

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

INFORMAL MEETING, 5TH JULY, 2021

Present – Councillors Iqbal (Chairman), Grant (Vice-Chairman), Abdullah, Adia, Dean, Donaghy, Hill, Hornby, McGeown, Murray, Pattison, Rimmer and Taylor-Burke.

Co-Opted Members

None in attendance

Also in attendance

Councillor Galloway	- Executive Cabinet Member – Children's Services
Ms B. Brown	- Director of Children's Services
Mr P. Rankin	- Deputy Director of Children's Services
Mr I. Walker	- Assistant Director of Children's Services - Social Care and Early Help
Ms G. Whitehead	- Assistant Director of Children's Services - Inclusive Education and Learning
Ms T. Minshull	- Assistant Director - Social Care and Public Health Commissioning
Mrs. S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Ismail and from Canon Bracegirdle (Co-opted Member)

Councillor Iqbal in the Chair.

1. THE COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received presentations from the Director of Children's Services on the big issues and priorities relevant to the remit of this Scrutiny Committee to aid members in their deliberations on possible work programme items.

In addition to the presentations, members were provided with information on the Committee's remit.

Members discussed the proposed work programme and made the following suggestions for inclusion:

- the effects of the Covid19 pandemic on children and the measures put in place to mitigate these;
- mental health and the impact of Covid19;
- fostering – update and promotion;
- gangs and knife crime;
- drug prevention;
- youth outreach and engagement services;
- primary and secondary school places;
- attainment levels; and
- sex and relationships curriculum.

Members were also advised that if they had any other items for inclusion in the work programme they should email them to Susan Bailey.

Resolved – (i) That the various documents and presentations be noted.

(ii) That the suggested work programme items be noted and that discussions be now held with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee together with the Director of Children's Services to prepare a draft programme for submission to the next meeting.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.45pm)