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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.

**Summary**

2. Members will recall that, at previous meetings of this Scrutiny Committee, discussions have been held and agreement reached on areas where this Scrutiny Committee would like to focus its work and work has been, and is currently being, undertaken in relation to some of these areas and 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 Neighbourhood Services and 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 no implications to the Health and Well Being of residents of Darlington
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 Sustainable Community Strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of Members in contributing to the delivery of the five themes.
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. For Members information, it has been previously agreed that a number of topics be included on the Work Programme of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and Terms of Reference have previously been approved. The status of each of those areas is detailed in the table below :-

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Child Poverty and Vulnerable Children Review Group	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. Review Group established: 1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting held on 15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2013. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on 15 <sup>th</sup> October, 2013. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Meeting held on 19 <sup>th</sup> March, 2014. 4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 28 <sup>th</sup> October, 2014 <b>Ongoing.</b>
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.  <b>Update Report to Scrutiny 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b> <b>Ongoing</b>
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. Update report to Scrutiny 9 <sup>th</sup> June, 2014. <b>Ongoing</b>

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
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.  <b>Further updates to be programmed.</b>
Young Carers - Review Group	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. 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting of the Review Group held 4 <sup>th</sup> June, 2014.  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Review Group arranged for 15th January 2015 Ongoing.</b>

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
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.	<p>Report to Scrutiny on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2013. Impact on decisions to be re-assessed at a later date.</p> <p>Special Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 to look at MTFP and implications on Children’s Social Care.</p> <p>Special Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014 on 2014/15 to 2019/20 MTFP and the Capital Programme.</p> <p>To examine further the costs of placements, including independent costs and regulations affecting placement of looked after children. <b>On the agenda for this meeting</b></p>
Performance Management Framework	To advise Members on the Council’s 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.	<p>Presentation to Scrutiny on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2013.</p> <p>Presentation to Scrutiny on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. <b>Quarter 2 report on the agenda for this meeting</b></p>

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
IT Support to Social Services and Social Work Services	To examine the use of information technology and mobile working in Children's Social Care (Adults and Children)	<p>Representatives of Adults and Housing Scrutiny be invited to participate in the work. Chair and Vice met with the Information Manager on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 to discuss the work being undertaken to review of the Care First System. Members to revisit in 3 months for potential Scrutiny involvement. Chair to update Adults and Housing Scrutiny on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.</p> <p>Reported to Members at the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2014 that Cabinet were to receive a report at their meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2014 seeking to approve to proceed with the replacement project and to initiate the procurement exercise.</p> <p><b>Onhold.</b></p>

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
<p>SEN/0-25 Special Needs System</p> <p>Childcare Sufficiency Review 2014 Report to Scrutiny on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014</p>	<p>To receive an overview to look at special needs from social care, education and health aspects. Report to review the SEN pathfinder and allocation of the SEN Reform Grant.</p> <p>To continue to receive updates on the development of the new 0-25 special needs system across Darlington.</p> <p>To give Members an opportunity to be consulted on and monitor the Action Plan.</p>	<p>Presentation to Scrutiny on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 for SEN. Update report to Scrutiny 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2014.</p> <p>Annual Monitoring of the Action Plan – November 2015 <b>Ongoing</b></p>
<p>Pupil Premium</p>	<p>To examine Pupil Premium and understand how this is being used within schools and how it is monitored.</p> <p>To examine Pupil Premium after the premium is distributed in October based on January census.</p>	<p>Presentation to Scrutiny 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.</p> <p><b>Update report Spring 2015</b></p>
<p>Extension of funding to 21 for children in Foster Care</p>	<p>To receive an update on the changes to the legal duty to provide support to enable young people to remain in foster care until the age of 21 years, if needed.</p>	<p>Verbal update to Scrutiny on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.</p> <p><b>Update report Spring 2015</b></p>

ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
Female genital mutilation (FGM)	<p>To ascertain if there is a potential problem in Darlington with regard to FGM</p> <p>To provide Members with information on the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) training programme and the inclusion of FGM</p>	<p>Approval from Monitoring and Co-ordination Group.</p> <p>Briefing held with Chair/Vice, Police and Public Health on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.</p> <p>Verbal update to the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014.  <b>No further action required</b></p>
Healthy Behaviours Survey 2013	To examine the results of the 2013 Survey undertaken by DAAT within secondary schools and academies in Darlington for Years 7 to 11	<p>Presentation to Scrutiny 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2014.</p> <p><b>Results of the 2014 Survey to be reported June 2015.</b></p>
Troubled Families Initiative	To receive a report on the national programme aimed at identifying families with a cluster of issues and to work with these families to 'turn around' their situation.	<p>Report to Scrutiny meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014.</p> <p><b>Further update report to be programmed to look at Phase 2 in the New Municipal Year Ongoing</b></p>
STEM Applications/ Apprenticeship Review	To meet with representatives from STEMNET to better understand what is being done to enable young people to understand applications of STEM subjects and to encourage the opportunities for apprenticeships	<p>Approval from Monitoring and Co-ordination Group on 20 August, 2014.</p> <p>Meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> November and 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 – Notes of meeting on the agenda for this meeting.  <b>Ongoing</b></p>



ITEM	PURPOSE	STATUS
School Organisation	To receive an update on the position with school places within the Town	Presentation to Scrutiny on 3 <sup>rd</sup> November, 2014. Members to continue to monitor the progress of the School Organisation Plan 2012-17 future school place planning. <b>Ongoing</b>
Parenting Programmes	To receive information on parenting programmes available for troubled families	Report to Scrutiny on 3 <sup>rd</sup> November, 2014. <b>Completed</b>
Child Sexual Exploitation/Rotherham Report		Approval from Monitoring and Co-ordination on 3 <sup>rd</sup> November, 2015.  Presentation to Scrutiny on 5 <sup>th</sup> January, 2015. <b>Ongoing</b>

### Quad of Aims

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

### Forward Plan

- 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.

### Review Groups

- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)** – the first meeting of the Review Group was held on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2014. Dr Mike Leddra, STEM Enrichment and Enhancement Co-ordinator Durham and Tees Valley attended and discussed with Members what is being done to enable young people to understand applications of STEM subjects and opportunities for apprenticeships. Also in attendance was the Head of 11-19 (Learning and Skills), the Chair of the 11-19 Partnership and the Foundation for Jobs Co-ordinator. A further meeting was held on 2nd December to examine the help and support available for smaller SME's and the creation of apprenticeship places for young people and to

examine the link between education and employment away from the University route, including NEET, and the work of the ESH Group.

9. **Young Carers**– Following a meeting of the Review Group held on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2014 it was agreed that a further update be brought to Members and a further meeting of the Review Group has been arranged for 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2015.

#### **Further items**

10. To give consideration to the addition of an item on the work programme to examine the support services that are available for Looked After Children leaving care in light of Barnardo's new campaign 'Beyond Care' which aims to make sure care leavers are living in accommodation suitable for their needs, and not living in poor quality temporary accommodation, like Bed and Breakfasts.