

## Children's Select Committee – Forward work programme – November 2022

### Task groups and rapid scrutiny exercises

#### Children's Select Committee – Current / active task groups

<b>Name (establishment date by CSC)</b> Terms of reference / aims Meeting(s) update	<b>Membership</b> Vacancies Supporting officer	<b>Start date</b>  <b>Final report expected</b>
<p><b>Children's Select Committee's Standing Task Group</b></p> <p>1. To undertake detailed reviews of the regular reports that come within the Children's Select Committee's remit and to bring updates to the Committee on its work;</p> <p>2. To present any key issues, findings and recommendations to the Children's Select Committee, and / or other relevant committees, for discussion, endorsement or further scrutiny where appropriate.</p> <p><u>Meeting(s) update:</u></p>	<p>Cllr Helen Belcher            John Hawkins            Cllr Jon Hubbard (Chair)            Cllr Jacqui Lay            Cllr Jo Trigg            Cllr James Sheppard</p> <p>No vacancy</p> <p><i>Supporting officer</i>  <i>Marie Gondlach</i></p>	<p>6 July 2021</p> <p>n/a -            Standing task group</p>
<p><b>Adoption West Joint Scrutiny Panel</b></p> <p>The panel acts as a critical friend, providing independent scrutiny of the work of Adoption West (AW). It is an essential element of assuring democratic accountability for the use of public funds.</p>	<p>Cllr Jon Hubbard (Chair)            Cllr Carole King</p> <p>No vacancy</p> <p><i>Supporting officer:</i>  <i>Marie Gondlach</i></p>	<p>Tbc</p> <p>n/a -            Standing task group</p>

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<p>The objective of the panel is to make constructive recommendations to ensure that AW meets its performance targets and expectations. The focus of the panel is on the Region and members of the panel work in partnership to focus on performance for the Region overall.</p> <p><u>Meeting(s) update:</u></p>		
<p><b>Fostering Excellence task group</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. review how the Fostering Excellence project has been / is / will be addressing the issues identified in the report presented to CSC on 10 March 2020: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Increase initial enquiries and therefore assessments and approvals of Wiltshire Council foster carers;</li> <li>b. Improve the retention of Wiltshire approved foster carers;</li> <li>c. Increase the percentage of Wiltshire children in foster care cared for by Wiltshire Council foster carers (at the time 46%);</li> <li>d. Maintain high occupancy rates of Wiltshire approved foster carers (at the time 80%+).</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. identify how the effectiveness of the Fostering Excellence project will be measured and reported, and be satisfied that this is robust and delivering improvements whilst achieving the savings identified in the budget 2022-23;</li> <li>3. identify how the benefits of being placed with Wiltshire Council foster carers (who are receiving enhanced training / support as part of Fostering Excellence) for children in care will be measured and reported, and be satisfied that this is robust;</li> <li>4. identify best practice across the country for recruitment and retention of in-house foster carers.</li> </ol> <p><u>Meeting(s) update:</u></p>	<p>Cllr Liz Alstrom  Cllr Chuck Berry (Chair)  Cllr Ruth Hopkinson  Cllr Sam Pearce-Kearney  Cllr Mark Verbinnen</p> <p>No vacancy</p> <p><i>Supporting officer  Marie Gondlach</i></p>	<p>18  January  2022</p> <p>17 January  2023</p>

## Children's Select Committee – Planned rapid scrutiny exercises

Name (terms of reference / aims)	Membership (vacancies)	Planned start date  Final report expected
<p><b>Multi Academy Trusts option – rapid scrutiny</b></p> <p>To review the options available to the council in setting its own MAT. To explore differences between MATS, stand alone trusts and maintained schools, especially with possibility of LA's MATs.</p>	<p>Cllr Helen Belcher Cllr Jo Trigg Cllr Iain Wallis Cllr Mark Verbinnen</p> <p>No vacancy</p> <p><i>Supporting officer Marie Gondlach</i></p>	<p>Tbc – <i>still awaiting government's decision</i></p>
<p><b>Roadmap to excellence - Rapid Scrutiny</b></p> <p>Following a presentation at the March 2022 meeting it was agreed that a Rapid Scrutiny exercise would take place to review the proposed road map (timeline) for “getting to outstanding” – the council's strategy to achieve an Ofsted's Outstanding rating.</p> <p>It is planned for this to be 2 meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1st meeting to consider the existing strategy and service plans</li> <li>- 2nd meeting to consider future reporting to Children's Select Committee</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr Jon Hubbard</p> <p><b>Vacancies: 2</b></p> <p><i>Supporting officer Simon Bennett</i></p>	<p>Tbc</p> <p>14 March 2023</p>
<p><b>TO DISCUSS AT EXEC / OS MEETING</b></p>		

<p><b>SEND provision</b> – data set Rapid Scrutiny (no further background information, on current FWP)</p>		
<p><b>TO DISCUSS AT EXEC / OS MEETING</b></p> <p><b>Health Outcomes and meeting health needs Rapid Scrutiny</b></p> <p>To explore how the council can best scrutinise what partners (and providers) are doing to provide health outcomes for Wiltshire children, this would include establishing what the current scrutiny by the council is (including information on the current and planned work on this topic of the Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership).</p>		

## Children's Select Committee – Planned task groups

Name (terms of reference / aims)	Membership (vacancies)	Planned start date  Final report expected
<p><b>Mental health for children and young people – task group</b></p> <p>Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy (draft expected late 2022 / early 2023 as informed at Sep 2022 meeting) to be considered by the task group</p> <p>Task group to explore the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a clear picture of all services available for children and young people in Wiltshire to support their emotional wellbeing and mental health (across all sectors and all funding streams);</li> <li>- whether there are any duplications of services or gaps (particular cohorts of children and young people or geographical areas not able to access the support they need);</li> <li>- how the council can best remain aware of that wealth of support and how to ensure there is a joined-up approach across all providers;</li> <li>- how to best communicate information on the different services to Wiltshire residents (report stating a third of referrals received in the Single Point of Access – CAMHS – are “preventable”, from carers who struggle to know where to go to access the support they need for their young person.</li> <li>- that performance across services commissioned by the council is monitored in the best way possible and how this can best be reported to the Children's Select Committee in future.</li> <li>- the issues around recruitment / workforce and if anything could be developed across the sector in terms of opportunities through new roles and maximising offer to staff</li> </ul> <p><u>Meeting(s) update:</u></p>	<p>Cllr Caroline Corbin Cllr Jo Trigg Cllr Mark Verbinnen</p> <p><b>Vacancies: 2</b></p> <p><i>Supporting officer Marie Gondlach</i></p>	<p>After 25 October 2022</p>
<p><b>Youth provision and youth service funding – task group</b></p>	<p>Cllr Helen Belcher</p>	

<p>It is proposed that the task group considers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the council utilises the Local Youth Network funding (circa £350,000) via the Area Boards</li> <li>• How the council assures itself that it is meeting its duties with regards to youth service provision</li> <li>• How the council ensures that young people are aware of what youth provision is on offer</li> </ul> <p>The task group is likely to engage with the Youth Voice team as well as Area Boards, with the aim to develop consistency across the 18 area boards in terms of allocating youth funding and eligibility criteria, as well as the voluntary sector. This work should also ensure that all councillors are aware of the current youth provision and can effectively promote what is on offer in their area.</p> <p><u>Meeting(s) update:</u></p>	<p>Cllr Jo Trigg Cllr Iain Wallis Cllr Mark Verbinnen Cllr Jack Oatley</p> <p>Vacancies: 0</p> <p><i>Supporting officer Marie Gondlach</i></p> <p>Lead officers Ros Griffiths Simon Thomas Mandy Timbrell Andrew Griffiths Joe Sutton / Sara James</p>	<p>December 2022 / January 2023</p>
<p><b>Post 16 provision – task group</b></p> <p>To establish a clear picture of post-16 education provision available to young people in Wiltshire and availability of / options for transport to access that provision.</p> <p>This should also take into consideration the following information the committee had previously identified as of interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the Youth Transport task group’s work and executive response – including National Bus Strategy and any decision or progress regarding a single ”Wiltshire Youth Card” .</li> <li>• To include input from the council’s review of transport services for children and young people with SEND (commissioning team).</li> </ul> <p><u>Meeting(s) update:</u></p>	<p>Cllr Jo Trigg Nikki Barnett Cllr Graham Wright Cllr Bridget Wayman</p> <p><b>Vacancies: 1</b></p> <p><i>Supporting officer Marie Gondlach</i></p> <p>Lead officers Kirstie Barter Cara Madden Clara Davies</p>	<p>February / March 2023</p>

<p><b>TO DISCUSS AT EXEC / OS MEETING</b></p> <p>Whole Life Pathway Task Group (to be initiated – with HSC)</p>	TBC	
<p><b>TO DISCUSS AT EXEC / OS MEETING</b></p> <p>To establish a Task Group to review the metrics of the Business Plan.</p> <p>Based on outcome of above task group - to establish a second Task Group to review the service plans once the metrics have been confirmed.</p>		
<p><b>TO DISCUSS AT EXEC / OS MEETING</b></p> <p><b>NEW</b> – to be endorsed by CSC</p> <p><b>Budget and Major Contracts task group</b></p> <p>To regularly review implementation of the budget and impact on services, and to consider major contracts (value to be agreed) either when they are approaching renewal or extension or before the tender process with a focus on the council's expectations and requirements with regards to the quality, quantity and frequency of monitoring information provided by contractors and how that information will be monitored by the council (including overview and scrutiny involvement)</p>		

## Children's Select Committee – task groups and rapid scrutiny exercises completed in the last 12 months

Name  Actions / monitoring	Membership	Final report  Executive response
<b>Rapid Scrutiny exercise on Provision of Accommodation for Young People at Transition Time - Gap Analysis</b>	Cllr Carole King (Lead Member) Cllr Mike Sankey Cllr Jo Trigg	<a href="#">19 January 2022</a>  <a href="#">15 March 2022</a>
<b>Disadvantaged Learners Task Group</b>	Cllr Jo Trigg (Chair) Cllr Trevor Carbin John Hawkins Cllr Kathryn Macdermid Cllr Gordon King Cllr Caroline Thomas	<a href="#">7 June 2022</a>  <a href="#">6 July 2022</a>
<b>High needs block funding Rapid Scrutiny</b>  To review the current processes and explore whether there would be value added in establishing a task group to consider options to manage pressures on high needs block budget whilst providing the most appropriate support at the earliest opportunity.	Cllr Jo Trigg (Lead) Cllr Pauline Church Cllr Kathryn MacDermid  <i>Supporting officer Marie Gondlach</i>	17 January 2023  14 March 2023