

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday 20 April 2023

10:00

Oak Room, County Buildings, Stafford

The meeting will be webcast live which can be viewed at any time here:

<https://staffordshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

John Tradewell
Director of Corporate Services
12 April 2023

A G E N D A

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2023** (Pages 1 - 8)
4. **Safeguarding of Permanently Excluded Pupils** (Pages 9 - 12)
Report of the Cabinet Member for Education and SEND
5. **Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards to follow**
Report of the Cabinet Member for Health and Care
6. **Work Programme** (Pages 13 - 24)
7. **Exclusion of the Public**

The Chairman to move:-

"That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972 indicated below".

Part Two

(All reports in this section are exempt)

nil

Membership

Gill Burnett (Vice-Chair (Overview))	Kath Perry, MBE
Janet Eagland	Paul Snape (Vice-Chair (Scrutiny))
Derrick Huckfield	Bob Spencer (Chair)
Johnny McMahon	Mike Wilcox
Gillian Pardesi	Conor Wileman

Notes for Members of the Press and Public

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Minutes of the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 16 February 2023

Present: Bob Spencer (Chair)

Attendance

Gill Burnett (Vice-Chair (Overview))	Gillian Pardesi
Johnny McMahon	Mike Wilcox
	Paul Snape (Vice-Chair (Scrutiny))

Also in attendance: Rev. Preb. M. Metcalf (Churches), Jonathan Price and Mark Sutton

Apologies: Janet Eagland, Kath Perry, MBE and Conor Wileman

PART ONE

44. Declarations of Interest

There were none at this meeting.

45. Minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2023

Resolved: That the minutes of the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 5 January 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

46. Executive Response to the Report of the Spot Light Review on Sexual Harassment in Schools January 2022

[Reverend Prebendary Michael Metcalf in attendance for this item.]

The final report and recommendations of the joint Spotlight Review on Sexual Harassment in Schools was endorsed by the Health and Care, Prosperous, and Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committees and forwarded, with their comments, to the Cabinet Members for Children and Young People and for Education (and SEND) for their Executive Response. The three Committees agreed to delegate monitoring of the response and implementation of the recommendations to the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members now received the Executive response, setting out actions and timeframes for accepted recommendations.

The Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) emphasised the importance of safeguarding within education in Staffordshire and informed

the Committee that Schools were seen as key partners in the Staffordshire Safeguarding Children's Board. The appendix to the report gave detail of actions already taken to implement the Spotlight Review's recommendations. The Cabinet Member noted particularly that the latest Section 175/157 safeguarding audit that education providers are required to complete annually, now included a separate section on peer-on-peer abuse. This helped identify areas for further assistance and possible training needs.

Recommendation 1 was yet to be addressed. This recommendation proposed a joint letter from the relevant scrutiny committees and Cabinet Members to Central Government in respect of the Online Safety Bill, asking them what further action they would take to protect children from online peer-on-peer sexual harassment and abuse. It was agreed that the Chairman, Committee Member Cllr Johnny McMahon and the Cabinet Members would work together to address this.

Members were particularly concerned to ensure the voices of children and young people were heard to help inform safeguarding and raise awareness of the emerging online issues early enough for these to be tackled effectively. One aspect of the PSHE Co-ordinator's role and the broader PSHE curriculum included discussing with, and listening to, children and young people. Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services (SCVYS) also worked to give children and young people an opportunity for their voices to be heard. SCVYS linked back to the Local Authority (LA) enabling any concerns to be shared. Members asked for further work to be undertaken to enable the Committee to understand better this work and how affective it was in helping to identify areas of safeguarding concern early. It was proposed that further consideration be given to a mechanism to enable a process for this to be agreed.

The Committee asked how well attended the District Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) meetings were and whether attendance at these meetings could be made mandatory. These meetings were well attended and took learning from both good and less effective practice. It was not possible for the LA to make attendance mandatory as approximately 75% of children in Staffordshire attended academies for which the LA had no direct responsibility. However, the Safeguarding Audit schools completed annually would highlight good practice and effective training. Members noted that it would be possible for Governing Bodies to insist on District meeting attendance by their DSLs. The Committee were also informed that Ofsted included safeguarding within any inspection, as well as consideration of safeguarding training and the role of the DSL as part of that process. Members asked for figures of percentage attendance by DSLs at the District meetings of 12 October 2022 and 12 January 2023.

The PSHE co-ordinator role had been piloted in Newcastle District and Members asked how long it would be before learning from this pilot was taken on board. It was important to ensure enough time was given before the impact of any pilot was assessed, however emerging learning was shared regularly and already influenced delivery.

The Committee discussed the role of academies and the structure for reporting concerns, noting the route for escalation where concerns were not addressed. It was also noted that this process would be the same for escalation with regard to independent schools.

The Charman noted that in the original terms of reference for the Review it had sought to identify the level of the issue for Staffordshire. The Review had been unable to quantify the level for a number of reasons, although Ofsted indicate the problem is present in every school. The Chairman asked whether it was possible to get a granular understanding of the issue for Staffordshire schools. The Staffordshire Safeguarding Children's Board would have a strategic view of the extent of the issue. However, every educational practitioner was responsible for safeguarding and completed the annual audit, with peer-on-peer online abuse now being highlighted separately within that audit. Whilst it was recognised that this was a problem affecting all schools, the important issue was how this was being dealt with, hearing the voice of the child and addressing concerns appropriately.

Rev Metcalf, Spotlight Review Chairman, thanked all those who had taken part in the Review and thanked the Cabinet Members for their response and implementation of the recommendations. He noted that the Review had found that good practice was largely embedded in Staffordshire educational establishments. However so much of this peer-on-peer abuse remained unreported, and much of this took place outside of school but had an impact within school.

Members remained eager to further consider how children and young people could build confidence and/or resilience to enable them to better manage safeguarding challenges. PSHE and RSE were part of the school curriculum, helping support this resilience building. Relationship education was part of the curriculum, with discussions around positive relationships taking place from a very early age.

Resolved: That:

- a) the Cabinet Members be thanked for their Executive Response to the Spotlight Review recommendations, and the actions taken to date be welcomed;
- b) a meeting be arranged between the Cabinet Members, Chairman and Cllr Johnny McMahon to consider the letter to Central

- Government in respect of peer-on-peer online sexual harassment and abuse being addressed in the Online Safety Bill;
- c) further consideration be given to agreeing a mechanism by which the Committee can better understand how the voices of children and young people are heard to enable early and effective identification of their emerging online safety concerns; and
 - d) percentage attendance figures by DSLs at the District meetings be forwarded to the Committee.

47. Children's Transformation Project - progress briefing

Following the 1 September 2022 Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny meeting it was agreed that scrutiny of the Children's System Transformation would include four monthly feedback, with the first three of these being a brief outline of developments that highlight key progress and concerns, and the final feedback being a full report. The Committee now considered a presentation for the first of the briefings, highlighting what was working well and areas of further work.

The Programme Structure had been changed, adding a separate programme board for Children in Care and for SEND Improvement. Communications and Engagement now ran across all four programme boards rather than sitting as a standalone programme.

Members noted the additional investment approved by Cabinet to support the work force programme. This investment had been requested as a result of pressures in the system, with numbers being higher than those expected through the modelling process due to Covid.

Activity to date and "next steps" were shared with the Committee for each programme board. Three risks across the whole Transformation process were highlighted, these being:

- a) capacity of the workforce whilst still recruiting to new roles;
- b) scope and scale of cultural change underway within the Service taking time to embed and realise outcomes; and
- c) potential future inspection of service diverting resources temporarily.

The number of children currently in the care system was 1384. However this figure was nuanced, being a reduced figure of 1284 if considered without the recent increase in unaccompanied asylum seeking children.

Members queried whether there remained delays in the adoption process that may impact on the number of children within the care system. They were aware of the new regional adoption agency Together4Children which helped support a broader pool of adopter families. However, delays in adoption still existed due to a backlog within Court proceedings.

The Committee asked for clarification over the type of work undertaken to ensure the health and wellbeing of staff during these significant changes. This was undertaken in a variety of ways, including person to person and specific to the individual employee's needs. Support training sessions around wellbeing were also available as well as opportunities to raise concerns through We Talk monthly conversations and through staff surveys. Members also queried the percentage of staff still working from home and how this was managed. Most staff now worked a hybrid system, working a minimum of two days in the office and the remainder either from home and/or external visits as appropriate. Enabling this flexible and balanced approach to working helped with the recruitment and retention of staff.

Members were aware that the Accelerated Progress Plan (APP) for SEND improvement was in place. They heard that the implementation plan for the APP was moving at pace, working to the Department for Education (DfE) timescales. Making a standalone SEND Programme Board had ensured the APP's part in the Transformation Programme was highlighted. The DfE had been pleased with progress made and had been sharing Staffordshire's ways of working with other LAs as examples of improved good practice.

Members noted the work undertaken by SCYVS to develop a coproduction charter that outlined what was understood by "coproduction" and how to ensure its continuous implementation. This helped support one of the principles of the Transformation System, working with families and making them part of the solution rather than implementing predetermined responses. The Committee were aware of previous criticism from Ofsted of Staffordshire's work around coproduction in connection to SEND. Coproduction was extremely difficult as there were so many different partners involved, often with very differing views, including those of parents and carers, schools, health, and every part of the children's social care system, from Early Help onwards. Considerable work had been undertaken to find an effective solution to this process, including much work with the Parent's Forum.

Within Children's Services coproduction had been brought into every part of the system and had formed part of the planning process throughout the whole Transformation programme. Members were reminded that the aspiration of the Transformation process was district-based services that enabled the right help at the right time and at the earliest opportunity. Members were also informed that consideration was being given to extending the role of the MASH as part of the coproduction process, with the possibility of this work being from tier 2 rather than from tier 4, giving another opportunity for appropriate information sharing and support at the earliest opportunity.

Members queried whether there was too much focus on restorative practice at the possible exclusion of other solutions. Restorative practice was the way in which staff would work, problem solve, lead and manage. However, this would only be successful if staff had the right skill level, time, space and partnerships to enable this approach to work.

Whilst the Committee welcomed the developments, they asked at what stage figures would be available to show improvements made and evidence progress. Following the additional investment approved as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) it had been agreed that quarterly progress reports would be shared with Cabinet to monitor developments. It was envisaged that the extra funding would support more in-house staff and less use of agency workers, which would ultimately reduce costs. The Committee were also informed that a performance matrix already existed that would help identify progress.

Resolved: Members welcomed the progress made to date.

48. Possible Working Group/Inquiry Day activity

Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee had the flexibility to undertake working group and/or inquiry day activity outside of their calendared committee meetings. During the year a range of queries and areas for further scrutiny had been raised by the Committee and Members now considered these alongside other areas for suggested further scrutiny work.

Members considered work around safeguarding concerns over the increased number of permanently excluded pupils in Staffordshire and Ofsted's view on the impact of exclusions. A report on this issue was scheduled for 20 April 2023 O&S meeting and the Committee agreed any further work should be considered after this.

Members suggested further work on identifying progress with the PEEL inspection plan. The Chairman had been invited to attend a special meeting of Staffordshire's Police, Fire and Crime Panel (PFCP) on Tuesday 21 February 2023 which was considering this issue. The Chairman had previously met with both the Chairman of the PFCP and the Commissioner to discuss possible ways forward and it had been agreed that the Commissioner would attend a future Safeguarding O&S Committee to discuss any continued safeguarding queries the Committee may have after the 21 February PFCP. Members suggested that a possible informal inquiry day session would be beneficial, preferably with both the

Commissioner and the Chief Constable attending. This would be dependent on the outcome of the 21 February meeting.

Resolved: That possible future inquiry day/working group activity on:

- a. safeguarding implications for permanently excluded pupils; and
- b. PEEL inspection action plan progress;

await the outcome of the 20 April Safeguarding O&S Committee and the 21 February PFCP meetings respectively.

49. Work Programme

Members received an update on their work programme, noting that the House Project item had been removed as this was no longer an item requiring pre-decision scrutiny. The Whole Life Disabilities item, which had been scheduled for this meeting, had been put back to the 20 April meeting at the request of the Cabinet Member for Health and Care.

Members received details on progress of the actions requested at their 5 January meeting:

- a. a letter from the Chairman to Sandwell Council (as lead commissioner) outlining the burden on the safeguarding social care system of inappropriate Section 42 referrals made by West Midlands Ambulance Service. The Chairman reported that he had raised this with the Chairman of the Health and Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Health and Care O&S Committee were already in the process of tackling this issue jointly with the other commissioning authorities. It was therefore agreed that no letter should be sent at this time;
- b. hidden abuse training, with Members agreeing that this training should be arranged for Members of this Committee only initially, with consideration of this being opened up to all Members at a later date;
- c. the Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board (SSASPB) had been asked to consider more sophisticated data analysis for future annual reporting. The SSASPB have asked the Council's performance team to support this process;
- d. the SSASPB had been asked to consider how online abuse could be more clearly identified in future annual reports. The Board has arranged a multi-agency audit of online abuse and conference as a direct consequence of the Committee's query. The conference is to be held on 30 March 2023;
- e. the Staffordshire Children's Safeguarding Board have asked for responses to the Committee's queries on: attending a future O&S meeting with the Chairman of their Child Exploitation Task Group; details of work around teenage pregnancy; and support for the 5Rights campaign.

The first meeting of the new municipal year normally looks at work programme planning. However this meeting was already scheduled to receive the next Children's Transformation System briefing. Members were asked to consider whether they would like Cabinet Members and Lead Officers to attend as part of their work programme planning. It was agreed that the Chairman would discuss and agree a way forward for this with the Scrutiny and Support Officer.

Consideration would need to be given to the questions Members wished to raise with the PFC Commissioner and Chief Constable if the proposed informal inquiry session was to go ahead. Members agreed this should wait until after the Chairman had fed back from his attendance at the 21 February PFCP.

Members noted that items to add to the work programme from today's meeting were:

- consideration of mechanisms for the Committee Members to hear the voice of the child, particularly with regard to online abuse and the emerging challenges they face.

Resolved: That the amendments to the work programme be noted.

Chairman

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 20th April 2023

Safeguarding of Permanently Excluded Pupils

Recommendation

I recommend that the Committee:

- a. Considers and challenges the work undertaken to ensure we safeguard children and young people permanently excluded from schools and advises of any further information and /or action required.

Local Member Interest:

N/A

Report of Councillor Jonathan Price, Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)

Summary

What is the Overview and Scrutiny Committee being asked to do and why?

1. The Committee has been asked to consider the approach and progress to date in ensuring we safeguard pupils who are permanently excluded from school.

Report

School Duties

2. A permanent exclusion is when a pupil is no longer allowed to attend a school. The decision to exclude a pupil permanently should only be taken:
 - a. in response to a serious breach or persistent breaches of the school's behaviour policy; and
 - b. where allowing the pupil to remain in school would seriously harm the education or welfare of the pupil or others such as staff or pupils in the school
3. Only the Headteacher can permanently exclude a pupil on disciplinary grounds. Any decision of a headteacher, including permanent exclusion,

must be made in line with the principles of administrative law, i.e., that it is: lawful; reasonable; fair; and proportionate.

4. The headteacher must take account of their legal duty of care when sending a pupil home following an exclusion.
5. Headteachers should:
 - a. take reasonable steps to ensure that work is set and marked for pupils during the first 5 school days where the pupil will not be attending alternative provision.
 - b. inform any support services or professionals working with the pupil or their family of the exclusion.
6. We recognise information sharing is vital in safeguarding children and promoting their welfare, including their educational outcomes. Therefore, we provide headteachers with a notification of permanent exclusion form to complete and send to the education inclusion team. This allows us to have a comprehensive understanding of the pupil, the support services around them and an outline of the reason for exclusion.
7. There is now an additional requirement for Headteachers to - without delay, notify the child's social worker, and/or the Virtual School Head if the pupil is in the care of the local authority.
8. The Education Inclusion Officers (EIO) and the Virtual school have been working with social care colleagues to raise awareness of this new requirement and equip social workers with knowledge they need to support the pupils open to them.

Local Authority duties – Inclusion team

9. In Staffordshire we have four Education Inclusion Officers who each work across two districts to provide statutory support to schools, pupils and families in respect of permanent exclusions.
10. The EIO will contact the headteacher to discuss the individual circumstances of the permanent exclusion. They will offer challenge and support about each exclusion to see if it could be rescinded if an alternative solution was found. This may take the form of a managed move, prevention placement at an alternative provision or a restorative conference.
11. A key safeguarding function of the EIO's is to arrange suitable full-time education for the pupil to begin from the sixth school day after the first

day the permanent exclusion took place. Predominantly this will be met by the pupil attending their nearest pupil referral unit (PRU).

12. We have six secondary PRU's, a secondary Progress Centre and one primary PRU across the county.
13. Each excluded pupil is also discussed at the weekly Alternative Provision Panel (APP), where we will confirm and monitor their sixth day provision. The APP may agree to send a pupil to another PRU if they feel sending them to their local PRU would not be in their or other pupils' best interests.
14. The APP is a weekly multi-disciplinary panel (attendees - Youth offending, PRU headteacher, SEND, EIO's, education welfare, education commissioner) which agrees and monitors alternative provision for pupils. This panel will challenge and reconsider provision if it appears it is not meeting the needs of the pupil, or the pupil is not engaging with the provision.
15. With pupils who cannot attend a PRU the APP will consider what other alternative provision we can put in place. This may require us to commission a service which may take us outside of the sixth day expectation. In these situations, the EIO will work closely with the family and other professionals to ensure the pupil is safeguarded.
16. For pupils attending a PRU or the progress centre their safeguarding and welfare is the responsibility of the that provisions head teacher.
17. For pupils who receive alternative commissioned provision, the commissioned provider will take an active role in safeguarding the pupil and their provision will be reviewed regularly by the APP.
18. All the commissioned providers have undergone a robust process to become an approved provider, which included the scrutiny of their safeguarding policy.
19. The EIO and PRUs will undertake the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) screening tool if needed and/or make referrals to other support services as appropriate.
20. For excluded pupils with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) the EIO will liaise closely with the SEND key worker to ensure whatever provision we put in place meets their needs, until another long-term provision can be secured.

Link to Strategic Plan

21. Offer every Staffordshire child and young person the best start in life, and the chance to achieve their potential.

Link to Other Overview and Scrutiny Activity

N/A

Community Impact

N/A

List of Background Documents/Appendices:

DFE guidance - Suspension and Permanent Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England, including pupil movement - September 2022

Keeping children safe in education - September 2022

Contact Details

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WORK PROGRAMME

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 2022/2023

This document sets out the work programme for the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2022/2023.

The Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising: children and adults' safeguarding; community safety and Localism. The Council has three priority outcomes. This Committee is aligned to the outcome: The people of Staffordshire will feel safer, happier and more supported in and by their community.

We review our work programme at every meeting. Sometimes we change it - if something comes up during the year that we think we should investigate as a priority. Our work results in recommendations for the County Council and other organisations about how what they do can be improved, for the benefit of the people and communities of Staffordshire.

Councillor Bob Spencer

Chairman of the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

If you would like to know more about our Work Programme or how to raise issues for potential inclusion on a Work Programme, then please contact Helen Phillips, Scrutiny and Support Officer (helen.phillips@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
16 June 2022 10.00am	Community Safety & the Outcome of the Fishmonger Hall Investigation Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer: Trish Caldwell	Findings from the Fishmonger Hall incident showed there had been inadequate management of Usman Khan. Members want to satisfy themselves that changes have been made to prevent further such incidents. This also impacts on the Committee's role as the designated crime and disorder panel.	The PFCC (the Commissioner) has arranged a meeting with colleagues and partners to discuss learning from the Inquiry on 28 June 2022. The Chairman has been invited as the O&S Committee's representative. Consequently the report has been put back to allow outcomes from the 28 June to further inform Members scrutiny.
	Low Level Neglect Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Nisha Gupta	Suggested by the Cabinet Member at 17 June meeting to look at impact of long-term low-level neglect, the current changes to ways of working and challenges that remain.	The Committee were reassured at the work undertaken following the 2019 Serious Case Review in identifying the early signs of neglect. They were pleased to see the introduction of the GCP2 tool and the manner in which this has been introduced, noting the further work needed to measure the gains from its use.
	Work programme Planning Lead Officer: Helen Phillips	Within the remit of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, begin planning the work programme for 2022-23.	The proposed amendments and additions suggested at the 23 may informal work programme planning meeting were agreed
19 July 2022 10.00 am	Customer Feedback & Complaints Annual report – Children's Social Care	Report brought annually	The Committee congratulated Officers on the report, noting the expectation that once the District Hub model was embedded

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
Page 15	Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Kate Bullivant		complaints around SEND were likely to level off.
	Customer Feedback & Complaints Annual report – Adults Social Care Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Kate Bullivant	Report brought annually	Members welcomed the report and, in particular, commended the proactive work to identify and address future challenges from the new Social Care Act.
	Draft Early Help Strategy Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Natasha Moody	Draft Early Help Strategy for pre-decision scrutiny	The comments and concerns raised by the Committee inform the further development of the Early Help Strategy.
1 September 2022 10.00 am	Family Hub Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Ruth Blunn-Jennings	Pre-decision scrutiny	This initiative was supported and because of the importance of the proposed changes Members suggested a whole council briefing would be beneficial.
	Children’s Services Transformation Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Neelam Bhardwaja/Natasha Moody	The new Children’s Transformation went live on 1 October 2021. More than six months on this is an opportunity for Members to seek reassurance that it is delivering as intended, including on SEND.	The candid assessment and feedback of the Transformation process was welcomed. A mechanism for regular feedback on the action plan progress will be established, with a full review in 12 months.

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
Page 16	<p>MacAlister Report Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Nisha Gupta</p>	<p>Suggested at 17 June meeting – looking at the report’s proposals and how they impact on Staffordshire’s Children’s Services November date for this suggested at 3 Aug Triangulation Originally scheduled for 4 November meeting but moved back awaiting publication of the final report. Final report published on 23 May 2022</p>	<p>The Committee were pleased that much of the direction of travel proposed in the Report was reflected in the Staffordshire approach. Members now await details from central Government on the areas for implementation.</p>
	<p>Ofsted Focused Visit – improvement action plan Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Nisha Gupta</p>	<p>The Chairman attends the Children’s Improvement Board (CIB) meetings on behalf of the Committee. At the June CIB details of the Ofsted Focused Visit were discussed, including the development of an improvement action plan. The Chairman requested this plan be brought to the O&S Committee.</p>	<p>Members welcomed the improvement action plan and will look to receive details of progress with its implementation.</p>
	<p>Domestic Abuse recommissioning arrangements Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer: Trish Caldwell</p>	<p>Pre-decision scrutiny item</p>	<p>The Committee raised a number of issues for Cabinet to consider before taking a decision on the Contract renewal.</p>

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
24 October 2022 10.00 am Page 17	Community Safety & the Outcome of the Fishmonger Hall Investigation Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer: Trish Caldwell	Findings from the Fishmonger Hall incident showed there had been inadequate management of the assailant. Members want to satisfy themselves that changes have been made to prevent further such incidents. This also impacts on the Committee's role as the designated crime and disorder panel. This will include outcomes from the Commissioner's 28 June meeting considering Inquiry findings.	Concerns were shared around the naming of the assailant and his heritage in the report. These details will be removed from future reporting. The detailed changes made within Police, CTU and Probation were welcomed.
	The LAs role in the Prevent Partnership & Feedback from the Commissioner's 28 June meeting Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer: Trish Caldwell	As part of their Crime and Disorder role the Committee wish to scrutinise the methods the LA has in addressing community safety. They also requested feedback from the Commissioner's meeting with partners around learning from the Fishmonger Hall inquest.	Overall Members recognised the importance of the Prevent work and the LA's role in this. Concerns remain around internet access, particularly outside of education settings, and how to educate individuals to ensure they can stay safe whilst using these services.
24 Nov 2022 10.00 am	Regional Permanency Partnership Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Scott Crawford & Jo Sullivan	Previously considered at 6 July 2021 O&S Committee where Members requested details of how the partnership progresses and specifically the two pilot projects TESSA and Mockingbird.	Members welcomed the progress made and congratulated Officers for the work done.

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
	<p>Young Carers Report of the O&S sub-group</p>	<p>Report of the O&S sub-group that met with young carers to consider the support they receive and the levels of care they provide</p>	<p>All recommendations to be action. The Committee agreed that the Chairman would discuss with the Cabinet Member for Education ways in which the profile of the Young Carers Service can be raised in schools and how to extend the Member advocate initiative.</p>
<p>5 January 2023 10.00am</p>	<p>Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board (SSASPB) – Annual Report Independent Chair: John Wood Lead Officer: Helen Jones</p>	<p>Report brought annually.</p>	<p>The Committee want to be part of the hidden abuse awareness training. They requested consideration of how more sophisticated data analysis could be used within the report. This will be included on the SSASPB’s next Quality Assurance agenda. Having concern at how online abuse could be highlighted in future Annual Reports, this issue will be taken back to the SSASPB’s next Audit and Assurance meeting.</p>
	<p>Adult Social Care Transformation – update Cabinet Member – Julia Jessel</p>	<p>Suggested at the 1 September Triangulation to update the Committee on developments and progress with the Transformation programme, including performance against KPI.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomed progress on the Adult Safeguarding Transformation Project, including details of Key Performance Indicators.</p>

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
	Lead Officer: Jo Cowcher, Ruth Martin		The Chairman to write to Sandwell Council, as lead commissioner for the West Midlands Ambulance Service, advising them of the Committee's concerns at the burden inappropriate Section 42 referrals places on the adult safeguarding system
Page 19	<p>Staffordshire Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report Independent Chair: Ian Vinall Lead Officer: Lynn Milligan</p>	Report brought annually	<p>The Chair of the Child Exploitation Task Group attend a future Safeguarding O&S meeting with the Independent SSCB Chairman to consider progress in tackling the issues raised.</p> <p>Further detail is shared with the Committee on work to tackle safeguarding concerns of teenage pregnancy.</p> <p>The SSCB Independent Chairman take back to the Board the Committees concerns and suggestions around online abuse and the 5 Rights campaign, updating the Committee on progress.</p>

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
16 Feb 2023 10.00 am Page 20	Children’s Transformation - briefing Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Neelam Bhardwaja/Natasha Moody	At the Triangulation meeting of 1 September 2022 it was agreed that the Committee receive a progress briefing approximately every 4 months, with a full progress report at 12 months (September 2023)	The progress briefing was accepted, with qualms around the increase in the number of looked after children rationalised in light of the impact of the large increase in the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and young people.
	Sexual Harassment in Education – Executive Response Cabinet Members: Mark Sutton & Jonathan Price	Cabinet Member’s response to the Spotlight Review Recommendations	Recommendations accepted, with implementation action and deadlines shown. Recommendation 1 – further discussions to take place with the Cabinet Members towards drafting the joint letter to the Secretary of State in respect of the Online Safety Bill.
	Possible working group/inquiry day activity	O&S Members to consider possible areas for working group and/or inquiry day topics to form part of work programme planning moving into the new municipal year.	Two areas of work were highlighted for potential inquiry day/working group activity, dependent on the outcome of existing programme work as shown– <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safeguarding of permanently excluded pupils (initial report scheduled for 20 April) • action plan progress from the PEEL inspection report (dependent on the outcome of the Chairman’s

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
			attendance of the PFCP meeting considering this issue on 21 February)
20 April 2023 10.00 am	Safeguarding of Permanently Excluded Pupils Cabinet Members: Mark Sutton & Jonathan Price Lead Officer: Tim Moss & Karl Hobson	Looking at the safeguarding issues of those pupils who have been permanently excluded from school. Particularly in connection with the high level of exclusions in Staffordshire. Suggested by the Chairman at the 24 November O&S meeting and agreed for the April meeting at the 7 December Triangulation meeting.	
Page 21	DoLs Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Pete Hampson	Suggested at the 7 December Triangulation	
June 2023	Whole Life Disabilities Strategy 2023 Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Andy Marriot & Nicola Day	Pre-decision scrutiny [moved to new municipal year]	
tbc	Early Intervention & prevention Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton	Suggested by the Cabinet Member at 17 June meeting.	

Work Programme 2022/2023

Date of Meeting	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
	Lead Officer: Neelam Bhardwaja		
tbc	Placement Sufficiency Strategy Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Natasha Moody	Suggested at the Triangulation meeting of 7 December. Proposed for 20 April meeting but now going to Informal Cabinet	
tbc Page 22	Governance Model Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Neelam Bhardwaja	Suggested by the Cabinet Member at 17 June meeting. Considering how to work better together. Trying to develop a better and more effective governance model.	

Items for Consideration – Work Programme 2022/2023

Suggested Item	Details (Background)	Proposed Date of Meeting

Standing Items 2022/2023

Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
Crime & Disorder Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer: Catherine Mann/Trish Caldwell	This O&S Committee is the LAS designated Crime and Disorder Panel. Following discussions with the Chairman and Officers from the PFCC and the	Chairman and Vice-Chairman briefings on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday 19 May (at the conclusion of Full Council) to brief

Standing Items 2022/2023

Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
	Cabinet Member and Officers responsible for community safety, it was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairmen will meet with the Cabinet Member and Officers after each Safer and Stronger Communities Strategy Group (SSCSG) to gain an overview of community safety within the County and identify areas for further scrutiny as appropriate.	<p>on performance discussed at the 18 May 2022 SSCSG</p> <p>NB the May SSCSG was moved to 16 June and consequently the briefing was moved to 20 June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 13 September to brief on performance discussed at the 12 September 2022 SSCSG • Wednesday 1 March to brief on SSCSG of 13 February
<p>Children Improvement Board (CIB) Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Neelam Bhardwaja</p>	<p>The Chairman attends the CIB on behalf of the O&S Committee and feeds back developments to Members at each meeting as part of the work programme agenda item.</p> <p>CIB scheduled dates: 28.04.22; 25.05.22; 30.06.22; 20.07.22; 25.08.22; 29.09.22; 27.10.22; 24.11.22; 22.12.22</p>	Concerns shared around safeguarding of children permanently excluded from schools included on the CIB in November 2022 was raised by the Chairman at their November O&S meeting and included on the work programme for 20 April 2023.
<p>Themes emerging from Serious Case Reviews Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Neelam Bhardwaja</p>	Where Serious Case Reviews have taken place the Overview & Scrutiny Committee will consider any learning that can be taken from the Review	Some areas picked up by the DHR review process

Briefing Notes / Updates / Visits 2022/2023

Date	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome

Working Groups / Inquiry Days 2022/2023

Date	Item	Details (Background)	Action / Outcome
21 September 2022	Young Carer Visits	Following scrutiny of the Young Carers Service in April, Members requested the opportunity to speak first hand with young carers to consider the service they receive.	Findings reported back to the Committee at their November 2022 meeting. All recommendations agreed and actioned. The Chairman agreed to discuss with the Cabinet Member for Education ways in which the profile of the Young Carers Service can be raised in schools and how to extend the Member advocate initiative.

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Membership – County Councillors 2022-2023	Calendar of Committee Meetings - 2022-2023
Bob Spencer (Chairman) Gill Burnett (Vice Chairman - Overview) Paul Snape (Vice Chairman – Scrutiny) Janet England Derrick Huckfield Johnny McMahon Gillian Pardesi Kath Perry Mike Wilcox Conor Wileman	16 June 2022 at 10.00 am
	19 July 2022 at 10.00 am
	1 September 2022 at 10.00 am
	24 October 2022 at 10.00 am
	24 November 2022 at 10.00 am
	5 January 2023 at 10.00 am
	16 February 2023 at 10.00 am
	20 April 2023 at 10.00 am
	Meetings usually take place in the Oak rm, County Buildings