

Northumberland County Council

Family and Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme and Monitoring Report 2023 - 2024

Chris Angus, Scrutiny Officer
01670 622604 - Chris.Angus@Northumberland.gov.uk

TERMS OF REFERENCE

(a) To monitor, review and make recommendations about:

- Early Years
- Education and Schools
- Special education needs and disability
- Adult and Community Education
- Training and Vocational Education
- Lifelong Learning
- Youth Offending
- Social Services for Children and Young People
- Children's Health
- Teenage Sexual Health
- Looked After Children
- Safeguarding – Children
- Youth Services
- Family Services
- Children's Centres

(b) To oversee and monitor school improvement, as follows:

- (i) To receive feedback on the Ofsted inspection of schools.
- (ii) To support the work of the County Council and the progress of schools on the School Intervention and Support Programme in specified categories.
- (iii) To receive an annual report about the number of schools that have been on the School Intervention and Support Programme, the reason(s) for their inclusion, the support given by the Council and the success of this support.
- (iv) To receive an annual report on the performance of schools.

ISSUES TO BE SCHEDULED/CONSIDERED

Regular updates:

Safeguarding Activity Trends Report
Finance and Performance Six Monthly Report
Children Permanently Excluded from School/Elective Home Education
Schools performance
Joint Targeted Area Inspection

Issues to be raised:

Themed Scrutiny:

Issues to be scheduled:

School Capital Investment
Education (Guidance about the cost of School Uniforms) Act 2021

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1 June 2023

Home to School Transport Review

To communicate to FACS the recommendations emerging from the home to school transport review and the progress to date in commencing initiatives in response to the recommendations.

Annual Report of the Principle Social Worker

To advise and update the Scrutiny Committee about the input and work of the Principal Social Worker and an overview of the quality of practice and development needs of frontline social workers.

18 July 2023

Outcomes of the formal Berwick Partnership Consultation

This report sets out the findings from the formal consultation meetings that have taken place with schools in the Berwick Partnership to discuss the organisation of schools in the partnership. The views of FACS will be reported to Cabinet

Fostering Annual Report

To provide an overview of the Fostering Service In line with statutory guidance and regulation, all Fostering Services have to provide a report on the outcomes of the service.

Education Strategy Board Update

A report from the Education Strategy Board on the Boards initial priorities as agreed by FACS in 2020/21

7 September 2023		
	Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Annual Report	The Annual Report provides an account of the activity of the Independent Reviewing Officer Service. It evaluates the effectiveness and impact of the IRO Service in the planning and outcomes for Our Children and Young People and ensuring that Northumberland as a Corporate Parent is discharging its statutory responsibilities.
	SEND Annual Report	This report informs the committee of progress made against the four strategic priorities detailed within the Northumberland SEND Strategy 2021-2024
5 October 2023		
2 November 2023		
7 December 2023		
	Care Proceedings and Public Law Outline: Annual Report on progress	To present Children's Services' performance within legal proceedings
4 January 2024		
	National Funding Formula and School Funding 2025/26	To set out the results of the National Funding Formula (NFF) and the implications for 2025/26 School Funding in Northumberland. The views of FACS will be reported to Cabinet

1 February 2024		
	School Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for 2025/2026 Academic Year	This report informs Cabinet of the outcomes of the consultation on School Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2025/26 Academic Year as required by the School Admissions Code 2014. Approval (determination) of these admission arrangements is also sought. The views of FACS will be reported to Cabinet
7 March 2024		
	Director of Education Annual Report: Key Educational Outcomes (2022-2023 Academic Year)	Annual report on the key educational outcomes of the previous academic year. The Committee will be asked to identify any further areas for scrutiny.
4 April 2024		
25 April 2024		

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Ref	Date	Report	Decision	Outcome