

REPORT FROM THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Committee met on 2 September 2016 at 10.00 a.m.

1. Scrutiny Recommendations: Update

- 1.1 The Committee received a report providing the recommendations from the 'Children in Care Council Scrutiny'; the recommendations will be considered by the Monitoring of Recommendations Topic Group in due course.
- 1.2 Members received the Executive Member response to the 'Herts Care Quality Standards Topic Group' and requested that it be presented to the November meeting of the Monitoring of Recommendations Topic Group.

2. Scrutiny Work Programme

- 2.1 The Committee has considered its work programme, noting those scrutinies recently concluded and those scheduled for the forthcoming period.
- 2.2 The Committee has agreed to amend the work programme as follows:
 - a) To amend the 'Herts Waste Partnership Topic Group' objective to 'To understand and test the current service delivery model for waste management in Hertfordshire in the context of current and future challenges'
 - b) To amend the 'Public Health Topic Group' objective to 'To examine how effective the Public Health Department within Hertfordshire County Council is despite funding cuts to the department's budget 2015/16 and onwards'
 - c) To add 'Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board 2017' (annual topic group) to the work programme
 - d) To hold the Corporate Parenting Seminar and Members Information Service Seminars after the 2017 Elections.
- 2.3 The draft scoping documents for the 'Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services'; 'Children Looked After'; 'Crime and Disorder (Scamming)', 'Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board'; and 'Public Health' scrutinies were also received.
- 2.4 Subsequent to receiving the draft scoping document the OSC and HSC Chairmen have agreed to postpone the CAMHS Transformation Board Topic Group until summer/autumn 2017; this is to allow the impact of initiatives instigated by the Transformation Board to be considered.

2.5 The Committee was also asked to discuss how best to approach training for new Members in relation to Corporate Parenting. Suggestions received were as follows:

- To put in place on-going training in relation to Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding and explore whether there is scope to invite district and borough Councils to the training as necessary; and
- to focus on the basics and involve other service areas that carry out the work with vulnerable children and young people such, as the Youth Offending Teams.

These suggestions will be reported back to the Member Development Group and used to inform Member training after the 2017 county elections.

3. Scrutiny of the Integrated Plan Proposals 2017/18 and Future Years

3.1 The Committee has received a report outlining the format of the Committee's scrutiny of the Integrated Plan (IP) Proposals 2017/18 and future years.

3.2 Members received a summary of the IPP Groups' Chairmen and Graduate Trainees responsibilities and a sample pro-forma for the collation of information. Findings from the IPP scrutiny groups will be collated into a draft report, to be circulated to the Committee by close of play on Friday, 27th January 2017. Suggestions to Cabinet will then be discussed when the Committee reconvenes on 2nd February 2017.

3.3 Members agreed they wanted to see further benchmarking information to inform the IPP scrutiny groups and a briefing note has been distributed. The Committee has agreed that information requests should relate to finance information that would contribute to the IPP only.

3.4 The Committee has further agreed that the IP documents relating to the IP scrutiny be included with all other finance papers relating to the IP to form a single pack of information.

3.5 The Committee concluded that the updated process is more structured than in previous years.

3.6 The OSC Chairman and Vice-Chairmen will be encouraging all eligible Members to participate in the scrutiny to help ensure its success.

3.7 The Director of Resources and the Executive Member for Resources and Performance will attend the OSC meeting in December to brief the Committee ahead of the formal scrutiny.

3.8 Officers are currently working on confirming the detailed arrangements for next year's IP scrutiny to ensure the scrutiny runs smoothly.

TERRY HONE
Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
November 2016