

Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee Forward Work Programme

Children, Families, Lifelong Learning and Culture Select Committee

Chair: Fiona Davidson | Scrutiny Officer: Julie Armstrong | Democratic Services Assistant: Jacob Schanzenbach

Date of Meeting	Type of Scrutiny	Issue for Scrutiny	Purpose	Outcome	Relevant Organisational Priorities	Cabinet Member/Lead Officer
10 July 2025	Overview, policy development and review	Additional Needs and Disabilities	Review progress made following the Task Group's recommendations in September 2024	Provide good experience for parents and carers of children and young people with AND	Tackling health inequality, Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit, Empowering communities	Clare Curran, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Lifelong Learning; Assistant Director for Inclusion and Additional Needs SW; Liz Bone, Send County Service Planning & Performance Leader - SEN Recovery
	Performance monitoring	Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report and Performance Report in relation to Looked After Children	Review key performance data for year ending March 2024 for Looked After Children as compared with statistical neighbours and nationally, and any relevant national policy developments that impact Corporate Parenting	Assurance of provision for Looked After Children	Tackling health inequality, Empowering communities	Clare Curran, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Lifelong Learning; Tina Benjamin, Director – Corporate Parenting

<p>8 October 2025</p> <p>(joint with and led by Adults and Health Select Committee)</p>	<p>Performance monitoring</p>	<p>Mindworks Transformation Programme</p>	<p>Review evidence of the performance data against key metrics – number of referrals and the timeliness of assessments, the lessons learned and implemented as a result, how they are being managed, supporting children with unique needs</p>	<p>A sound plan to meet currently unmet needs</p>	<p>Empowering communities to thrive, tackling health inequality</p>	<p>Mark Nuti, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, and Public Health; Clare Curran, Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Lifelong Learning; Rachael Wardell, DCS; Claire Edgar, Executive Director for Adults, Wellbeing and Health Partnerships; Harriet Derrett-Smith, Associate Director for Commissioning - Health & Wellbeing</p>
<p>16 October 2025</p>	<p>Overview, Policy development and review</p>	<p>Response to Local Authority Children's Services Inspection (ILACS)</p>	<p>Scrutinise the Service's response to Ofsted's findings (inspection expected spring 2025)</p>	<p>Robust response to improve quality and impact of social work practice in Surrey</p>	<p>Empowering communities, tackling health inequality</p>	<p>Clare Curran, Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Lifelong Learning; Rachael Wardell, Executive Director for Children, Families & Lifelong Learning</p>
	<p>Overview, policy development and review</p>	<p>Post-16 vocational education and pathways</p>	<p>Ascertain the level of demand and whether SCC can meet it, explore what circumstances the Service would look to provide it and whether location is a barrier</p>	<p>Provide good opportunities for young people, with and without AND</p>	<p>Tackling health inequality, Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit, Empowering communities</p>	<p>Clare Curran, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Lifelong Learning; Matt Furniss, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth (Apprenticeships); Dawn Redpath, Director for Economy and Growth; Julia Katherine, Director for Education and Lifelong Learning; FE college principals</p>

2 December 2025	Pre-decision Scrutiny	2026/27 Budget and MTFS to 2030/31	Select Committee to receive draft budget proposals, provide feedback and make recommendations	Ensure value for money and sufficiency of services	Tackling health inequality, Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit, Enabling a greener future, Empowering communities	Clare Curran, Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Lifelong Learning; Denise Turner-Stewart, Cabinet Member for Communities and Community Safety; Rachael Wardell, Executive Director – Children, Families and Lifelong Learning; Liz Mills, Strategic Director Customer Service Transformation Anna D’Alessandro, Director - Corporate Finance & Commercial; Rachel Wigley, Director - Finance Insights & Performance; Nikki O’Connor (Corporate), Kay Goodacre (CFLL) & Louise Lawson (CDC)
	Overview, policy development and review	Children’s Services post-Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)	Following proposal to Government in May 2025, Committee to consider issues when Children’s Services is disaggregated	Ensure a safe and legal service is handed over to new authorities	Tackling health inequality, Growing a sustainable economy so everyone can benefit, Empowering communities	Clare Curran, Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Lifelong Learning; Rachael Wardell, Executive Director – Children, Families and Lifelong Learning; Nicola Kilvington, Director - Corporate Strategy & Policy
26 February 2026	Policy review and performance monitoring	VCSE funding structure	Monitor the impact of changes to the community and voluntary sector funding arrangements	Ensure voluntary organisations are well-supported to deliver services	Empowering communities	Mark Nuti, Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing, and Public Health Claire Edgar, Executive Director for Adults, Wellbeing & Health Partnerships Jean-Pierre Moore, Head Of Community Partnerships & Prevention

SITE VISITS / INFORMATION BRIEFINGS

Date	Site/Topic	Contact
18 February 2025	Elmbridge Family Centre – Three Rivers, West Molesey	Sue Turton, Service Manager Early Help Partnerships
17 March 2025	Update on Mindworks Transformation, Microsoft Teams (joint with AHSC)	Justine Leonard, Director of Children and Young People’s Services at Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS FOR SCRUTINY

Topic
SEND School Place Sufficiency in light of LGR Safeguarding Educational attainment (after January 2026) Preparing for Adulthood update (after November 2025)

Standing Items

- **Recommendations Tracker and Forward Work Programme:** Monitor Select Committee recommendations and requests and forward work programme.
- **Performance Overview:** Dashboard of key indicators in SEND, EHCP timeliness and Children’s Services showing level of progress made against ILACS recommendations; social worker and foster carer turnover data; overview comparing current external assessors’ grades with previous year, in all areas of CFLLC remit.

Next Practice Improvement and Performance Information informal meeting: 7 July 2025.