

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee draft work programme

18 July 2023 **report deadline 10 July 23**

| Topic and Objectives | Evidence required | Attendees* |
|--|--|--|
| Children’s Services Improvement Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measure progress in delivering the priorities of the improvement plan. - Identify areas of the focus for the committee’s work programme, to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Quality of assessment o Partnership working | Service Improvement Plan “Measures that Matter” dataset | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Director, Improvement – Herefordshire Council |
| Safeguarding Children’s Partnership Annual Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scrutinise responses to questions to the independent scrutineer. | Partnership Annual Report Answers to questions submitted the Independent Scrutineer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Scrutineer, Herefordshire Safeguarding Partnership |

26 September 2023 **report deadline 18 September 23**

| Topic and Objectives | Evidence required | Attendees* |
|--|--|--|
| Early help <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand the nature of both targeted and universal early help services in Herefordshire. - Further understand the offer made by the council and other agencies. - Scrutinise how partners work together to identify and support children and families who need early help. | “Right Help Right Time” framework for support Herefordshire Council Early Help Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Public Health • Service Director Early Help, Quality Assurance and Prevention • West Mercia Police • Independent Care Board |
| SEND action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scrutinise the action plan. - Identify gaps in action and progress in delivering the plan. | SEND strategy and action plan Pre-meeting briefing session with service director | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Education, Skills and Learning • Parent Carer Voice |
| Families’ Commission Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scrutinise progress in responding to the seven challenges contained in the report | Families’ Commission Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Scrutineer, Herefordshire Safeguarding Partnership |

14 November 2023 report deadline 6 November 23

| Topic and Objectives | Evidence required | Attendees* |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigate access to and the availability of appropriate mental health services for children and young people. - Identify gaps in provision and explore opportunities for more effective commissioning of services. | <p>Directory of mental health support services in Herefordshire</p> <p>Service specification for CAMHS</p> <p>CAMHS performance information</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS Trust • Director of safeguarding • Director of all-age commissioning |

23 January 2024 report deadline 15 January 2024

| Topic and Objectives | Evidence required | Attendees* |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Workforce, fostering and adoption sufficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand the shortages faced by the council and its partners in workforce recruitment. - Identify challenges in recruitment of foster families. - Make recommendations to support improved rates of recruitment. | <p>Current staffing levels</p> <p>Fostering and adoption rates of recruitment</p> <p>Payment rates for fostering and adoption</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Service, Fostering and Adoption |
| <p>Schools Capital Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding how the local authority determines its investment in new and existing schools. - Review the impact of the 2016 capital investment strategy. - Seeking assurance that capital investment is aligned to implementation of the Local Plan. | <p>Capital Investment Strategy</p> <p>Schools investment programme</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Education, Skills and Learning |

12 March 2024 report deadline 4 March 23

| Topic and Objectives | Evidence required | Attendees* |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Looked after children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the factors resulting in the current rate of children being looked after. - Further identify areas of focus for the committee to pursue. | <p>Current and historical numbers of children looked after by the local authority Comparison with statistical neighbours and other local authorities in West Midlands region.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director, safeguarding |
| <p>Corporate Parenting Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scrutinise the current constitution and activity of the corporate parenting board. | <p>Corporate Parenting Strategy Corporate Parenting Board agendas and minutes % care leavers who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In suitable accommodation - in education, training or employment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair, Corporate Parenting Board • Service Director Early Help, Quality Assurance and Prevention • Head of service, looked after children • Your Voice Matters representatives |

*The Corporate Director, Children and Young People and Portfolio Holder, Children and Young People, both have a standing invitation to the meeting. It is assumed that the portfolio holder will attend each meeting.