

**As of 13/04/2012**

**Children and Families Scrutiny Committee Workplan: September 2011 – April 2012**

**Portfolio Holder – Hilda Gaddum**

### **Historical Record**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Agenda Setting Meeting</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Purpose/Key issues (including origin)</b>	<b>Comments post meeting</b>
20 September 2011		Management Structure Update	Members to receive verbal update	That a breakdown of responsibilities aligned to each senior manager be distributed to the Committee.
		OFSTED inspection	Members to consider report,	That a special meeting be convened pre 18 October 2011 to discuss in further detail.  That congratulations be passed to staff and mgmt at Claremont rd.
		Summary of Schools Performance		Item be added to work programme relating to what CE do to improve underperforming schools.
		Training Requirements		Training sessions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LA's changing interface with schools and education</li><li>- Architecture of partnerships.</li></ul>
18 October 2011		FOSTERING AND ADOPTION VIDEO		That the Fostering and Adoption team be congratulated for their work in producing the film.  That it be suggested to Stephen Kelly that he contacts

				other media outlets such as Cinemac, the BBC, BBC North West and ITV to see if the film could be distributed more widely.
		VIRTUAL HEAD		That the following additional information be provided in future Virtual School reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The national 'mainstream' educational attainment figures for comparison</li> <li>b) The Cheshire East 'mainstream' educational attainment figures for comparison</li> <li>c) The number of students in each yearly cohort.</li> </ul>
		WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE		That the item regarding what Cheshire East was doing to improve underperforming schools be added to the agenda for the meeting scheduled 15 November 2011.  That the proposed 2012/13 budget be brought to the Committee for consideration at the next scheduled meeting.  That thanks be extended to Gill Betton for drafting the Children's Directorate glossary.
15 November 2011		'CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES' (CAMHS) OVERVIEW	Members to consider and comment	That the Committee support the work to integrate the existing autism provision into a single 'multi-agency' pathway to improve the autism assessment and support pathways across the authority.  That the Committee support further progress in preventative approaches and services to meeting the emotional health and wellbeing needs of children, young people and their families/carers.  That more detail on the financial background and

				<p>requirements for increasing investment into preventative approaches be circulated to the Committee for consideration. That this information include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What current funding was in place proportionately from each organisation for CAMHS as a whole and for the preventative agenda.</li> <li>b) Who managed the current budget in terms of allocation.</li> <li>c) How the investment needs had been worked out.</li> <li>d) Where it was expected the money would be spent and from which organisations proportionately would the extra funds come from.</li> </ul> <p>That a geographical map indicating where services relating to CAMHS were located be circulated to the Committee.</p>
		CHILDREN'S TRUST AND CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2011-2014	Members to be briefed.	<p>That the Committee supports the work of the Trust as the best way of achieving joined up, integrative working for the benefit of children and young people in Cheshire East.</p> <p>That an update report be brought back to the Committee in 12 months outlining the progress against the Trust's proposed outcomes and priorities and that this report include the budgetary implications of retaining the Trust along with evidence of any possible savings the joint working fostered by the Trust has produced.</p> <p>That the minutes of each respective Trust meeting be circulated to the Committee for their information.</p>
		ADDRESSING SCHOOL UNDERPERFORMANCE :	Members to consider	<p>That when a school receives an OfSTED report and/or when a school has a number of issues identified, the</p>

		LOCAL AUTHORITY INTERVENTIONS INCLUDING THE 'IMPROVING OUTCOMES PROGRAMME' (IOP)		<p>relevant ward Councillor be made aware and adequately briefed.</p> <p>That detailed performance data relating to Cheshire East Schools be circulated to Members when available.</p> <p>That 'appendix c' be brought back to the Committee as part of the regular performance report and that this include the date of publication for respective OfSTED reports.</p>
		DRAFT SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY POLICY	Members to consider and comment	<p>That the draft SEND policy be brought back to the Committee on 13 December 2011 for further consideration.</p> <p>That site visits to the special schools in Cheshire East be arranged.</p>
		WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE	Members to comment	<p>That the following items be deferred until January 2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The impact on council services following the opening of Academies</li> <li>b) Out-of-Borough Care Placements Task and Finish Report from Lancashire County Council</li> <li>c) Disabled Respite Care</li> </ul> <p>That a line by line analysis of the Quarter 2 budget report be brought to the next scheduled meeting.</p>
13 December 2011		DRAFT SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY POLICY	Members to consider	<p>That thanks be passed to the Headteachers of the special schools which hosted Councillor visits.</p> <p>That the following comments be considered in the formulation of the final SEND Policy document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That the wording in the penultimate bullet point on page 39, beginning 'Out of Borough</li> </ul>

				<p>Placements' be considered in order to protect the Council from legal challenge. Important to state clearly that the Council would have the final say on whether a child's assessed needs could be met appropriately in a Cheshire East setting or not.</p> <p>b) That the wording in the fourth bullet point on page 39, beginning 'Parents/Carers' be changed to the following: "Parents/carers will be listened to and their views treated with respect. Their expertise will be valued and help to inform the provision put in place for children and young people"</p> <p>c) That a clear definition of 'special educational needs' be added to the 'principles' section that all stakeholders would sign up to and agree.</p> <p>d) That 'the pledge' be put at the beginning of the document as this was easy to understand and helped put the rest of the policy in context.</p> <p>That a training session be arranged which, with the aid of case studies, would explore how 'the pledge' stated in the policy was being practically articulated with service users.</p> <p>That a review of the consultation responses be brought to a subsequent Committee meeting.</p>
		CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BUDGET	Members to be briefed	<p>That the report be noted.</p> <p>That a request be made that more detailed financial information be brought to the next appropriate meeting.</p> <p>That a request be made that information regarding the 2012/13 budget be brought as soon as possible to a subsequent meeting.</p>

		WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE		That the work programme be noted  That the Home to School Transport Task and Finish Review be added to the next agenda for consideration.
17 January 2012		HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT TASK AND FINISH REVIEW	Members to consider	That both the report of the Task and Finish Group and the Minority Report be put forward for consideration by Cabinet.  That the Minority Report be endorsed by the Committee.
		ACADEMIES THE IMPACT ON CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL	Members to consider	That the Committee support the department in providing services to Academies at competitive market rates.  That the Committee have sight of the packages being offered to Academies prior to them being put on the market and that the Committee be involved in the monitoring of their efficacy.  That it be recommended to the service that they consider Public Relations initiatives with regard to the possible false perception of Cheshire East school performance decreasing as a result of the loss of high performing Academies from the data set.
		DISABLED RESPITE CARE		That the update be noted.  That a report outlining future respite care options and the improved transition between children's and adult's respite care be brought to a subsequent meeting.  That thanks be extended to Cath Knowles and her team

				for all their hard work in achieving a positive outcome in challenging circumstances.
		WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE		That the work programme be noted  That a special meeting be arranged to consider the 2012/13 budget proposals prior to the 23 February 2012.  That an item regarding the transfer of an element of the early intervention budget from local authority to police control be added to the work programme.
		FORWARD PLAN - EXTRACTS		That the forward plan be noted  That the item regarding Admission Arrangements be considered by the Committee prior to the 2 April 2012
14.02.12		CABINET RESPONSE TO FOSTERING TASK AND FINISH REVIEW		That an update report be brought to the Committee in 12 months with a particular emphasis on the welfare reforms and their impact on care leavers.  That thanks be noted for both Councillor Flude for Chairing the review and for the officers who gave up their time to provide evidence.
		THE FUTURE OF CAREERS ADVICE, TARGETED YOUTH SUPPORT AND UPDATE ON CONNEXIONS.		That the Member group responsible for youth support report to the Committee in the near future
		FAMILY SUPPORT		That the annual Children in Need report be distributed to the Committee.  That Councillors be provided with information regarding the Children Centres aligned to their respective wards.
		SCHOOL ADMISSIONS CODE AND ADMISSIONS APPEAL CODE 2012		That a progress report be brought to the Committee once the consultation period had ended.

**Next Agenda Setting Meeting: tba**

## **Ongoing items/reviews/Monitoring Papers**

Item	Reporting:	Committee Meeting							
		20/9	18/10	15/11	13/12	17/01	14/2	13/3	10/4
<b>PERFORMANCE REPORTING</b> (key exceptions – red/amber and explanations/commentary) to include adoption rates, staffing information and profile of children in Cheshire East	Quarterly	X		X					
<b>INDEPENDENT INSPECTIONS OR REVIEWS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Unannounced Inspection</li> <li>• Children Services Performance Rating</li> <li>• Schools Inspection</li> </ul>	Quarterly	X							
<b>SAFEGUARDING</b>	When Appropriate								
<b>REGULATION 33</b>	Bi-annual								
<b>BUDGET PROCESS – summary of budget position update given to Cabinet.</b>	When Appropriate				X				
<b>REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME</b>	Regular	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	



## Possible Future Issues / Items (Chronology)

Meeting dates: 8 May

Item	Corporate Priority / Targets	Suggested Action	Notes	Due Date and Status
School Organisation Plan	Support our Children and Young People	Members to consider		<b>TBC</b> <b>Deferred from March</b>
Regulation 33		Members to be updated		<b>TBC</b> <b>On track</b>
Electronic recording system upgrade			To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information on the procurement process</li> <li>- Work that is being done to improve the current system and ensuring a smooth transition</li> <li>- Approximate costs of the new system and justification/value for money.</li> </ul>	<b>TBC</b>
Update on listening to service users (from action plan)			Update from performance mgmt sub group of the LCSB.	<b>June 2011</b>

### **Possible future items for consideration:**

- Director of Public Health inc. work on Obesity and Diabetes (when appointed)
- Childcare support for working parents
- How safeguarding issues are checked in schools
- Complaints – tba
- Services packages for Academies
- Future respite options and the successful transition between children's and adult's services.
- Allen Report
- Troubled Families
- Fostering
- Member group on Youth Support brief
- School Admission (June/July 2012)
- Early Years Education

### **Training Requirements/Planned sessions**

- Local Authorities' changing interface with schools and education – **part II tba**
- Training session on the SEN 'Pledge' - **tba**

### **Disregarded / Discontinued Items**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Post 16 Transfer of Funding to Local authorities	22.09.10	Responsibility no longer with LA
Analysis of School Performance	22.09.10	To be merged with educational attainment item
Early Years Funding Reform	22.09.10	Briefing heard on 27.07.10
Children's Centres	26.10.10	Dealt with as part of the Family Support review.
School Status report	26.10.10	Merged with Academies item
Interventions in Schools	26.10.10	To be dealt with in the schools inspection item.
School Admissions Policy / TLC review	14.12.10	Superseded by White Paper item
Redesign of Children's Services	17.02.11	Incorporated into Safeguarding item
Teenage Pregnancy	17.02.11	Superseded by Director of Public Health Item
NEETS	17.02.11	Superseded by Connexions Item
Macclesfield High School Review	04.05.11	Item no longer needing consideration
Transport for Young People	18.05.11	Superseded by Home to School Transport Review
Aiming Higher Report	13.06.11	Superseded by Disabled Respite Care item.
Member Engagement in Social Services Systems	03.08.11	Superseded by Training session on Contact, Referrals and Assessments

### **Task Groups – potential/current/completed**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Progress Notes</b>	<b>Actions</b>
Managing the Provision of School Places (formerly TLC)	Went to Scrutiny November 2009.	
Residential Provision	Recommendations agreed 07.09.10 – went to Cabinet 20.09.10 for consideration.  Members to review action plan following Officer's response to recommendations.	
Family Support	Reported to Committee 07.12.10. Went to Cabinet 20.12.10	Cabinet Response required ASAP
Education attainment	Set up Task and Finish Group to review the work of the multi agency improvement and achievement group	
Foster services	Recommendations agreed 04.11. Went to Cabinet 06.11	Response received February 2012. Update required February 2013.
Health and Looked After Children	Discuss with Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.	To set up with conjunction with the Health and Wellbeing Committee.
Cared for Children 16 plus service.	Set up Membership 28/06/2011 – deferred to January 2012	Re-establish
Home to School Transport	Following recommendation from Cabinet meeting.	Reports received by Cabinet – February 2012
Health and Cared for Children	Following Fostering service review – in partnership with H&W Committee	Ongoing.

#### **Dates of Future Cabinet Meetings**

30 April 2012

#### **Dates of Future Council Meetings**

16 May 2012.