

CHILDREN & LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Work programme 2012/2013 - evaluation

During the 2012/13 Municipal Year, the **Children & Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee** held **5** meetings and met on the following dates – 9th July 2012, 17th September 2012, 26th November 2012, 28th January 2013 and 8th April 2013.

Members undertook the following scrutiny work:-

Call-ins/ references from Cabinet – the Scrutiny Committee considered **4 call-in items** and **7 items referred direct** from Cabinet. No items were called in from the Forward Plan. All budget items were **referred direct** to the Scrutiny Committee and considered at the meeting on 28th January 2013 (3 items).

Pre Cabinet items – the Scrutiny Committee considered **12** pre Cabinet items:

- Music Education Hub – 9th July 2012;
- Revised Policy for Amalgamating and Federating Schools – 9th July 2012;
- Provision of Primary School Places 2015 – 9th July 2012 and 26th November 2012;
- Safeguarding and Looked After Children Action Plan – 17th September 2012;
- SEN Funding – 17th September 2012;
- Family-on-Sea Consultation – 26th November 2012;
- Annual Report of the Success for All Children's Group – 26th November 2012;
- Proposed Children & Young Peoples Plan Priorities 2012/13 – 28th November 2012;
- School Admission Arrangements for Community Schools 2014/15 – 28 November 2012;
- Inspection of the Fostering Service by Ofsted January 2013 – 8th April 2013;
- Strategy for Special Educational Needs – 8th April 2013;

Scheduled items - each meeting as appropriate:

- Questions from members of the public – No questions were submitted to the Committee this year;
- Monthly Performance reports – Exception Reports also considered;
- Schools Progress Report – Regular updates were considered at each meeting on the progress of schools within the Borough;
- Minutes of the meetings of the Chairmen's Scrutiny Forum held on 29th March 2012 (reported to July meeting); 8th October 2012 (reported to November meeting); 11th February 2013 (reported to April meeting).

In-depth scrutiny project:

Current project – *Maximising opportunities for Looked After Children so that they do not become NEET statistic*. – The topic was agreed at the meeting on 9th July 2012 (Minute 98 refers). The full Committee received updates on progress in this project at each meeting. The project is Chaired by Councillor Ann Holland. Due to make final report to Committee and Cabinet early in the next Municipal Year.

Other Agenda items considered:

- Increased Trend in Referrals to Children's Social Care – 9th July 2012
- Youth Services in the Borough – 9th July 2012 (item requested by Councillor Assenheim in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 35.1)
- School Organisation Plan – 17th July 2012
- Youth Service in the Borough – 26th September 2012
- Key Stage 4 Reforms – 26th November 2012
- Update on Shoebury Youth Centre Usage – 8th April 2013
- Children's Centre Review – 8th April 2013