



Essex County Council

People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee

10:15	Thursday, 14 November 2019	Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH
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For information about the meeting please ask for:
Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Telephone: 033301 34574
Email: democratic.services@essex.gov.uk

Pages

Private Pre-Meeting for PAF Members Only

Please note that there will be a private pre-meeting for committee members at 9.30am in Committee Room 6, County Hall.

- | | | |
|----------|--|----------------|
| 1 | Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interests | 4 - 4 |
| 2 | Minutes
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2019. | 5 - 9 |
| 3 | Questions from the Public
A period of up to 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make representations on any item on the agenda for this meeting.

On arrival, and before the start of the meeting, please register with the Senior Democratic Services Officer. | |
| 4 | Special Educational Needs Update | 10 - 19 |

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 5 | Domiciliary Care | 20 - 20 |
| 6 | Drug Gangs, Knife Crime and County Lines | 21 - 24 |
| 7 | Work Programme | 25 - 27 |
| 8 | Date of Next Meeting
To note that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 16 January 2020, which may be a private Committee session, public meeting, briefing, site visit etc. - to be confirmed nearer the time. | |
| 9 | Urgent Business
To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency. | |
| 10 | Urgent Exempt Business
To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency. | |

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

The following items of business have not been published on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Members are asked to consider whether or not the press and public should be excluded during the consideration of these items. If so it will be necessary for the meeting to pass a formal resolution:

That the press and public are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the specific paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A engaged being set out in the report or appendix relating to that item of business.

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Should you wish to record the meeting, please contact the officer shown on the agenda front page.

Agenda item 1

Committee: People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee

Enquiries to: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

Recommendations:

To note

1. Membership as shown below
2. Apologies and substitutions
3. Declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct

Membership

(Quorum: 4)

Councillor J Chandler	Chairman
Councillor J Baker	Vice-Chairman
Councillor G Butland	
Councillor J Deakin	
Councillor B Egan	
Councillor C Guglielmi	
Councillor J Henry	Vice-Chairman
Councillor J Lumley	
Councillor P May	
Councillor M McEwen	
Councillor R Pratt	
Councillor P Reid	
Councillor C Souter	
Councillor C Weston	

Non-elected Members

Richard Carson
Lee Cromwell
Marian Uzzell

Minutes of the meeting of the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee, held at 10.15am in Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH on Thursday, 10 October 2019

Present:

County Councillors:

J Chandler (Chairman)
J Baker (Vice Chairman)
G Butland (left after Item 4)
M Durham (substitute)
B Egan
C Guglielmi
J Henry (Vice Chairman)
P May
R Pratt
P Reid
C Souter

Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer, were also present throughout.

1 Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

The report on Membership, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations was received and noted.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Deakin, Lumley, McEwan (for whom Councillor Durham substituted) and Weston, R Carson (Education representative) and Sharon Westfield de Cortez from Healthwatch Essex

2. Minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2019 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman subject to a correction of meeting date under Item 2.

3. Questions from the public

There were no questions from the public.

4. Respite Care

The Committee considered report PAF/23/19 which specifically addressed action points arising from the June 2019 meeting of the Committee. The following joined the meeting to introduce the update and support the discussion.

Councillor Louise McKinlay, Cabinet Member – Children and Families,
Christina Pace, Head of Strategic Commissioning and Policy, Essex
County Council,
Russell Breyer, Director Local Delivery (Children and Families).

During discussion the following was highlighted and/or noted:

- A review had been undertaken to determine the focus of future work as part of developing a three year strategy. The focus would go beyond just residential care and include other options such as foster care, direct payments.
- The Cabinet Member confirmed that the Maples and Lavender facilities would not close during the three year strategy review period.
- The service would also look to increase fostering numbers.
- Families had indicated that they wanted more opportunity to highlight their own profile, circumstances and challenges during the assessment process. The service had recruited a development officer whose priority would be to further develop that assessment process. The appointee was a full-time senior social worker who would not be distracted by case work.
- The volume of cases for the assessment panel was high with only a 10-15 minute timeslot available for each case. The family social worker represented families at the hearing.
- Through engagement with families the service would scope out how to improve communication and feedback on the assessment process.
- In the end a professional decision would be made on assessing need. However, the families' social worker had an ongoing relationship with families and would review arrangements if they were visibly not working for them.
- The service was looking to find better ways to communicate with families and involve them more in developing future service design.

- Families would be invited to join workshops being held to help shape future service design. The service was also exploring how to include families that were using foster carers in those discussions.
- The managers of the Lavender and Maples short break homes would also help shape the offer for those being considered for respite care.
- A late appendix report had been tabled at the meeting. Members queried whether data was available on the number of applications and referrals made. Whilst contributors did not have precise figures to hand they did stress that the complexity of cases was increasing and that they were increasingly having to respond to that challenge often with further resource. There had been some disruption to services and in some cases officers had worked through other options with families and in most cases they had been able to meet needs within a reasonable timeframe.

Conclusion:

The Chairman thanked the contributors for their update. The Committee were encouraged by the work now being planned to include families in future service design. It was agreed that a further update would be provided in Spring 2020 once the workshops had been held and further work on preparing a draft strategy undertaken.

The meeting then adjourned at 11am and reconvened at 11.09. Cllr Butland left the meeting during the recess period.

5. Essex Safeguarding Adults Board

The Committee considered report PAF/24/19. The following joined the meeting to introduce the update and support the discussion.

Fiona Davis, Director Safeguarding and Quality Assurance,
Paul Bedwell, ESAB Safeguarding Board Manager,
Neale Thomas, Criminal Justice Commissioning Support

Contributors outlined the Board's three year strategic priorities and actions for the current year as well as reflecting on some key outcomes from the previous year.

During discussion the following was highlighted and/or noted:

- A key output during the last year was agreed revised safeguarding guidelines with Southend and Thurrock councils which were also now more aligned with London Boroughs so as to be coterminous in arrangements cross border wherever possible.

- The views of District Councils had been sought to help shape future priorities.
- In terms of measuring performance, the County Council's safeguarding team were measured against delivery of the strategic plan. A performance dashboard looked at day to day safeguarding (referrals, substantiated referrals etc) and there was ongoing work with the police to determine any further data that they may collect which could further inform the Board.
- The majority of budget funding for the Board was contributed by the County Council, Police and Health.
- There would be a number of activities and media releases during national safeguarding week in November.
- There would be further focus on transitions between children's and adult services and ensuring appropriate levels of support to young adults.
- A number of thematic reviews were underway at present and the report to the Committee had highlighted the one on homelessness. It was highlighted that the review included input from Healthwatch Essex.
- A Horizons review had looked at what pushed people to the margins of society through intensive work with a targeted rolling cohorts of 10 individuals. Most of these individuals would have deprivation and emotional wellbeing and mental health challenges. To date the project had worked with a total of 53 people and 16 who had been street homeless had been rehoused. There was also evidence of other outcomes such as reduced substance abuse. A mosaic of funding for the project had been received from Public Health, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and others. Members queried whether the Horizons project could be extended beyond its pilot area. Harlow, for example, had not been included as it had had a previous comparable service - "streets are homes". However, the project would be re-procured next year and it was likely that it would expand to reach to these other areas.
- Some members suggested a link between delays in Universal Credit causing rent arrears which could lead to homelessness. There was some floating support available to those experiencing delays to try and mitigate that problem and work with landlords and district council housing departments. Officers agreed to provide some further data on the numbers who had benefited from that service.
- Waiting lists for Deprivation of Liberty assessments had reduced. The Board had been receiving quarterly reports on this. Further

contracted resource had been put in place. However, there was a concern that a change in legislation next year, which would introduce wider ranging Liberty Protection Safeguards for those 16 years and above, may significantly increase the number of people needing the assessments (will not just be those in formalised care settings).

Conclusion

The Chairman thanked the contributors for attending and they left the meeting.

6. Work Programme

The Committee considered and noted report PAF/25/19.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be on Thursday 14 November 2019.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.57am.

Chairman

		AGENDA ITEM 4
		PAF/26/19
Committee:	People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	14 November 2019	
Enquiries to:	Name: Graham Hughes Designation: Senior Democratic Services Officer Contact details: 033301 34574 Graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk	

Special Educational Needs – update

Purpose:

To consider the report attached in Appendix 2 providing an update on a review undertaken of SEN provision in Essex. This follows on from a public consultation exercise completed earlier this year.

To consider the role of the Committee in continuing to oversee the redesign of the service, and the format and timelines for future work on this issue.

Background:

The 14 February 2019 meeting of the Committee discussed with Ralph Holloway, Head of SEND Development and Innovation, the aspirations and objectives behind a planned public consultation on future SEN services. A link to the meeting papers is here – [PAF 14 Feb 2019 agenda papers](#)

As part of that formal consultation the County Council was looking to have a principles and values based conversation with parents and discuss a vision for long-term service provision. The formal public consultation exercise was completed and an analysis of the feedback was incorporated in an update from Mr Holloway at a meeting of this Committee on 11 July 2019. An extract of the minutes recording that discussion is attached as **Appendix 1** overleaf and a link to the meeting papers is here [PAF 11 July 2019 agenda papers](#)

Ralph Holloway, Head of SEND Strategy and Innovation will be in attendance today to provide the update and participate in discussion.

An extract of the Minutes of the meeting of the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee, held in Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH at 10am on Thursday, 11 July 2019

4. Special Educational Needs

The Committee considered report PAF/17/19.

The County Council had completed a formal public consultation on principles, values and vision for future SEN service provision. Ralph Holloway, Head of SEND Strategy and Innovation, joined the meeting to introduce the update and outline the feedback received.

During the discussion the following was highlighted or acknowledged:

- Growth in SEN demand had been greater than general growth in school pupil nos. Lifelong outcomes for those with SEN are poor.
- The County Council was looking to improve outcomes for those with SEN and communications needed to be clear and framed to demonstrate that there would be continuing support and that parents can have a meaningful input.
- A desired outcome from the review was to encourage a concept of a school-led system to share resource and challenges rather than just one school having to struggle on its own with an issue.
- An overriding message was that respondents wanted the SEN population to be integrated into the community and not be separate.
- There had been some concerns raised during the consultation that there was to be the creation of a two-tier system and that SEN pupils were going to be moved out of main stream schools.
- The intention was that the new service worked more closely with schools and the school effectiveness team to further support the aspirations of SEN pupils.
- Health and wellbeing and emotional support had been prioritised by respondents with choice paramount.
- Mr Holloway had attended meetings of SEN co-ordinators to also get their views - a significant proportion of them felt threatened and under resourced.
- Engagement had started with groups of parents to entice young people with autism to get back into mainstream education.

- SEN has not really benefitted in past from developer contributions but have started now. Will be looking as part of ten-year planning/forecasting.
- The County Council were working more closely with planning authorities to include provision for autism friendly environments in future plans. Generally, the feedback from existing schools was that the bigger challenge was meeting care needs not the lack of physical space.
- Four new specialist schools were planned in Essex. With the development of garden communities further work would be required to predict the location of the future SEN population.
- There was a desire to make the Essex Family Forum more representative of the population. The service also wanted to use more direct engagement with parents and schools. Some special schools had already facilitated meetings with parents.
- The service would continue to consult with clusters of schools as it was challenging to engage with all 500 plus schools in Essex on an individual basis.
- The new strategy would need to look at existing schools and making them fit for purpose as well as developing specialist schools.
- Members questioned whether small rural schools would be particularly limited on how many SEN pupils can be supported and that they did not see this specifically addressed in the strategy. It was highlighted that there was a minor works capital programme which would fund reasonable adjustments to include a child.

Conclusion

The Chairman thanked Mr Holloway for the update, noted that further engagement work was planned during the Autumn Term on the new SEND structure and action plan and, accordingly, suggested that the Committee should be further updated at its November meeting.

SEND Strategy and redesign Engagement

We ran a public engagement survey from 22nd March 2019 to 31st May 2019.

We asked for views from

- parents/carers of children with SEND,
- practitioners that work in an education setting,
- practitioners that work within Essex County Council, both in social care and education,
- practitioners that work in the health profession and
- young people

We were gathering views on the following;

- Our vision for SEND
- Principles for SEND and ways of working
- Enabling and supporting the development of a School-Led SEND System
- Growing the Specialist SEND Provision in Essex
- The redesign and new approach for ECC SEND teams

We widely advertised the consultation across the local area:

- Directly contacted all Special Schools and Enhanced Provisions
- Contacted all Headteachers and SENCOs via the Education Essex newsletter. We asked all schools to share these details with their families
- Contacted all Early Year settings via the Early Years Newsletter
- Directly contacted all Further Education settings
- Published via Essex County Council routes and their social media pages including, Essex Short Breaks Service, Youth Service, Essex Local Offer
- Through our Essex Family Forum and the SEND Family Champions

In addition to the survey, we wanted to maximise the engagement from our families so we;

- Held a Family Support group meeting with all voluntary parent support groups
- Essex Family Forum held 17 parental engagement workshops across Essex, as a mixture of day and evening sessions for parents to share their experiences as well as sharing with them the vision and strategy for SEND

Engagement



1027 responded to the survey, including 511 parents and carers, 358 from an education setting and 104 who work for Essex county council across education and social care and 4 young people.



Just over 200 participants booked on to attend the parental engagement sessions ran by Essex family forum



31 individuals (over 15 different parental groups) attended the voluntary groups event on 27th September

Summary of what we found out

We have collated all responses from the survey, including 874 comments in the free text boxes, and 1000 comments that were received from the Essex Family Forum graffiti wall which will inform the new SEND Strategy.

92% of respondents agreed with the vision for SEND

- ❖ Health and wellbeing and participation were also seen as a high priority to be included

90% of respondents agreed with our principles of working

- ❖ Feedback was to add clarity and further principles to cover clear, openness, consistency, realistic and non-judgemental

71% of respondents agreed with the School-Led SEND System

- ❖ 373 respondents entered comments; 11 negative comments; 17 strong reservations; 325 seeking clarification or making a comment and 20 personal experiences

91% of respondents agreed with growing our specialist provision

- ❖ 250 respondents entered comments; 3 negative; 5 strong reservations; 225 seeking clarification or making a comment and 17 personal experiences

- ❖ 251 respondents entered comments regarding the redesign; 14 negative; 9 strong reservations; 221 seeking clarification or making a comment and 7 personal experiences

Areas for development



Jargon-free, clear messages – removing education speak that could mean something slightly different to any group of individuals



Further clarity and understanding around School-Led SEND system, funding in schools and how the new SEND teams will work differently to how they currently do



Transitions between phases of education, and how to ensure this is as smooth as possible



Joint working across health, social care and education teams – ‘tell it once’ approach



Building trust and better relationships with our families – increased parent support and communication

Next steps

This term, we are focusing on engaging with **schools and settings**

- 26 sessions with primary, secondary and special headteachers, SENCOs and Chairs of Governors across Essex between 7 Oct – 22 Nov
- 1 Further Education setting in Oct
- Various sessions with early years settings through our quadrant teams in Nov

Continued engagement with our **families** and support groups

- Creating a video to share with all families about the new SEND strategy and new SEND teams
- Working closely with the Essex Family Forum on the SEND Strategy and communicating the messages about the redesign clearly and jargon-free

Communicating with our internal and external **colleagues**

- Update on SEND Strategy to health colleagues
- Continued engagement with social care and the wider education teams in ECC

		AGENDA ITEM 5
		PAF/27/19
Committee:	People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	14 November 2019	
Enquiries to:	Name: Graham Hughes Designation: Senior Democratic Services Officer Contact details: 033301 34574 Graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk	

Domiciliary care

The Chairman and Lead Members have suggested that the Committee reviews the provision of domiciliary care in Essex. The findings from a review of hospital discharge processes commissioned by Essex County Council will be available in a few weeks' time and will provide an introduction to current issues. This will be scheduled to come to this committee in early 2020.

In the meantime, this item is the opportunity for an initial broader discussion on the issue and possible areas of future focus and witnesses. Heathwatch Essex will be providing some example case studies and analysis (**Appendix – to follow**) to support this item.

In addition, although dated, Heathwatch Essex undertook reviews of discharges from Colchester and Harlow Hospitals. These will provide some useful background and context and links to those reports are here:

Discharge from Colchester hospital report from Healthwatch Essex

<https://healthwatchessex.org.uk/library/#gallery-18>

<https://healthwatchessex.org.uk/library/#gallery-17>

Discharge from Harlow Hospital report

<https://healthwatchessex.org.uk/library/#gallery-21>

		AGENDA ITEM 6
		PAF/28/19
Committee:	People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	14 November 2019	
Enquiries to:	Name: Graham Hughes Designation: Senior Democratic Services Officer Contact details: 033301 34574 Graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk	

Drug gangs, knife crime and county lines – update on the work of the Task and Finish Group

Purpose:

- (i) To consider an oral update from the Task and Finish Group established to look at issues around drug gangs, knife crime and county lines;
- (ii) To note that the full report of the Task and Finish Group will be presented to the next meeting of the Committee on 16 January 2020.

Background:

The issue of drug gangs, knife crime and county lines was discussed at Full Council on 12 December 2018 and the following motion passed:

'This Council recognises the impact of drug gangs, knife crime and county lines as a local, regional and national issue.

This Council commends the work of multi-agency statutory and voluntary partners in Essex, Southend and Thurrock in relation to these issues, particularly given the judgement of "Outstanding" by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation, following a recent inspection.

This Council is pleased to see this work is being recognised by the Home Office in awarding the sum of £640k to the Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner's Office to further expand this multi-agency work.

This Council therefore:

- *Calls upon all political parties to work together to drive down the impact of drug gangs, knife crime and county lines on the residents of Essex.*
- *Requests that the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee Has oversight of and contributes to the multi-agency strategy and its development.'*

Cont....

The Committee had introductory briefings on the issue at both its February and April 2019 meetings and a link to the meeting papers for both those meetings is here:

[PAF 14 February 2019 meeting papers](#)

[PAF 11 April 2019 papers](#)

Thereafter, it was resolved to establish a Task and Finish Group to look at the issue in more detail (scoping document attached as Appendix). To date the Group has met five times to hold discussions with the following contributors:

Ian Davidson, Chief Executive of Tendring District Council, ex-Chairman of Safer Essex and representative of the Essex Community Safety Partnerships.

Duncan Evans, National Crime Agency Co-ordinator for County Lines (representing the NPCC National Police Chiefs Council)

Jane Gardner, Deputy Police, Fire, Crime Commissioner.

Tanya Gillett, Head of Youth Offending.

Councillor Ray Gooding, Cabinet Member - Education.

Tracey Harman, West LPA Commander, Chief Superintendent 2220, West Local Policing Area, Essex Police

Ben Hughes, Head of Wellbeing and Public Health, Essex County Council

Clare Kershaw, Director – Education.

Councillor Dick Madden, Cabinet Member – Performance, Business Planning and Partnerships

Michael O'Brien, Head of Specialist Education Services

James Pearson, Team Manager Youth Offending Service/Team Manager ISSP, Essex County Council

Jane Ryan, Practice Supervisor, Youth Offending Team

The following additional contributors are planned for a meeting mid-November:

Councillor Louise McKinlay, Cabinet Member – Children and Families.

Rachel Brett, CEO: Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services (ECVYS) and possibly representation from the Children's Commissioner and faith communities. Further discussion and presentation from Youth Offending Team.

<p align="center">Essex County Council People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee (PAF)</p>

DRAFT 1 – 14 JANUARY 2019

APPENDIX 3

Review Topic (Name of review)	Drug gangs, knife crime and county lines
Type of Review	Full Committee or Task and Finish Group - TBC
Rationale for the Review	<p>The incidences and profile of drug gangs, knife crime and county lines operations is increasing. The issue was discussed at Full Council on 12 December 2018 and the following motion passed:</p> <p><i>'This Council recognises the impact of drug gangs, knife crime and county lines as a local, regional and national issue.</i></p> <p><i>This Council commends the work of multi-agency statutory and voluntary partners in Essex, Southend and Thurrock in relation to these issues, particularly given the judgement of "Outstanding" by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation, following a recent inspection.</i></p> <p><i>This Council is pleased to see this work is being recognised by the Home Office in awarding the sum of £640k to the Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner's Office to further expand this multi-agency work.</i></p> <p><i>This Council therefore:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Calls upon all political parties to work together to drive down the impact of drug gangs, knife crime and county lines on the residents of Essex.</i> <i>• Requests that the People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee Has oversight of and contributes to the multi-agency strategy and its development.'</i>
Indicators of success	<p>Contributing and influencing the development of a multi-agency strategy. To bring further public clarity and transparency to the destructive impacts of gang culture.</p> <p>To bring further public clarity and transparency to the roles and responsibilities of agencies and encourage and influence further improvement in the levels of system co-operation and partnership working</p> <p>To bring local member knowledge of locality specific issues to the broader discussion.</p>
Timescales	The review should be conducted over a three month period. Any extension beyond that would need to be approved by the Scrutiny Board.
Provisional Timetable	<p>February 2019 – Full Committee first initial meeting. Scoping Document to be approved. Determine format of review.</p> <p>February onwards – Seek evidence from witnesses, site visits etc.</p>
Terms of Reference	To consider the adequacy of current agency work to reduce the destructive impacts of gang culture in Essex. To have oversight of, and contribute to, the multi-agency strategy and its development.

Key Lines of Enquiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To gain assurance that challenges being faced have been clearly defined and recognised by all agencies; (ii) To gain assurance that the role and responsibilities of all agencies is clear; (iii) To gain assurance that, to the extent necessary, there is an organised and robust system wide (and partnership) working in challenging and reducing the destructive impacts of gang culture; (iv) To understand ECCs specific role and its contribution as a key contributor to and driver of actions being taken.
What primary/new evidence is needed?	<p>Initial briefing update from Head of Youth Offending and Essex Police to understand the issues and challenges being faced. Seek clarification on the role of partner agencies and their inter-dependencies and connecting governance structures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Education – e.g. incidences of individuals being out of school (ii) Youth Services re: prevention role. (iii) District Councils' crime and disorder role. (iv) Public Health (v) ECC's Adult Services
What secondary/ existing information is needed?	<p>Look at supporting governance and intelligence sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adequacy and connectivity of differing systems. - Funding framework. <p>Are agencies recognising the changing population demographics and needs in the county? Is the current design of services still appropriate?</p>
Relevant briefings and site visits	TBC
Other work being undertaken/Relevant Corporate Links	<p>The issue is relevant to the Council's strategic objectives and corporate priorities, namely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Help Keep Vulnerable Children Safer and Enable Them to Fulfil their potential (ii) Help to Secure Stronger Safer and More Neighbourly Communities

WHO DO WE NEED TO CONTRIBUTE/CONSULT?

Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)	Cabinet Member, Children and Families
Key ECC Officers	Tanya Gillett, Head of Youth Offending
Partners / users	TBC

WHAT RESOURCES DO WE NEED? – consider format of review, co-optees and commitment level

WHO ARE WE DIRECTING ANY RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTIONS TO?

Recommendations	To relevant Cabinet Member(s), and other agencies and partners that identify opportunities for more partnership working and interventions,
Reporting/follow-up arrangements	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/NOTES

	AGENDA ITEM: 7
	PAF/29/19
Committee:	People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	14 November 2019
Enquiries to:	Name: Graham Hughes Designation: Senior Democratic Services Officer Contact details: 033301 34574 Graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk

WORK PROGRAMME

Briefings

Further briefings and discussion days will continue to be scheduled on an ongoing basis as identified and required.

Formal committee activity

Items programmed to come to Committee are listed in an updated Appendix A.

Task and Finish Group activity

A Task and Finish Group has been established to scrutinise drug gangs, knife crime and county lines. The Group has met five times so far with at least one further scrutiny day planned during November. The Group intends to report to the full Committee in January 2020.

Chairman and Vice Chairmen meetings

The Chairman and Vice Chairmen meet monthly in between scheduled meetings of the Committee to discuss work planning and 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.

Action required by Members at this meeting:

To consider this report, discuss future work activity, and whether any changes are required to the work programme.

Date/timing	Issue/Topic	Focus/other comments	Approach
Items identified for formal scrutiny in full committee			
14 November 2019	Special Educational Needs – <i>further follow-up</i>	Scrutinise service changes arising from public consultation	Update on further discussion and service review ahead of implementation in new year
14 November 2019	Domiciliary care	Introduction to the issue through user experience	Healthwatch Essex input
14 November 2019	Drug gangs, knife crime and county lines – <i>follow-up</i>	Referral from Full Council to oversee development of multi-agency strategy	To receive an update on the work of the Group.
16 January 2020	Education portfolio update – <i>follow up</i>	Follow-up on actions arising from July meeting: (i) the work of a cross party group looking at children missing education; (ii) further defining the expectations of interventions by the Early Years' Sector; and (iii) ensuring wellbeing programmes operating in schools all link-up and how personal resilience is being promoted in schools.	Cabinet Member and Director – Education, to attend.
16 January 2020	Hospital discharge process	Review findings of recent review commissioned by the County Council	Possible link with further work on domiciliary care (above)
16 January 2020	Drug Gangs, knife crime and county lines	Responding to referral from Full Council to look in particular at multi-agency working	To receive the report of the Task and Finish Group established to look at the issue.
13 February 2020	TBC		
March 2020 (provisional)	Respite Care – follow up	To be updated on the full service review conducted.	Cabinet Member and Lead Officers to attend.
Spring 2020	Adult Community Learning	Assessing and measuring the social investment side of it. An update to be prepared on the general wellbeing work being done.	Cabinet Member and Lead Officers to attend.
April 2020	Educational Attainment	Annual report	Cabinet Member and Director- Education to attend.

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Date/timing	Issue/Topic	Focus/other comments	Approach
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Items identified for formal scrutiny in full committee - to be scheduled

Early 2020	Provider relationships – <i>follow-up</i>	Refreshed Market Strategy.	Opportunity to review and comment on draft and revisit any issues from previous discussions.
Summer 2020	0-19 contract with Virgin Care – <i>further follow-up</i>	Continue review of contract performance, and the revised (more outcomes focussed) KPIs.	Cabinet Member, Virgin Care, and Barnardos to be invited.
	Portfolio updates (Children and Families, Education, Health and Adult Social Care)	To be updated on current issues and challenges.	To supplement other attendances by Cabinet Members for specific issues – to be arranged as and when the Committee think appropriate

Task and Finish Group reviews

Ongoing	Drug gangs, knife crime and county lines	Oversee the development of a multi-agency strategy (referral from Full Council)	Scoping document agreed by Full Committee. Detailed work underway
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Items identified for joint work with other committees – to be scheduled

TBC – early 2020	Autism	Diagnosis and referral waiting times, social care/ other support and level of awareness/training.	Briefing on service structures and responsibilities before defining follow up work
TBC	Sensory services	Currently being scoped	TBC

Further issues under consideration and/or for further evaluation

TBC	Children in Care/school leavers	Transitions. The support in schools. Discussed in previous work planning discussions	To be scoped.
TBC	Hip fractures and falls Prevention – <i>follow-up</i>	Follow up on Task & Finish Group recommendations that are relevant to PAF	To be picked up during work on domiciliary care.