
Meeting: Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 1 December 2009
Subject: Work Programme 2009-2010
Report of: Jon Partridge, Overview & Scrutiny Officer
Summary: The report provides Members with their current work programme to consider any amendments that they may wish to make.

Contact Officer: Jon Partridge (0300 300 4634)
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: n/a

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The work programme of the Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee should contribute to all 5 Council priorities, and will specifically support the priority directly related to the work of the Children, Families and Learning Directorate, being educating, protecting and providing opportunities for children and young people.

The work programme of the Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee should also contribute to each of the priorities agreed under the Children and Young People's Plan and the five key 'Every Child Matters' outcomes for all children and young people; 'be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being'.

Financial:

None

Legal:

None

Risk Management:

None

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

None

Community Development/Safety:

None

Sustainability:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **That the Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers the current work programme and any amendments it may wish to make.**
2. **That the Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee considers whether it wishes to establish any Task Forces to assist it in reviewing specific items on the draft work programme.**

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| <i>Reason for Recommendation:</i> | <i>So as Members of the Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee can keep their work programme for the municipal year 2009 – 2010 under review to ensure it is fit for purpose. Also to inform Members of the progress made in relation to its Task Forces.</i> |
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Work Programme

1. At its first meeting the Committee received a presentation providing an overview of the Children, Families and Learning directorate and the key issues and challenges facing it. A suggested work programme was also presented containing a number of priority items which the members considered and updated.
2. The work programme is regularly kept under review by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and officers and is amended as may be appropriate, which also includes adding further items during the course of the year if Members so wish and capacity exists. This current agreed work programme is attached at **Appendix A**.

Task Forces**3. Cultural Strategy**

At its previous meeting the Committee resolved (**Minute CFL/09/23 refers**) to establish a Task Force to review the Cultural Strategy. The terms of reference for this Task Force have been approved by the Committee and three meetings have taken place. Information has been received by the Task Force regarding the current cultural offer in Central Bedfordshire to enable Members to define the specific areas they wish to focus on. Further meetings are programmed in which the Task Force will discuss issues in detail with witnesses.

4. Provision of Facilities for Youth

At its previous meeting the Committee expressed that this task force was a clear priority. A scope has been drafted with officers and the following Members have been appointed to the Task Force; Councillors Costin, Egan, Fahn, Street and Williams. The Task Force's first meeting has been scheduled for 2 December 2009 where Members will be able to consider their terms of reference and will receive a briefing to assist in defining the scope of their investigation.

5. Other Task Forces

5.1 Child Poverty Strategy

The Child Poverty Strategy is currently listed on the Executive Forward Plan for 9 March 2010 and a scope for this task force will be drawn up with officers to allow it to commence following the completion of either the Cultural Strategy Task Force or the Provision of Facilities for Youth Task Force.

Conclusion

6. The Committee is requested to consider the work programme attached and make any further amendments it considers necessary.

Appendices:

Appendix A: Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2009 – 2010