Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee 18 June 2019

Work Programme

Recommendation

That the Committee reviews its work programme for 2019/20 (as appended)

1.0 Background

This committee's remit is:

'To review and/or scrutinise the provision of public services in Warwickshire relating to education and skills, services for children and young people including schools, 16-19 years education, pre-school children, child protection, family support and social care, children with specific needs and the youth service.'

2.0 Role of the Committee

The Council's Constitution sets out the overall purpose of overview and scrutiny which is to 'assist the council to achieve its corporate aims and objectives and deliver positive outcomes for local people.' The general powers of Overview and Scrutiny Committees (Part 2 Section 8) in summary are to:

- (i) Assist the Council and Cabinet in the development of policy;
- (ii) Review/scrutinise decisions already made
- (iii) Make reports/recommendations (usually to the Cabinet)
- (iv) Question Cabinet Portfolio Holders about issues within the Committee's remit.

3.0 Format of the agendas

The Committee has agreed that each meeting should focus on one or two items in detail as a way of ensuring effective scrutiny. This has meant reducing the number of annual and progress reports but the information will continue to be circulated as briefing or information items. Briefing notes, circulated outside of the meeting, has proved useful as a way of answering specific questions raised at meetings and updating member on progress in key areas. Members can also use the information to form a view on whether there are any areas they consider warrant detailed scrutiny and that should be included as an item in the Committee's work programme.

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4.0 Current Work Programme

The work programme has been updated following discussion between the Chair and Group Spokespersons, to include the annual report on Children Looked After and Care Leavers, and an update on SEND for September. The Chair and Spokespersons meeting also discussed the establishment of the member Task and Finish Group to look at Self Harm. The work will include engagement with NHS partners, relevant organisations, schools and young people. Officers are considering appropriate key lines of enquiry around which the Task and Finish Group can plan its work programme.

The Committee are invited to consider the attached programme and to suggest items they would like considered for inclusion in the work programme from September onwards.

5.0 Dates of Future Meetings

The dates of future meetings of the Committee are 10.00 am on:

24 September 2019

26 November 2019

11 February 2020

28 April 2020

6.0 Background Papers

None

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