

Scrutiny Topics Workshop 07 June 2023

Present: Councillor Usaama Kaweesa (Chair), Councillor Samantha MacArthur, Mansoor Ahmad, Co-opted Member

The Chair said he met with the following organisations to discuss scrutiny topics: Primary School Headteachers, Secondary School Headteachers, Acacia Adventure playground and youth parliament.

Topic	Discussion	How scrutiny will look at it
Youth Democracy	It was agreed to await the outcome of evaluation of young inspectors' pilot programme.	The Panel will evaluate the pilot programme of Young Inspectors involvement in scrutiny in 2024.
Conditions of local playgrounds	<p>This was thought to be an important issue requiring a comprehensive report to include:</p> <p>How often do playgrounds receive maintenance and what state are they are in.</p> <p>How well are they being used, what is being done to encourage more young people to attend.</p> <p>Are some playgrounds more popular than others, if so why.</p>	A Report to the panel
Early Years Provision	<p>A lot of work is currently being undertaken in this area including strengthening the early years system. Regular updates will be beneficial.</p> <p>This work will include how childminders are supporting each other.</p> <p>Re-opening childminder drop-in within children's centres can be included within an update.</p>	Departmental update report
Review into the education of the "disappeared"	This is an issue of national concern. Regular updates of how schools are addressing	Departmental update report

children” from school rolls after covid.	this issue can be provided to the panel.	
Future of primary school places provision given birth rates are down.	The Panel would like an update on school places planning strategy and school budget planning. Cabinet Members should also be invited to the discussion.	A report to the Panel
School places in specialist schools and impact on primary schools	Specialist School places update can be included in the SEND update. To include a review on flow of information between organisations.	Department update report
Quality of School meals	The Panel should look at how procurement is focussing on the quality of school meals. Look at good practice across schools.	Department update report.
Democratic engagement and citizenship education for young people in schools	This area has a very wide remit from citizenship education in schools to impact of voter ID and work in the council to engage young people in democracy. The task group can receive an overview of these areas and decide an area for the review to focus on.	Agreed as a task group review
Sustainability and environmental programmes for young people	This is a broad area and Panel could seek feedback from youth parliament and young inspectors on work taking place.	Scrutiny officer to undertake research and feedback to the Panel.
Youth Services	Report to the panel: What work is being done to attract more young people to youth services. How do young people find information on what is available. Invite youth parliament to attend the session and contribute.	A report to the Panel

<p>Mental health services</p>	<p>Invite youth parliament to share their feedback on accessing mental health services.</p> <p>NHS colleagues to be invited to talk about the work they have been doing to ensure young people can access services independently.</p> <p>Update on support provided to children suffering from trauma and who are at risk of entering criminal justice system.</p>	<p>Joint discussions and Report to the Panel</p>
<p>Support services for young people with dietary and nutritional issues linked to childhood obesity.</p>	<p>This is linked to the work on healthy weight programmes.</p> <p>The Panel would like existing healthy weight programmes to be assessed to determine how well they are working.</p>	<p>Report to the Panel</p>
<p>Additional Educational Support</p>	<p>Support will vary from school to school and is part of the Ofsted inspection.</p>	<p>Departmental update report.</p>
<p>Behaviour monitoring</p>	<p>Panel should look at activity to help schools and receive an overview of wider contextual issues.</p>	<p>Departmental update report.</p>

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