
Meeting: Children, Families and Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 2 February 2010

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 new Task Forces to assist it in reviewing specific items on the draft work programme.**

Reason for Recommendation: 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.

Work Programme

- 1 The work programme is regularly kept under review by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and officers and is amended as appropriate, which also includes adding further items during the course of the year if Members so wish and capacity exists.
2. At the previous Committee meeting Members raised concerns regarding the work programme and it was suggested that some critical items were not being submitted to the Committee. To address this issue each Member of the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee was invited to set out any items they felt should be included. A meeting was also scheduled to take place between the Portfolio Holder, the responsible Director and the Chairman to discuss the work programme. Feedback from this meeting and an updated work programme will be circulated to Committee Members prior to the Committee meeting.

Task Forces

3. **Provision of Facilities for Youth**

The Committee has previously expressed that this task force was a clear priority and the following Members are currently appointed to the Task Force; Councillors Costin, Egan, Fahn, Street and Williams. The Task Force has met on one occasion to receive an overview from officers and Members have been asked to provide further guidance regarding the areas on which they would like to focus. An update on progress will be provided at the Committee meeting.

Other Task Forces

4. Child Poverty Strategy

The Child Poverty Strategy is currently listed on the Executive Forward Plan for 9 March 2010 and in light of the Cultural Strategy Task Force being transferred to the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members are asked to consider how they would like to progress with the Child Poverty Strategy Task Force. This might include appointing the Membership of the Group so as terms of reference can be approved.

Conclusion

5. The Committee is requested to consider the work programme and make any further amendments it considers necessary. The work programme will be circulated to Members following the planning meeting scheduled to take place prior to the Committee.

Appendix:

Appendix A: Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme (2009-2010) (to follow)