

Birmingham City Council

City Council

6 December 2022



Subject: Scrutiny Business Report

Report of: Cllr. Sir Albert Bore, Chair of Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Report author: Christian Scade, Head of Scrutiny and Committee Services, tel no: 07517 550013, christian.scade@birmingham.gov.uk

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the work undertaken by the Council's eight Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the establishment of 4 Inquiries during July – November 2022.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3 Background

- 3.1 The statutory guidance for local government overview and scrutiny sets out that the role that overview and scrutiny can play in holding an authority's decision-makers to account makes it fundamentally important to the successful functioning of local democracy. This report sets out how, in the first half of this municipal year, Overview and Scrutiny has fulfilled this function and engaged with policy development through establishment of the Scrutiny Inquiries for 2022/23 and the work of the eight Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

4 Scrutiny Inquiries

- 4.1 Task and Finish Groups have been established to undertake four Scrutiny Inquiries during 2022/23. These Inquiries will enable members to look at an issue in depth and receive evidence from a range of sources including Cabinet Members and services, partner organisations, service users and members of the public. A call for evidence will also be sent to all Members requesting contributions to this work.
- 4.2 **Child Criminal Exploitation:** The Task and Finish Group met on the 24 October and 15 November 2022 to consider the Terms of Reference for this inquiry. The Terms of Reference (Appendix 1) has now been finalised, and it is intended that this will be considered at the next Education and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30 November. The proposed key question that the Inquiry will focus on is: How are the Council and Partners working together to reduce the risks of criminal exploitation for young people? It is anticipated that the Inquiry will report to City Council in June 2023. This Inquiry is led by the Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.3 **Children and Young People's Mental Health:** The Task and Finish Group met on 7 October 2022. The Terms of Reference (Appendix 2) were agreed at the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 18 November 2022. The key question the Inquiry will focus on is: How well are children with a diagnosed mental health condition supported across the mental health system with timely access to appropriate services and what is the service offer and pathways for children and young people in psychological distress without a diagnosed mental health condition to access appropriate support? This Inquiry is due to report to City Council in June 2023. This Inquiry is led by the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and includes Members from the Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.4 **Commonwealth Games Legacy, Promoting Health and Wellbeing:** The Task and Finish Group met on 20 September, The Terms of Reference (Appendix 3) were agreed at the Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee 12 October. The key question the Inquiry will focus on is: How will the legacy from the Commonwealth Games improve access to physical activity opportunities (both participating and spectating) for our disabled citizens and communities? Further Task and Finish Groups sessions on 12 October and 2 November have finalised the Call for Evidence for this Inquiry. This began on 14 November. This Inquiry is led by the Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and includes members from the Health and Adult Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Inquiry is due to report to City Council in April 2023.
- 4.5 **Employment and Skills for Young People:** The Task and Finish Group met on 30 September 2022 to consider the Terms of Reference (Appendix 4) for the Inquiry and the final Terms of Reference were agreed at the meeting of the Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 12 October 2022. The key question

the Inquiry will consider is: How is the council responding to the Breaking Down the Barriers Report and what is the vision for Lifelong Learning across the City? This Inquiry is led by the Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee and it due to report to City Council in April 2023.

Summary of Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes

4.6 Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.7 The Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee has considered the Council's Equality Strategy: Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business Action Plan, the Council's response to the cost-of-living crisis and the Council's Communication Strategy. The Deputy Leader attended on the 14 October 2022 to report on her portfolio priorities and update the Committee on the Trail Blazer Devolution Deal and the Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture Heritage and Tourism also reported on her portfolio priorities to the Committee meeting on 18 November.
- 4.8 Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee received an update report on the Customer Services Programme. This has resulted in a piece of work that will be carried out by a Task and Finish Group to consider how services that have been part of the Customer Services Programme are responding to the recommendations and feedback from Customer Service workshops to improve customer experience and satisfaction. The Task and Finish Group will meet with senior managers for the following services: Bereavement Services, Housing Repairs, Waste and Highways, and report to a future meeting of Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.9 Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee made one recommendation to the Deputy Leader to request an update is provided to the Chair on the future funding for the Customer Services Programme.

4.10 Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.11 The Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee has received reports on the preparations for the Commonwealth Games and also a post games review which included outlining the legacy programme. The Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage and Tourism attended in November 2022 to report on her Cabinet portfolio priorities.

4.12 Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.13 The Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee has considered reports on the East Birmingham Inclusive Growth Strategy and the Out Future City Plan: Shaping Our City Together. The Leader has attended the October 2022 committee meeting to report on his portfolio priorities with a focus on the Perry Barr Case Study.
- 4.14 The Deputy Leader and the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families attended the Committee in November 2022 to report on the work regarding

employment, skills and inclusive apprenticeships. The Committee also received a detailed report on data and funding for young people that will inform the Employment and Skills Inquiry.

- 4.15 The Committee considered a Call-In request for the Cabinet Decision on the Adoption of the Edgbaston Reservoir Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document. The decision was not Called In for reconsideration by Cabinet.

4.16 Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.17 The Committee has considered Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement, the Accelerated Progress Plan, Home to School transport / children and Young People Travel Service, the Youth Justice Plan, SENDIASS and a report from the Children's Trust. The DfE SEND Commissioner attended the Committee to update members on the work of the SEND Improvement Board.
- 4.18 The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families attended the September 2022 committee meeting to report on her portfolio priorities.

4.19 Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees

- 4.20 The Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee has considered the 2021/22 Quarter 4 performance monitoring report, the Healthwatch Birmingham Annual Report 2021/22, annual report on Birmingham Substance Misuse Recovery Service and the Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System Ten Year Strategy.
- 4.21 Reports on implementation of the recommendations from two Scrutiny Inquiries have been brought to the Committee regarding Period Poverty and Infant Mortality. The Committee agreed that a further 7 of the recommendations from both these reports have been implemented. All the recommendations from both reports have been achieved.
- 4.22 The Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust and Forward Thinking Birmingham attended the Committee and provided a report on the children and young people's mental health service which will inform the Inquiry the committee is undertaking.
- 4.23 The Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care attended the September committee meeting to report on her Cabinet Portfolio priorities.
- 4.24 The Birmingham and Solihull Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee met in Solihull on the 13 October and received reports on the Recovery and Proposed Configuration of Surgical Services Across University Hospitals Birmingham, the Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System Updates on Performance against Finance and Recovery Plans and the Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System Learning Disability and Autism Strategic Visions.

4.25 Housing and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.26 The Housing and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee has received reports on Performance for City Operations and Housing, Delays in Birth and Death Registrations, and contributed towards the outline development of the new Housing Strategy.
- 4.27 The Committee has also started gathering evidence regarding cleaner streets and localisation.
- 4.28 The Committee considered a Call In request on the Cabinet decision on the capital funding bid for the proposed introduction of car parking charging across selected BCC parks. The decision was not referred back to Cabinet but a letter outlining the Committees concerns has been sent to the Cabinet Member for Environment and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources.
- 4.29 The Committee also considered a petition on a ban on the use of pesticides. The Committee's resolution was set out in a letter to the Cabinet Member for Environment and a report will be brought to a future meeting of the Housing and Neighbourhoods Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.30 Two Cabinet Members attended committee meetings to report on their portfolio priorities, the Cabinet Member for Environment in July 2022 and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness in October 2022. The Cabinet Member for Environment also reported on the Implementation of the Reducing Fly-tipping Inquiry. The two outstanding recommendations will be reported to the meeting in January 2023.

4.31 Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.32 The Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee has considered the Quarterly Financial Monitoring and Planned Procurement Activities Report (PPAR) at each meeting and received reports on the implementation of Oracle, the Council's Long Term Debt Strategy and the Quarterly Assurance Update, Procurement and Contract Governance Rules.
- 4.33 Two cabinet members attended committee meetings to report on their portfolio priorities, the Cabinet Member for Resources on 8 September 2022 and the Cabinet Member for Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities on 17 November 2022
- 4.34 The Leader attended also to report on the implementation of the Council Owned Asset Inquiry, and it was agreed that four recommendations were fully implemented. A report was considered at the meeting on 6 October on the implementation of the recommendations of the work the Committee had previously undertaken on Procurement Governance Arrangements. It was agreed that all 22 of the recommendations have been implemented following the review of Part D2 of the Constitution.

4.35 Sustainability and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.36 To date the Sustainability and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee has received various reports including on the Clean Air Zone, Street Works Permit and re-procurement of the Highways PFI Contract.

4.37 The Cabinet Member for Environment attended to report on his Cabinet priorities.

5 Scrutiny Training

5.1 Some Scrutiny Chairs participated in the 2-day LGA training at Warwick University in September and training sessions were delivered at the Council House for all Scrutiny Members by the LGA in on the 22 September 2022.

6 West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

6.1 The Panel met on 14 July for its Annual General Meeting, where it appointed its Chairperson – Cllr Suky Samra (Walsall) and Vice Chairperson – Kristina Murphy (an independent co-opted Member).

6.2 The Panel also held the Chief Constable's Confirmation Hearing at this meeting. It unanimously agreed to approve the decision of the Police and Crime Commissioner to appoint Mr Craig Guildford, the Chief Constable for Nottinghamshire Police as the new Chief Constable for West Midlands Police. He will replace Sir David Thompson QPM DL who retires on 4 December.

6.3 At its meeting on 19 October, the Panel considered the response of the Commissioner to its Tackling Public Confidence Inquiry and agreed an approach to track its recommendations. Further to this, the Panel also received reports on the Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 – 2026/27, and agreed a proposal to establish a budget sub group. This will assist in discharging its functions around the policing precept and budget. The Commissioner also reported on the development of the Crime, Community Safety and Resilience strand of the Trailblazer Devolution Deal.

6.4 The Panel met on 14 November to review the Commissioner's Annual Report of the Police and Crime Plan. The Panel has shared its report and recommendations to the Commissioner to consider. The Annual Report will be published in Spring 2023.

6.5 Panel members have continued to undertake training to support them in their role. Training was delivered in September focusing on performance. Additional sessions have been requested around financial scrutiny as well improving core knowledge on policing functions, for example call handling.

7 Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report, however the work and functions of the Council's overview and scrutiny function is prescribed in the Council's constitution.

8 Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no new financial implications arising from 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 Overview and Scrutiny Committees have been ensuring that they address these duties by considering them during work programme development, the scoping of work, evidence gathering and making recommendations. This has included 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 Overview and Scrutiny Committees 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 Other Implications

- 10.1 The work of the Scrutiny Committees supports all the Corporate Priorities: A City that is Prosperous, Inclusive, Safe, Healthy, Green.

11 Background Papers

11.1 Scrutiny Business Report July 2022

11.2 Scrutiny Work Programme Reports July – November 2022

12 Appendices

12.1 Terms of Reference for:

- Child Criminal Exploitation Scrutiny Inquiry – Appendix 1
- Children and Young People's Mental Health Scrutiny Inquiry – Appendix 2
- Commonwealth Games Legacy: Promoting Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Inquiry – Appendix 3
- Employment and Skills for Young People Scrutiny Inquiry – Appendix 4

Work Outline / Terms of Reference

Child Criminal Exploitation

Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Our key question:	How are the Council and Partners working together to reduce the risks of criminal exploitation for young people ?
1. How is O&S adding value through this work?	<p>The criminal exploitation of our young people remains a significant concern for the Council and its partners. As the youngest city in the UK, this is a major and also growing safeguarding challenge for us all to face. Birmingham City Council Overview and Scrutiny has previously undertaken an Inquiry - ‘We Need to Get it Right Health Check in Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation’. It is critical that Birmingham is ready to meet the changing nature of exploitation. This Inquiry will seek to explore whether there is effective joint working in place to prevent Child Criminal Exploitation now and in the future and identify improvements to make young people safer in the future.</p> <p><u>What is Child Criminal Exploitation?</u> - ‘occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child ... The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child Criminal Exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology’ (County Lines Exploitation: Practice Guidance for Youth Offending Teams and Frontline Practitioners, Ministry of Justice 2019). This definition acknowledges CCE’s binary nature and herein one of its many complexities, i.e., a young person may be both a victim and an offender at the same time.</p> <p>CCE often occurs within ‘county lines’ drug-dealing operations. ‘County lines’ is a term used to describe gangs involved in exporting illegal drugs within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines. They are likely to exploit children to move and store the drugs, and will often use coercion, intimidation, and violence (Criminal Exploitation of Children and Vulnerable Adults: County Lines, Home Office, 2017).</p>



Criminal Exploitation

The trauma of young people's experiences is highly likely to have a long-term impact on their future and of future generations. Therefore, an effective and robust partnership approach towards tackling CCE now is critical.

The '[Punishing Abuse](#)' report (Dr Alex Chard, March 2021) was commissioned by the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner (WMPCC) and West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA). This report researched 80 cases of young people known to Youth Offending Teams across the West Midlands (including Birmingham). It identified that:

- Majority are 'educationally disenfranchised leaving (them) vulnerable (to) social exclusion, exploitation, and crime'
- Girls are the most at-risk victims experiencing 'highest levels of abuse and exploitation'.
- Evidence of Criminal Exploitation including through county lines. Nevertheless, there may be higher levels of exploitation as there is a significant chance of under-recording, in particular related to the sexual exploitation of boys.
- 31% of these cases (including all cases relating to girls) had resulted in multi-agency referrals for sexual exploitation.

This research also concluded that known risk factors 'appear to have created a virtual escalator' whereby young people are 'propelled towards crime and the criminal justice system', and which leads to their exploitation and abuse. These risk factors include:

- Poverty
- Physical disabilities or poor mental health
- Family or individual substance misuse
- Known to Criminal Justice system
- Known to Social Care services
- Experienced parental loss
- Family violence
- Family criminality
- Victim or abuse and violence in the community
- Disrupted education
- Special Educational Needs

It highlights 'preventing children from being pushed onto this escalator' as the challenging strategic issue facing organisations.

	<p>In any area, the partnership landscape to address CCE is complex and multi-layered. There are challenges in identifying young people at risk and the appropriate type of responses to deliver. Intervention plans combine responses across statutory and third sector organisations, as well as directly with families. The nature of Child Criminal Exploitation also changes, which puts pressure to plan and adapt. The size of Birmingham increases this complexity and challenge.</p> <p>Birmingham City Council's Council Plan links:</p> <p><u>Grand Challenges</u></p> <p>Opportunities for Children and Young People</p> <p><u>Be Bold Outcomes</u></p> <p>A Bold Inclusive Birmingham</p> <p>A Bold Safe Birmingham</p> <p><u>Corporate Priorities</u></p> <p>8. Support and enable all children and young people to thrive</p> <p>9. Make the city safer</p> <p>10. Protect and safeguard vulnerable citizens</p> <p>A new round of Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI) was announced by the Government in March 2022. These new inspections will consider the multi-agency response to the criminal exploitation of children in Birmingham.</p>
<p>2. What needs to be done?</p>	<p><u>Proposed key lines of enquiry:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the definition of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) being used in the city? If different definitions are being applied by partners, how does this impact upon the effectiveness of joint working? b) What is the current scale and nature of CCE in Birmingham? How has this picture changed over the past 4 years? What are the projected risks and threats for the future? c) How are organisations informed by evidence-based practice? How do organisations capture 'what works' and 'what doesn't work', and how has this information changed their services? How is Birmingham learning from other areas, and how is this learning being implemented to make a difference?



Criminal Exploitation

	<p>d) What is the current partnership strategy in place to address CCE in the city? How is this strategy being supported and delivered through partners? What are the partnership mechanisms for collaboration, and how effective are they? How effective is its governance structure?</p> <p>e) Who are the key statutory organisations and what are their respective roles in addressing CCE? What investment is provided to these organisations, and has this changed over the past 4 years? What are the current plans for investment to meet future demands?</p> <p>f) What is the role of third sector and community-based organisations involved in tackling CCE? What are the key challenges they face, and what are the solutions they have identified to tackle these challenges? How effective is the cross sector working?</p> <p>g) How does the Council and Partners identify and assess risk for children and young people together for CCE? How are they responding to the challenge in identifying girls and young women as victims? How are the Council and Partners working together to deliver effective interventions when children and young people are likely to be both victims and involved with committing offences at the same time?</p> <p>h) How are the Council and Partners working with families to support children and young people at risk, or involved with CCE? How are schools and partners working together to reduce the risk of school exclusion?</p> <p><u>Equalities Impact</u> This will be monitored throughout the course of the inquiry.</p>
3. What timescale do we propose to do this in?	A report to City Council is proposed for June 2023.
4. What outcomes are we looking to achieve?	<p>Our overall outcome is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce the number of children and young people becoming at risk of Child Criminal Exploitation 2. Improve the effectiveness of partnership working to reduce the risk of Child Criminal Exploitation <p>•</p>

5. What is the best way to achieve these outcomes and what routes will we use?

This is an Inquiry proposed by the Education and Children's Social Care OSC and will be undertaken by this Committee. As the Housing and Neighbourhoods OSC has the statutory function as the Crime and Disorder Committee for Birmingham under their remit, they will be kept informed about the progress of this Inquiry.

Call for Evidence:

- Public – citizens and communities will have the opportunity to provide information as part of a 'Call for Evidence'. We will be particularly focusing on hearing about the experiences and capturing the views of families, who have had children at risk of, or involved with, Child Criminal Exploitation.
- Members – all Members will be invited to provide their views.
- Stakeholders – relevant stakeholders will be identified to provide evidence to the Inquiry. They may be local, regional, or national stakeholders.

Stakeholders invited to provide evidence include:

- Birmingham City Council
- Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership
- Birmingham Children's Trust
- Birmingham Community Safety Partnership
- Schools (primary and secondary)
- Forward Thinking Birmingham
- Lived Experiences
- Other Local Authority areas
- Probation Service
- Third sector organisations (Aquarius; Barnardo's; Catch 22; Children's Society; Choices Resettlement; Inside Out Resettlement Services; KIKIT; Lighthouse Consortium; NSPCC; NWG Network; St Giles; Victim Support)
- West Midlands Police
- West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner
- Violence Reduction Partnership

Task and Finish Group – this will be set up comprising Members from the Education and Children's Social Care Overview. The Task and Finish Group will be chaired by Councillor Des Hughes. This group will monitor the progress of the Inquiry.



Criminal Exploitation

Member / Officer Leads

Lead Member:	Councillor Des Hughes (Chair, Inquiry Task and Finish Group)
Membership of Inquiry Task and Finish Group:	Councillors: Shabina Bano; Morriam Jan, Shehla Moledina, and Simon Morrall
Lead Officer:	Amelia Murray, Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Work Outline and Terms of Reference

Children and Young People's Mental Health

Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Lead) / Education and Children Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group

Our key question:	How well are children with a diagnosed mental health condition supported across the mental health system with timely access to appropriate services and what is the service offer and pathways for children and young people in psychological distress without a diagnosed mental health condition to access appropriate support?
1. How is O&S adding value through this work?	<p>"There were an estimated 220,635 children aged 5 to 18 years in Birmingham in 2018, this equates to 19.3% of the total population of the city." (from Children and Young People 2019 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment p.28)</p> <p>"The Mental Health of Children and Young People Survey 2017 finds that nationally, one in eight children and young people aged 5 to 19 years have at least one mental disorder. The prevalence of mental health problems rises with age, with 9.5% of children age 5-10 years experiencing a mental disorder compared to 16.9% of those aged 17-19 years old*. Emotional disorders are the most prevalent type of mental health problem experienced by those aged 5-19 years old (8.1% of all children), followed by behavioural disorders (4.6%) and hyperactivity disorders (1.6%). In Birmingham the estimated prevalence of mental health disorders in children and young people (5-16 years) is 10.3% (England 9.2%, West Midlands 9.7%)</p> <p>Mental health problems affect about 1 in 10 children and young people. They include depression, anxiety and conduct disorder, and are often a direct response to what is happening in their lives. Alarming, however, 70% of children and young people who experience a mental health problem have not had appropriate interventions at a sufficiently early age" (from Children and Young People 2019 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment p. 34/35)</p> <p>The data above refers to the period prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The information below highlights the impact the pandemic has had on CYP mental health at a national level.</p>



Mental Health Survey for Children and Young People, 2021 (MHCYP 2021), wave 2 follow up was based on 3,667 children and young people who took part in the MHCYP 2017 survey, with both surveys also drawing on information collected from parents. The survey explored the mental health of children and young people in February/March 2021, during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and changes since 2017. Key finding from the survey were:

- Estimated rates of mental disorders have increased since 2017; in 6 to 16 year olds from one in nine (11.6%) to one in six (17.4%) and in 17 to 19 year olds from one in ten (10.1%) * to one in six (17.4%) Rates in both age groups remained similar between 2020 and 2021
- 10.6% of 6 to 16 year olds missed more than 15 days of school during 2020 Autumn term. It is estimated that children with a probable mental issue were twice as likely to have missed this much school (18.2%) as those unlikely to have a mental issue (8.8%)
- 39.2% of 6 to 16 year olds had experienced deterioration in mental health since 2017, and 21.8% experienced improvement. Among 17 - to 23 year olds, 52.5% experience deterioration, and 15.2 % experienced improvement.

Information published by the Health Foundation in February 2022 set out:

- After schools closed due to COVID-19 and ways of accessing GPs changed, new referrals to CYPMHS fell sharply (by 35% in April 2020 compared with the year before). However, about a year later, these reached a new high of 100,000 per month.
- In 2021, 24% more patients were in contact with CYPMHS compared with 2020, and 44% more than in 2019 (based on the January to September period) This includes patients waiting to be seen, suggesting CYPMHS may be struggling to meet demand **
- Data on waiting times for CYPMHS are not routinely published apart from certain services such as eating disorders, where fewer than half of those younger than 18 were seen within the target times in 2021.
- There are signs that the CYPMHS workforce is growing in line with young people in contact: both increased by about 40% between January 2019 and April 2021.

Key points from the Health Foundation's Networked Data Lab about Children and Young People's mental health highlighted three key areas:

- Rapid increases in mental health prescribing and support by GPs.
- The prevalence of mental health issues among adolescent girls and young women
- Stark socioeconomic inequalities across the UK

Taking a systems approach across health, children's social care, education and third sector providers the Inquiry will scrutinise the services and planning of partners to ensure the resources for mental health across the system are used effectively and efficiently to meet the needs of young people with mental health needs.

*During the Inquiry clarification will be sought on the different prevalence rates reported.

**The Inquiry will seek to understand how services in Birmingham meet demand.

	<p>Grand Challenges addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and well being • Opportunities for children and young people <p>Corporate Plan Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A city that is Healthy and Inclusive
<p>2. What needs to be done?</p>	<p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the definition of mental health and how does this affect the demand for mental health services? How is this communicated to the public and service users? • What is the known demand for CYP mental health support and what has been the impact of Covid on mental health of children and young people in Birmingham? Which mental health issues / service have seen the greatest increase in demand over the last 4 years? • What funding is available for mental health services and how does this compare to other areas e.g. core cities? • What are the referral routes, assessment processes and support for CYP with psychological distress and those with a diagnosed mental health condition? • What are the expectations of children and young people and their parents and carers in relation to their mental health need? • What support and advice is available to parents / carers? • How are the mental health needs of children and young people in care and care leavers being met? • How well are the needs of children and young people with high end acute mental health met? What are the implications of responding to CYP in crisis on the capacity in the mental health system? • How do services meet the needs of those who experience the disadvantage / barriers to services / are most vulnerable? (consider case studies / patient stories) • What can we learn from other areas? Examples of best practice • Work force planning to enable continuity of care – NHS, Social Care, Education and third sector. <p>Equalities Impact This will be considered at the first meeting of the Task and Finish Group monitored throughout the course of the inquiry.</p> <p>Evidence to be requested from: All Members Cabinet Members Public Call for evidence Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust / Provider Collaborative (Commissioner of Tier 4 beds) Forward Thinking Birmingham (FTB) (HASC Committee October) Integrated Care System</p>



Children and Young People's Mental Health

	<p>Primary Care / GPs / Primary Care Networks Birmingham City Council Education and Children's Services Birmingham Children's Trust (Education and Children Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee 30/11/22) Acute Trust – UHB University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust Schools (including NHSE Mental Health Support Team Pilots in Bham schools) Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (Quality Assurance Group) (Independent Chair attending Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee 30/11/22) Third Sector Providers Mentally Healthy City Forum Lived Experience / views of YP – Census / Healthwatch Report / Fit for Brum (FTB) Previous consultation / engagement Public health Birmingham Community Health Trusts Samaritans MIND Papyrus LGBT Switch Birmingham LGBT Black Mental Health Foundation – Young Black Minds Women's Aid West Midlands Police West Midlands Ambulance Service Research from Universities / National Mental Health organisations.</p> <p>Committee Meetings planned in work programmes: Forward Thinking Birmingham attending Health and Social Care OSC 18.10.22 Birmingham Children's Trust and Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Partnership attending Education and CSC OSC October 22</p>
3. What timescale do we propose to do this in? (TBC)	<p>Report to City Council in June 2023.</p> <p>The Task and Finish Group will review the terms of Reference mid way through the evidence gathering process to decide if the scope should be changes to focus on specific issues based on the initial evidence received.</p>
4. What outcomes are we looking to achieve?	<p>Develop recommendations to Cabinet and ICS that will:</p> <p>Improve access and ensure clear multi-agency pathways / referral routes for CPY with mental health needs.</p> <p>Ensure effective and efficient use of resources across the mental health system and develop the capacity of the mental health system to respond to need and consider work force planning.</p>

*During the Inquiry clarification will be sought on the different prevalence rates reported.

**The Inquiry will seek to understand how services in Birmingham meet demand.

5. What is the best way to achieve these outcomes and what routes will we use?	To ensure that there is involvement of members from the Health and Social Care OSC and the Education and Children's Social Care OSC a task and finish group has been established to undertake this inquiry. The Inquiry will gather evidence through reports to Committee meetings (all members of the Task and Finish Group will be invited for this item) and Task and Finish Group meetings
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Member / Officer Leads

Lead Member:	Cllr. Brown Chair of Task and Finish Group Cllr. Tilsley, Deputy Chair of Task and Finish Group
Membership of Task and Finish Group	Cllrs: Brown, Hartley, Moore, Tilsley, Bermingham, Pritchard, Morrall
Lead Officer:	Fiona Bottrill

Work Outline/Terms of Reference

Promoting Health & Wellbeing – a Commonwealth Games Legacy

Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Our key question:	How will the legacy from the Commonwealth Games improve access to physical activity opportunities (both participating and spectating) for our disabled citizens and communities?
1. How is O&S adding value through this work?	<p>The Commonwealth Games 2022 has been the largest multi-sport event ever held within this city. It provides an incomparable platform for Birmingham to shape a new future for the city and its citizens. For the first time in any similar scale event, disability sport was integrated within the main programme showcasing elite performance from athletes with both physical and learning disabilities. This raised the profile of disability sport and brought it to an extended audience. In a city which prides itself on celebrating and supporting diversity, this seems a welcome and natural step. As we move forward from the Games, this inquiry aims to understand how its legacy can improve participation levels in physical activity for our disabled citizens, as well as improve quality of the spectating experience for our disabled community.</p> <p>We know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participating in sport and other physical activities delivers a wide range of individual benefits beyond the anticipated physical health benefits. People who regularly engage in physical activity which they enjoy report improved mood and sleep levels, an increase in energy and better stress levels. It also reduces the risk of major illness and premature death. However, there are challenges which the disabled community face to access these opportunities.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Birmingham faces significant challenges to reduce health inequalities. This inquiry will contribute towards achieving Birmingham City Council’s Corporate Plan 2022-26 through the following links: <p><u>Grand Challenges</u></p> <p>Equalities and Inclusion</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <p><u>Be Bold Outcomes</u></p> <p>A Bold Healthy Birmingham</p> <p>A Bold Inclusive Birmingham</p> <p><u>Corporate Priorities</u></p> <p>4. Maximise the benefits of the Commonwealth Games</p> <p>6. Empower the citizens and enable the citizen voice</p> <p>7. Promote and champion diversity, civic pride and diversity</p> <p>13. Tackle health inequalities</p> <p>14. Encourage and enable physical activity and healthy living</p> <p>16. Improve outcomes for adults with disabilities and older people</p> <p><u>Strategic Framework</u></p> <p>Birmingham’s Commonwealth Games legacy plan outlines the following relevant objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inspire and enable Birmingham’s citizens to improve and sustain their levels of physical activity• Improve access to leisure and community infrastructure to increase physical activity opportunities for local communities <p>In addition, the legacy plan’s Healthy – Action Plan specifically highlights the following relevant interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Launch a new Sport Strategy linking health and wellbeing approaches to a broader sporting agenda, developing sporting pathways and making best use of assets.• Ensure that major events hosted in Birmingham actively encourage citizens of all ages and abilities to engage in activities that improve their health and wellbeing
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	<p>From Autumn 2022, Birmingham City Council will be developing the new Sports Strategy. A new Major Sporting Events Strategy has also recently been launched. The learning and recommendations from this inquiry will inform both their development and delivery.</p> <p>This inquiry will also advance the implementation of 'Everyone's Battle, Everyone's Business'.</p> <p>During 2022-23, Birmingham's Health and Wellbeing Board will be publishing 'deep dives' on Learning Disabilities and Mobility Impairment as part of its enhanced Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). This inquiry will complement this work.</p> <p><u>Other Information</u></p> <p>Physical activity is broader than the traditional view of sport. For example, physical activity includes walking, yoga and other similar activities as well as competitive sport.</p> <p>This inquiry will define disability as outlined in the Equalities Act 2010. This defines disability as 'a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' or 'long term' negative effect on your ability to normal daily activities'.</p>
2. What needs to be done?	<p><u>Key lines of enquiry/Key Questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the profile of disability in the city, and the level of participation/spectating for sport and physical activity from this community. • Compare Birmingham to other core cities, and capture learning. • Understand the experiences of disabled citizens in participating in physical activity and sport in our city. • Understand the experiences of disabled spectators in accessing the Commonwealth Games and its sporting programme, specifically venues. • Understand the experiences of disabled spectators in accessing other sporting events and activities. • Identify the barriers the disabled community faces to participate and spectate. • Understand what 'good looks like' to support inclusion in participation and spectating, and the solutions presented by the community to get there. • Understand how the Commonwealth Games identified a legacy for the disabled community in terms of participation



	<p>and spectating, and how it has measured its impact upon this (including early indicators).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the key activities the Commonwealth Games has undertaken to affect change for the future. • Benchmark Commonwealth Games 2022 to previous Commonwealth Games or other multi-sport events in terms of legacy for the disabled community.
3. What timescale do we propose to do this in?	It is proposed to complete this inquiry in 6 months.
4. What outcomes are we looking to achieve?	<p>Our proposed and working outcomes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve participation levels in sport and physical activity by the disabled community. 2. Improve the experience for disabled spectators at sporting events.
5. What is the best way to achieve these outcomes and what routes will we use?	<p>This Inquiry has been proposed by the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Lead Committee will be the Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>Call for Evidence –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Public</u> – citizens and communities will have the opportunity to provide information as part of a 'Call for Evidence'. We are particularly interested in hearing about lived experiences. • <u>Members</u> – all Members will be invited to provide their views. • <u>Stakeholders</u> – relevant stakeholders have been identified to provide evidence to the Inquiry. They may be local, regional or national stakeholders. <p>Stakeholders invited to provide evidence include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birmingham City Council • Third sector organisations including Activity Alliance, Sport Birmingham and The Active Wellbeing Society • Sports and Physical Recreation clubs • West Midlands Combined Authority <p>Equalities Impact – this will be monitored throughout the course of the inquiry.</p>

	<p>Task and Finish Group – this will be set up comprising Members from both the Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity, and the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be the lead committee.</p> <p>The Task and Finish Group will be chaired by Councillor Jack Deakin (chair, Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee) and the vice chair will be Councillor Gareth Moore (Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee). The Task and Finish Group commenced in September and meetings will take place regularly throughout the duration of the inquiry.</p> <p>Project Plan – this will be developed following the first Task and Finish Group. It will outline the key activities to be completed from planning through to reporting of this inquiry to Full Council. This project plan will be tracked and monitored by the Task and Finish Group.</p> <p>Research and Support - this Inquiry will be supported by Birmingham City Council's Scrutiny Team, and in particular the Overview and Scrutiny Manager (Lead Officer). They will facilitate the Task and Finish group, the Call for Evidence and the delivery of the project plan. Further to this, the lead officer will also undertake research, and prepare the inquiry report.</p> <p>Other officers within Birmingham City Council will also provide expert support, notably the Head of Sport and Physical Activity.</p>
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Member / Officer Leads

Lead Member:	Cllr Jack Deakin (Chair, Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity Overview and Scrutiny Committee)
Membership of the Task and Finish Group:	<p>Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity O&S Committee: Cllrs: Jack Deakin (Chair), Deborah Harries and Rinkal Shergill</p> <p>Health and Social Care O&S Committee: Cllrs: Mick Brown, and Gareth Moore (Deputy Chair)</p>
Lead Officer:	Amelia Murray, Overview and Scrutiny Manager

Work Outline

Birmingham Skills Offer: meeting the needs of current and future employment opportunities

Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group

Our key question:	How is the council responding to the Breaking Down the Barriers Report and what is the vision for Life-Long Learning and Skills across the city?
1. How is O&S adding value through this work?	<p>Birmingham has a persistently high unemployment rate and low skills which affects the opportunities for residents and the ability to grow the local economy and attract business to the City.</p> <p>In February 2020, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, 6.3% of young people aged 18-24 in Birmingham and 6.1% in the West Midlands were unemployed. By March 2021, this had risen to 11.6% in Birmingham and 11.5% in the West Midlands – an increase of over 5%. When we remove economically inactive young people who are not currently seeking employment, such as students, youth unemployment in the city rose to approximately 20% as of April 2021. Almost one in five young people in Birmingham are now out of work - substantially greater than the current UK average of 13.5% for 18 to 24 youth unemployment. (Breaking Down the Barriers)</p> <p>The Scrutiny Inquiry will contribute to policy development through focussing on the recommendations of the Breaking Down the Barriers Report that relate to the skills agenda for young people.</p> <p>Grand Challenges addressed: Unemployment, skills and the economy</p> <p>Corporate Plan Priorities: A city that is Prosperous and Inclusive</p>
2. What needs to be done?	<p>Key questions:</p> <p>The 5 recommendations from the Breaking Down the Barrier Report that are relevant to are relevant to this Scrutiny Inquiry are:</p>



Birmingham Skills Offer: meeting the needs of current and future

- Support young people to build confidence and resilience
- Develop a comprehensive city-wide mentoring scheme
- Facilitate accessible work experience opportunities
- Reshape careers advice and guidance services
- Deliver a locally designed scheme of employment support for young people and businesses

The Inquiry will also consider:

How marketing and communication strategies are used to inform disenfranchised young people of the skills and employment opportunities available.

How young people are supported to develop entrepreneurial skills?

The Inquiry may also identify specific sectors where there is a skills gap or groups of young people to consider in greater detail during the inquiry.

Members will also receive evidence on the data on employment and skills and the current arrangement for skills funding for children and young people and the position going forward.

Evidence from:

- Cabinet Members
- Birmingham City Council Skills Team: including data on jobs and skills funding (Committee Meeting November 2022)
- Employers* – identify 2 sectors (based on evidence)
- Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)*
- Local Enterprise Partnership *
- Business Improvement Districts*
- Trade unions / Trades Council*
- Young People (including SEND and Care Leavers. City Youth Board*, Link with Beat Freeks)
- Schools
- Chamber of Commerce*
- Careers Enterprise Company*
- Small Business Association*
- Higher and further education institutions* (9 Further Education colleges and 5 universities)
- Examples of good practice from other areas*
- Birmingham Education Partnership*
- Young Women's Trust*
- Prince's Trust*

*These organisations do not have a statutory duty to contribute to the Scrutiny Inquiry but will be invited to contribute and give evidence.

	<p>The WMCA has the devolved power for adult skills but has a separate WMCA Scrutiny Committee that will consider this adult skills. The WMCA work recognises the importance of youth skills and employment and works with regional partners to support this. However, while not scrutinising the WMCA, it will be important to understand the regional strategic context for the skills agenda in Birmingham.</p> <p>The Breaking Down the Barriers report includes recommendations regarding reducing the cost of public transport, children and young people's mental health, digital inclusion, giving a voice to young people through the Brum Talks Festival and creating a one stop shop online hub. These issues are outside the scope of the Scrutiny Inquiry. It is noted that there is a separate Scrutiny Inquiry taking place on children and young people's mental health.</p>
3. What timescale do we propose to do this in?	<p>Inquiry report to City Council 4 April 2023.</p> <p>It is noted that a response to the recommendations in the Breaking Down the Barriers Report will be provided in December 2022. This will take into account the work being undertaken by the Inquiry and the Inquiry timescales.</p>
4. What outcomes are we looking to achieve?	<p>Reducing unemployment</p> <p>Increasing skills / retraining for better paid jobs</p> <p>Reducing long term unemployment / reducing poverty</p> <p>To consider the funding streams to deliver the skills agenda for young people</p> <p>Including the transition from European Social Fund (ESF) to the UK Prosperity Fund</p> <p>Careers – understanding what careers / job opportunities there will be in the city and how to train for them.</p>
5. What is the best way to achieve these outcomes and what routes will we use?	<p>The Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee has established a Task and Finish Group to undertake this Inquiry. Evidence will be presented to Committee meeting or meetings of the Task and Finish Group.</p>

Member / Officer Leads

Lead Member:	<p>Chair of Task and Finish Group: Cllr. Suleman</p> <p>Deputy Chair of Task and Finish Group: Cllr. Morrall</p>
Members of the Task and Finish Group	<p>Cllrs: Suleman, Aziz, Morrall, Brennan, Knowles</p>
Lead Officer:	<p>Fiona Bottrill. Senior Overview and Scrutiny Manager.</p>