

		AGENDA ITEM 5
		PAF/02/18
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	11 January 2018	
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WORK PROGRAMME

Briefings

Since the last report in October 2017 the Committee has continued private briefings on key issues as preparation for future scrutiny activity.

In October the Committee were briefed on the statutory context and requirements for safeguarding boards, their role to co-ordinate the work of local agencies and partners, the governance structures in place at Essex County Council and some of the current priorities for the Boards.

Later in October, in joint session with members of the Health Overview, Policy and Scrutiny Committee, there was a discussion with Healthwatch Essex on their statutory responsibilities, past research and reports and their current work priorities. Thereafter, there was a separate briefing on Learning Disabilities (LDs), the applicable Care Act duties, the numbers receiving support, and the structure of the care market in relation to LDs.

In November the PAF was briefed on the provider structure in the care market, fostering, residential/nursing home care placements, domiciliary care, and short-term support for families, adults and older people. Potential further scrutiny work on this is being investigated at the request of the Chairman/Vice Chairmen. A briefing on quality improvement initiatives in the care market follows after this meeting.

In December, the committee had a private briefing on some issues around school crossing patrols.

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Further briefings and discussion days will continue to be scheduled on an ongoing basis as required (see Appendix A).

Task and Finish Group activity

In September, a joint briefing on hip fractures was held with members of the Health Overview Policy and Scrutiny Committee. Subsequently, it was resolved by both committees to establish a Joint Task and Finish Group to look at hip fractures and falls prevention. This Group has held two sessions to scope a review and a proposed scoping document is included elsewhere in the agenda seeking endorsement from the Committee. The formal review is expected to start late January 2018.

Chairman and Vice Chairmen meetings

The Chairman and Vice Chairmen meet at least monthly in between scheduled meetings of the full Committee to discuss work planning and to meet officers as part of preparation for future items. The Chairman and Vice Chairmen also meet the Cabinet Members for Education, Children & Families, and Health and Adult Social Care on a regular basis

Formal committee activity

Items already programmed to come to full committee are listed in Appendix A. Further preliminary scoping of some other items is underway.

Action required by Members at this meeting:

- (i) To note this report and Appendix A which reflects the current work programming undertaken and underway;**
- (ii) To discuss suggestions for briefings and other preparatory work as part of further developing the work programme;**
- (iii) To raise further issues for consideration; and**
- (iv) To further consider timings for initial scoping meetings and reviews.**