

The first four items should be the main areas of work on the initial work programme for 2005/06. The others are ongoing overview/update items and other projects will arise as the year goes on and will be added accordingly.

Date	Topic	Background
TBA	Towards a Children's Trust	<p>This is an amalgamation of two pieces of work on the agreed work programme: Lifelong Learning OSC's 'Adding value to education through partnership working' and Personal Care OSC's 'Preparing for a Children's Trust.'</p> <p>The integration of children's services promoted by the Children Act 2004 offers challenges and opportunities. What is Buckinghamshire's approach to preparing for a Children's Trust? What are the risks, and is there a clear strategy for change? Local authorities have the lead role in bringing together partners to implement the Change for Children programme and deliver the five "Every Child Matters" outcomes (to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being) through children's trust arrangements. This work will track development in order to provide a 'critical friend' challenge to the process.</p>
TBA	Youth Service provision	<p>To maintain an overview of what is happening in the Youth Service, how the Service links to external partners and to scrutinise proposals for change. Also, to maintain an overview on the implementation of the improvement plan following inspection and identifying best practice in the provision of youth services and to identify how best to disseminate that practice across the County.</p>
TBA	Vocational training in secondary education	<p>To consider the level and nature of vocational training being provided in schools and colleges and to review how successfully it matches local business needs. (Hedley Cadd to provide information from the AVDC examination of the topic).</p>
TBA	Fostering creativity across the curriculum	<p>The revised national curriculum offers teachers more flexibility in delivery with opportunities for pupils to explore their creative potential to bring out their innate abilities. This work will test how the Council and the Learning and Skills Council are responding to this challenge.</p>

<b>May 26 '05</b>	Children's Services self-assessment	Stuart Powell to outline the new Children's Services self-assessment processes
<b>June 23 '05</b>	Transitions and PRUs	To identify issues and scope the review (see Cabinet 25/4/05)
<b>June 23 '05</b>	Communication with schools	Caroline Corcoran and Claire Humphreys to update members on progress on the project (first item on the agenda)
<b>June 23 '05</b>	Services for schools	Caroline Corcoran and Claire Humphreys to update members on progress on the project (to follow on from previous item)
<b>July 14 '05</b>	EDP traffic light report	Nigel Cook to deliver an update and discuss with members how the various plans now fit together and how monitoring should be carried out in future
<b>Sept 15 '05</b>	Post Ofsted Inspection Action Plan update	Update from Stuart Powell (remind Stuart of the letter sent to him following the March '05 meeting)
<b>Sept 15 '05</b>	School admissions policy	Update from Nick Powley on how the revised admissions policy has worked and any proposals for further changes
<b>Nov 17 '05</b>	Development of transitions advisory material	Follows from the Cabinet response (see Cabinet 25/4/05) to the OSC report on pupil transitions from primary to secondary school
<b>Dec 13 '05</b>	Swan Awards	Begin planning for 2006 Swan Awards – identify criteria, explain process, liaise with School Improvement over paperwork etc. Aim for visits during February and March with decisions by end of April and presentations in June '06
<b>Dec 13 '05</b>	Services for Children with Physical or Sensory Disabilities	To monitor progress on implementation of the OSC recommendations accepted by Cabinet in March 2005.
<b>Dec 13 '05</b>	Early Years Development and Childcare Plan	An overview item, to consider the EYDC Plan prior to its submission to Cabinet and Council. Note that this plan may be replaced by a single Children's Services Plan.
<b>Apr 26 '06</b>	Safeguarding Children – the local implications of the Bichard Inquiry	To monitor progress on implementation of the OSC recommendations accepted by Cabinet and the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board in April 2005.
<b>TBA</b>	Corporate Parenting	To monitor progress on the role of the corporate parent, following OSC recommendations to Cabinet in April 2001.
<b>TBA</b>	SSI (now CSCI) Inspection of Children's Social Care	Following OSC report to Cabinet of 26 July 2004 and subsequent update to OSC in November 04, to monitor progress on implementation of the SSI Action Plan, and to track the value added by the Business Support Team's involvement.