Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee draft work programme

26 September 2023 report deadline 18 September 23

Topic and Objectives	Evidence required	Attendees*
 Early help 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	 Director of Public Health Service Director Early Help, Quality Assurance and Prevention West Mercia Police Independent Care Board
 SEND action plan 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	 Director of Education, Skills and Learning Parent Carer Voice Maria Hardy Health Roz Pither – head of service SEND Rachel Gillett - Safeguarding
Families' Commission Report - Scrutinise progress in responding to the seven challenges contained in the report	Families' Commission Report	Independent Scrutineer, Herefordshire Safeguarding Partnership

14 November 2023 report deadline 6 November 23

Topic and Objectives	Evidence required	Attendees*
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	Directory of mental health support services	Herefordshire and
- Investigate access to and the availability of appropriate mental	in Herefordshire	Worcestershire NHS Trust
health services for children and young people.	Service specification for CAMHS	Director of safeguarding
 Identify gaps in provision and explore opportunities for more 	CAMHS performance information	Director of all-age
effective commissioning of services.		commissioning

Education Matters	•

23 January 2024 report deadline 15 January 2024

Topic and Objectives	Evidence required	Attendees*
Workforce, fostering and adoption sufficiency	Current staffing levels	Head of Service, Fostering and
 Understand the shortages faced by the council and its partners 	Fostering and adoption rates of	Adoption
in workforce recruitment.	recruitment	
 Identify challenges in recruitment of foster families. 	Payment rates for fostering and adoption	
 Make recommendations to support improved rates of 		
recruitment.		
Schools Capital Strategy	Capital Investment Strategy	Director of Education, Skills
 Understanding how the local authority determines its 	Schools investment programme	and Learning
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.		

12 March 2024 report deadline 04 March 23

Topic and Objectives	Evidence required	Attendees*
Looked after children	Current and historical numbers of children	Director, safeguarding
 Identify the factors resulting in the current rate of children 	looked after by the local authority	
being looked after.	Comparison with statistical neighbours and	
- Further identify areas of focus for the committee to pursue.	other local authorities in West Midlands	
	region.	
Corporate Parenting Board	Corporate Parenting Strategy	Chair, Corporate Parenting
- Scrutinise the current constitution and activity of the corporate	Corporate Parenting Board agendas and	Board
parenting board.	minutes	Service Director Early Help,
	% care leavers who are:	Quality Assurance and
	 In suitable accommodation 	Prevention

^{*}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.