

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 9
15 JUNE 2015	Public Report

Report of the Director of Governance

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REVIEW OF 2014/2015 AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2015/16

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with a review of the work undertaken during 2014/15 and to develop a work programme for 2015/16.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee considers the 2014/2015 year in review and makes recommendations on the future monitoring of these items where necessary.
- 2.2 That the Committee determines its priorities, and develops a work programme for the forthcoming year.

3. REVIEW OF 2014/15

- 3.1 The Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Committee was established by Council at its annual meeting on 18 May 2009. During the year 2014/2015, the Committee considered the following issues:

Information / Update

- Review of 2013/14 and Future Work Programme
- Scrutiny in a Day – One Year On – Event Proposal
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Reforms Update

Monitoring / Calling to Account

- Directors Report for Social Care practice and Performance
- New Vision for Early Years Services Including Children's Centres in Peterborough
- Improving Educational Outcomes Task and Finish Group Report
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report
- Children's (Social Care) Services Statutory Complaints Process (Children act 1989) Annual Report 2013/2014
- Special Educational Needs and Disability Reforms
- Portfolio Progress Report from Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University
- Performance Report on NEET / Raising the Participation Age
- Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report
- Portfolio Progress Report from Cabinet Member for Children's Services
- Children's Centres and Early Years Update
- Pupil Referral Service
- The Connecting Families Programme
- Pupil Premium
- Recruitment and Retention of Social Workers
- City College Peterborough
- Children's Social Care Complaints Supplementary Report

- Impact of Universal Free School Meals on Pupil Premium

Policy / Plans / Consultation

- Implementations of Ofsted School Improvement Inspection Action Plan
- Draft School Organisation Plan 2014/2015 - Delivering Local Places for Local Children
- 16 - 19 Ofsted Inspection Action Plan
- Placement Strategy
- Budget 2015/16 and Medium Term Financial Plan – Phase One
- Budget 2015/16 and Medium Term Financial Plan – Phase Two

There were no Call-ins of Executive Decisions for the Committee to consider.

The Committee took part in the following Joint Scrutiny:

- Joint Scrutiny of the Budget – 3 December 2014 and 9 February 2015
- Joint Scrutiny in a Day – Focus on the Impact of Welfare Reform – One Year On – 24 February 2014

3.2 For the information of the Committee, copies of the recommendations made during the year are attached at Appendix 1.

4. WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

4.1 In accordance with the Constitution, the Committee is responsible for setting its own work programme in line with the Council’s key priorities and the Committee’s remit.

4.2 The Committee’s remit is:

To review and scrutinise the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy priority of creating opportunities, tackling inequalities. This will include reviewing and scrutinising the performance of other public bodies in their activities and performance in the delivery of the Single Delivery Plan.
Hold the Executive to account for the discharge of functions in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • by exercising the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Executive or key decisions which have been delegated to an officer. • by scrutinising Key Decisions which the Executive is planning to take, as set out in the Forward Plan • by scrutinising Executive decisions after they have been implemented, as part of a wider policy review.
To review and scrutinise the planning, decisions, policy development, service provision and performance relating to the following service areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Learning and Skills • Children’s Services • Education • Safeguarding Children
To assist and advise the Council and the Executive in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues in relation to the terms of reference of the committee.
Make recommendations to the Executive and/or Council arising from overview and scrutiny activity.

Establish ad-hoc Task and Finish Groups to investigate specific topics on a time-limited basis.

To consider any appeals from petition organisers who are not satisfied with the outcome of the Council's consideration of their petition.

4.3 A draft work programme which shows the items which are currently scheduled along with items carried over from last year is attached at Appendix 2.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5.1 Minutes of the Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Committee held on 14 July, 8 September, 13 October, 10 November, 3 December 2014 and 5 January, 9 February, 9 March 2015.

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 - Recommendations made during 2014/2015
Appendix 2 – Draft Work Programme 2015/16

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