

Northumberland County Council

Family and Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Work Programme and Monitoring Report 2021 - 2022

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
Children Permanently Excluded from School/Elective Home Education
Education (Guidance about the cost of School Uniforms) Act 2021

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Work Programme 2021 - 2022**

4 November 2021

	Placement Sufficiency	Report on the number of places in homes for looked after Children
	Finance and Performance report	Regular report into the financial position and performance metrics of the service. The Committee is to receive assurance and identify any further areas for scrutiny.
	NE submission to the Care Review	For info
	Social Worker Recruitment	

2 December 2021

	Northumberland Skills Pathfinder - Curriculum Research	The report asks Cabinet and FACS to review and endorse a sample of content and findings from a suite of reports resulting from a range of internal and externally commissioned skills and employment based research activities conducted on the subject of curriculum development priorities within Northumberland County.
	Northumberland Strategic Skills Plan 2021-25	The report asks Cabinet and FACS to review and approve for publication Northumberland Strategic Skills Plan 2021-25. The strategic skills plan is the conclusion of research undertaken related to Northumberland curriculum development opportunities, aligns to Northumberland Economic Strategy

	CYPS Waiting Times	2019-24 and sets out the approach to delivering the skills elements of the economic vision, economic priorities, and the mechanism to translate ambition into impact in terms of skills, employment and inclusive growth.
6 January 2022		
	Schools Forum Summary of Decisions taken: Autumn Term	Report into the decisions taken by school's forum during the Autumn term. Request by the Committee
3 February 2022		
	<p>PRE-SCRUTINY:- School Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2023/2024 Academic Year</p> <p>Adult Learning Service Annual Report: Learning and Skills Service</p>	<p>Annual pre-scrutiny report on school admissions arrangements. The Committee's comments will be presented to Cabinet at their meeting on 8 February 2022.</p> <p>The annual report for Learning and Skills Service is provided to report the performance against the Education Inspection Framework; present the work of the Careers Guidance Team and understand the role and impact of the Employability and Skills team within the wider service. The Learning and Skills Service leads a number of specialist areas and provides training for young people age 16-19, adults and apprentices across eight campuses in Northumberland as well as training in the workplace</p>
3 March 2022		

	<p>Director of Education Annual Report: Key Educational Outcomes (2020-2021 Academic Year)</p> <p>Safeguarding Activity Trend</p> <p>CIS Benchmarking Annual Report</p>	<p>Annual report on the key educational outcomes of the previous academic year. The Committee will be asked to identify any further areas for scrutiny.</p> <p>To provide analysis of social work activity trends and case allocation as well as highlighting national developments regarding the Department for Education safeguarding indicators.</p> <p>To inform members of how Northumberland compares with other areas in 2020/21 based on provisional data in the field of children in need and child protection.</p>
7 April 2022		

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Ref	Date	Report	Decision	Outcome
1	17 June 2021	Impact of COVID pandemic on SEND services	RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and the support provided over this period be recognised.	Further report to come to the committee on CYPS, waiting times and impact of COIVD of children's mental health.
2	17 June 2021	Winter Support Grant Update	RESOLVED that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The content of the report and the successful implementation of the initiatives undertaken with the funding from the Winter Support Grant be noted. 2. The strategy, roll-out and benefits of the activities for children and young people organised through the Holiday Activity Fund across Northumberland during the Easter Holiday be noted. 	No further action

3	2 September 2021	Schools Forum Role and Decision Making Powers	RESOLVED that the report be noted	No further action
4	2 September 2021	SEND Revisit	RESOLVED that: 1. The information be noted; 2. A regular update be provided to allow the Committee to provide advice and support.	A further update to return to the Committee at a later date.
5	2 September 2021	Peer Review For Care Leavers Service Update	RESOLVED that: 1. Members were assured that there was an action plan to take forward improvements to services for care leavers as part of continuous improvement planning in children's social care; and 2. Members would continue to have an overview of the Northumberland offer for care leavers and understand their role as corporate parents for care leavers.	A further update to return to the Committee at a later date.
6	2 September 2021	Complaints Annual Report 2020/2021 – Adult Social Care, Children's Social Care, And Continuing Health Care Services	RESOLVED that the information be noted.	Report to be split between Adults and Children. Report on Adult's Social Care only to return to the Committee in a year.
7	7 October 2021	Seaton Valley Federation	RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that the Committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report.	At its meeting on 12 October, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments

8	7 October 2021	Proposals for Atkinson House	RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations as outlined in the report.	At its meeting on 12 October, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments
9	7 October 2021	School Organisation Plan for 2021 – 2024	RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that the Committee welcomed the plan and supported the recommendations as outlined in the report.	At its meeting on 12 October, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments
10	7 October 2021	Education Infrastructure Contribution Policy	RESOLVED that Cabinet be advised that this Committee supported the recommendations outlined in the report.	At its meeting on 12 October, Cabinet considered the Committee's comments
11	7 October 2021	Children's Services Self-Assessment	RESOLVED that the information be noted.	A report to be brought on Home Placement Sufficiency.