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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE –  
WORK PROGRAMME**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the work programme items scheduled to be considered by this Scrutiny Committee and to consider any additional areas which Members would like to suggest should be added to the previously approved work programme; and to approve terms of reference for an additional piece of work agreed at the last meeting of this Scrutiny Committee.

**Summary**

2. Members will recall that, at the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2011, a discussion was held and agreement reached on areas which this Scrutiny Committee would like to focus its work and work has been and is currently being, undertaken in relation to some of those areas. Work is still due to commence on others.
3. Members are now requested to consider the current status of the work programme and suggest any further areas of work which Scrutiny would like to undertake.

**Recommendations**

4. It is recommended that Members note the current status of the Work Programme:

**Paul Wildsmith,  
Director of Resources**

**Background Papers**

There were no background papers used in the preparation of this report.

Allison Hill: Extension 2291

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	This report has implications to the address Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington, through scrutinising the services provided by the NHS Trusts.
Carbon Impact	There are no issues which this report needs to address.
Diversity	There are no issues relating to diversity which this report needs to address.
Wards Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Ward is considered to be minimal.
Groups Affected	The impact of the report on any individual Group is considered to be minimal.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the delivery of the objectives of the Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of local elected members contributing to the Healthy Darlington Theme Group.
Efficiency	The Work Programmes are integral to scrutinising and monitoring services efficiently (and effectively), however this report does not identify specific efficiency savings.

## MAIN REPORT

### Work Programme

5. A key role of Scrutiny is to ensure that the programme is able to deliver the service improvement and the budget savings necessary and Members need to take this into account when considering their Work Programmes and ensure that any work focuses on delivering outcomes rather than service delivery.

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Looked After Children and the Role of the Corporate Parenting Panel	To examine Looked After Children and the role of the Corporate Parenting Panel	Meetings on 2 <sup>nd</sup> April and 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2012. Final report approved by Scrutiny on 10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2012 with recommendations to forward to Cabinet.
Behaviour and Attendance Partnership	To examine the Behaviour Attendance Partnership.	Presentation to Scrutiny on 5 <sup>th</sup> November, 2012.
Child Poverty and Vulnerable Children	To examine Child Poverty and Vulnerable Children.	Members invited to attend a 'one-off' meeting arranged by Health and Well Being Scrutiny to evidence gather on Obesity on 28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2013. 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting held on 15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2013. <b>Review Ongoing.</b>
Children and Families Early Intervention Review Group	To examine Children and Families Early Intervention.	Final report to Scrutiny on 23 <sup>rd</sup> April, 2012. Six month review agreed. Update report to Scrutiny on 5 <sup>th</sup> November, 2012. Report to Scrutiny on 24 <sup>th</sup> June, 2013.

Attendance at Key Stage 1 and Reception Review Group	To examine attendance at Key Stage 1 and Reception in the local schools.	Final report to Scrutiny on 27 <sup>th</sup> February, 2012. Completed. Action Plan Update on 18 <sup>th</sup> June, 2012. Update report received on 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2013. Further updates programmed for Autumn 2013.
Participation in Education and Training to 18 years Review	To examine the new legislation and the impact locally.	Report to Scrutiny on 7 <sup>th</sup> January, 2013. Further update programmed for January, 2014.
Medium Term Financial Plan	To contribute and challenge the Medium Term Financial Plan and assist with the implementation and development of the required savings.	Final report to Scrutiny on 9 <sup>th</sup> January, 2012.
Safeguarding and Looked After Services Inspection Action Plan	To monitor the performance against the targets contained in the Action Plan development as a result of the recommendations made by Ofsted following the Safeguarding/Looked After Children Inspection.	Update on Action Plan to Scrutiny on 10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2012. Further updates to be programmed.
Ethnic Groups Interaction with Children and Young People Services	To examine how the various ethnic groups in the borough interact with the services for Children and Young People.	Report to Scrutiny on 4 <sup>th</sup> March, 2013. No further action.
School Organisation Plan	To give consideration to the draft School Organisation Plan.	Report to Scrutiny on 10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2012

Darlington Safeguarding Children's Board	To examine how children and young people in Darlington are kept safe and feel safe within their homes, schools and communities.	Report to Scrutiny on 4 <sup>th</sup> March, 2013
Youth Offending Service	To receive an update on the Youth Offending Service as part of the joint Scrutiny of Community Safety	Presentation to Scrutiny on 5 <sup>th</sup> November, 2012.
Review of Oral Health Care	To examine Oral Health Care and the barriers to children accessing dental care	Presentation to Scrutiny on 4 <sup>th</sup> March, 2013
Academies Update	To receive an update on Academies within the borough.	Report to Scrutiny on 4 <sup>th</sup> March, 2013
Young Carers Action Plan	To examine the Young Carers Action Plan	Report to Scrutiny on 22 <sup>nd</sup> April, 2013. Approval at Scrutiny on 24 <sup>th</sup> June to establish a Task and Finish Review jointly with Adults and Housing Scrutiny. <b>Ongoing.</b>
The Child's Journey Commissioning for Resilience	To Examine the current services available for children and young people and the future direction based on levels of need, evidence and finance.	Report to Scrutiny on 22 <sup>nd</sup> April, 2013.
Medium Term Financial Plan – Budget Proposals	To advise Members of the decision of Cabinet in relation to a number of budget savings proposals from areas which fall within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee.	Report to Scrutiny on 24 <sup>th</sup> June, 2013. Impact on decisions to be re-assessed at a later date. <b>Ongoing</b>
Performance Management	To advise Members on the Council's	Presentation to Scrutiny on 24 <sup>th</sup>

	Performance Management Framework which was adopted in 2012 and for performance information to be used to inform any future work programme of this Scrutiny Committee.	June, 2013
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### **Quad of Aims**

6. If Members wish to add any item to the Work Programme a Quad of Aims would need to be developed and submitted to Monitoring and Co-ordination Group prior to being brought to Scrutiny Committee, to ensure that it does contribute to the strategic aims of the Council.

### **Review Groups**

7. Young Carers - Following approval by Members of this Scrutiny Committee to establish a Task and Finish Review Group to undertake a piece of work in relation to the transition from young to adult carers, jointly with 2 Members from the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee, the Chair has agreed with officers to postpone commencing this Review until the Young Carers Service (which was transferred from the YMCA to DISC on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2013) has had chance for the new service providers to familiarise themselves with the Young Carers Action Plan.
8. Child Poverty – Following the initial meeting of this Review Group, arrangements are being made to hold a second meeting to discuss further the issues raised.

### **Financial Sustainability of Local Authorities**

9. At the request of Monitoring and Co-ordination Group, the Chair and Vice-Chair met with the relevant officers to discuss the Financial Sustainability of Local Authorities report from the National Audit Office with particular attention to the spend for Children's Social Care, which had shown an increased spend, and the reasons for this increase.
10. It was agreed that this situation will be monitored through the Budget Consultation Process.

## **Forward Plan**

11. Members are also requested to consider Cabinet's Forward Plan, which is available on the Council's website, to assist in determining any further items which they might wish to include on their Work Programme and if so, complete the necessary documentation.