

## WORK PROGRAMME

### Safeguarding Overview & Scrutiny Committee 2021/22

This document sets out the work programme for the Safeguarding Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2021/22.

The Safeguarding Overview & 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 & Scrutiny Committee

#### Membership – County Councillors 2021-22

Bob Spencer (Chairman)  
Gill Burnett (Vice Chairman - Overview)  
Richard Ford (Vice Chairman – Scrutiny)  
Janet Eagland  
Peter Kruskonjic  
Jason Jones  
Gillian Pardesi  
Kath Perry MBE  
Jill Waring  
Mike Wilcox

#### Calendar of Committee Meetings - 2021-2022

17 June 2021 at 10.00 am
6 July 2021 at 10.00 am
3 August 2021 at 10.00 am
14 September 2021 at 10.00 am
30 November 2021 at 10.00 am ( <i>re-arranged from 4 November</i> )
10 January 2022 at 10.00 am
28 February 2022 at 10.00 am – <i>informal session</i>
21 April 2022 at 10.00 am

Meetings usually take place in either the Council Chamber or the Oak Room in County Buildings.

## Work Programme 2021-22

Date of meeting	Item	Details	Action/Outcome
17 June 2021 10.00 am	<b>Community Support (including Domiciliary Care) and 1-1 intensive support for Children with Disabilities</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Martyn Baggaley	Pre-decision scrutiny prior to its inclusion on the July Cabinet agenda	Members agreed the recommendations. They want to receive details in the future of how this has progressed, and will specifically want to see how any gaps in skills have been addressed for those adults providers that have moved to provision for children.
	<b>Introduction to the remit of the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b> Officers: Helen Riley & Ruth Martin	To consider the remit of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Detailed presentations and discussions will form the basis of work programme planning
	<b>Work programme Planning</b> Lead Officer: Helen Phillips	Within the remit of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, begin planning the work programme for 2021-22.	A long list of suggested scrutiny items has been drawn up from Members suggestions and from details shared in the presentations and discussions with Officers and the cabinet Member. These will be discussed by the Chairman and Vice Chairmen, along with the Scrutiny Officer and included on the draft work programme for Members consideration at the July meeting.
6 July 2021 10.00 am	<b>Domestic Abuse</b> Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer: Trish Caldwell	A briefing note had been considered by the previous Safe & Strong Communities Select Committee during the Pandemic. A report was requested for post lockdown to outline the impact of the Pandemic on DA.	The Committee were very impressed with the mitigation actions put in place during the pandemic. They supported developments with the perpetrator and victim programmes. Further detail was requested in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• analysis results on rationale behind disparity in referral figures between SCC and Police;</li> <li>• learning from police led analysis on impact of targeted work with repeat offenders;</li> <li>• waiting times for perpetrator services;</li> <li>• DA Act requirements around access to services, particularly victim services.</li> </ul>
	<b>Family Hub</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Joseph Sullivan	Item for pre-decision scrutiny  Also requested at 17 June for inclusion on work programme around support for new and young parents and the importance of early years parenting support	The Committee supported the development of the Family Hub model, recognising the proposed incremental development across Staffordshire of an integrated model of working. Further developments will be considered by the Committee following the public consultation process.
	<b>Regional Permanency Partnership</b>	Following consideration of the arrangements at their 7 November Select Committee Members	The Committee welcomed the developments made since the introduction of the regional permanency partnership known as

	Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Deborah Ramsdale, Scott Crawford & Jo Sullivan	had requested an up-date on progress with the arrangements.	Together4Children. They intend to receive further detail as the partnership progresses, including detail of the two pilot projects TESSA & Mockingbird.
3 August 2021 10.00am	<b>Customer Feedback &amp; Complaints Annual report – Adults Social Care</b> Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Kate Bullivant	Report brought annually	The Committee commented on the report – in particular they were pleased to note the reduction in complaint numbers. They asked for a percentage comparison for complaints and compliments with the previous year. They congratulated the Complaints Services Manager for the detail and timeliness of the report.
	<b>Customer Feedback &amp; Complaints Annual report – Children’s Social Care</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Kate Bullivant	Report brought annually	The Committee noted the reduction in complaints, particularly the reduction around SEND complaints. They were pleased to note the 17% increase in the number of compliments. They congratulated the Complaints Services Manager for the quality and timeliness of her report.
14 Sept 2021 10.00am	<b>Safeguarding Adults on the cusp of care</b> Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Ruth Martin	At the 7 November Triangulation meeting it was proposed to look at any gaps in provision between what is happening in the community for adults on the cusp of care, the <b>neighbourhood coaches/provisions</b> and any safeguarding issues this may present.	The Committee have asked for comparative data with regard to GP referrals during the pandemic compared to the previous year to help identify the impact of the Pandemic on referrals. They welcomed the update to Care Director and the increased capacity of the Adult Safeguarding Team. The timeline for the Transformation changes is expected to be complete in December 2021 and Members will monitor this along with quality performance data against the newly developed KPIs.
	<b>Adult Safeguarding Transformation Project</b> Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Ruth Martin	Suggested at 17 June meeting to look at the rise in service demand and whether changes to service delivery are needed to manage this increase.	The Committee intend to consider this further – looking in more detail at what merit the development of such a forum may have in Staffordshire. The Chairman and Vice Chairmen will meet to consider the most appropriate way to take this work forward.
30 Nov 2021 10.00 am <i>(re-arranged from 4 November)</i>	<b>Staffordshire Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Report</b> Independent Chair: Sue Barnsley Lead Officer: Lynn Milligan	Report brought annually.	The Board had separated from their joint arrangement with Stoke-on-Trent and become the Staffordshire Safeguarding Children’s Board from January 2021. Members scrutinised the rationale behind this and the impact this will have moving forward. The impact of Covid 19 was a key element of the report. Members welcomed the move to a more impact focused report.

	<b>Sexual Harassment in Schools</b> <b>Scoping report</b> Lead Member: Kath Perry Officer: Helen Phillips	Scoping report for the joint spotlight review between this committee and a representative from the Prosperous and Health & Care Overview and Scrutiny Committees.	The scope was agreed and Members held an informal session at the conclusion of this meeting to agree questions they wish to be taken to the spotlight review.
10 January 2022 10.00am	<b>Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board (SSASPB) – Annual Report</b> Independent Chair: John Wood Lead Officer: Helen Jones	Report brought annually.	The Committee have requested further detail on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the number of covid positive patients discharged from hospital into care homes;</li> <li>detail of how DNRs re used in Staffordshire</li> </ul> They also requested efforts are made to ensure appropriate data is recorded in those areas shown within this year’s report as “not reported” or “unknown” for future annual reports as not having full data could result in areas of concern not being identified and addressed.
	<b>DoLs</b> Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Peter Hampton	Suggested at 3 August Triangulation	The extra resource introduced to reduce the waiting list has made a positive difference and Members welcomed the reduction. A target to reduce it still further to 1000 by March is noted and will need follow-up. Delays in the introduction of Liberty Protection safeguards are noted and the work in preparation for this welcomed. The Committee will wish to keep a watching brief on this.
	<b>Safeguarding Adults on the cusp of care</b> Cabinet Member: Julia Jessel Lead Officer: Ruth Martin	Update on progress with the Transformation, with all changes anticipated to be in place by December 2021 and the introduction of KPIs (follow-up from 14 September meeting)	The Committee was satisfied with progress made.
28 Feb 2022 10.00 am	<b>Informal Session</b>	Member only informal session to reflect on and evaluate the work undertaken by the O&S Committee throughout the year and look towards planning for the new municipal year.	Detailed discussion on work of the previous year and approach to work moving forward. Members agreed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a more formalised approach to feeding back Members concerns and/or specific recommendations to Cabinet;</li> <li>a Member only meeting should be scheduled prior to the Preview with the draft agenda so that feedback on content and direction of reports can be given to the Chairman and Vice Chairmen to inform discussions at the preview. This will be trialled at the April meeting.</li> </ul>

21 April 2022 10.00 am	<b>Community Support (including Domiciliary Care) and 1-1 intensive support for Children with Disabilities</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Martyn Baggaley	This was requested at 17 June meeting – looking at progress made and particularly how well those adult carers who have moved to provide care for children have filled skill gaps and how successful this provision has been	
	<b>Young Carers</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Karen Cocker	To consider how well young carers are supported within Staffordshire Suggested at 17 June meeting.	
	<b>Spotlight Review on Sexual Harassment in Education</b> Report of the Joint Spotlight Review	Final report and recommendations from the 14 January 2022 Joint Spotlight Review into sexual harassment in education.	
16 June	<b>Children's Services Transformation</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Helen Riley	The new Children's Transformation went live on 1 October 2021. Six months on this is an opportunity for Members to seek reassurance that it is delivering as intended, including on SEND. (Suggested at 3 August Triangulation)	
tbc	<b>Low Level Neglect</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Natasha Moody	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.	
tbc	<b>MacAlister Report</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Helen Riley	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.	
tbc	<b>Early Intervention &amp; prevention</b> Cabinet Member: Mark	Suggested by the Cabinet Member at 17 June meeting.	

	Sutton Lead Officer: Helen Riley		
tbc	<b>Community Safety &amp; the Outcome of the Fishmonger Hall Investigation</b> Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer:	Findings from the Fishmonger Hall incident showed there had been inadequate management of Usman Khan. Suggested at 17 June meeting Members want to satisfy themselves that changes have been made to prevent further such incidents. This also impact on the Committee's role as the designated crime and disorder panel.	
tbc	<b>SEND Review</b> Cabinet Members: Mark Sutton & Jonathan Price Lead Officers: Tim Moss & Helen Riley	Suggested by the Cabinet Member at 17 June meeting. Responding to the Review and moving forward.	
tbc	<b>Governance Model</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer: Helen Riley	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.	

## Standing Items 2021-22

Item	Details	Action/Outcome
<b>Themes emerging from Serious Case Reviews</b> Cabinet Member: Mark Sutton Lead Officer:	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
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b> Cabinet Member: Victoria Wilson Lead Officer: Janene Cox/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 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.	Chairman and Vice-Chairman briefings on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 21 February to brief on performance discussed at the 17 February SSCSG</li> <li>• Thursday 19 May (at the conclusion of Full Council) to brief on performance discussed at 18 May SSCSG</li> </ul>

## Briefing Notes/Updates/Visits 2021-22

Date	Item	Details	Action/Outcome
	Sexual abuse investigations	Requested at 17 June meeting – details of the number of child sexual abuse investigations over the last 5 years, how many of these resulted in prosecution and if the investigation was proportionate and reasonable.	Request withdrawn

### Working Group and/or Inquiry Days 2021-22

Date	Item	Details	Action/Outcome
14 January 2022	<b>Sexual Harassment in Schools</b>	Suggested at 17 June meeting, considering the concerns recently in the media of sexual harassment and abuse in schools. A need to consider the issue within Staffordshire schools and how this is addressed.	<p>This was included on the work programme of this Committee as well as the Prosperous Staffordshire and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees.</p> <p>As a result, the three Committees have agreed that a spotlight piece of work will be undertaken with one representative from each Committee who will then report back.</p> <p>The final report and recommendations were reported to the Safeguarding O&amp;S Committee on 21 April 2022</p>