 41 - 50**
- 8 **SEND - OBJECTIVE 2: GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT – SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW SERVICE (SENAR) (11.20 – 12.00)**
- Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion, Faye Higgins, Programme and Change Manager, Sabiha Aziz, Chair, Parent Carer Forum; Pam Armstrong, Parent Carer Forum and Jo Green, Parent Carer Forum in attendance.
- 51 - 58**
- 9 **WORK PROGRAMME**
- For discussion.
- 10 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**
- The next meeting is to be held on 6th April 2022 at 10am.
- 11 **REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**
- To consider any request for call in/councillor call for action/petitions (if received).
- 12 **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**
- To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chair are matters of urgency.
- 13 **AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS**
- Chair to move:-
- 'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chair jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY (O&S) COMMITTEE – PUBLIC MEETING****1000 hours on Wednesday, 16 February 2022, BMI, Margaret Street****Action Notes****Present:**

Councillor: Kath Scott (Acting Chair)

Councillors: Saddak Miah and Alex Yip

Other Voting Representatives: Rabia Shami, Parent Governor Representative

Also Present:

Councillor Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member, Vulnerable Children and Families (on-line)

Sabiha Aziz, Chair, Parent Carer Forum (PCF)

Simon Cross, Business Manager, Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP)

Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years

Jo Green, PCF

Sue Harrison, Director, Education & Skills

Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion (on-line)

Alan Michell, Head of Service, Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking

Victor Roman, SEND Improvement Programme Manager (on-line)

Ceri Saunders, Acting Group Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Amanda Simcox, Scrutiny Officer

Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair, BSCP

In the absence of the Chair and Deputy Chair, Councillor Kath Scott was elected to chair the meeting.

1. NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chair advised that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's meeting You Tube site (www.youtube.com/channel/UCT2kT7ZRPFCXq6_5dnVnYlw) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Cllrs: Narinder Kaur Kooner (Chair), Kerry Jenkins (Deputy Chair), Olly Armstrong, Charlotte Hodivala, and Katherine Iroh; and Omar Hanif, Parent Governor Representative, and Sarah Smith, Church of England Diocese Representative.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Alex Yip declared an interest as he is a Deputy Chair of governors at Wilson Stuart School.

4. ACTION NOTES AND ACTION TRACKER

(See documents No. 1, 2 and 3)

RESOLVED:

- The action notes of the formal meeting held on the 24th November 2021 were confirmed.
- The action notes of the informal meeting held on the 12th January 2022 were noted.
- The Action tracker was noted.

5. SEND: DASHBOARD

(See document No. 4)

Councillor Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member, Vulnerable Children and Families, Sue Harrison, Director, Education & Skills, Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion, Victor Roman, SEND Improvement Programme Manager, Sabiha Aziz, Chair, PCF, and Jo Green, PCF, were in attendance for this item.

Sue Harrison introduced the item and explained that the dashboard is the performance tool in the Accelerated Progress Plan (APP), which includes the only two statutory reporting KPIs for SEND. In addition, there are other performance measures for Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review (SENAR) which will also be reported to the Committee.

Pauline Maddison provided Members with an overview and this included:

- The dashboard will be regularly updated and monitored by the DFE and Ofsted, and this, together with other data will be shared with the Committee.
- There are four Objectives and Getting the Basics Right, which focuses on improvements in SENAR is the most important element of the four objectives.
- The SENAR indicators are nationally quite small in terms of numbers and the main one that local authorities are judged on is the percentage of EHCPs completed within 20 weeks, and we are still above the national average.

- It is usual for the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) and main Project Manager to attend this committee meeting for the objective. However, there is not one for the dashboard as all are responsible.
- Objective two: Getting the Basics Right is due to be discussed at the Committee's March meeting. The SEND Improvement Board has split this item due to there being so much to discuss. Therefore, it was proposed that SENAR is discussed at the March 2022 committee meeting and health colleagues attend the April 2022 committee meeting to discuss waiting lists.
- Two more experienced officers have been appointed to specialist posts in SENAR. The current focus is to review all the documentation used in all parts of the process and this will be included in the March discussion. A fortnightly update will be published to keep parents, schools and stakeholders updated on any SENAR changes. A proposed permanent structure for SENAR is being developed and this will form the basis of a report in the Summer to secure permanent resources for SENAR in the base budget as the current additional funding is only approved until March 2023. The aim is to have SENAR fully operational against the Code of Practice 2015 by September 2022.
- They are still on target to have a draft SEND sufficiency strategy for April, although they still do not have school places for all children to meet their needs.

Victor Roman gave the presentation and highlighted that page 30 in the pack acknowledged data sits across partners, and this included the Children's Trust and Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). A lot of work on data management is needed and as part of the APP they will look at this. The dashboard will be completed and regularly updated, and they must also look at individuals' experiences and outcomes so that they adequately measure benefits. Statistical data was also provided.

During the discussion with Members the main points included:

- It is difficult to give timelines due to co-dependency on a breadth of issues, such as the update of the case management system, and work needs to be done across the CCG and the Children's Trust in terms of the data.
- There have been technical difficulties with the new case management system, and they are currently working with the provider to resolve these as quickly as possible. An update on the position with the case management system is to be provided at the next meeting as Members will be looking at getting the basics right and the implementation of the case management system sits within this particular objective.
- The Cabinet Member attended an engagement event yesterday with parents where timelines came up and she agreed that they need to have timelines in place, with the agreement across the partners, and she will discuss this with the Director.
- They will be providing more details at the next committee meeting on how they will be assuring the quality of the Education and Health Care Plans

(EHCPs), and this will include details of the multi-agency core group who are reviewing quality assurance.

- To improve the quality of the EHCPs now, they are increasing management capacity with an appointment of an experienced officer to look at quality and speed. The parents having a named officer so they can discuss their EHCP will also assist.
- The maximum waiting time for an EHCP was requested. Health colleagues collect median, longest and shortest waiting times. However, it would be difficult to collect median, longest and shortest waiting times for EHCPs within the Council, as this is not something that is required by legislation. The Director thought that this could be provided around September time when they have got a digital system.
- Details of post 16 year olds with SEND in education and how they are supported were provided.
- Whether the waiting times for Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) included the whole cohort was queried. This data comes from CCG colleagues and officers can obtain this and / or the Committee could do a deep dive with CCG colleagues if they are agreeable to them attending the April 2022 committee meeting.
- Detailed information on how schools are funded for a child who has SEND was provided.

RESOLVED:

The update was noted and:

- An update on the position with the case management system to be provided at the next meeting.
- The Cabinet Member to discuss timelines for SEND improvement with the Director for Education and Skills.
- Data for the medium and maximum averages for EHCPs to be provided and officers to confirm the timeline for when this can be expected (approximately September 2022).

6. BIRMINGHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP (BSCP) UPDATE

(See document No. 5, 6 and 7)

Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair, BSCP, and Simon Cross, Business Manager, BSCP were in attendance for this item and gave the presentation. The main points included:

- Their remit is to create the conditions for all of the organisations in Birmingham to work well together to safeguard children and to learn from incidents that happened.
- The Local Authority, Children's Trust, NHS – led by the CCG and the Police have accountability.

- The national framework for safeguarding children changed in 2019 and they were early adopters.
- Child safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs) replaced Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) and now there can either be local or national reviews. The national reviews tend to be thematic.
- There are a number of thematic reviews looking at individuals underway: Arthur Labinjo Hughes who died in Solihull, and Star Hobson who died in Bradford.
- Child death reviews became the responsibility of the Council and the NHS through the CCG, and the purpose is to get better and quicker learning from the deaths of children within the whole population.
- Every two years they publish a Business Improvement Plan and the current plan sets out the four strategic priorities, together with the 33 detailed actions.
- They want to complement the work of O&S and they concentrate on partnership working in relation to safeguarding practices.
- Ongoing work includes improvements to their website.
- They have had a big emphasis around contextual safeguarding for the last two years and this includes criminal exploitation such as County Lines.
- They have a revised strategy around child neglect, and they are undertaking a comprehensive training program for frontline professionals that are dealing with identifying early signs of neglect.
- The Independent Chair's Accountability Report offers assurance and concluded that there is evidence of good progress in working together to safeguard children. Also, the Independent Chair thanked and acknowledged how much practitioners had put children front and centre despite the impact of the pandemic on themselves.
- Other issues in the Independent Chair's Accountability Report includes the impact of the pandemic:
 - The upsurge in domestic abuse, which is really significant, shockingly the Police saw a 50% increase and in December 2020 they had 6,000 call outs in one month.
 - An enormous detrimental educational and social impact on children, and they have missed out on "being seen".
 - A surge in youth violence when we came out of the lockdowns, the link to criminal exploitation and recognition that young people caught up in this are victims as well as perpetrators, and the need to adapt the ways of working, which is what contextual safeguarding is about.
 - Unexpected benefits of Covid includes the pandemic becoming a catalyst for people working together better, and often there were better attendance at virtual meetings than when they were face to

face. In addition, attendance increased at the quarterly Practitioner Forum, with some attendees having felt more comfortable asking questions in a virtual space. It is therefore expected that there will be more hybrid arrangements moving forward.

- The Independent Chair paid tribute to Simon Cross and his team, and in particular the development of their approach to rapid reviews, which is part of the new arrangements, and has been used as a template for just about all other local authorities.
- The Who's in Charge campaigns responded to the increased concerns regarding the rise in accidents in the home. These were tailored to different audiences and targeted during different stages of the pandemic. The videos have received over a million views across the West Midlands and won the National Safety Award last year. Credit was given to Birmingham Community Health Care Trust and the senior manager who championed this.
- The Review process: the national and local structures are about how they maximise learning. Birmingham has eight reviews at the moment looking at different aspects.
- There are six key practice themes in relation to embedding national learning.
- The new Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews: Penny Thompson and Cllr John Cotton, Chair of the Community Safety Partnership, wrote to the Home Secretary, as it was felt that having a stipulated age criteria of eighteen and over, as set out in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, is a fundamental flaw in the new review process. They have received an unsatisfactory response to their letter, and they requested the Committee's support in lobbying the Government to review the proposed criteria.
- Future work includes the safeguarding implications for the Commonwealth Games, serious youth violence strategy work, childhood neglect and investing in early help with family support is critical to this. Also, this year they will be doing a two year annual report for the partnership, looking particularly at the impact of Covid.

During the discussion with Members the main points included:

- They have a Quality Impact and Outcomes Group that looks at quantitative, qualitative and experiential information, and more statistical information can be provided, although quantitative data on its own is not sufficient.
- The Birmingham Mail article that relates to 3,500 Birmingham pupils that did not return to the classrooms was referred to.¹ The issues about children who are not in school was discussed at the Safeguarding and Education Group and reassurance was given that this is being taken extremely seriously and partnership working is very important. However, it was optimistic to expect

¹ <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/crime-abuse-fears-3500-city-22944775>

all children to get back in the routine of attending school after they have been told over the last two years not to. In addition, some parents are nervous about sending their children back to school due to the risk of infection, and younger children need to be encouraged to go back to social settings when they haven't been used to social interaction due to lockdowns.

- The revision of the business plan will take on board comments and the practice priority is open enough to flex the priorities.
- The development of local provision and building on the work that has already been done is absolutely key and fundamental for early help and support. This includes reinforcing the support for schools, local arrangements and bearing in mind that poverty is an issue.
- Learning and development is a continuous process, as is assessing, planning, implementing and reviewing.
- Providing support to frontline practitioners to understand the notion of reachable moments is important.
- They have refreshed Birmingham's threshold guidance 'Right Help, Right Time'² and they are looking at refreshing the e-learning package.

RESOLVED:

The update was noted and:

- The Committee will support the lobbying of Government for a change to their age criteria which excludes under 18 year olds.
- The BSCP will feedback on the National Reviews when appropriate.
- The BSCP will provide more statistical and qualitative feedback.
- Due to the need to move to the next item the Acting Chair will e-mail her remaining questions.

7. SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS

(See document No. 8)

Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years, Alan Michell, Head of Service, Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking, and Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion were in attendance for this item.

Lisa Fraser and Alan Michell highlighted information within the presentation, and this included caveats for the school exclusion data due to Covid, the initiatives and next steps, and the emphasis on Primary phase, which is the most significant issue for the City.

In relation to the data, permanent exclusion rates are higher in special schools, however this is currently a very low number. Figures are broken down into ethnic categories for both school exclusions and suspensions, and Birmingham mirrors the

² <https://www.lscpbirmingham.org.uk/delivering-effective-support>

national picture. The geographical information is on the school location rather than the pupils.

Slide 15 (page 105 in the pack) provides information on the Birmingham Children Partnership and the BSCPs audit of primary school children who had been permanently excluded. A series of recommendations were made, and some are already being implemented. For instance, early help training and support to governors has been provided, systems, protocols and procedures have been put in place, Forward Thinking Birmingham and the Education Psychology Service are looking into the experience of the child and considering the impact on family life or issues such as domestic abuse.

The Tackling School Exclusions Group aim to develop an integrated system offer via the partnership so there is a full system approach to providing support to children and families, which will hopefully result in reduced exclusions. Work includes the Right Help Right Time framework having been revised, the early help offer via the Trust and locality teams have has been improved, and they have got data sharing processes in place with the Children's Trust and providing training to school governors.

Pauline Maddison provided information on the specific work around preventing exclusions of pupils with SEND. This included the work of the Teaching Support Services in identifying children with SEND who were at risk of exclusion and the support available. She also outlined the role of the Home Bridging Team in brokering support for children with EHCPs who had been permanently excluded and the involvement of SENAR where alternative provision might be required. (pages 109 and 110 in the pack).

During the discussion with Members the main points included:

- The correlation between permanent exclusions and suspensions are not straight forward. A school could be robustly implementing a behaviour policy which may lead to an increase in both, although you could argue that if a school is using suspensions then permanent exclusions may not be needed.
- There have been positive outcomes for pupils who have attended the City of Birmingham School (COBS). This may be because they are in smaller classes etc.
- Officers have shared the data with the Heads at the Primary Forum because part of role of the local authority is to shine a light on the data, and this came as a surprise to some. Moving forward, there is now a good understanding and a sense of shared purpose for tackling this issue. Although, this will take time to embed.
- The Director for Education and Skills highlighted the Inclusion Conference for Head Teachers and one for School Governors, and there is more fruitful work they will be doing.
- There are robust arrangements for permanent exclusions, with there being legal requirements for schools to follow, and any permanent exclusions have

to be reported to the Council's Exclusions Team. The Exclusions Team will be involved in about 95% plus of the case hearings and related meetings.

- There are legal requirements for managed moves, and they have to be with the agreement of the schools, parents and children involved.
- Cllr Kath Scott (Acting Chair) will discuss with officers offline the issue of children with SEND support plans and behaviour policies being used against them by the schools.

RESOLVED:

The update was noted.

8. WORK PROGRAMME

(See document No. 9)

The Committee agreed to split SEND objective 2: getting the basics right, and SENAR will be discussed at the 30th March 2022 meeting, and health will be discussed at the 6th April 2022 meeting.

RESOLVED:

The work programme to be updated accordingly.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 30 March 2022 at 1000 hours was noted.

10. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)

None.

11. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None.

12. AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS

RESOLVED:

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 12.27 hours.

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
16 Sep 2020	SEND Response to Covid - Nichola Jones, AD Inclusion and SEND	A report on DBS compliance to be provided.	<p>Outstanding Action:</p> <p>The Chief Executive has commissioned an investigation.</p> <p>To this end, a report will be issued and presented to the relevant council committee to ensure complete transparency.</p> <p>The Weightmans report has been e-mailed to Members.</p>
9 Dec 2020	Children's Trust Update	The report to the Children's Trust Board resulting from the fundamental review regarding the workforce.	Completed: Discussed staff recruitment and retention at the 1 Sep 2021 committee meeting.
		The annual summary of the KPIs.	Completed: Discussed at the 1 Sep 2021 committee meeting.
		The Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing agreed to provide a briefing paper on the additional funding from the Government, budget outline, priorities going forward and the long-term contractual negotiation regarding funding for the Trust.	Not Outstanding: Cllr Booth is no longer Cabinet Member.
19 May 2021	Home to School Transport Update	Officers will soon have a roll out plan for the 365 response and this will be communicated very shortly. The Chair requested an update in June 2021.	Added to the work programme.
		Integrated Transport Unit (ITU): officers are currently undertaking scoping activity and it was agreed an update to the Committee could be provided in the Autumn.	Added to the work programme.

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
19 May 2021	Hunters Hill College Update	Travelling times/distance for pupils to their interim and permanent places (including how many pupils have and have not reduced their travelling).	E-mailed Members the information on the 11 th January 2022.
		How long it has taken to get pupils into interim placements and how long it has taken to convert these to permanent placements.	E-mailed Members the information on the 11 th January 2022.
21 Jul 2021	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills & Culture	<p>A written report on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capacity and take up of the Holiday Activities and Food programme. • Whether there is a system and clear plan in place to support schools to ensure pupils and staff are safe if the pandemic continues. • Information on Everyone's Invited programme, including the number of Birmingham schools that were flagged. <p>Youth Service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half of the Youth Service budget is being funded externally and whether future resourcing of the service is being planned. • Whether a mapping exercise of particular issues affecting young people, such as youth violence, has been undertaken. <p>School Exclusion, Off Rolling, Part Time Timetables etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the number of exclusions and off rolling etc. • What happens to the pupils who are excluded? How soon are they re-schooled? 	<p>Members were e-mailed the report on 31 Aug 2021.</p> <p>Outstanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work regarding children's social care and data sharing as mentioned by the Cabinet Member.

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What support is given to pupils who are at-risk of being excluded? • What about the managed move programme? <p>Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal action for non-attendance at school was suspended until after May half-term 2021 and it was queried whether this has continued to be suspended, or if not, when legal action re-commenced. • What is the council doing to ensure that pupil attendance drastically improves from September? There is a very strong link between attendance and attainment. <p>Children Missing Education (CME):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the term "children missing in education" include "school refusers"? <p>Part-Time Timetables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many children are there on part-time timetables? <p>Elective Home Education (EHE):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details requested on the process and job titles/descriptions for those that oversee this. • What is done to assess and track pupils who are EHE? • How is it decided that this education is not good enough? 	

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of the support that is provided to parents, as Councillor Olly Armstrong has received anecdotal evidence about the support “not being great”. • The process of inviting parents to the session and follow up, including questions that are asked: Attendance has historically been mixed at events put on for home educating families. All offers are broadcast to all families via the elective home education website. Colleagues can update the committee on the current online learning opportunities that are being offered to families at a future meeting if required. <p>Data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does all the data given at the meeting include academies and free-schools? 	
21 Jul 2021	Hunters Hill College Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis on how long it has taken to relocate the students. • Information directly from the parents on the quality of the home education provided. • A TOR to be agreed by the Committee for officers, so that members can receive more information regarding the circumstances leading up to the decision to close Hunters Hill College. 	<p>E-mailed Members the information on the 11th January 2022.</p> <p>Cllr Alex Yip to provide the draft TOR for discussion with the Committee.</p>
21 Jul 2021	SEND Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we lobby government for more funding? • We must fix SENAR, especially the waiting times. How can this be accomplished? 	SEND has been programmed in the work programme for monthly updates.

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22**

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A SEND update to be added to the September 2021 Committee meeting. 	
1 Sep 2021	Children's Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The results of the Ofsted inspection of the Fostering Service to be shared when received. Comparative referral figures (pre and post Covid) for the EmpowerU Hub to be provided. A report on missing children to be provided. 	<p>E-mailed Members the information 27 September 2021.</p> <p>E-mailed Members the information 22 November 2021.</p> <p>E-mailed Members the information 22 November 2021.</p>
1 Sep 2021	Work Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members to inform Scrutiny if they want further information in relation to Elective Home Education. Cllr Alex Yip will send an email on things to be picked up from previous minutes and the action tracker. 	No e-mails received from Members regarding EHE.
13 Oct 2021	Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety & Equalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data on hate crime to be circulated to Members. An update on the specific projects in relation to hate crime. A geographical report identifying where hate crime is happening along with details of victims, and what support the Council is providing. 	E-mailed information to Members on 7 February 2022.
13 Oct 2021	SEND - Kevin Crompton, Interim Director, Education & Skills and Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND & Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on the Health waiting lists to be provided. Information on the crisis provision and support for autism and learning difficulties to be forwarded. Information on the interim team of staff to identify children who have part time provision or temporary timetables to be brought to the next committee meeting. An update on the SEND Sufficiency report will be brought to the next committee meeting. 	<p>To be discussed at the April committee meeting.</p> <p>Awaiting information.</p> <p>Awaiting information.</p> <p>Discussed at the 24th Nov 21 committee meeting.</p>

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting between the Chair and officers will be arranged in the interim to discuss the requirements for the next committee meeting. 	Done.
13 Oct 2021	Home to School Transport (HTST) - Mary Jefferson, Head of Service for HTST, and Deborah Brooks, Transformation Director for Commissioning, Education and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether officers are anticipating problems with drivers across the winter and whether there are any contingencies. • A breakdown of the High Needs Block to include how much has been used and how much is left. • Some contracts are for a short time period and therefore what is in place regarding the renewal of contracts? • A breakdown on the sanctions made and whether these have worked. • An update on the two new safeguarding issues that are outstanding. • A copy of the safeguarding review undertaken by the independent consultation when it has been finalised. 	Awaiting information.
24 Nov 2021	Aquarius – Young People's Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The referral process for elected members, so they can add this to their resource toolkit when they are dealing with casework to be provided. • Data to see young people's transition out of substance misuse is to be provided. 	Awaiting information via Karl Beese, Commissioning Manager, Adults Public Health
24 Nov 2021	Youth Service - Ilgun Yusuf, Acting AD, Skills and Employability, and Soulla Yiasouma, Joint	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How communications for the Youth Service has been improved (the website and social media etc). • Information on the youth hubs (to include how they will be different). 	An update from the Youth Service is programmed for the 30 th March 2022.

EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
	Head of Youth Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the peer research and social action programme, and how the Committee can support this. • The Youth Strategy. • The Directorate's priorities and the roadmap to excellence. 	
24 Nov 2021	SEND - Sue Harrison, Director, Education & Skills, and Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of the consultation from the DfE which is proposing to take the last bit of money from local authorities for school improvement. • Whether schools are reporting absence correctly and the Council not always being aware that child is not in school. This includes drilling down on the data for off-rolling, exclusions and absences. • The Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) and measurable impacts triangulated with parents, so this is backed up by parents. 	<p>E-mailed Members the information briefing and https://bit.ly/2ZLRSvY.</p> <p>School attendance was discussed at the January 2022 committee meeting.</p> <p>28 Feb 2022 Members were e-mailed the initial version of the APP that was presented at Cabinet in October 2021 as part of the Transformation Funds request for SEND. Work is currently being carried out to ensure that the plan is realistic and to agree with the DfE a final version of the APP which would be published. The committee will be receiving the published version of the APP in due course.</p>
16 Feb 2022	SEND: Dashboard - Sue Harrison, Director, Education & Skills, Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion Victor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on the position with the case management system to be provided at the next meeting. • The Cabinet Member to discuss timelines for SEND improvement with the Director for Education and Skills. 	<p>Information will be available by next meeting.</p> <p>Will be shared with Lead member by DCS hopefully by Easter 2022.</p>

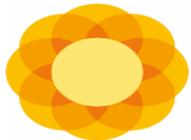
**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE O&S COMMITTEE
ACTION TRACKER 2021-22**

Date	Agenda Item	Action	Update
	Roman, SEND Improvement Programme Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data for the medium and maximum averages for EHCPs to be provided and officers to confirm the timeline for when this can be expected (approximately September 2022). 	As discussed at O&S meeting, when we have new software so we'd expect by September 2022.
16 Feb 2022	BSCP Update - Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair, & Simon Cross, Business Manager, BSCP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee will support the lobbying of Government for a change to their age criteria which excludes under 18 year olds. The BSCP will feedback on the National Reviews when appropriate. The BSCP will provide more statistical and qualitative feedback. Due to the need to move to the next item the Acting Chair will e-mail her remaining questions. 	

Briefing: Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Education and Children's Social Care O&S
Committee - 30 March 2022

Clair Graham
Head of Service: Contextual Safeguarding



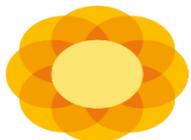
Child Sexual Exploitation: Impact

CSE has a devastating impact on children, young people and their families.

CSE is largely a hidden crime and raising awareness of this type of abuse is essential to preventing it and stopping it early when it does happen.

It causes physical ,sexual, emotional trauma; can lead to poor mental health , substance misuse and even suicide.

The impact devastates families and siblings.



The Councils role in Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation (Dec 2014)

Summary of the Recommendations:

Delivery of training and awareness raising on Child Sexual Exploitation/multi agency

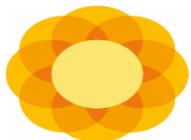
Awareness raising around CSE inclusive of parent/carers

Barriers towards disclosure Black and Ethnic minority children included in training

Developing communities

Educational provisions

Ensuring better use of Care First to record and analyse and share CSE cases ensuring it is dynamic and reports can be generated.



Summary of the Local current position

EMPOWER U Specialist service (Criminal and Sexual Exploitation)

In house and multi -agency training and awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation /online abuse (including Hospitality/educational provisions)

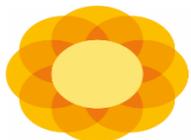
Parent/carer awareness raising and Parents Against Child Exploitation

Developing exploitation awareness in the community work in line with the Councils Localism agenda

Equalities forums / Cultural competence/ anti -racist awareness.

More work required in terms of barriers to Black and ethnic minority children ,cultural competence, anti-racism and adultification of children

Children Social Care recording system replaced ability to pull out records is there; and it is a more dynamic system



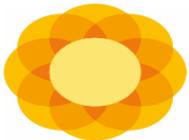
Local position

Contextual
Safeguarding
Strategic Board

Implementation
Board

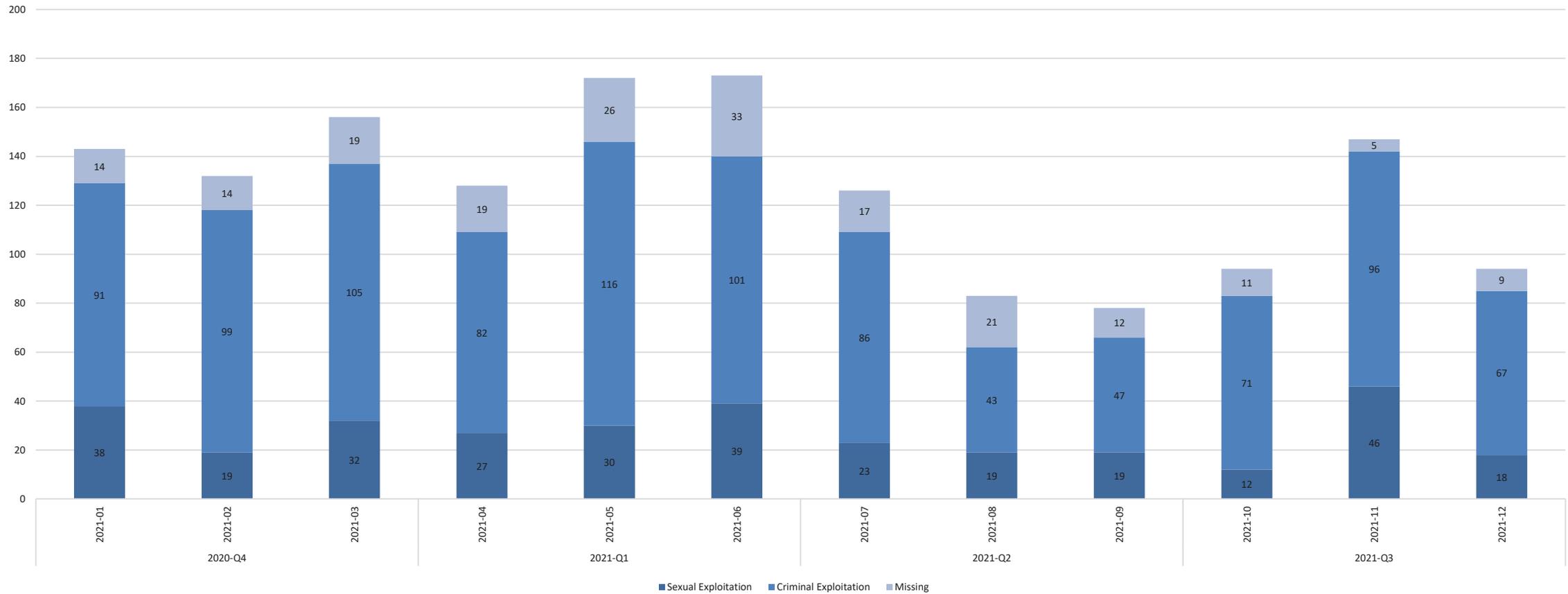
EMPOWER U

Commissioned
services



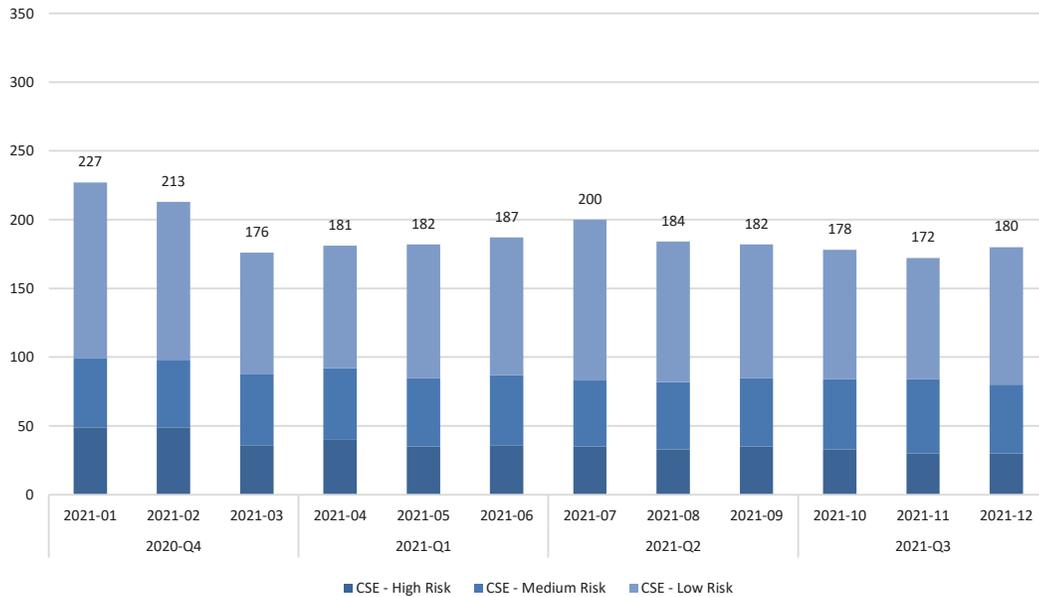
Local Data

CE/Missing Contacts - Referral Conversion



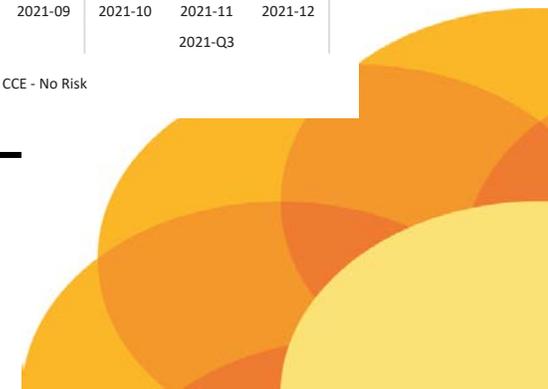
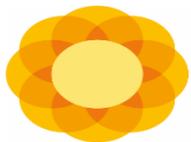
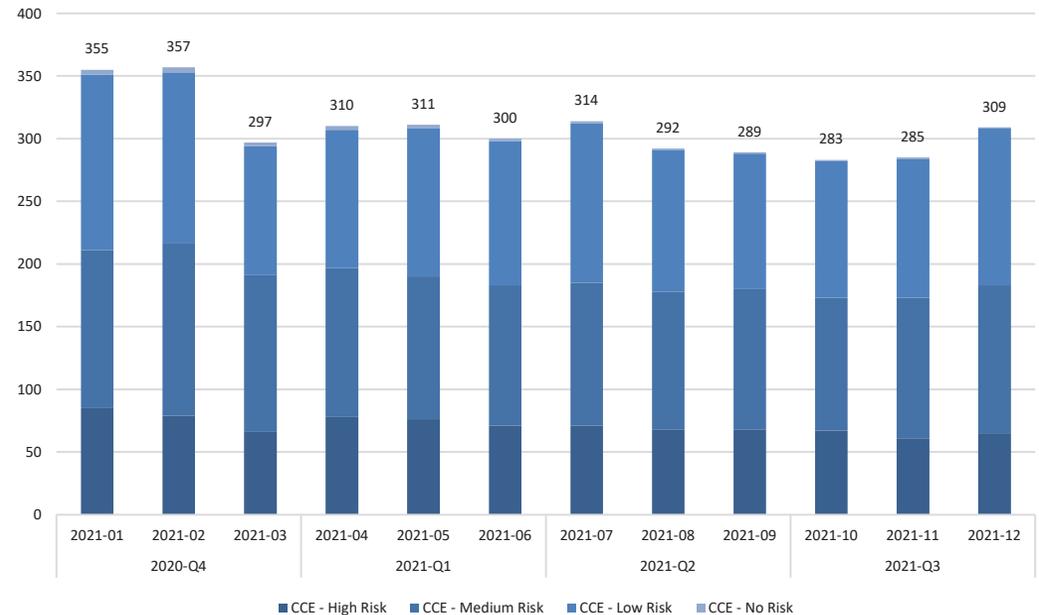
CSE Risk

CSE Risk - Open Month End



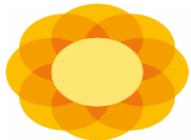
CE Risk

CCE Risk - Open Month End



EMERGING ISSUES: NATIONAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE EXPLOITATION INDEPENDENT INQUIRY

February 2022



**BIRMINGHAM
CHILDREN'S TRUST**

Page 28 of 58



Scope

Durham, Swansea, Warwickshire, St Helens, Tower Hamlets and Bristol.

Eight themes were examined in each area:

- problem profiling and disruption of child sexual exploitation;
- empathy and concern for child victims;
- risk assessment, protection from harm and outcomes for children;
- missing children, return home interviews and children in care;
- male victims;
- children with disabilities;
- partnership working; and
- audit, review and performance improvement.



KEY FINDINGS

Academic & professional debate about definitions of CSE

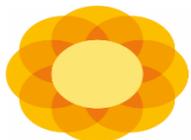
2 clear indicators of heightened vulnerability to CSE - being in residential care and the presence of a disability

National shortage of suitable residential care placements for children who are at risk of or have experienced CSE

Missing from home and school – key feature

Male victims

DEFINITION/RISK & VULNERABILITY

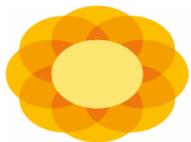


Policing and the Criminal Justice System

- Police problem profiles
- Quality of profiles mixed and incomplete evidence re. prevalence
- Lack of information on perpetrator groups
- Lack of information on ethnicity of victims and alleged perpetrators

Inspection/Audit/Review

- Themed inspections all identified areas for improvement but the focus on joint inspections has shifted to wider issues of CE and child neglect.
- Effectiveness of internal performance and quality systems



Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Strengthening the Criminal Justice Response

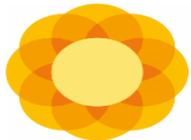
Recommendation 2: Child Exploitation Disruption Toolkit

Recommendation 3: Government Guidance CSE

Recommendation 4: Categorisation of risk and harm

Recommendation 5: Data and Problem Profiling

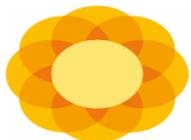
Recommendation 6: Unregulated placements)



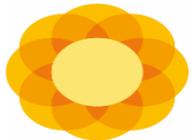
Next Steps for Birmingham

Overarching Partnership Child Exploitation Strategy underway will include :-

- Comms/multi –agency awareness raising (hospitality trade /licensing)
- Continued development information sharing /problem profiling/data (partners)
- Continued awareness raising in the community work (linked to Localism agenda)
- Working with Parent/carers as safeguarding partners
- BCT Hub Operational model
- Accommodation and relocation for children at risk in the community and at placements
- Reviewing CSE definition
- Reviewing Risk assessment /Risk matrix (high ,medium, low)



Questions?



Birmingham Youth Service Report – 30th March 2022

To: Education & Children's Social Care O&S Committee

Lead Officers: Soulla Yiasouma, Head of Youth Service
 Ilgun Yusuf, Acting Assistant Director, Skills and Employability

Introduction

This report is an update to the questions raised at Scrutiny on 24th November 2021. A summary of developments since the last meeting is also provided, including a funded project for reducing knife crime reduction.

- I. How communications for the Youth Service has been improved (the website and social media etc).
- II. Information on the Youth Hubs (to include how they will be different).
- III. Update on the peer research and social action programme, and how the Committee can support this.
- IV. The Young People Strategy and the Directorate's priorities (verbal)
- V. Investment in the Service – Youth Violence Reduction
- VI. Update on Youth Service (since Nov 21)

1. Youth Service and Communication

- 1.1 It was highlighted at the last meeting that there was a need to increase the visibility of the youth service both with young people and professionals. This is something that traditionally the service has not been consistent with however more recently there has been an improvement in this and continuing to grow our presence on social media and other platforms.
- 1.2 To date we have started this journey through the following but recognise that this is the beginning:
 - Identified a worker within the service that has taken on the lead for social media and supporting staff to be effectively use social media. As part of this each project is working towards having an active and relevant social media presence. Examples of our active accounts on Instagram include: concord.youth.centre, thelighthouseypc, birminghamyouthchampions; ermaosn.youthworkers. The priority was to have an active Instagram account which focusses on young people and are now looking to improve our presence on other social media platforms.
 - In addition to this we have a group that has formed to exploring the possibility of a Youth Service Website. We have enlisted the support of a volunteer to support us with this.

- We are also looking at branding our centres as safe spaces for young people and making sure that every young person knows where their local youth centre is and how to contact us. An example of this is that we are working in partnership with EMPOWERU Hub, and Radio Blesst to create a campaign around keeping young people safe.
- There have been some examples of recent good practise in social media including a video from The Lighthouse Young peoples Centre highlighting their work of the Transformation For Change programme.

2. Youth Hubs

- 2.1 BCC is leading on a partnership with DWP and other stakeholders to develop and deliver Youth Hubs as part of the DWP approach nationally to have services based locally.

In addition to this we also have Youth Hubs for the Commonwealth Games.

2.2 Youth Hubs in collaboration with DWP

The Lighthouse Youth Centre and The Factory are two of the four Youth Hubs that the DWP have invested in . The thinking around these are about taking service to where young people are at and in an environment that they feel comfortable in.

Youth hubs offer a more accessible and joined up service to young people. Youth Workers work closely with work coaches to provide the most timely and relevant service for the young person. Our youth workers have reported back that there has been an improvement in the partnership between DWP work coaches and youth workers and has had a positive impact on the young people we reach.

In addition to these we also have some satellite Youth Hubs which have limited opening hours – these include The Vibe Youth Centre in South Yardley, Concord Youth Centre in Sparkbrook and Shard End Youth Centre.

2.3 Youth Hubs and CWG

The Lighthouse, the Factory, Concord and Clifton Road Youth Centres are the four Youth Hubs in relation to the Commonwealth games. This is about making the games more accessible for young people and ensuring young people feel included in the games wherever they are in the City. These hubs will be branded as a place where local young people can access information about the games, participate in a dedicated sport as well as being offered a programme of activities themed around the Commonwealth.

3. Peer Researchers – PAC

- 3.1 This is a Youth Endowment Funded programme giving young people the opportunity to explore youth violence and how they can make a difference. It's about young people being involved in the solutions and not just seen as the problem.

- We have employed 12 peer researchers aged between (16 – 21) all who have a lived experience of youth violence. These young people have undergone a training programme to develop their skills around research and social action.
- The peer researchers have led on an initial pilot survey of over 250 young people. They have analysed the findings and are now producing a more focussed questionnaire/survey based on these findings. These will help inform the social action programmes and promote young people's voices.
- Two of the peer researchers are involved in writing the youth violence strategy for the City with the Youth City Board.
- As part of this we are linking up with other programmes in the city including the YEF programme in Lozells.
- To date 100 young people have expressed an interest in becoming change makers and have started to develop ideas around social action projects.

4. The Youth Strategy - early intervention and prevention

- 4.1 The Directorate is leading in developing a strategy for young people as part of cross-council approach to early help, life-long learning, healthy living and wellbeing, civic engagement/participation and good jobs/careers. This will include the increasing opportunities for children and young people, as well as building community resilience, cohesion and living standards.
- 4.2 The Youth Service strategy will also fit in with the wider Directorate and Skills and Employability Plans.

5. Investment in the Service – Youth Violence Reduction

- 5.1 The Council have successfully identified a one off investment of £1 million into the youth service to employ more youth workers to tackle youth violence.
- 5.2 The role of youth work is recognised as a crucial role in supporting children and young people vulnerable to criminal exploitation and involvement in violent crime. Our four key areas is in line with this and focusses on early intervention. We will achieve this by build young people's resilience through developing their skills, abilities, self-worth, values, and identity.
- 5.3 The four key areas that we are investing in are
1. Detached Youth Work
 2. Early Intervention programmes in schools focussing on Year 6
 3. Working with partners to enhance the early intervention offer to young people.
 4. Enhancing core delivery and branding our centres as safe spaces.

6. Update on Youth Service (since Nov 21)

- 6.1 To date the Youth Service has had a meaningful engagement with 5,000 young people and 52,393 attendances.

- 6.2 We delivered on the HAF programme during Christmas. This was a limited programme due to the restrictions around Covid. In addition to this we have been successful in our bid for Easter delivery and have also supported HAF with assessing over 200 bids for them.
- 6.3 Youth workers are continuing to see an increase in numbers of young people suffering with mental health issues. This is presenting itself in lots of different ways. Only last week we had an issue with a young person suffering from mental health issues and threatening to blow up a major city, a young woman who was having intrusive thoughts around ending her own life and another young person hearing voices. Whilst out on detached in the City Centre The Ladywood team came across a young person that was suicidal and planning to jump. Our youth workers were able to talk them down and access support for them. We are continuing to support young people through these issues by being there for them and helping them access agencies that can offer tailored support.
- 6.4 As part of our delivery on the CWG agenda we have;
- Delivered 27 detached sessions around Burbury Park in Newtown.
 - Delivered 24 basketball skills development sessions to 67 young people.
 - Youth Voice - Core group of 25 young people meet fortnightly to shape and advise the CWG Youth team including the branding and supporting Liverpool to include young people's voice in their delivery of World Gymnastics Games.
 - Launch of the Youth Brand at The Factory and a Celebration event at The Lighthouse Young People's Centre with over 350 people in attendance.
- 6.5 Maypole and the factory are working in partnership to deliver on a piece of externally funded work around young women and violence. This has been extremely successful with over 35 young women attending.
- 6.6 We have had 4 careers events in our buildings in partnership with DWP and the Careers Service. They have been extremely successful with over 100 young people attending each event.

Summary and Reflection

This report has focussed on responding to the questions raised at scrutiny. There are lots of examples of excellent work throughout the city, but I think this letter from a young person to a youth worker that left in December sums up the difference our youth workers makes much better than I can.

To Jo,

I'm not sure how to start writing this but I just wanted to thank you for everything you've done for me. When I first met you in 2019, I was in a weird place in my life. My mental health was improving, but I was still in a kind of 'limbo', not really knowing what to do or how to proceed. Meeting you changed all of that. The YPP group helped me so much with my anxiety - for the first time in literal years I was talking to new people my age and actually getting along with them! It boosted my confidence so much! And of course you were the person who got me to go to Out Central / BAYC, where I met the best group of friends I've ever had. It sounds silly to say, but you taking me there changed my whole life; I wouldn't be who I am now without my friends, and I have you to thank for that. Then there was the trip to Wales, which is one of my happiest memories! You gave me the support I needed to come out to everyone which means the world to me. You've been such a key figure in my life these last few years, and there aren't enough words in any language for me to truly convey how much your support means to me. I'm so lucky to have met you!!

Overview & Scrutiny

March 2022

Objective 2 – Getting the Basics Right – SENAR Update





Progress To Date...

- Secured additional funding from Cabinet to fulfil capacity issues in the service
- Recruited over 50 new officers into the SENAR service – increased capacity to complete casework - initial number of service staff was 22 – we now have over 80
- Rearranged the SENAR service into 4 area teams – North, East, South & West
- Added in further management capacity – this will drive the change and improvements into the service
- Changed the decision making process from the DMG (decisions making groups) back to multi layered decisions including SEN officers and SEND panel attended by partnership representation.
- Developed the training plan for NEXUS – the upgraded case management system - and delivered to SENAR staff to allow for the upgrade to be implemented
- Reviewed and Identified the needs from the Nexus case management system upgrade
- Reviewed the Quality Assurance processes and a holding regular meeting with partners to develop a Quality Assurance framework.



Progress To Date...Quality Assurance

This multi-agency Quality Assurance Framework sets out a shared approach to QA across partner agencies, each of whom have their own internal quality assurance processes. This enables a co-ordinated and coherent approach to cycle of learning / continuous improvement and action monitoring that demonstrates impact for children, young people and young adults.

- We have a working group attended by all partners and at present we are working together to create a Quality Assurance Framework – This is currently in final draft stage and should be ready to finalise by the end of March 2022
- A ‘What good looks like’ document linked to the QA framework - This is currently in draft stage and should be ready to consult as a final draft by the end of March 2022
- Reviewing the system tool – Invision and agreeing roles and responsibilities for all partners The final meeting has taken place and the tool extension agreed through IT partners.
- We are scheduling a meeting with parents/carers to review and consult on the final draft during April 2022.



Progress To Date...NEXUS

Benefits to using Nexus:

- Better usability for all partners – this will replace the high number of spreadsheets currently used in the service to track caseloads, decisions etc.
- Give managers deeper insight into staff case loads and allow for capability management and training to be supported
- To keep a more stringent handle of the completion of workload to ensure compliance against statutory deadlines
- Documentation and process directly linked to the Quality Assurance framework
- More robust recording capability of linked partners – aligned to Eclipse for example
- The NEXUS system provides direct access to the young persons SEND file through portals directly accessed by parents & young people, professionals - including Education Phycologists, Health colleagues and Social Care colleagues, Schools & Settings, advisory services and SENAR service staff.
- Bespoke user dashboards and reporting function to allow for development of time frame tracking additional to the stator timescales. This would include the time frames for individual reviews and assessments versus statutory timescales versus national average.
- Parent/Carer consultation will be needed to ensure the Parent Portal is developed in line with needs/wants of the young people and families and user friendly – this consultation will take place during April 2022



Progress To Date...Service Structure

Activity (by end of September 2022):

- Confirmation of the draft permanent structure – to include costing model inline with additional roles and responsibilities identified and confirmed over the last 6 months – ensuring this is fit for purpose for the next 5 years
 - Review job descriptions of existing roles and submit for Job Evaluation – ensuring they reflect the SEND Code of Practice 2015 and any new changes likely following the upcoming SEND reforms
 - Review new required job descriptions and submit for Job Evaluation
 - Growth Bid report submitted to cabinet for decision
 - Union activity and S188 notice issued to permanent staff
 - Start external recruitment activity
-
- It is likely to take up to 2 years to create a permanent structure of staff within the SENAR service and in the meantime we will have to continue to rely on agency resource.
 - The entire West Midlands network is struggling to recruit permanent staff because the agency market is very lucrative but we hope to combat this with our attractive complete salary bandings for roles
 - Following the improvement journey we hope to make Birmingham a place where people want to work
 - We need to focus on a workforce development strategy and promote within where possible to build our permanent service
 - We also hope to keep a number of the interim agency staff currently with us as they have contributed to the change



Impact / Green Shoots...

- We have Increased staffing levels in the service teams and introduced senior officers to track and monitor work and timescales.
- Upgrading contact points for SENAR officers – providing all officers with phones to work alongside the parent link service.
- **Reviews** - Although we are currently still dealing with a backlog that is impacting on timescales we expect to be back within timescales by end of September 2022
- **Assessments** - We are working to bring the Assessment timeframes back inline with the 20 weeks. There is a current backlog that we are working through but once cleared we can impact positively.
- We are building a new assessments process through coproduction (further info to follow)
- **Complaints** for SENAR are currently sitting at **18** (as of 18th March 2022). Dedicated officers have been assigned and training delivered to corporate complaints team to align the corporate procedure. More officers in the service has led to less complaints around communication and the majority of complaints are in relation to lack of special school places.



Next Steps...

- Plan & design the pilot for the development of the assessment process
- Review all templated documentation associated with the pilot programme
- Reviewing the contract with the CACI (Nexus case management system providers)
- Review the restructure of the service to create more permanence
- Review Communication pathways into the service



Next Steps...EHC Needs Assessments Project

Aim - to develop the assessments process inline with the SEND Code of Practice 2015. Which will create a more comprehensive and compliant process for all.

Actions

- Complete an internal review of all processes and associated documentation, training plans and ways of working.
- Co-production to refine process and documents by consulting with Access 2 Education team, health colleagues, social care colleagues, school/settings sample and parents/carers.
- Implement a pilot project to test and evaluate the process
- Provide clear feedback and updates on progress and any further development needed through co-production through running the pilot.
- Develop training materials for all professionals and timescale roadmaps for parents/carers
- Build process and all associated documentation and transfer process to Nexus case management system
- Feedback from parents/carers is key to the success of this programme.



Risks / Issues ...

- Contract negotiations with CACi – Nexus case management system providers – delays could lead to risks with implementation of newly developed process
- Officer time to complete transformation work alongside pressures around business as usual activity
- Finance – currently no permanent funding available to secure the SENAR staffing structure post March 2023

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Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee: Work Programme 2021–2022

Chair:	Cllr Narinder Kaur Kooner
Deputy Chair:	Cllr Kerry Jenkins
Committee Members:	Cllrs: Olly Armstrong, Charlotte Hovalala, Katherine Iroh, Simon Morrall, Kath Scott and Alex Yip Education Representatives: Omar Hanif, Parent Governor; Justine Lomas, Roman Catholic Diocese; Rabia Shami, Parent Governor and Sarah Smith, Church of England Diocese.
Officer Support:	Acting Group O&S Manager: Ceri Saunders (303 2786) Scrutiny Officer: Amanda Simcox: (675 8444) Committee Manager: Mandeep Marwaha (303 5950)

1 Terms of Reference

- 1.1 As per City Council on 25th May 2021 the Committee's Terms of Reference 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 April 2022).

2 Meeting Schedule

Date & Time	Items	Officers / Attendees
9 June 2021 at 10am Informal Meeting	To discuss priorities for 2021/22 work programme.	



Date & Time	Items	Officers / Attendees
<p>21 July 2021 at 10am</p> <p>Formal Meeting at the BMI</p> <p>Deadline for Send Out: 12 July 2021</p>	<p>Councillor Kate Booth, Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing Update (last discussed 10 Jul 2019). To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years (this has been included in the written report). • SEND and EHCPs including the health aspect e.g. waiting times etc (regular SEND updates programmed). • Birmingham Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2021/22 (this is now scheduled for Cabinet 7 September 2021 rather than 29 June 2021 & will be picked up by the Children's Trust update). 	<p>Suman McCartney, Cabinet Support Officer</p> <p>This item was included within the SEND update at the committee meeting.</p>
	<p>SEND Ofsted Inspection Outcome (SEND & WSoA last discussed 28 Oct 2020).</p> <p>To include: EHCPs including the health aspect (waiting times etc).</p>	<p>Kevin Crompton, Interim Director, Education & Skills / Director of Children Services (DCS), and Deborah Brooks, Transformation Director, Commissioning, Education and Skills</p>
	<p>Hunters Hill College Update.</p>	<p>Councillor Jayne Francis, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture, Jaswinder Didiyally, Head of Service, Education and Skills, and David Bridgman, Head of Service, SENAR</p>
	<p>Councillor Jayne Francis, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture update (last discussed 11 Sep 2019). To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Engagement and Youth Service (Youth voices – to include how the different forums are supported and how they can support each other; and the resources to support these). • Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) provided in schools. • Education of Children and Young People and the difficulty with the school system being set up for young people to be job ready, however there is a lack of jobs and universities are expensive. 	<p>Rose Horsfall, Cabinet Support Officer</p> <p>Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years, Ilgun Yusuf, Acting AD, Skills and Employability and Alan Michell, Head of School Admissions and Fair Access</p>



Date & Time	Items	Officers / Attendees
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools Forum and monitoring schools on how they are spending the money they are allocated. 	
<p>1 September 2021 at 10am</p> <p>Formal Meeting at the BMI</p> <p>Deadline for Send Out: 20 August 2021</p>	<p>Children's Trust to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Justice Strategic Plan Children in Care Independent Advocacy Service / Rights and Participation Service Missing Children 	<p>Andrew Christie, Chair and Andy Couldrick, Chief Executive, Children's Trust</p>
	<p>Cllr Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member for Vulnerable Children and Families</p>	<p>Suman McCartney, Cabinet Support Officer</p>
	<p>SEND</p>	<p>Kevin Crompton, Interim Director, Education & Skills and Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion</p>
<p>13 October 2021 at 10am</p> <p>Informal On-line Meeting</p> <p>Deadline for Send Out: 4 October 2021</p>	<p>Cllr John Cotton, Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rise in hate crime, youth crime and knife crime. Engagement of young people and how they are supported in relation to climate, BLM and increase in racism, Palestine, Me too campaigns etc. 	<p>Waqar Ahmed, AD, Community Safety and Resilience</p> <p>Marcia Wynter, Cabinet Support Officer</p>
	<p>SEND</p>	<p>Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion</p>
	<p>Home to School Transport (HTST) Update</p>	<p>Mary Jefferson, Head of Service, Home to School Transport, and Deborah Brooks, Transformation Director, Commissioning, Education and Skills</p>



Date & Time	Items	Officers / Attendees
<p>24 November 2021 at 10am</p> <p>Formal Meeting in the BMI</p> <p>Deadline for Send Out: 15 November 2021</p>	<p>Aquarius – Young People's Service</p>	<p>Karl Beese, Commissioning Manager, Adults Public Health; John Freeman, Commissioning Manager, Complex Care & Prevention; Chris Baggott, Service Lead, Partnerships Insight and Prevention, Public Health; Richard McVey, Area Manager, Aquarius; and Wesley King, Snr Practitioner, Aquarius</p>
	<p>Youth Service</p>	<p>Ilgun Yusuf, Acting AD, Skills and Employability and, Soulla Yiasouma, Joint Head of Youth Service</p>
	<p>SEND</p> <p>PCF: Sabiha Aziz, Chair of the PCF; Pam Armstrong, and Jo Green invited for this item.</p>	<p>Sue Harrison, Director, Education & Skills and, Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion</p>
<p>12 January 2022 at 10am on-line</p> <p>Deadline for Send Out: 30 December 2021</p>	<p>Birmingham Against Female Genital Mutilation (BAFGM) Annual Report 2021/22</p>	<p>Christine Wellington and Carolyn Daly, Co-chairs of BAFGM</p>
	<p>SEND – Objective: Working Well Together</p> <p>PCF: Sabiha Aziz, Chair of the PCF; Pam Armstrong, and Jo Green invited for this item.</p>	<p>Sue Harrison, Director for Education & Skills; Pauline Maddison, Interim AD for SEND and Inclusion; Maria McCaffrey, Co-production Officer; Rachel Edwards, Communications & Engagement Lead, SEND, Wellbeing & Inclusion;</p>
	<p>School Attainment and School Attendance</p>	<p>Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years and Alan Michell, Head of Service for Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking</p>
<p>16 February 2022 at 10am in the BMI</p> <p>Deadline for Send Out: 7 February 2022</p>	<p>SEND – Dashboard</p> <p>PCF: Sabiha Aziz, Chair of the PCF; Pam Armstrong, and Jo Green invited for this item.</p>	<p>Sue Harrison, Director, Education & Skills, Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion and Victor Roman, SEND Improvement Programme Mgr</p>



Date & Time	Items	Officers / Attendees
	Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership Update	Penny Thompson, Independent Chair, BSCP and Simon Cross, Business Manager
	School Exclusions To include: SEND exclusions and cross departmental work with SEND services to support this agenda	Lisa Fraser, AD, Education and Early Years and Alan Michell, Head of Service for Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking
30 March 2022 at 10am in the BMI Deadline for Send Out: 21 March 2022	Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Cllr Sharon Thompson, Cabinet Member, Vulnerable Children and Families, Jenny Turnross, Director of Practice, Children's Trust (on-line) and Clair Graham, Head of Service Contextual Safeguarding, EMPOWER U Hub, Exploitations & Missing Team, Children's Trust (on-line)
	Youth Service	Ilgun Yusuf, Acting AD, Skills and Employability and, Soulla Yiasouma, Joint Head of Youth Service
	SEND – Objective 2: Getting the Basics Right – Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Service (SENAR) PCF: Sabiha Aziz, Chair of the PCF; Pam Armstrong, and Jo Green invites for this item	Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion, and Faye Higgins, Programme and Change Manager
6 April 2022 at 10am in the BMI Deadline for Send Out: 28 March 2022	SEND – Objective 2: Getting the Basics Right (Health) PCF: Sabiha Aziz, Chair of the PCF; Pam Armstrong, and Jo Green invites for this item.	Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families, Pauline Maddison, Interim AD, SEND and Inclusion, and Linda Lockwood
	Children's Trust Update	Andrew Christie, Chair and Andy Couldrick, Chief Executive, Children's Trust Sue Harrison, Director, Children and Families



Date & Time	Items	Officers / Attendees
	<p>Children's and Young People's health and wellbeing</p> <p><u>Children's Trust</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alison Montgomery, AD, Disabilities, Children's Trust <p><u>Forward Thinking Birmingham</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elaine Kirwan, Deputy Chief Nurse Officer, Mental Health Service, Clinical Lead - West Midlands CAMHS Provider Collaborative, Forward Thinking Birmingham Joanne Carney, Director of Joint Commissioning, Mental Health, Children and Maternity, Personalisation, NHS Birmingham and Solihull CCG (Rebecca Morris Mental Health Joint Commissioning Team) 	

3 Items to be Programmed / Outstanding

- 3.1 Child exploitation, such as County Lines is to be explored in the new municipal year, this it to include Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities.
- 3.2 Children's and Young People's health and wellbeing was identified as an item to be programmed at the June 2021 meeting and this has been pencilled in for the April 2022 committee meeting. Areas for discussion could be:
- The impact on children's and young people's mental health and how this is being supported.
 - To include an update on the development of the footprint as a response to the pandemic to provide support to children with mental health, emotional neglect, domestic abuse (early help hubs). Early Help: Nigel Harvey-Whitten, AD, Children's Services (Commissioning) & Richard Selwyn, Birmingham Children's Partnership have now left and the contact is Garath Symonds.
 - How children and young people and mainstream schools coped with the return to school and the resulting pressures (including missed education and anxiety regarding returning to school).
 - Forward Thinking Birmingham.
 - An update on Preparation for Adulthood which should include data that allows for comparison, tracking and monitoring (attended 20 January 2021).
 - Youth Justice.



3.3 Young People and Mental Health has been discussed previously by the former Learning, Culture and Physical Activity O&S Committee:

5 Sep 2018	<p>Forward Thinking Birmingham</p> <p>Erin Docherty Senior Nurse Lead, Forward Thinking Birmingham, Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust</p> <p>The Birmingham School Health Advisory Service (BSHAS)</p> <p>Joanne Thurston, Chief Operating Officer and Karen Hansford, Head of Universal Children's Services 5-19, Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.</p>
14 Nov 2018	<p>Educational Psychology Service Birmingham</p> <p>Amanda Daniels, Principal Educational Psychologist.</p> <p>Visit to Pause, Digbeth</p> <p>Karen Woodfield, Area Manager, Pause, Forward Thinking Birmingham & Sandwell Beam and Leroy McConnell, Mental Health, Youth Work/Participation Lead, The Children's Society.</p>
6 Feb 2019	<p>Anna Robinson, Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP) Mental Health/Emotional Wellbeing Lead and Sarah Finch, Assistant Head, Colmers Secondary School and Sixth Form.</p>

3.4 Councillor Alex Yip to send a draft TOR for Hunters Hill College.

4 Other Meetings

- Call in Meetings: None scheduled
- Petitions: None scheduled
- Petitions: None scheduled
- Councillor Call for Action Requests: None scheduled

5 Forward Plan for Cabinet Decisions

5.1 The following decisions, extracted from the Cabinet Office Forward Plan of Decisions, are likely to be relevant to the Education and Children's Social Care O&S Committee's remit.

ID Number	Title	Proposed Date	Date of Decision
008943/2021	Birmingham Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2021/22	7 Sep 21	7 Sep 21



ID Number	Title	Proposed Date	Date of Decision
009043/2021	Proposed In-Year Variation to Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools and the Co-Ordinated Scheme 2021/22 and 2022/23 and Approach to Fair Access Protocol	27 Jul 21	27 Jul 21
009054/2021	Skilts School conversion from Community School to Academy Status	27 Jul 21	27 Jul 21
009301/2021	Education and Skills Transformation Programme Including SEND Improvement and Home to School Transport	12 Oct 21	12 Oct 21
009530/2021	Birmingham Children's Trust Accommodation	22 Mar 22	
009699/2022	Proposed Admission Arrangements and Published Admission Numbers for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools and the Local Authority Coordinated Scheme 2023/2024.	08 Feb 22	08 Feb 22
009744/2022	The Adoption of the Birmingham Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2022	08 Feb 22	08 Feb 22
009775/2022	Continuation of Early Help (EH) Programme Funding for 12 Months	08 Feb 22	08 Feb 22
009868/2022	Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF) 2022 -2025	22 Mar 22	
009917/2022	Queensbury School: Relocation of Sixth Form to Former Osbourne Primary Site and Refurbishment of Existing Sixth Form to Increase Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 SEND Provision.	26 Apr 22	
010002/2022	Minworth Junior & Infants School – Replacement of Terrapin Huts	17 May 22	
010070/2022	Schools Capital Programme – School Condition Allocation, Basic Need Allocation 2022-23 + Future Years	26 Apr 22	