

		AGENDA ITEM 9
		CYP/18/10
Committee:	Children and Young People Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	1 July 2010	
<u>Forward Look</u>		
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To consider current position and possible issues for future consideration.

CYP Position Statement as at May 2010

Items considered by the Committee and concluded

TASSCs

The Committee carried out some preliminary work on this. It then stood aside whilst a review commissioned by the Cabinet Member took place. TASSCs have since been wound up and replaced by a new organisational structure which has been discussed by the Committee with the Cabinet Member and senior staff

Staffing in Social Services

This review has now been subsumed within the safeguarding work.

Online admissions process

The Committee carried out a scrutiny in the light of a specific IT problem which had arisen. This was resolved to the Committee's satisfaction.

Education for Gypsy, Romany and Traveller children

The Committee monitored and concluded work started under the previous Policy Development Group structure. This related more to management structures rather than the 'education' element itself.

School Governor Services

The Committee reviewed the work of the Governor Services and made some proposals, which were implemented. The Committee's Governance Officer has pursued the subject subsequently and the Service has no ongoing issues which need to come back for further review.

MMR provision in Colchester

This study was undertaken by the North East Essex Area Forum on the Committee's behalf. The outcomes proved to be of national significance and the Council has received a number of commendations for this work. The Area Forum will be reviewing progress on the Committee's behalf.

Items considered by the Committee and upon which further work is required

Healthy living in schools and the community

The Committee undertook a review of healthy living practices in the primary school sector. A monitor of action taken will be brought back to the Committee later in 2010.

Members will also need to consider whether to undertake any further scrutinies, possibly in the secondary school sector.

Youth engagement in decision making

The Committee has received the report of the Youth Scrutiny Committee (YSC) and has undertaken a mentoring role for YSC members. The final outcomes will be reported later on 2010 and the current YSC work then concluded.

Further YSCs are likely to be created in future years to look at one off topics.

Corporate Parenting

Reports from the Corporate Parenting Panel will be submitted on a regular basis. The Council has also run a corporate parenting event recently open to all 75 members.

Corporate Scorecard (RAG) assessment

These issues are brought before the Committee on a regular basis. Most of the RED indicators are related to Children's Services. Issues of major significance are added to the Forward Look, such as educational attainment of children who are looked after.

Safeguarding

This has been referred to a Safeguarding Sub-Group following the monitoring session on 13 May.

Member visits

In 2009 Members resurrected the system of visits to Children's Homes. Does the Committee wish to make this an annual event (perhaps as the November activity)?

Home education in the UK (the Badman Report)

This is being reviewed by a task and finish group at present, which will report back to the Committee later this year.

Items which the Committee has expressed an interest in looking at

Educational attainments of children whom are looked after

The Committee has agreed that this subject be its next priority and a scoping document will be submitted to the July meeting.

Other issues are not in any priority order. Committee has agreed that it is realistic to consider four or five issues per annum. Members will also need to schedule in the outstanding work set out earlier in this report

The Five Outcomes of Every Child Matters

Community cohesion and partnerships

This is just a heading at present. What do Members mean by this heading? – could it be monitoring the work of the Children's Trust?

Transformation agenda

This is insofar as it affects the SCF Directorate. The Executive Scrutiny Committee will be the main scrutiny body for transformation work, so the two committees will need to liaise closely on the subject. Transformation will be taking place over a three year period so Members will need to determine at which point to be involved.

Joint work with Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC)

The HOSC is taking a strategic role, leaving local issues to be considered by Area Forums. Any issues will need to be of countywide significance. One potential subject could be a further scrutiny on 'healthy living'.

Staffing issues

Members have mentioned highlighting social work as a good career choice for young people. How can scrutiny best assist this? – possibly as part of the safeguarding review?

NEETS

Members have so far spoken to officers to receive information and have paid visits to apprenticeship schemes.