

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE
2018-19 WORK PROGRAMME**

Date	Meeting type	Items/Topics
4 July 2018	Scheduled	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Children's Services: Introductory overview</i> 2. <i>Ofsted inspection of Lambeth's Children's Services - Outcome and future plans for improvement delivery</i> 3. <i>School Inspection 2016/17</i> 4. <i>Education Achievement</i> 5. <i>CSSC annual work programme</i>
23 October 2018	Scheduled	<p><i>Children & Young People at Risk:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Children at Risk Strategy (LSCB): Overview update and Action Plan implementation</i> - <i>At risk of disengagement from education or on the edge of the school system/ school exclusions; at risk early identification; engagement with parents; young people excluded from further education</i> - <i>YOS – reducing the rate of young people entering the youth justice system</i> - <i>Whole system approach</i> <p>➤ <i>Feed into OSC Crime & Disorder Scrutiny (1/11/18)</i></p>
19 December 2018	Scheduled	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Budget: Children's Services</i> 2. <i>SEND: Overview and Update</i>
19 March 2019	Scheduled	<p>To be agreed. Provisionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Children & Young People Health and Wellbeing, including MH/CAMHS</i> • <i>Progress update on Children's Social Care & improvement journey</i>

Issues for potential future scrutiny

The following matters have been identified by members:

1. Early Years Services, including the LEAP;
2. Closing the educational attainment gap – (Black Caribbean and Portuguese pupils), including the reasons for attainment by some groups at primary level but who then fall at secondary level;
3. Children and accommodation; homelessness and young people;
4. Employment outcomes and employability;
5. Health of children and young people in Lambeth (social and mental health as well as physical);
6. Supporting the trauma associated with youth violence;
7. Reducing adverse children's experiences and neglect;
8. Feeling safe and supported - children and young people in care/those needing support -

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		<p>continuity issues, not repeating their story</p> <p>9. Prevention and how services – council/services/stakeholders – work together</p> <p>10. 10 year outcomes and delivery on priorities to be a framework for scrutiny activity</p> <p>11. Children’s Social Care/Ofsted follow up: momentum on sustaining improvement; Recruitment & Retention issues (i) social workers and (ii) senior management</p> <p><u>Inspections2018/19: pending/for further follow up</u></p> <p>1. SEND: Joint Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspection on support and services to children with special education needs/who are disabled [SEND]: expected during 2018</p> <p>2. YOS [Youth Offending Service]: inspection expected during 2018 (new framework for inspection to be published in May 2018).</p> <p>3. Children’s Services: Ofsted inspection reported May 2018: Overall - Requires Improvement (Adoption: Inadequate)</p> <p><u>Recommendation from Overview and Scrutiny (Crime and Disorder) Committee (1/11/18)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To recommend that the Children’s Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee considers whether the educational/training programmes offered by the Youth Offending Services are sufficiently targeted, up to date and meeting clients’ needs.

4 July 2018

PRE MEETING PLANNING		POST MEETING ACTIONS				
Lead Officer/ Author	Report Title & Key Points	Outcome & Actions Arising	Lead	Action status	Deadline	RAG Status
AH	Lambeth Children's Services – Introduction & Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted key developments in Lambeth's Children's Services Workforce stability: concerns about losing momentum of improvement arising from senior officer changes/management stability in children's social care (future follow up) 	AH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce/ management stability to be programmed 		A
AH/MS	Ofsted Re-inspection: Outcomes and plans going forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted Inspection outcome (Overall Requires Improvement; Adoption Inadequate) and progress made since 2015. That the committee regularly reviews the progress in delivering the next steps Plan. 	AH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ofsted follow up to be programmed 		A
CT	School Inspection 2016/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted 	CT			G
CT	Education Achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the overall significant level of attainment at KS2 and GCSE in 2017. Future follow up on early years/LEAP and improving literacy and speech in early years How address adverse experiences (i) in early and pre-school years and (ii) of (random) violence and trauma Committee members to be invited to screening of 'Resilience' on 12/7 – focus on adverse experience 	CT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up on early years to be programmed Invite sent 6/7/18 		A
LA/EC	CSSC Annual Work Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed that the next meeting focus on children and young people at risk The committee hears/incorporates the voice, views and experience of children and young people on all issues it considers – should co-opt Youth Mayor or youth council representative 	LA/EC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timetabled for 23/10/18 Co-optee invite issued to Young Lambeth Co-op Further items to be programmed 		G

23 October 2018

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Lead Officer/ Author	Report Title & Key Points	Outcome & Actions Arising	Lead	Action status	Deadline	RAG Status
AH/NS	<p>Children and Young People at Risk</p> <p>Edited recommendations set out below; for full text & recommendations submitted to Overview and Scrutiny (Crime and Disorder) Committee see minutes of CSSC 23/10/18</p>					
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus on better, early identification of children at risk of exclusion and a joined up approach. Many children who are excluded from school often already face a host of challenges including experiences happening outside the school environment. Schools and agencies need to liaise and engage much earlier including with parents/carers to understand what is happening in a young person's life and in their community. 2. Ensure better tracking of excluded children and more support to prevent children who have been excluded from falling through the cracks. It was clear from evidence to the committee that there are incidences where processes have not worked and excluded children have become absent from education. Data on internal exclusions and managed moves also needs to be collected to look at trends, and associated research commissioned including the voice of the child. 3. Noting the challenges for schools in accessing external support, in particular for higher level mental health (Tier3), undertake review on the level of support available including waiting times for CAMHS. 4. Secure more data on exclusions particularly on the educational and other outcomes of all excluded pupils including those attending the PRUs. It is important that outcomes on excluded pupils are tracked to contribute to an understanding of what is working and improve life chances. 5. Review the learning, success and opportunities of a zero exclusions policy and alternative provision within a mainstream school such as the Dunraven model. 					

<p>6. Noting the <i>Raising the Game</i> initiative, the committee would wish to be informed on the learning and outcomes from the assessment and review of the project.</p> <p>7. There needs to be readily accessible and clear information available to parents/carers whose child has been excluded which sets out the alternative educational provision available and how they can access advice on support and options/next steps.</p> <p>8. At all stages ensure the voice of the child/young person is listened to.</p> <p>9. The committee wish to hear more on the Head Teacher perspective of exclusions, the issues they face and the solutions.</p> <p>10. Ensure schools are made accountable for monitoring and reporting children who go missing, or are absent, from education. This includes a role for the School Governing Body & Safeguarding Governor.</p> <p>11. Return home interviews for children who go missing from care do not always take place. There should be robust follow up/associated information and more independent return home interviews.</p> <p>12. To determine whether special needs are being picked up early enough and sufficiently supported (noting high numbers with special needs entering youth justice system), policies to be reviewed and unmet need quantified.</p> <p>13. Lambeth has the highest number of first time entrants to the youth justice system in the UK. Whilst there are a range of diversionary activities it is not clear there is a structured approach to gathering learning. There needs to be more evidence gathered on the outcomes of the youth justice initiatives Lambeth is pursuing and learning on what works, and ensure a more joined up approach to reduce FTEs.</p> <p>14. Ensure the work to reduce youth violence on high risk estates is monitored and assessed.</p> <p>15. Consideration given to reinstating the Town Hall as a 'safe space' facility, along with training for staff.</p> <p>16. In the context of tight resources and budget pressures, the committee would welcome receiving information about the funding and evaluation of youth projects going forward. Information should include projects outside the Young Lambeth Co-operative model to enable a review of external and internal funding being used such as lottery funds, independent charities etc.</p>				
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19 December 2018

PRE MEETING PLANNING		POST MEETING ACTIONS				
Lead Officer/ Author	Report Title & Key Points	Outcome & Actions Arising	Lead	Action status	Deadline	RAG Status
	Children's Services – budget and savings proposals					
	Special Education Needs and Disability – overview and update					

19 March 2018

PRE MEETING PLANNING		POST MEETING ACTIONS				
Lead Officer/ Author	Report Title & Key Points	Outcome & Actions Arising	Lead	Action status	Deadline	RAG Status