

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Improving Lives Select Commission
2.	Date:	30th April, 2014
3.	Title:	Work Programme 2013/14 – update and forward planning
4.	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

This report provides the Improving Lives Select Commission with an update on progress on the delivery of its work programme, summarising achievements and changes that have taken place. It also reports on future agenda items and potential themes going forward into 2014/15.

6. Recommendation

That Members:

- **Note achievements so far.**
- **Consider the approach it would like to adopt for 2014/15 work programme**

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 The work programme for 2013/14 was agreed at the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board (OSMB) meeting on the 28th June 2014, attached as Appendix A. This report provides members with an update on the progress made to date.

In summary:

- Almost all items identified in the work programme have been completed or scheduled for completion by the end of April 2014
- The review scheduled to take place on poverty has been referred to OSMB for consideration as part of its work on welfare reform and disadvantaged communities
- Two scrutiny reviews have been completed; improving services for people experiencing domestic abuse; and support to carers (with Health Select Commission). In addition, a spotlight meeting was held to scrutinise current arrangements to counter child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Rotherham
- There is a further report on anti-bullying support awaiting completion. This will be presented to the panel prior to the recess.

7.2 Future work programme items suggested to date:

- Missing from education (update)
- Update on CSE
- Neglect – effects on vulnerable children and young people
- Outcomes for Looked After Children
- Effectiveness of Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
- Annual Safeguarding Report and Business Plan (LSCB)
- Forced marriage (recommendation from scrutiny review of domestic abuse)
- Annual Safeguarding Report for Vulnerable Adults
- Review of progress: scrutiny review of domestic abuse

Members are asked to consider whether the above items should be scheduled as part of the work programme and if there are additional items that they wish to prioritise as part of the work programme for 2014/15.

Given the majority of issues identified thus far broadly focus on safeguarding issues for children and young people and vulnerable adults, Improving Lives may therefore wish to consider whether its work programme has safeguarding as its central theme.

7.3 The other Select Commissions are also looking at their forward planning for 2014/15. The Health Select Commission are focusing predominantly on one theme for the year – Mental Health and Wellbeing, and the Improving Places Select Commission programme is to be focused around the theme of supporting the local economy. It has also been suggested that the theme of DWP work and other programmes will be the focus for OSMB. .

8. Finance

No direct financial implications.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The development of a clear work programme maximises the potential for Scrutiny to have an impact and mitigates against the risk of using resources with little impact or outcome. It does, however, need to maintain flexibility to allow for uncertainties to be accommodated within the planning process.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Scrutiny work programme aims to add value to corporate priorities by addressing key policy and performance priorities. These are taken into consideration when defining the work programme on an annual basis.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Minutes of Improving Lives Select Committee (June 2013-March 2014)

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