

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 10
14 JULY 2014	Public Report

Report of the Director of Governance

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REVIEW OF 2013/2014 AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014/15

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with a review of the work undertaken during 2013/14 and to develop a work programme for 2014/15.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee considers the 2013/2014 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 2013/14

- 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 2013/2014, the Committee considered the following issues:

Information / Update

- Review of 2012/13 and Future Work Programme
- Corporate Parenting Panel Annual Report

Monitoring / Calling to Account

- Progress Report on Alternative Play Centre Provision
- Children's Services Delivery Plan – Progress Report
- Impact of Welfare Reform
- Progress Report from Scrutiny Task and Finish Group Monitoring Children's Services Improvement Plan
- Update Report on NEET's (16 to 18 year olds not in Education, Employment or Training)
- Poverty Action Plan – Updated
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report (PSCB) 2012/13 and Business Plan 2013/14
- Children's (Social Care) Services Statutory Complaints Process (Children act 1989) Annual Report 2012
- Establishment of Education Improvement Task and Finish Group
- Presentation of 2013 Unvalidated Examination Results
- Scrutiny in a Day: Understanding and Managing the Impacts of Welfare Reform on Communities in Peterborough
- Children's Services Performance Report to DfE
- City College Peterborough
- Presentation of 2013 KS 4 & KS2 Validated Examination Results
- The Vision for Education in Peterborough – Update Report

- Children’s Improvement Programme Task and Finish Group Final Report

Policy / Plans / Consultation

- Peterborough School Improvement Strategy
- Peterborough EAL Strategy
- Tackling Poverty Strategy and Action Plan
- The Vision for Education in Peterborough – Developing School to School Partnerships
- New Vision for Early Years Services including Children’s Centres in Peterborough
- Adoption Reform and Implementation Plan
- Implementation of the Placement Strategy and Fostering Action Plan
- Draft School Organisation Plan 2013-2018 – Delivering Local Places for Local Children – Refreshed
- Budget 2014/15 and Medium Term Financial Plan

The Committee considered two Call-ins:

1. Call-In of Executive Decision: Early Years Services Including Children’s Centres – NOV/CAB/094 – December 2014. Outcome – **Not Called In**
2. Call-In of The Future Direction of Children’s Centers Delivery – FEB14/CAB/09 – February 2014. Outcome – **Called In and referred to Full Council.**

The Committee also established the following Task and Finish Group:

- Improving Educational Outcomes Task and Finish Group – Formed September 2013

and continued to run the following Task and Finish Group:

- Children’s Services Improvement Programme – Task and Finish Group – Completed review March 2014.

The Committee took part in the Joint Scrutiny in a Day Event which focused on the Impact of Welfare Reform on 17 January 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 2014/15

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

- 4.2 The Committee’s remit is:

<p>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.</p>
<p>Hold the Executive to account for the discharge of functions in the following ways:</p> <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 10 June, 22 July, 9 September, 11 November, 3 December 2013 and 6 January, 10 February, 17 March 2014.

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix 1 - Recommendations made during 2013/2014
Appendix 2 – Draft Work Programme 2014/15

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