



**Report to Children, Young People & Family  
Support Scrutiny & Policy Development  
Committee  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Report of:** Policy and Improvement Officer

**Subject:** Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee: Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18 Draft Content & Work Programme 2018-19

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**Summary:**

This report provides the Committee with a summary of its activities over the municipal year for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18. The Committee is asked to consider and comment on this document (Appendix A).

The report also includes a list of topics which it is recommended be put forward for consideration as part of the 2017-18 Work Programme for this committee.

**Type of item:** The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	X

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18: CYP&FS Committee Draft Content: Consider and comment on the draft content – Section 1.0 and Appendix A
- Work Programme 2018-19 - Agree that the list of topics outlined in section 2.0 be put forward for consideration as part of the 2018-19 Work Programme for this committee; and provide any further comment – Section 2.0

**Background Papers:** None  
**Category of Report:** OPEN

## Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017

### 1.0 Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18

- Each Scrutiny Committee will produce a summary of their activity over the past municipal year, for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18. A draft summary of this Committees activity is attached - please see Appendix A.
- The Annual Report will also include an overview of the role of scrutiny within the authority and a summary of some of the activities and outcomes across the five Scrutiny Committees.
- The full list of topics considered by this Committee during 2017-18 is outlined below:

2017	
▪ Consultation on the future commissioning and delivery of young people's services	July
▪ Looked After Children and Care Leavers	July
▪ Draft Work Programme 2017-18	July
▪ Briefing Paper – Adoption Service Annual Report	July
• Briefing Paper – Fostering Service Annual Report	July
▪ Learn Sheffield and School Improvement Strategy	September
▪ School Exclusions	September
▪ 2017 Pupil Performance - City Context and School Performance	November
▪ Elective Home Education and Alternative Provision	November
▪ Briefing Paper – Social Market Foundation Commission on Equality	November
▪ Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2016-17	December
▪ Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Service Annual Report 2016-17	December
▪ Adoption Performance	December
2018	
• Children's Social Care Improvement and Recovery Plan.	January
▪ Special Educational Needs in Sheffield	January
▪ CYP&FS Scrutiny Draft Content for Annual Report	March
▪ Elective Home Education	March
▪ Final Results and Outcomes	March
▪ Overview of 16-18 provision	March
▪ Sheffield's Transformation programme for Children and Young People's emotional wellbeing and health	March

▪ Child Poverty – Filling the holiday gap	March
▪ Briefing Paper – Support to Roma, Gypsy and Travelling Families	March
▪ Briefing Paper – Key Stage 3	March
▪ Attainment and progress information at ward level	March

## 2.0 Work Programme 2018-19

- The list below outlines topics which it is recommended be put forward for consideration as part of the Work Programme for the 2018-19 municipal year. This includes topics that the Committee have considered and recommended there be a future update on and also items that were identified, but not considered in 2017-18.
  - Commissioning of Young People’s Services
  - Adoption Service Annual Report
  - Fostering Service Annual Report
  - Pupil Performance 2018
  - Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Report
  - Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Service Annual Report
  - Children’s Social Care Improvement and Recovery Plan
  - Special Educational Needs Strategy
  - Update on Academisation in Sheffield

## 3.0 The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18: CYP&FS Committee Draft Content: Consider and comment on the draft content – Section 1.0 and Appendix A
- Work Programme 2018-19 - Agree that the list of topics outlined in section 2.0 be put forward for consideration as part of the 2018-19 Work Programme for this committee; and provide any further comment – Section 2.0



## APPENDIX A: Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18 - CYP&FS Committee Draft Content

### Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny Committee 2017-18

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**Chair:** Cllr Mick Rooney

**Deputy Chair:** Cllr Cliff Woodcraft

**Remit of the committee:** Early Years, Children's Social Care, Child Safeguarding, Education, Family Support, and Youth Services.

#### Highlights from the work of the Committee in 2017-18 included:

##### **Adoptions (July and December)**

In July 2017, the Committee discussed the Annual Report for Looked After Children and Care Leavers, presented to them by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families, Councillor Jackie Drayton. As part of this the Committee considered issues around the process of adoption, tracking children with plans for adoption, recruitment of adopters and ways to improve timeliness. A further, more detailed report was requested on timeliness and tracking of adoptions.

The Committee received this at their meeting in December 2017 and considered the six stages of adoption. The discussion also included a question from a member of the public regarding post adoption monitoring, which currently doesn't take place. The recommended outcomes were therefore:

- To focus on successful placement of the child as opposed to meeting performance targets
- To develop a method of monitoring post adoption success rates
- To consult with elected members on this process

##### **School Exclusions (Sept)**

As part of its September 2017 meeting, the Committee received a detailed report on school exclusions in Sheffield, providing background and context and a detailed analysis of the figures. Members considered the difference between fixed term and permanent exclusions and also the variations across schools due to them all having their own policies.

Issues of high level of exclusions in primary schools and trends within BME communities were also considered and tested. Members were also made aware of limited funding for alternative provision for excluded pupils and a forthcoming review of this provision.

As a result of this session members focused recommended outcomes on:

- Requesting further involvement in the commissioning strategy for alternative provision, via a report to the Committee in November 2017.
- Requesting a further report on Special Educational Needs and the development of the commissioning strategy for this. An initial report was received in January 2018.
- Requesting regular briefing notes for all members on exclusions by electoral ward and ethnicity.

## APPENDIX A: Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18 - CYP&FS Committee Draft Content

### School Attainment in 2017 (November)

In November 2017 the Committee received a report outlining the provisional attainment results for city. Officers presented an overall picture of improvement in performance generally and in comparison to other Local Authorities. They also received information on the outcomes and impact of the Learn Sheffield model. Members were presented with some of the key challenges being faced across the city, particularly the performance issues with regard to Year One Phonics.

Members also noted the good performance in Key Stage 5 and A Level results but requested further information regarding other post 16 outcomes, for example the number of young people engaged in apprenticeships.

A final report was presented to the Committee, entitled “Final Results: attainment and progress” in March 2018.

### Elective Home Education (November and March)

A presentation of the Elective Home Education Service was given to the Committee during its meeting in November 2017. Elective Home Educators were also present for the discussion as members of the public and were keen to explore further consultation and involvement with the service.

Members discussion particularly focused on progress and tracking of home education children, the support provided to home educators and integration back into formal education for those children who required it. A further report was requested for March 2018, looking at some case studies of different kinds of home education.

### Scrutiny Children’s Social Care Task Group

The Scrutiny Committee set up a task group during 2017/18 to focus on a key policy area of Children’s Social Care. After spending the first two meetings gathering information about the context and challenges within Children’s Social Care, the Task Group agreed to target two key areas of the Improvement Plan, with a view to influencing the outcome of new policy formulation and decisions. These two key areas were:

1. Budget – sufficiency plan and local offer
2. Quality – Workforce development, recruitment and retention.

During January and February the group gathered evidence from people within Children’s Social Care about initiatives to increase the local offer; particularly the number of in house Foster Carers; the potential impact of these initiatives on the budget, recruitment and retention plans to increase the numbers of experienced social workers within Sheffield, preventative measures for children not yet brought into care and specialist provision for the increasing number of older children and more complex cases.

The recommendations from the review were reported to the main Committee at its March meeting and the report was considered by the Council’s Cabinet at its meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018.....

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