

Report to: **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Relevant Officer: Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager.

Date of Meeting: 28 January 2021

COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2020-2021

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the contents of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee's Workplan for 2020-2021.

2.0 Recommendations:

2.1 To approve the Committee Workplan, taking into account any suggestions for amendment or addition.

2.2 To note the action plan of recommendations resulting from the scrutiny review of the School Response to Covid-19 Pandemic.

2.3 To approve the scoping document for the Better Start Scrutiny Review.

2.4 To monitor the implementation of the Committee's recommendations/actions.

3.0 Reasons for recommendations:

3.1 To ensure the Workplan is up to date and is an accurate representation of the Committee's work.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

5.0 Background Information

5.1. Scrutiny Workplan

A Scrutiny Workplanning Workshop was held on Thursday 2 July 2020 to consider items for

inclusion on the Committee's workplan for the 2020-2021 municipal year, a copy of which is attached at Appendix 8(a). The workplan is a flexible document that sets out the work that will be undertaken by the Committee over the course of the year, both through scrutiny review and Committee meetings.

Committee Members are invited to suggest topics at any time that might be suitable for scrutiny review through completion of the Scrutiny Review Checklist. The checklist forms part of the mandatory scrutiny procedure for establishing review panels and must therefore be completed and submitted for consideration by the Committee, prior to a topic being approved for scrutiny.

5.2 Implementation of Recommendations/Actions

The table attached at Appendix 8(b) has been developed to assist the Committee in effectively ensuring that the recommendations made by the Committee are acted upon. The table will be regularly updated and submitted to each Committee meeting.

Members are requested to consider the updates provided in the table and ask follow up questions as appropriate to ensure that all recommendations are implemented.

5.3 School Response to Covid-19 Pandemic Final Scrutiny Report

Following the Committee's approval of the School response to covid-19 Pandemic final report at its meeting on 19 November 2020, Councillor Hugo presented the report to the Executive for approval.

- 5.3.1 Attached at Appendix 8(c) is the resulting agreed Action Plan of Recommendations which incorporates the Cabinet Member's comments.

5.4 Better Start Scrutiny Review

At its Workplanning Workshop on 2 July 2020 the Committee agreed to add the topic of a mid-way review of Blackpool Better Start to its workplan. As a result Committee Members were invited to join a working group to undertake the scrutiny review. In order to utilise the wide range of expertise and knowledge from across the Council, all interested Scrutiny Members were invited to join the working group.

- 5.4.1 A working group was established, consisting of the following Members:

- Cllr Jane Hugo
- Cllr Kim Critchley
- Cllr Peter Hunter
- Cllr Andrew Stansfield
- Mrs Helen Sage

The working group agreed the detailed draft scope for the scrutiny review and held two fact-finding meetings on 2 December 2020 and 9 December 2020. Attached at Appendix 8(e) is the scoping document for consideration by the Committee.

5.4.2 At least one further meeting of the working group is intended, with the aim of reviewing the data collected to date and identifying any additional evidence required before formulating recommendations.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.5 List of Appendices:

Appendix 8(a): Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee Workplan

Appendix 8(b): Implementation of Recommendations/Actions

Appendix 8(c): School Response to Covid-19 Pandemic Action Plan of Recommendations

Appendix 8(d): Inclusion in Education Action Plan of Recommendations

Appendix 8(e): Better Start Scrutiny Review Scoping Document

6.0 Financial considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Legal considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Risk management considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Equalities considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

11.1 None.

12.0 Background papers:

12.1 None.