

Improving Lives Select Commission – 21 Sept 2016

Title: Improving Lives Select Commission work programme and prioritisation

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

All

Summary

This paper provides Members with an outline work programme. Members are also asked to consider the relevant sections from the Forward Plan of Key Decisions to determine if there are items they wish to refer to OSMB for consideration at their Pre-Decision Scrutiny meetings or schedule at a future meeting of Improving Lives Select Commission.

Recommendations:

1. That consideration be given to the prioritisation of items within the Improving Lives Select Commission's work programme 2016/17;
2. That consideration be given to the relevant sections of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions to determine if there are items Members wish to refer to OSMB or schedule at a future meeting of Improving Lives Select Commission;
3. That a request be made to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Services to refer the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) to the Improving Lives Select Commission;
4. That consideration be given to the request from Cabinet for Improving Lives Select Commission to undertake a review to explore the effectiveness of alternative delivery models of social care and how this impacts on accountability, improvement and the delivery of the authority's statutory social care duties.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference – Improving Lives

Appendix 2: Forward Plan of Key Decisions (September – November 2016)

Background Papers

Nil

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

N/A

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Report title: Improving Lives Select Commission work programme and prioritisation

1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That consideration be given to the prioritisation of items within the Improving Lives Select Commission's work programme 2016/17;
- 1.2 That consideration be given to the relevant sections of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions to determine if there are items Members wish to refer to OSMB or schedule at a future meeting of Improving Lives Select Commission;
- 1.3 That a request be made to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Services to refer the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) to the Improving Lives Select Commission;
- 1.4 That consideration be given to the request from Cabinet for Improving Lives Select Commission to undertake a review to explore the effectiveness of alternative delivery models of social care and how this impacts on accountability, improvement and the delivery of the authority's statutory social care duties.

2 Background

2.1 Members of the Improving Lives Select Committee held an informal work planning session on July 20 2016 to consider what items to include with the commission's work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year in line with its terms of reference (attached as Appendix 1). In doing so, Members gave consideration to the following items:

- Early help
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) – post abuse support
- Children missing from health, home and education
- Domestic Abuse
- Looked After Children
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)
- Safeguarding – including performance of multi-agency safeguarding hub

2.2 The following items were considered to be relevant to the Commission's work programme where the Members could add value:

Meeting date	Agenda Item
September 21, 2016	Local Children's Safeguarding Board Annual Report Scrutiny of the Annual Report Domestic Abuse: New Ofsted framework and 'health-check' of current services
November 2, 2016	CSE (post-abuse support) Focus on recovery. How do we know if services are making a positive difference to CSE survivors?
February 1, 2017	Early Help Impact of early help offer – 12 months on
March 22, 2017	SEND Following the Children and Families Act 2014, how has provision changed for children with special educational needs and disabilities?

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 On July 8, 2016, members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) commenced the work planning and prioritisation process for the 2016/17 municipal year with the assistance of the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS). In doing so, they adopted the use of the '**PAPERS**' prioritisation tool. The acronym PAPERS gives a framework for prioritising the scrutiny work programme.

Public Interest: the concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;

Ability to change: priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically influence;

Performance: priority should be given to the areas in which the Council and other agencies are not performing well;

Extent: priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the district;

Replication: work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort;

Statutory responsibility: where an issue is part of a statutory duty to scrutinise or hold to account (or the area under scrutiny is a statutory, high profile responsibility)

- 3.2 This report requests that the Commission endorses the four items listed in para 2.2 for inclusion in the work programme. Once this has been done, work can commence to plan what review work may be undertaken and what papers will be brought to future meetings in accordance with the work programme.
- 3.3 In considering its priorities for the 2016/17 municipal year and in order to avoid replication of activity, the informal meeting of the Commission asked that the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel (CPP) be submitted to the Improving Lives Select Commission. It also recommended that the two members of the Commission who sit on CPP, feedback issues of concern or interest in relation to looked after children and care leavers and if necessary, consideration be given to factoring such items into its work planning (with issues being re-prioritised if required). Concerns relating to children missing from health, education and home are to be addressed in its scrutiny of the LSCB Annual Report and early help offer.
- 3.4 The Commission should be mindful of the timeliness of the matters within its work programme and ensure that it leaves sufficient flexibility within its work programme to undertake any pre-decision scrutiny arising from matters in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions or any items referred to it directly from either the Cabinet or OSMB. With this in mind, Members are asked to consider the Forward Plan of Key Decisions (attached as Appendix 2) to determine if there are any items it wishes to schedule into its work programme or refer to OSMB for consideration as part of the pre-decision scrutiny process.
- 3.5 In addition to the areas outlined in 2.2, Cabinet has made a request that Improving Lives Select Commission undertake a review to explore the effectiveness of alternative delivery models of social care and how this impacts on accountability, improvement and the delivery of the authority's statutory social care duties. A more detailed, specific programme for this inquiry will be prepared, with the aim to produce a final report by March 2017.

4 Options considered and recommended proposal

4.1 Members of the Improving Lives Select Commission have commenced the process of planning a work programme and this paper is submitted to assist the process of finalisation.

5 Consultation

5.1 In developing its work programme, the Commission should have regard to input from the Cabinet, Senior Leadership Team, partners and the public who may identify issues which may be relevant to its remit.

6 Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

6.1 The Commission is responsible for the preparation and delivery of its own work programme, with support provided by the Scrutiny Team and designated Link Officer from the council's Strategic Leadership Team.

7 Financial and Procurement Implications

7.1 There are no financial or procurement implications arising from this report.

8 Legal Implications

8.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

9 Human Resources Implications

9.1 Members should have regards to the human resources required to undertake the activities within a work programme. In doing so, Members should be mindful of their own commitments as well as the available officer resource to support any activity across the authority.

10 Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

10.1 Good scrutiny is an essential part of providing critical checks and balances to the performance and quality of all aspects of safeguarding. It provides a mechanism to hold the executives and partners to account.

11 Equalities and Human Rights Implications

11.1 In developing a work programme, the Commission should be mindful of the equalities implications of the issues prioritised for scrutiny.

12 Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

12.1 Overview and scrutiny activity will have implications for partners and other directorates. The Commission has been allocated a link officer to with Members to identify possible implications in the planning of its work programme.

13 Risks and Mitigation

13.1 There are no risks directly arising from this report.

14 Accountable Officer(s)

James McLaughlin, Democratic Services Manager and Statutory Scrutiny Manager

Approvals Obtained from:-

Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services:- N/A

Assistant Director of Legal Services:- N/A

Head of Procurement (if appropriate):- N/A

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