

Children & Education Select Committee – Forward Work Programme 2013/14

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27 January 2014: Looked After Children in Surrey

- How is Surrey positively impacting upon outcomes for Looked After Children?
 - To include the role and work of the Corporate Parenting Board
- How is Surrey working to improve placement stability?

Why scrutinise this area?

- Surrey County Council has a legal duty to act as a 'corporate parent' for every child and young person who is looked after.
- Improving outcomes for vulnerable young people is a priority for the County Council.

27 March 2014: Reducing the Attainment Gap in Surrey (TBC)

- How are early years informing the aspirations of young people?
- How can the attainment gap in Surrey (5+ A*-C including English and Mathematics) be improved?
- How is the School Improvement Programme helping to narrow the gap?
- How different schools using pupil premium and the impact that is having on outcomes for disadvantaged pupils?
- How does the curriculum provided improve outcomes for young people with Special Education Needs?

Why scrutinise this area?

- During 2012/13 the Education Select Committee identified that the attainment gap in Surrey was larger than many comparative authorities.
- Investing in support to schools to further improve the attainment of pupils, especially those from vulnerable groups is a priority of the Council's Children and Young People Plan.

The Committee will also be considering Home to School Transport, specifically the outcome of the public consultation and progress following a recent internal audit.

14 May 2014: Joined up support for children with disabilities and complex needs

- How is Surrey joining up support for children with disabilities?
- How prepared is Surrey to meet new legislation in this area – for example the requirement to provide and Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC)?
- How is Surrey's role as the SEN pathfinder for the SE7 informing the transition to a single assessment arrangement?

Why scrutinise this area?

- The Children and Families Bill places a duty on services involved in supporting children and young people with SEN to cooperate with each other and in particular requires local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to make arrangements for joint commissioning.

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Member Reference Groups, Task Groups, informal meetings and workshops

Meeting with the Secretary of State for Education – Michael Gove has agreed to meet with the Committee on an informal basis to discuss educational matters.

14 February 2014

Budget workshops - Two budget workshops have been organised so that the Committee is able to feed into the budget setting process for 2014/15.

14 October 2013 – 10am

22 January 2014 – 10am

GRT – The Member Reference Group met on 14 November to input into the Council's Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Strategy. The group will meet again in early 2014 to consider the final strategy.

Children Social Care Complaint Training – To provide training on the handling of Children Social Care Complaints, to allow the Committee to better scrutinise performance.

22 January 2014 – 2pm

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