

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1. Meeting:	Improving Lives Select Commission
2. Date:	11th June, 2014
3. Title:	2014/2015 Work programme
4. Directorate:	Resources All wards

5. Summary

The paper outlines the proposed work programme for 2014/15.

6. Recommendations

That Members:

- a. Note the Commission's terms of reference and the role of overview and scrutiny as outlined in para 7.1 and 7.2.**
- b. Discuss the work programme as attached as Appendix 1.**
- c. Identify if there are any additional areas for inclusion in the 2014/15 work programme in line with the Commission's terms of reference.**

7. Proposals and details

7.1 As outlined in the Council's Constitution, the remit of the Improving Lives Scrutiny Select Commission is to carry out overview and scrutiny of issues as directed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. These issues shall relate to

- The 'Every Child Matters' agenda;
- The early help and prevention agenda;
- Other cross-cutting services provided specifically for children and young people;
- Employment and skills development;
- Non-health related adult social care.

7.2 The Council's Constitution Part II (8) outlines the role of Overview and Scrutiny. In summary its purpose is to:

- Challenge the Council's performance to raise standards and check if Council's services meet people's needs;
- Hold Cabinet Members to account by examining their decisions and proposals outlined in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions;
- Question members of the Cabinet and committees and chief officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the Borough;
- Ask for information on matters of concern or interest referred to them from individual councillors, Area Assemblies or members of the public;
- Hold detailed investigations or reviews and make recommendations to the Cabinet or full Council on issues which affect the wellbeing of the Borough or community;
- Consider and scrutinise the work of outside bodies;
- Make proposals for new policies as a result of detailed investigations or examining how current policies work.

7.3 The year ahead

At its meeting in April 2014, the Select Commission agreed its priorities over the municipal year. A work programme has been drawn up on the basis of these priorities (attached as Appendix A). These have been informed by comments from Commission Members and discussion with Cabinet Members and the Senior Leadership Team.

The commission has agreed to focus its work around the theme of safeguarding. This is reflected in the issues identified by the Commission to be scheduled as part of the 2014/15 work programme. These include:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Update on Families for Change and early help and intervention programme
- Children missing from care and home
- Safeguarding annual reports (Adults and children and young people)

- Update on implementation of recommendations from scrutiny review of domestic abuse services

Members' views are sought on whether the areas identified in Appendix A remain a priority for consideration in the work programme for 2014/15 and determine if there are other areas they wish to scrutinise.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However, recommendations arising from the Commission may have financial implications should they be implemented.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The work programme must be realistic in terms of the Commission's capacity to properly examine issues that come before it. If additional items are added, the Commission will have to re-prioritise which issues it wishes to scrutinise.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposed work programme takes on board key policy agendas the Council is currently considering and performance information as and where necessary. The areas identified for future scrutiny should complement the priorities identified in the Corporate Plan.

It is also important to note the changes that have occurred during the last year and the reduction in staffing resources. Any work programme needs to take account of this and look realistically at what can be achieved and where it is best to focus resources and efforts.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Improving Lives Select Commission; 30 April, 2014

12. Contact

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SUBJECT	SUGGESTED TIMING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OFSTED Inspection Readiness: Children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers 	11 th June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children running away from care and home • The impact of neglect on children and young people 	9 th July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Review: CSE Services in Rotherham 	September 17 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Families for Change • Early Help and Intervention • Progress report – implementation of recommendations from scrutiny review of domestic abuse services in Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council • Adult Safeguarding Plan 	5 th November
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neglect – outcomes from peer review. Implications for safeguarding services in Rotherham 	December 17 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Sexual Exploitation – progress report. 	January 21 st 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub – six months on – impact and outcomes • Improving outcomes for Looked After Children 	March 11 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Lifestyle Survey (2014) 	15 th April
TO SCHEDULE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children Missing from Education • Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Safeguarding Report and Business Plan 	