



Report to the Education, Skills and Children's Services Select Committee

Title:	The Education, Skills and Children's Services Select Committee Work Programme 2013-2014
Committee date:	25 th March 2014
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Electoral divisions affected:	All

Purpose of Agenda Item

This report is to present the updated Education, Skills and Children's Services Select Committee Work Programme 2013-2014.

1. Background

The Education, Skills and Children's Services Select Committee is one of the four scrutiny committees established by Council in May 2013. The Committee's Work Programme will inform the agenda of the Committee over the 2013-2014 Municipal Year and commission reports in advance from the relevant council departments and other organisations.

2. Summary

The Committee Work Programme 2013-2014 was agreed by the Committee on 23rd July 2013, in consideration of priority topics identified from consultation with Members of the Committee, Cabinet Members and chief officers of the relevant departments, prior consultation with the department and consideration of the Cabinet Member's Portfolio Plans, the Strategic Plan, and planned council consultations identified the Key Topics for Scrutiny. The Work Programme was updated on 10th September 2013 to include a consideration of



Internet Safety on 18th February 2013, which was a topic that had been proposed by Cllr Ms Angela Macpherson – Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, to the Chairman of the Committee.

The agreed Work Programme has been used to inform the Committee’s agenda plan for 2013-2014 to plan the work of the Committee throughout the 2013-2014 Municipal Year. The updated Committee Agenda Plan is attached at Appendix 1.

3. Priority Topics for 2013-2014

On 23rd July 2013, ten priority topics were agreed by the Committee:

1. Narrowing the Gap
2. Young People Ready for Work
3. Child Protection
4. Early Help (early help and yearly intervention services available, for children and families)
5. Children, Ready for School / Early Years (school readiness)
6. Special Educational Needs (SEN)
7. Improving schools through effective local accountability
8. Strengthening the role of councils and councillors in the local school system
9. Adoption
10. School Absenteeism.

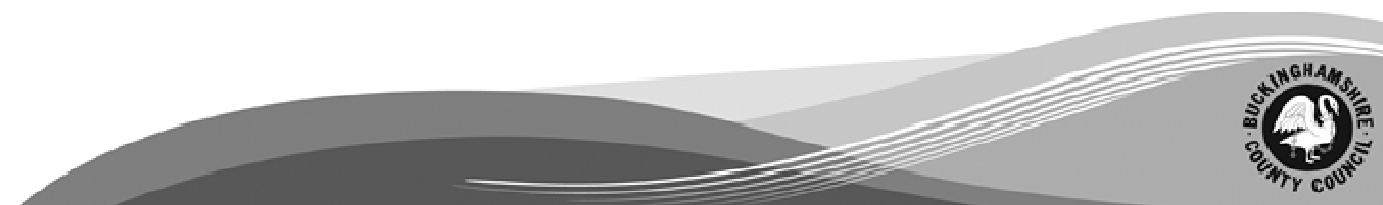
The list of priority topics for the 2013-2014 Work Programme were identified after receiving feedback from Members of the Committee, the Cabinet Members and chief officers. In addition, Internet Safety, has been proposed by Cllr Ms Angela Macpherson – Cabinet Member for Children’s Services.

Brief monitoring reports and updates are also anticipated on the Bucks Learning Trust, Educational Standards/performance, quarterly monitoring and review narrow educational attainment gaps, the Munro Programme, Families First, and a review of the implementation of the agreed recommendations of the Learning new Ways Scrutiny Review.

On 23rd July it was agreed that the scrutiny officer, in association with the Chairman of the Committee, would programme these items around the Committee agenda plan throughout the 2013-2014 Municipal Year. .

4. Resource implications

There are no financial implication anticipated at this stage. Recourse implications will include officer time in support of the scrutiny inquiries undertaken.



5. Next steps

The Select Committee work programme is being used to forward plan the agendas of the Select Committee meetings throughout the Municipal Year 2013-2014.

Appendix

Appendix 1: The detailed Education, Skills and Children's Services Work Programme 2013-2014 and Committee Agenda Plan, from 25th March 2014.