

Adults, Community and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

- (1) To monitor and review and make recommendations to the Council and/or to the Executive or Executive Members with regard to all policy and operational matters falling within the purview of the Executive Members with responsibility for Adult Services and Children's Services and Safeguarding.
- (2) To consider matters referred to the Committee by members of the Committee in accordance with Standing Order 35.
- (3) To recommend to the Council a programme of reviews to be undertaken by the Committee with regard to matters falling within the purview of the Executive Members with responsibility for Adult Services and Children's Services and Safeguarding and to recommend the Council accordingly on the outcome of such reviews.
- (4) To make recommendations to the Council as to such additional/occasional reviews which the Committee wishes to consider outside the annual programme.
- (5) To receive performance reports and Inspectors reports thereon, relating to the functions of the Adult and Community Services and Children's Services Departments.
- (6) The Committee shall have the power to summon the Executive Members with responsibility for Adult Services and Children's Services and Safeguarding and the relevant Chief Officer(s) to attend its meetings to consider, provide information and give evidence on matters before the Committee.
- (7) To set up Scrutiny Panels to undertake in-depth reviews of current policies and practices with a view to identifying areas for future policy development.
- (8) The Quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be five.

Subject to the acts and proceedings of the Committee being approved by the Council.

Service Area: Children's

Children's Services and Safeguarding Portfolio

The designated Executive Member is responsible for all matters relating to the Authority's duties with regard to Children's Services including Looked After Children (except any matters specifically reserved to the Council or delegated to any committee or body) and for the development and integration of children's services in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation. As such, the designated Executive Member is responsible for liaising and, where appropriate, working in consultation with other members of the Executive, particularly where matters within the portfolio affect other aspects of Council business or affect the Borough generally.

The designated Executive Member is responsible for ensuring appropriate consultation with partners and the community on matters relating to Children's Services and the integration and development of children's services.

The actions and decisions of the designated Executive Member will, at all times, remain within the context of the policy framework established or any variation thereto approved by the Council.

To have overall responsibility for:

- (1) To provide leadership across the range of the Council's children's services and through engagement with partners
- (2) Ensuring that the Council's children's services meet required standards and comply with statutory requirements.
- (3) Develop the strategic direction of the children's service and bring leaders of partner organisations together in shared vision.
- (4) Ensure that Chief Officers are held to account for the contribution made by the services for which they are responsible to improvement in outcomes for children and young people.
- (5) The co-ordination and, where appropriate, provision of children's services as defined in the Children Act 2004 including:-
 - (a) The provision of Social Services for children and young people as determined by the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, as amended; and
 - (b) The functions of the Council as Local Education Authority, including all matters concerning schools and the employment of children and young persons.
- (6) Services to individual pupils and parents in relation to primary, secondary and post-secondary education and training.
- (7) The operation of admission and transfer arrangements and matters concerning appeals in relation to these and to attendance generally.
- (8) Matters arising from meetings of governors of schools, where these relate to the above areas of activity.
- (9) Arrangements for the provision to schools of financial, personnel and IT services, for the supply of materials and equipment, and client procedures in relation to building maintenance, building cleaning, grounds maintenance and school meals.

- (10) The development and implementation of the Authority's School Improvement Strategy, including:-
- Promoting school self-evaluation;
 - the use of data, benchmarks and targets by schools and the LEA;
 - the work of the Advisory Service;
 - criteria and processes for intervening in schools with exceptional needs;
 - training, development and project work;
 - better reporting to Governors; and
 - Identifying and promoting the place of education in regeneration initiatives.
- (11) Determining such individual applications for discretionary awards for Further Education Students as are not delegated to the Director of Children's Services, and for Welfare Support for Pupils, together with applications for assistance towards transport costs.
- (12) Determining applications for financial assistance under the Education Act 1996 in connection with pupils wishing to attend at boarding schools.
- (13) Co-ordination of integrated children's services.
- (14) The functions of the Council as Local Education Authority as they relate to schools.
- (15) The responsibility for strategy and funding for 14-19 year olds.
- (16) Recommendations with regard to reports on standards and quality in local primary schools.
- (17) The operation of the Youth Service (including 'Connexions') throughout the Borough.
- (18) The determination and implementation of the Youth Strategy.
- (19) The management of sports development and community outreach activities.
- (20) Recommendations with regard to the submission of applications for funding from the National Lottery.
- (21) Ensuring the Council is responsive to its corporate parenting role
- (22) Ensuring the provision of all services to looked after children and those leaving care including education and leisure, employment and training, accommodation and social and emotional support.
- (23) Ensuring the effective operation of services to children and young people at risk of harm.
- (24) The Management of Children's Centres and Sure Start Centres across the Borough.
- (25) Services to individual pupils and parents in relation to nurseries.

- (26) The provision of services for pupils with special educational needs, including special schools, support services and units, Educational Psychology Services, and liaison with Health Authorities and Trusts and the designated Executive Member for Adult Services in the provision of those services.
- (27) Fees and charges in relation to activities falling within the remit of the Children's Services and Safeguarding Portfolio.
- (28) Risk Management in relation to activities falling within the remit of the Children's Service and Safeguarding portfolio.
- (29) Considering any recommendations made by the relevant Scrutiny Committee with regard to any matter within the portfolio.

To submit to the Executive (for approval, where appropriate, by the Council):

- (1) Proposals for the integration and development of children's services.
- (2) Recommendations with regard to Corporate Business Planning Process in respect of the functions performed and the services provided.
- (3) Recommendations with regard to the preparation and submission of bids for grants/loans under Department for Children, Schools and Families, Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, European Union initiatives relating to Children's services.
- (4) Recommendations with regard to reports on standards and quality in local primary schools.
- (5) Recommendations with regard to compulsory purchase matters and blight notices as these are within the remit of Children's Services.
- (6) Recommendations with regard to the Youth Justice Plan.
- (7) Recommendations with regard to the Sure Start Plan.

Service Area: Adults and Community Services

Adult Services Portfolio

The designated Executive Member is responsible for all matters relating to the Council's affairs in respect of Adult Services (except any matters specifically reserved to the Council or delegated to any committee or body) in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation. As such, the designated Executive Member is responsible for liaising and, where appropriate, working in consultation with other members of the Executive, particularly where matters within the portfolio affect other aspects of Council business or affect the Borough generally.

The designated Executive Member is responsible for ensuring appropriate consultation with partners and the community on matters within the Adult Services Portfolio.

The actions and decisions of the designated Executive Member will, at all times, remain within the context of the policy framework established or any variation thereto approved by the Council.

To have overall responsibility for :

- (1) The functions of the Council as Local Authority for the purposes of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 as amended in respect of services for adults. and other relating health and social care legislation
- (2) Matters relating to the consideration of an individual's financial circumstances in connection with any discretionary element (including the waiving/reduction of charges associated with the financial assessment and provision of residential services under the National Assistance Act 1948 and NHS and Community Care Act 1990 and Fairer Charging guidance).
- (3) Issues relating to commissioning and delivery of integrated social and health care services.
- (4) Issues emanating from the commissioning provision and procurement of social care services within the Council and with the independent and voluntary sector.
- (5) All matters concerning the provision and management of public libraries, museums and art galleries (subject to the direction of the designated Executive Member with responsibility for Land and Property in matters concerning the structure of buildings) and for the promotion and coordination of artistic and cultural activities.
- (6) Consideration of the purchase of works of art or objects for exhibition and consideration of the disposal by sale of books and other items from the reserve collections of the public library.
- (7) The implementation of the Council's arts and cultural policy.

- (8) Liaison with and response on behalf of the Council in relation to relevant cultural matters to regional, national and international bodies,

e.g. the Department for Culture, Media and Sports, the Arts Council and the MLA.

- (9) Recommendations with regard to the submission of applications for funding from the National Lottery.
- (10) The Management of the Albert Halls complex including the Council's catering functions (with the exceptions of the Mayoral Suite, the Banqueting Hall, the Council Chamber and Elected Members' facilities within the Town Hall).
- (11) Risk management in relation to services falling within the remit of the portfolio.
- (12) Considering any recommendations made by the relevant Scrutiny Committee with regard to any matter within the portfolio.
- (13) Fees and charges for services and activities falling within the remit of the Portfolio.

To submit to the Executive (for approval, where appropriate, by the Council):

- (1) Recommendations with regard to the Adult Community Learning Plan
- (2) Recommendations with regard to Compulsory Purchase matters and blight notices as these are within the remit of this portfolio.
- (3) Recommendations with regard to the Corporate Business Planning Process in respect of the functions and the services provided.