

Agenda Item 9

Forward Work Programme

Extract from the Key Decision Forward Plan

In consideration of the development of its Forward Work Programme (below), the Committee may have regard to the Council's Key Decision Forward Plan, which is available in full on the [Council's website](#).

Other than the Key Decision on '*Children's Centres Proposals – Whether to agree or not to alternative service delivery proposals for 9 Children's Centres and close the buildings they currently use*', which has been moved from the 9 December 2014 to the 27 January 2015 Cabinet meeting, there are currently no items in the Key Decision Forward Plan that relate to Education and Children's Services.

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme

- i. Scrutiny items should have regard to the County Council's priorities; 1. Raising educational attainment & skills, 2. Supporting LEPs and economic growth, 3. Maintaining roads & developing infrastructure, 4. Supporting the most vulnerable, 5. Empowering local communities.
- ii. The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising how the Council, and the other organisations with which it works, secure the best possible educational achievement and attainment for every child.

a) Provisional meeting date b) Date added	Subject/ Council Priority	Description including why it is coming to committee for scrutiny and the anticipated outcomes	Who would the Committee wish to hear from in relation to this scrutiny item?
a) 25 March 2015 b) 24 July 2014	Funding for special schools and assessment of children with special needs <i>Priority: High</i>	At a workshop on 24 July members prioritised this topic, with consideration to be given especially to 6th Form KS5	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children's Services Director of Children and Young People's Services Others - to be agreed

a) Provisional meeting date b) Date added	Subject/ Council Priority	Description including why it is coming to committee for scrutiny and the anticipated outcomes	Who would the Committee wish to hear from in relation to this scrutiny item?
a) 25 March 2015 b) 26 March 2014	The provision of school meals in schools <i>Priority: Medium/Low</i>	At its meeting on 26 March 2014 the committee requested inclusion on the Forward Work Programme of an item to scrutinise the provision of school meals in schools, to include the implications for schools of the entitlement of all KS1 children to free school meals from September 2014.	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children's Services Director of Children and Young People's Services Others - to be agreed
a) 11 June 2015 b) 24 July 2014	Sustaining effective small schools <i>Priority: Medium</i>	At a workshop on 24 July members prioritised this topic, with consideration to be given especially to Governance issues, Federations (and linkage to Suffolk Learning Partnership), and Timing.	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children's Services Director of Children and Young People's Services Others - to be agreed
a) 11 June 2015 b) 26 March 2014	Corporate Parenting / Safeguarding and the issues raised in the Ofsted report published in 2013 <i>Priority: High/Medium</i>	At its meeting on 26 March 2014 the committee requested inclusion on the Forward Work Programme of an item to consider Safeguarding and the issues raised in the Ofsted report published in 2013. Link this scrutiny to when the Safeguarding Board meets. Also, the implementation of items mentioned at Cabinet consideration of Corporate Parenting / Safeguarding on 10/6/14 (Phasing out B&B, joined up working, sharing of data, social worker recruitment, etc)	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children's Services Director of Children and Young People's Services Others - to be agreed
a) 2016 b) 26 March 2014	Retrospective scrutiny of the School Organisation Review <i>Priority: Low</i>	[Provisional Item] At its meeting on 26 March 2014 the committee requested inclusion on the Forward Work Programme of a retrospective scrutiny of the School Organisation Review, to include consideration of the process, and progress made.	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children's Services Director of Children and Young People's Services Others - to be agreed

a) Provisional meeting date b) Date added	Subject/ Council Priority	Description including why it is coming to committee for scrutiny and the anticipated outcomes	Who would the Committee wish to hear from in relation to this scrutiny item?
a) Deferred from Sep 2014 – new date to be agreed b) 26 March 2014	The impact of the Lowestoft Rising and Newmarket Vision projects in increasing local support and engagement in the Raising the Bar project <i>Priority:Medium</i>	At its meeting on 26 March 2014 the committee requested inclusion of this item on the Forward Work Programme. At a workshop on 24 July members re-prioritised this topic and agreed to defer it to a later date.	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children’s Services Director of Children and Young People’s Services Others - to be agreed
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	The impact on young people of bullying at school <i>Priority:Medium</i>	At a workshop on 24 July members re-prioritised this topic, with consideration to be given especially to mental health – early intervention.	
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	Suffolk Family Focus; (NB. This topic is of interest also to the Health Scrutiny Committee) <i>Priority:Medium?</i>	At a workshop on 24 July members re-prioritised this topic. This may need to be a joint meeting, with Health Scrutiny?	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children’s Services Director of Children and Young People’s Services Others - to be agreed
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	Information technology in schools <i>Priority:Low</i>	Alternatively this could be covered as an Information Bulletin item or a members’ training session	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children’s Services Director of Children and Young People’s Services Others - to be agreed

a) Provisional meeting date b) Date added	Subject/ Council Priority	Description including why it is coming to committee for scrutiny and the anticipated outcomes	Who would the Committee wish to hear from in relation to this scrutiny item?
a) Date to be agreed b) 26 March 2014	The procurement of services by schools, and mechanisms for provision of advice to schools on procurement.	At its meeting on 26 March 2014 the committee requested inclusion on the Forward Work Programme of an item to scrutinise the procurement of services (Including IT) by schools, the extent of obligations on schools to be open and transparent in their procedures, and mechanisms for provision of advice to schools on procurement, including the role of Eastern Facilities Management Solutions, and Schools Choice.	Cabinet Member: Education and Skills Cabinet Member: Children's Services Director of Children and Young People's Services Others - to be agreed
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	Support mechanisms for Looked After Children	At a workshop on 24 July members considered this topic	
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	Speech and language services	At a workshop on 24 July members considered this topic	
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	EOTAS Policy Implementation (ref. Cabinet 10/6/14)	At a workshop on 24 July members considered this topic. Implementation of items mentioned in Cabinet 10/6/14 (schools forum linkage, legal & whistleblowing policies, analysis of trends, council policy/vision, etc)	
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	Priority Schools Building Programme – Phase 2	At a workshop on 24 July members considered this topic. Reference Cllr Chambers' email of 20 July 2014.	
a) Date to be agreed b) 24 July 2014	Follow up of Ofsted Letters 2013/14	At a workshop on 24 July members considered this topic. Ascertain progress made in addressing issues highlighted? (Ofsted follow-up in 6-9 mth? Scrutiny to precede or follow?)	

The decisions and views taken by Scrutiny are separate to and independent of those taken by Suffolk County Council or its Cabinet.

Additional Items to be considered for inclusion on the forward work programme:

- Taking children out of school on holiday;
- Kirkley school funding;

- Headteacher Wellbeing (What succession planning is in place?, What is being done to nurture and develop Suffolk's future school leaders?, What is being done to support the wellbeing of existing headteachers who are not close to retirement?) - *raised by SPHA*
- to consider the implications of the proposals set out in the Education and Learning Infrastructure Plan, December 2014 – *recommendation from Scrutiny Committee*
- Monks Eleigh school closure.
- 'Early Years' focus.
- Traffic management and road safety issues impact on School travel plans.
- Suffolk Learning Partnership (SLP) implementation progress update report, in March or June 2015 (*Scrutiny item, or Information Bulletin?*)

For further information on any item appearing on this forward work programme, or if you wish to discuss possible items for future scrutiny, please contact Councillor Stephen Burroughes, Chairman of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee on Stephen.Burroughes@suffolk.gov.uk