

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**13 JULY 2010**

**2010/11 WORK PROGRAMME**

**Suggested topics for discussion**

*1. Items which were previously decided to be included in the 2010/11 Work Programme:*

- **Linking the Science Community to County Schools**  
At the 25<sup>th</sup> of May meeting, the committee asked to have a further Q&A session to discuss strengthening links between local businesses and universities with county schools and the county council with members of the private sector as well as the education community.
- **Youth Centres**  
It was decided at the last meeting to include a review of Youth Centres in the 2010/11 work programme. The Children's Scrutiny Committee will invite members from the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee to join in this piece of work as a joint working group.
- **Children's Trust**  
A Select Committee, as part of Strategy and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee, has been scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. They have invited the Children's Scrutiny Committee to send along 2 members to participate. The Select Committee will be scrutinising the arrangements for the Children's Trust as well as its board.

*2. Items which have been suggested for the 2010/11 Work Programme:*

- **Young People and Employment or Education**  
It was suggested that the Committee could continue the discussion on several issues affecting young people and their further education/employment. In the 2009/10 work programme the committee held a seminar on the dissolution of the Learning and Skills Council and the Raising of the Age of Participation in Learning. The Committee could consider further exploring preparations in place for implementation of the change in law as well as further work on reducing the number of young people who are Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET).
- **Anti-Bullying**  
An item that was part of the 2009/10 work programme, the committee could consider asking officers to update on the implementation of the revised strategy or current performance.
- **Safeguarding**

The Committee could consider requesting an update on the changes in policy and working following the recent 'Baby P' tragedy.

- **Changes in Schools**

The new coalition government has indicated an interest in developing new independent schools in the state sector, 'free schools'. The Committee could consider a piece of work to identify what impact this will have for Oxfordshire.

- **Teenage Pregnancy**

An item that was part of the 2009/10 work programme, the committee could consider asking officers to update on the implementation of the revised strategy or current performance.

- **Traveller's Children and other Children that may switch schools frequently**

This was discussed at the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May. It was mentioned that these services would be reconfigured as part of a restructure of the Ethnic Minority Achievement Service (EMAS). The committee could consider asking officers to report back on the success of the restructure and the implications for services.

- **Behaviour in Schools**

Related to educational attainment, a suggestion has come from one of the members that this issue has a crucial impact on students' performance. This was part of the discussion in the Educational Attainment Select Committee. The committee may consider this topic as part of next year's work programme.

3. Members are invited to suggest further topics they would like to see considered as part of the 2010/11 Work Programme before the meeting to:

Lisa Michelson, Performance and Review Officer.

Contact: [lisa.michelson@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.michelson@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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4. Alternatively, members can bring topics directly to the committee meeting to introduce as part of the discussion.

July 2010