

Appendix 3: Improving Lives Select Commission –Summary Work Programme 2025/26

Chair: Councillor Monk
Governance Advisor: Natasha Aucott/ Debbie Pons

Vice-Chair: Councillor Brent
Link Officer: Kelly White

The following principles were endorsed by OSMB at its meeting of 5 July 2023 as criteria to long/short list each of the commission's respective priorities:

Establish as a starting point:

- What are the key issues?
- What is the outcome that we want?

Agree principles for longlisting:

- Can scrutiny add value or influence?
- Is it being looked at elsewhere?
- Is it a priority – council or community?

Developing a consistent shortlisting criteria e.g.

- T: Time: is it the right time, enough resources?
- O: Others: is this duplicating the work of another body?
- P: Performance: can scrutiny make a difference?
- I: Interest – what is the interest to the public?
- C: Contribution to the corporate plan

Meeting Date	Responsible Officer	Agenda Item
17-Jun-25	Monica Green/ Chris Macdonald	Draft Kinship Local Offer (pre-decision scrutiny)
	N/A	Closed session following meeting to discuss and draft 2025-2026 work programme
22-Jul-25	Helen Sweaton/ Anne Hawke	CYPS Performance Report 2024-2025
	Niall Devlin/Sarah Whitby	Elective Home Education Revised Policy (pre-decision scrutiny)

16-Sep-25		CAMHS Update including:
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1 substantive agenda item	Helen Sweaton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual update on children's social, emotional and mental health- updates on all provision for children with SEMH needs, CAMHS services including pathways, interventions and waiting lists, and support children are able to access from wider provisions such as the education and voluntary sector. Neurodiversity Update- service update, Choice and the Peer Support Service.
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04-Nov-25	Stuart Williams	Looked After Children and Care Leavers Sufficiency Strategy 2023-2028 Update
	Niall Devlin/ Cary-Anne Sykes	Revised SEND Sufficiency Strategy- pre-decision scrutiny (Cabinet in February 2026)- will also include a progress update on the SEND Inspection areas for improvement.

28-Nov-25	Scott Matthewman/ Jacqueline Clarke	Unpaid Carers Strategy Revision Workshop (HSC Workshop with ILSC invited due to young carers aspect)
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02-Dec-25	Nicola Curley	Fostering Transformation Programme incorporating the update on the Response to the Prevention of Future Deaths Report
	Chris Macdonald/ Darren Downs	Rotherham Safeguarding Childrens Partnership Annual Assurance Report 2024-2025

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02-Feb-26	Nicola Curley	Ofsted Inspection Outcome
	Niall Devlin	Educational Attainment Update

17-Mar-26	Kelly White	Community Cohesion Projects Update - Building Bridges Together Project and the Together for Tomorrow Project Update.
	Niall Devlin	Children Not in School Update (including EHE, CME, exclusions, attendance and part-time provision).
	Niall Devlin	SACRE Annual Report 2024/25 (for information only)

28-Apr-26	Sam Barstow & Niall Devlin	Safeguarding Children From Radicalization (Prevent Programme Update and Keeping Children Safe in Education Update)
	TBC	Child Exploitation Strategy Update
	Stuart Williams	Corporate Parenting Partnership Board Annual Report 2024-2025

Ongoing Review

On-going	N/A	Reviewing the impact of secondary school policies on school attendance levels and ensuring an education for vulnerable children and/or trauma experienced children
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Pre-Decision Scrutiny

26 th January, 2026	Emma Ellis/ Kayley Charlton	Review the Domestic Abuse Strategy Refresh as part of the pre-scrutiny process prior to its consideration by Cabinet.
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Items to be Considered by Other Means (e.g. off-agenda briefing, workshop etc.)

Visit/Workshop 29th January, 2026 at 10.30 a.m.	RPCF - Jayne Fitzgerald	Rotherham Parent Carers Forum Update- RPCF vision and plans, voice of the community and the impact of the work completed with partners. TO BE COMBINED WITH BELOW
Visit/Workshop 29th January, 2026 at 10.30 a.m.	Cary- Anne Sykes	TO BE COMBINED WITH ABOVE Threshold of Needs Document Update Workshop
2nd March, 2026 2.30 p.m. Town Hall Workshop	Stuart Williams	Cessation of the Pause Project Support available for women who have had one or more child removed, following cessation of PAUSE Project.
21st April 2026 10.00 a.m. Town Hall	Polly Hamilton	Children's Capital of Culture Workshop Impact and Legacy for Children and Young People