

**To the Chair and Members of the
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PEOPLE'S PANEL WORK
PLAN REPORT 2015/16**

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Nuala Fennelly Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools	All	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report provides an update on the Panel's work plan.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

2. Not exempt.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Panel is asked to:
 - i) Consider and comment on the revised work plan attached at Appendix A.
 - ii) Receive an update on the Children with Disabilities Social Care Review.
 - ii) Receive and comment on the correspondence made following its meeting held on the 23rd September, 2015 in Appendix B.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the Council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy. This is achieved through making robust recommendations, monitoring performance of Council and external partners and

reviewing issues outside the remit of the Council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.

BACKGROUND AND ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. As Members will be aware the Scrutiny Panels will continue to focus on review work with OSMC taking a lead business role. Members will recall that OSMC and the standing Panels held work planning sessions in June 2015 with a view to identifying a small number of review topics. The work plan attached at Appendix A, approved by OSMC provides an ongoing summary of the work currently being undertaken.
6. **Children with disabilities social care review** – On the 27th July, 2015, the Panel scoped the review and agreed the following key areas for consideration:
 1. Meeting with parents, Foster Carers and Parents Forum;
 2. Meeting with young people – Ladder Group;
 3. Visit Respite Care Facility and North Ridge School to address Transition to adulthood and the Next Project; and
 4. Meeting with Officers/social workers to address Direct Payments, POET (Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool) pilot, SEN Out of Authority Costs, Good/Poor Practice and gaps.

All meetings have now been undertaken and a report and recommendations are being drafted and will be circulated to Panel Member. A further update will be provided at this meeting.

7. **The Children's Services Trust** – Additionally, the CYP Panel will continue to receive briefings and updates on the arrangements and performance for the Children's Trust through quarterly formal meetings. The first of these meetings was held in June, 2015 where evidence was received from Mark Douglas, Chief Operating Officer, Doncaster Children's Services Trust and Peter Featherstone, Business Manager, Learning and Opportunities Doncaster MBC. The next discussion with the Children's Trust will be held earlier on this meeting's agenda.
8. **Correspondence with the Executive**

Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) Annual Report 2014-15 – Further to the Panels consideration of the DSCB Annual Report, a letter outlining the Panels comments were forwarded to John Harris, Independent Chair of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board. A copy of this correspondence is attached at Appendix B. With the agreement of the Chair, an updated Business Plan Report will be now included on the agenda at the Panels next formal meeting in March 2016.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for Members to discuss the Panel's work plan for 2015/16.

IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S KEY OBJECTIVES

	Priority	Implications
	<p>We will support a strong economy where businesses can locate, grow and employ local people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy through robust recommendations, monitoring performance of council and external partners services and reviewing issues outside the remit of the council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.</p>
	<p>We will help people to live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	<p>This issue has a direct impact on helping children live safe, healthily and active in a safe environment whilst ensure the governance between the Children's Board, Scrutiny and partners is working effectively.</p>
	<p>We will make Doncaster a better place to live, with cleaner, more sustainable communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	
	<p>We will support all families to thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	<p>We will deliver modern value for money services.</p>	

	We will provide strong leadership and governance, working in partnership.	

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

10. To maximise the effectiveness of the Overview and Scrutiny function it is important that the work plan devised is manageable and that it accurately reflects the broad range of issues within its remit. Failure to achieve this can reduce the overall impact of the function.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

11. The Council's Constitution states that subject to matters being referred to it by the Full Council, or the Executive and any timetables laid down by those references Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee will determine its own Work Programme (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 6a).
12. Specific legal implications and advice will be given with any reports when Overview and Scrutiny have received them as items for consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. The budget for the support of the Overview and Scrutiny function 2015/16 is not affected by this report however, the delivery of the work plan will need to take place within agreed budgets. There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. Any financial implications relating to specific reports on the work plan will be included in those reports.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

14. This report provides an overview of the work programme undertaken by Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny. There are no significant equality implications associated with this report. Within its programme of work Overview and Scrutiny gives due consideration to the extent to which the Council has complied with its Public Equality Duty and given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

CONSULTATION

15. The work plan has been developed in consultation with Members and officers.

CONTACT OFFICER AND REPORT AUTHOR

16. Caroline Martin
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Background Papers

None

Damian Allen
Director Learning, Opportunities and Skills

Children and Young People (CYP) Overview & Scrutiny Panel Workplan (DRAFT) – Fixed Panel Meetings/Review Work
Outcomes and Improvements for Children and Young People

10am 2nd July 2015 Formal	11:30 am 17th Sept– Informal	2pm 17th September 2015 Formal	26th November 2015 Informal	10am 8th December 2015 Formal	10am 29th February 2016 Formal
Quarterly Performance Report and update from Children's Services Trust – delivery of agreed budgets	Early Years and Collaborative Strategy update	Quarterly Performance Report and update from Children's Services Trust – delivery of agreed budgets	Sexual Health– Signposting for young people/partnership working (how successful is this) – Joint Meeting with H&ASC O&S	Trust Update a) Quarterly Performance Report and update from Children's Services Trust – delivery of agreed budgets b) Ofsted Action Plan & Main Improvements (maybe to include presentation to highlight main pts) – 15 mins max	Trust Update a) Quarterly Performance Report and update from Children's Services Trust – delivery of agreed budgets b) To include DCT Annual Report
School Improvement Inspection Report		Annual Complaints – Children's trust		Exam Results (JM/DA) • Improving education provision • Update on Educational Attainment Review Recs (needs specific response to 2 nd letter/each rec) • Academy Growth and Development Strategy.	CSE – Review – 10 key scrutiny questions
		DSCB – Annual Report			Adoption – annual update/review
					Annual Complaints – update on improvements
					DSCB Update on Business Plan

C&YP O&S Review

Review Scope - Disabilities – what is it like being disabled and is provision meeting needs

5. Meeting with parents, Foster Carers and Parents Forum – 3rd September at 5.30pm
6. Meeting with young people – Ladder Group
7. Visit Respite Care Facility – 27th August at 10am
8. North Ridge School to address Transition to adulthood and the Next Project – 15th October 9.30am
9. Meeting with Officers to address Direct Payments, POET pilot, SEN Out of Authority Costs, Good/Poor Practice and gaps, Invitations to Social workers – 26th October at 9am

Other Areas (to be scheduled)

- Children's health early years 0-5 including health visiting and family nurse partnership - 10am, 26th January 2016 (NEW) – H&ASC O&S Meeting
- Careers Advice and Guidance (in particular NEETS and Progression Routes Post 16) – R&H O&S Panel to formally invite CYP O&S Panel to Skills Meeting (part of Place Marketing Review) - 11am, 3rd February 2016 (NEW)
- Youth Provision – No longer required for Scrutiny - All Members briefing/workshop (DA/RN to arrange)

Workplan Ideas 2016/17

- Virtual School /CIC
- Coasting academies

14th October, 2015

John Harris
Independent Chair of the
Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board
c/o Wellbeck Room
Mary Woollett Centre
Danum Road
Doncaster
DN4 5HF

Dear John,

Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2014-15

Thank you for attending our recent Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting, which was held on the 17th September 2015. At this meeting you presented the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2014-15, which the Panel found both useful and informative.

It was very pleasing to hear about the positive work that has been undertaken during the last year, including the board's working arrangements, progress with the Business Plan 2014-15 and progress with the board's key areas for improvement. The Panel discussed a number of areas identified within the annual report, in particular, their concerns including lack of attendance by head teachers and engaging with partners and those in minority groups

One area that the Panel discussed more at length was the Strategic Plan Progress, an appendix to the Annual Report, as it was felt that this did not provide up-to-date information within the further action and completion date's columns. Concern was raised that the annual report might be seen with an action plan that was out-of-date, incomplete and showing reds. Members were informed at the meeting that the Strategic Plan had been around for some time and it was acknowledged that the plan should be reviewed and updated. Members were also assured that the plan was tracked every 6 weeks and updated at the Chairs Group meetings and if a delay was identified then remedial action was taken.

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A full set of minutes from this meeting can be found shortly on our new website pages at <http://doncaster.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=140&MIId=2056>.

As agreed at the meeting, I would like to request for an updated Business Plan Report to be included on the agenda at the Panels next formal meeting in December 2015. I will therefore look forward to receiving this information. It was also noted at the meeting that there will be an update to be provided in February 2016, when the Panel will review of the ten key scrutiny questions posed by the Panel earlier on this year, in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation.

Again thank you and your colleagues for taking the time to attend our meeting and respond to questions raised by Panel Members.

Kind regards,



Councillor Rachel Hodson
Chair – Schools Children and Young People
Overview and Scrutiny Panel

cc. **Jo Miller – Chief Executive**
Mayor Ros Jones
Councillor Nuala Fennelly - Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools
Chair and Vice Chair of OSMC
Damian Allen – Director of Learning and Opportunities
Riana Nelson - Assistant Director Children's Commissioning
Peter Featherstone – Business Manager – Learning and Opportunities
Paul Moffat – Chief Executive, Doncaster Children's Services Trust