

Select Committee Task and Finish Group Scoping Document

The process for establishing a task and finish group is:

1. The Select Committee identifies a potential topic for a task and finish group
2. The Select Committee Chairman and the Scrutiny Officer complete the scoping template.
3. The Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee reviews the scoping document
4. The Select Committee agrees the membership of the task and finish group.

<p>Review Topic: Learning Disabilities and Transition</p>
<p>Select Committee(s)</p> <p>Children and Education Select Committee Adults and Health Select Committee</p>
<p>Relevant background</p> <p>The Care Act 2014 requires that the council assess the needs of all children likely to need care and support after becoming 18, and puts the appropriate arrangements in place.</p> <p>Many of these children and young people will have already identified as having a Special Educational Need and Disability (SEND). Some will receive support through an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), or will be known to the Children with Disabilities team. The planning will usually begin around year 9 (13-14 years old) but can vary depending on individual circumstances.</p> <p>The 2017/18 budget for 0-25 SEND in Schools and Learning is £170m, which includes £14m of savings. In addition to this, the social care component of the support the council provides is budgeted as part of Surrey's county wide children's services.</p> <p>Care and support for adults with learning disabilities 16-64 accounts for £154 million of the Adult Social Care budget (approximately 33% of the gross budgeted expenditure).</p> <p>There is a £3 million saving planned around the optimisation of transition pathways over the life of the current Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2017-2021.</p> <p>Currently the Transition Team holds a total of 1846 cases; of these 734 are carers. On average, the team receives three new case referrals a day.</p>

Why this is a scrutiny item

The statutory responsibilities of the council to both children and adults with care and support needs are substantial.

The number of young people with complex needs transferring into adult social care has been recognised as a significant demand pressure within the MTFP.

This has also been identified by the Cabinet Members as an area requiring the support of the Council's scrutiny function.

What question is the task group aiming to answer?Phase 1 - Knowledge and ResearchUnderstanding the experience

What are the council's specific responsibilities in respect to supporting preparation for adulthood and transition into adult services?

What do the transition pathways look like?

What packages of education, care and support are available for young people with complex needs and their families? How do these packages change as a young person moves into adulthood?

Understanding the demand

What are the current pressures created by transition of young people with complex needs into adult social care?

How does the current demand impact on Children, Schools and Families and Adult Social Care?

How is future demand in this area planned for, and how can the council improve public value in this area?

Aim

To scrutinise how the council plans care and support for young people with complex needs as they transition into adulthood, and how future demand will be met.

Objectives

- To review the experience of young people with complex needs and their families/carers through transition, and identify areas for development.
- To scrutinise how savings are being realised through optimising transition pathways.
- To make recommendations as to future policy in order to meet demand and improve public value.

The work of the task group will be conducted in two phases. Phase one will gather intelligence, identify witnesses and establish some of the key information regarding the experience of young people with complex needs as they transition into adulthood.

It will also look to gather data on the care and support services the council provides, and what this represents in terms of current and projected financial demand.

An interim report will summarise key findings, and identify areas for further scrutiny.

The second phase will seek to conduct in-depth analysis on these areas, with the intention of producing recommendations for Cabinet and officers.

Scope (within / out of)

In scope

- Young people eligible for care and support as they move into adulthood, and their families/carers
- Services provided by Adult Social Care and Children, Schools and Families to support transition into adulthood
- Other support (i.e. health services) available
- The role of education in supporting independence and wellbeing

Out of scope

- Educational attainment for SEND pupils
- SEND transport arrangements
- Individual support arrangements for children, young people, adults and their families
- SEND Written Statement of Action

Outcomes for Surrey / Benefits

The review will seek to make recommendations in respect to improving the experience of young people and their families/carers, and to optimise public value for the benefit of the council and Surrey residents.

Proposed work plan

It is important to clearly allocate who is responsible for the work, to ensure that Members and officers can plan the resources needed to support the task group.

Timescale	Task	Responsible
August 2017	Scoping with input from Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee Chairman, Cabinet Member and relevant officers	Chairmen of Adults & Health Select Committee and Children & Education Select Committee
August 2017	Provisional project plan	Scrutiny Officer/ Chairmen
September 2017	Research and intelligence gathering- "Listening session" with young people and their families.	Task group
October – November	Interview sessions with key officers, Cabinet Members and other witnesses	Task group
December 2017	Interim report and phase two scoping	Committee Chairmen and Chairman of Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee
January – March 2018	Phase Two	
April 2018	Final report	

Witnesses

Phase One

Young people with complex needs and their families (SEND voices)

Family Voice

Cabinet Member for Adults

Cabinet Member for Children

Cabinet Member for Schools

Strategic Director for Children, Schools and Families

Strategic Director for Adult Social Care and Public Health

Deputy Director for Adult Social Care

Assistant Director for Schools and Learning

Assistant Director for Commissioning and Prevention

Transition team

Phase two (to be expanded)

Care and support providers

Schools – Secondary Phase and Special School Phase

Further Education Colleges

Useful Documents

Care Act 2014

Children and Families Act 2014

Surrey SEND 2020 Development Plan¹

Children Schools and Families Commissioning Plan 2017-22

SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years, Department for Education and Department of Health

“Transition from children’s to adults’ services for young people using health or social care services”, National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Guideline and Quality Standard

¹ https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/84680/SEND-Development-Plan-2016-2020-online.pdf

Potential barriers to success (Risks / Dependencies)

SEND services for children and young people in Surrey are currently subject to extensive transformational work – these are also subject to scrutiny by a Children and Education Select Committee task group.

The task group’s work will need to retain a view as to how these dependencies may influence or impact on the scope of its review. It can mitigate the risk of duplication by ensuring it remains in scope, while also seeking to share intelligence between these two groups where appropriate. This is a role for the Chairmen of both committees.

The task group’s desire to understand the experience of young people and their families must remain proportionate, in order to enable timely delivery of the task group’s objectives. At the same time, it must seek to challenge its own assumptions and assertions, and identify where further evidence is required. This creates a risk to timely delivery, though the oversight of the Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee will assist with keeping the review on track.

Equalities implications

The Task Group will be mindful of how it engages with young people with complex needs, and seek to engage the expertise of advocacy groups and engagement professionals where appropriate. It will also seek to identify where there are limitations in its approach, and seek to manage this.

The Task Group will monitor the equalities implications emerging from its recommendations with officers, and will work to identify mitigation measures for those with a potentially negative impact.

Task Group Members	2 representatives from Adults and Health Select Committee 2 representatives from Children and Education Select Committee 1 representative from Overview and Budget Scrutiny Committee
Co-opted Members	None.
Spokesman for the Group	Ken Gulati, Chairman of Adults and Health Select Committee
Scrutiny Officer/s	Andrew Spragg