

**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 th June 2025	Monica Green/Chris Macdonald N/A	Draft Kinship Local Offer (pre-decision scrutiny) Closed session following meeting to discuss and draft 2025-2026 work programme
22 nd July, 2025	Helen Sweaton/ Anne Hawke Niall Devlin/ Sarah Whitby	CYPS Performance Report 2024/25 Elective Home Education Revised Policy (pre-decision scrutiny)
16 th September, 2025 One substantive agenda item	Helen Sweaton	CAHMS Update including:- <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.
4 th November, 2025	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 for Cabinet in February, 2026) – also includes a progress update on the SEND Inspection areas for improvement.
28 th November, 2025	Scott Matthewman/ Jacqueline Clarke	Unpaid Carers Strategy Revision Workshop (HSC Workshop with ILSC invited due to young carers aspect).
2 nd December, 2025	Nicola Curley Chris Macdonald/ Darren Downs	Fostering Transformation Programme incorporating the update on the Response to the Prevention of Future Deaths Report. Rotherham Safeguarding Children’s Partnership Annual Assurance Report 2024/25.
10 th February, 2026	Vice-Chair Nicola Curley Niall Devlin	Update from Corporate Parenting Partnership Board. Ofsted Inspection Outcome. Educational Attainment Update.
17 th March, 2026	Kelly White Niall Devlin Niall Devlin	Community Cohesion Projects Update - Building Bridges Together Project and the Together for Tomorrow Project Update. Children Not in School Update (including EHE, CME, exclusions, attendance and part-time provision). SACRE Annual Report 2024/25 (for information only).
28 th April, 2026	TBC Stuart Williams	Child Exploitation Strategy Update. Corporate Parenting Partnership Board Annual Report 2024/25.

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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Items to be Considered by Other Means (e.g. off-agenda briefing, workshop etc.)

Off agenda briefing note	Kelly White	Support available for vulnerable women in pregnancy 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