



# **Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

Date: Wednesday, 22 June 2022

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Council Antechamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

There will be a private meeting for Committee Members only at 1:30pm in Room 2006, 2nd Floor, Town Hall Extension

## **Access to the Council Antechamber**

Public access to the Council Antechamber is on Level 2 of the Town Hall Extension, using the lift or stairs in the lobby of the Mount Street entrance to the Extension.

**There is no public access from any other entrance.**

## **Filming and broadcast of the meeting**

Meetings of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee are 'webcast'. These meetings are filmed and broadcast live on the Internet. If you attend this meeting you should be aware that you might be filmed and included in that transmission.

## **Membership of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

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### **Councillors –**

Reid (Chair), Abdulatif, Alijah, Amin, Bano, Cooley, Gartside, Good, Hewitson, Judge, Lovecy, Sadler and Sharif Mahamed

### **Co-opted Members -**

Mr G Cleworth, Miss S Iltaf, Ms K McDaid, Mrs J Miles, Dr W Omara and Ms L Smith

## Agenda

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**1. Urgent Business**

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

**2. Appeals**

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

**3. Interests**

To allow Members an opportunity to [a] declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears; [c] the existence and nature of party whipping arrangements in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting. Members with a personal interest should declare that at the start of the item under consideration. If Members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.

**4. Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2022.

Pages  
7 - 12

**5. Youth and Play - to follow**

**6. Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services**

Report of the Deputy Strategic Director (Children's Services)

Pages  
13 - 28

This report reflects on the recent Ofsted Inspection of Local Authorities Children's Services (ILACS) of Manchester's children's services. The report advises of the overall judgement and provides an action plan in response to the findings from Ofsted on what needs to improve.

**7. Manchester Inclusion Strategy Update - to follow**

**8. COVID-19 Update**

The Committee will receive a verbal update from the Director of Education.

**9. Overview Report**

Report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

Pages  
29 - 40

This report provides the Committee with details of key decisions that fall within the Committee's remit and an update on actions resulting from the Committee's recommendations. The report also includes the Committee's work programme, which the Committee is asked to amend as appropriate and agree.

## Information about the Committee

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Scrutiny Committees represent the interests of local people about important issues that affect them. They look at how the decisions, policies and services of the Council and other key public agencies impact on the city and its residents. Scrutiny Committees do not take decisions but can make recommendations to decision-makers about how they are delivering the Our Manchester Strategy, an agreed vision for a better Manchester that is shared by public agencies across the city.

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee reviews the services provided by the Council and its partners for young people across the city including education, early years, school standards and valuing young people.

In addition to the elected members the Committee has seven co-opted member positions. These are:

- Representative of the Diocese of Manchester – Vacant
- Representative of the Diocese of Salford – Mrs Julie Miles
- Parent governor representative – Dr Walid Omara
- Parent governor representative – Ms Katie McDaid
- Parent governor representative – Mr Gary Cleworth
- Secondary sector teacher representative – Miss Saba Iltaf
- Primary sector teacher representative – Ms Laura Smith

The co-opted members representing faith schools and parent governors are able to vote when the Committee deals with matters relating to education functions.

The Council wants to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions that affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair. Groups of people will usually be asked to nominate a spokesperson. The Council wants its meetings to be as open as possible but occasionally there will be some confidential business. Brief reasons for confidentiality will be shown on the agenda sheet.

The Council welcomes the filming, recording, public broadcast and use of social media to report on the Committee's meetings by members of the public.

Agenda, reports and minutes of all Council Committees can be found on the Council's website [www.manchester.gov.uk](http://www.manchester.gov.uk)

Smoking is not allowed in Council buildings.

Joanne Roney OBE  
Chief Executive  
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Manchester, M60 2LA.

## Further Information

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For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee Officer:

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This agenda was issued on **Tuesday, 14 June 2022** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 2, Town Hall Extension (Library Walk Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA

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## Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

### Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2022

#### Present:

Councillor Reid – in the Chair  
Councillors Alijah, Amin, Gartside, Good, Hewitson, Judge, Lovecy, Sadler and Sharif Mahamed

#### Co-opted Voting Members:

Mr G Cleworth, Parent Governor Representative

#### Co-opted Non-Voting Members:

Miss S Iltaf, Secondary Sector Teacher Representative  
Ms L Smith, Primary Sector Teacher Representative

#### Also present:

Councillor Bridges, Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People  
Andrea Patel, Director of Safeguarding, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning (MHCC)  
Detective Superintendent Chris Downey, Greater Manchester Police (GMP)

#### Apologies:

Councillors Abdullatif and Bano  
Dr W Omara, Parent Governor Representative

#### **CYP/22/21                      Minute's Silence**

The Committee held a minute's silence for the victims of the school shooting in Texas and the children of Ukraine.

#### **CYP/22/22    Urgent Business – Ofsted's Inspection of Manchester's Children's Services**

The Deputy Director of Children's Services informed Members about the recent Ofsted Inspection of Manchester Children's Services, which had judged the service to be "good". He outlined the main points within Ofsted's report, which had been published the previous week. He highlighted that Manchester now had one of the top performing Children's Services in the north-west of England and that this represented a significant improvement since the last inspection in 2017. He offered to bring to a future meeting a report which included the Council's action plan for addressing the areas for improvement identified in Ofsted's report.

The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People recognised the years of hard work that had gone into achieving this improvement, particularly in light of the challenges of austerity and the pandemic, and how Council decisions had enabled this. The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services also praised the staff in Children's Services. He emphasised that, while this was a very positive achievement, the service could not be complacent and would strive for continued improvement and to respond to emerging challenges.

A Member congratulated all those involved in this achievement and recognised the important role of frontline social work staff. The Chair highlighted how the service had worked to improve since it had been judged as “inadequate” in 2014 and made reference to the late Sheila Newman who had been the Executive Member for Children’s Services, overseeing the improvement journey until her death in 2018. The Chair also explained the contribution of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee over this period and her own role in the improvement journey. She also thanked the former Council Leader Sir Richard Leese for his commitment with extra funding for social workers, to reduce caseloads.

### **Decision**

To note the verbal report.

### **CYP/22/23                    Minutes**

#### **Decisions**

1. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2022.
2. To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Ofsted Subgroup held on 2 March 2022.

### **CYP/22/24    Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (MSP) Annual Report 2020/2021**

The Committee received a report of Paul Marshall, in his role as the Chair of the Children Executive Board, which provided an overview of what the MSP had done as a result of the safeguarding arrangements, and how effective these arrangements had been in practice.

The main points and themes within the report included:

- Partnership arrangements;
- Communications and engagement;
- Quality assurance and scrutiny;
- Case reviews and learning;
- Workforce development;
- The Independent Chair’s assurance statement;
- Review of MSP Joint Strategic Plan 2020/2021; and
- Strategic priorities 2021/2022.

Some of the key points and themes that arose from the Committee’s discussions were:

- To welcome the positive achievements outlined in the report, recognising the challenges of the pandemic;



- To request more information on the changes to the quality assurance arrangements;
- Serious Case Reviews and learning from high profile national cases such as the death of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes; and
- Complex safeguarding work relating to young people at risk from serious youth violence, including work with local communities to address this.

The Strategic Lead (Safeguarding and Practice Development) reported that the Partnership had been focused on identifying, understanding and meeting the needs of children and families during the pandemic and making sure that no child fell through the net during that period; however, it was recognised that the focus of the quality assurance function now needed to re-adjust and should extend to looking at the impact and effectiveness of its work. She outlined how learning from high profile national cases was used, checking if the findings from that investigation was true of Manchester, and reported that, when undertaking a review in Manchester, national research would be taken into account.

The Chair highlighted the important role of Health Visitors in identifying and monitoring the welfare of pre-school-age children who were in need of help and protection and suggested that Health Visitors be added to the agenda for a future meeting. Andrea Patel, Director of Safeguarding, MHCC, reported that reviews in Manchester had been positive about the Health Visiting Service but that if any gaps were identified they would be addressed.

The Chair informed the Committee about a project which was taking place in Gorton on complex safeguarding, which involved the local community. The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services informed Members about the multi-agency Complex Safeguarding Subgroup and the links with neighbourhoods teams, GMP and schools. Detective Superintendent Chris Downey from GMP reported that it was a constant challenge to keep young people safe and manage tensions and that he and his colleagues wanted to be able to shift towards understanding the causes of youth violence and focusing on early intervention. He informed Members that he had recently recruited an additional three police officers to work on early intervention regarding serious youth violence and that this work would be supported by Youth Justice and social workers in the Complex Safeguarding Hub. He advised that this work was different from their traditional work on Child Criminal Exploitation and needed a different approach.

In response to a Member's question, Detective Superintendent Chris Downey advised that GMP did look at what similar cities were doing to address youth violence, although still more could be done to learn from good practice elsewhere. In response to another question, he acknowledged that more work needed to be done to engage with local communities, including families affected by serious youth violence and recognised that work with communities had been important in addressing other issues, such as firearm offences. He reported that GMP did communicate with families who had lost loved ones due to youth violence. He advised that, although GMP had a central Independent Advisory Group that covered the whole central area, he felt that a more local approach was needed, including asking local people how they could help with addressing this issue. The Chair highlighted the new Chief Constable's commitment to neighbourhood policing. She

advised that she had already spoken to the Chair of the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee, who would be having an item on Youth Justice at a future meeting, to which she and Members of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee would be invited.

A Member who was a Teacher Representative informed the Committee how her school was engaging with local partners, including mosques, to address challenging behaviour. The Strategic Director of Children and Education Services suggested that officers provide a report on youth participation and engagement to a future meeting.

Members discussed youth provision, including funding cuts, activities over the summer holidays and the challenge of young people not wanting to cross boundaries into other areas to access youth provision. A Member informed the Committee about a boxing club for young people set up by Moss Side firefighters and suggested that Members could visit this. The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People suggested that the Committee receive a report on youth provision at a future meeting and highlighted the additional £500,000 which the Council was investing in youth provision. He also informed the Committee how local Neighbourhood Teams were putting on events as part of Our Year. He said that he could provide further information on this and encouraged Members to speak to the Neighbourhood Teams in their wards about doing this. In response to a Member's comments about issues in his ward, the Executive Member offered to discuss the specific issues outside of the meeting.

In a response to a Member's question about the impact of the pandemic on children and young people's mental health, the Strategic Director of Children and Education Services outlined the mental health support that had been put in place through schools and through both universal and specialist services. He recognised the challenge of responding to traumatised children and suggested that the Committee might want to consider this at a future meeting.

## **Decision**

To consider Health Visiting at a future meeting.

## **CYP/22/25                      COVID-19 Update**

The Committee received a verbal update from the Education Business Partner which outlined new developments and significant changes to the current situation, particularly in relation to schools.

The main points and themes within the verbal update included:

- The number of positive cases in schools, which had reduced;
- Recent changes, including the end of free regular testing, the expanded list of COVID-19 symptoms and the change in guidance for people who suspected that they had COVID-19;
- The government's withdrawal of the operational guidance for schools on COVID-19 and the incorporation of COVID-19 management into existing health, health and safety and estates management guidance and the

- publication of a new document for school leaders called the Department for Education (DfE) Emergency Planning and Response document;
- The continued support being provided to schools by the Council's Education Service and its partners;
  - That the Test and Trace Team had become Manchester Health Protection Team and that support would continue and would now cover other diseases, in addition to COVID-19; and
  - That there would be a continued focus on Long Covid, in relation to pupils and staff.

In response to a Member's question, the Director of Education reported that individual schools could decide how quickly they resumed normal activities, such as full assemblies or stay and play sessions, which had been stopped during the pandemic. She advised that some schools had found that some of the practices introduced due to the pandemic were beneficial to the smooth-running of the school and would continue. The Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People reported that staff absences could be affecting the resumption of some activities but that he expected activities to return to similar to how they had been pre-pandemic and that Members could speak to him or the Director of Education about any specific cases they were concerned about. In response to a Member's question, the Deputy Director of Children's Services reported that Social Workers had been undertaking face-to-face visits throughout the pandemic, while almost making use of technology.

The Chair advised that the Committee would receive a further COVID-19 update at its next meeting and could then review whether or not it was necessary to continue to have updates at every meeting. She noted that the Committee would be receiving a report on examination results later in the year and would be able to assess the impact of the pandemic on these. She suggested that the Committee receive a report on School Governance at a future meeting.

### **Decision**

To receive a report on School Governance at a future meeting.

### **CYP/22/26 Overview Report**

A report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit was submitted. The overview report contained key decisions within the Committee's remit, responses to previous recommendations and the Committee's work programme, which the Committee was asked to approve.

### **Decision**

To note the report and agree the work programme.

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## Manchester City Council Report for Information

**Report to:** Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 22 June 2022

**Subject:** Ofsted Inspection of Children’s Services

**Report of:** Deputy Strategic Director (Children’s Services)

### Summary

The report reflects on the recent OFSTED Inspection of Local Authorities Children’s Services (ILACS) of Manchester’s children’s services. The report advises of the overall judgement of OFSTED and provides an action plan in response to the findings from OFSTED on what needs to improve.

### Recommendations

Scrutiny is asked to discuss both the report and action plan which is attached as an Appendix to the main report.

### Wards Affected: All

<b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b> - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

<b>Our Manchester Strategy outcomes</b>	<b>Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS</b>
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Effective Services are critical to ensuring the most vulnerable citizens can connect and support the drive towards a thriving and sustainable City.
A highly skilled city: world class and home-grown talent sustaining the city’s economic success	Ensuring the most vulnerable in our society are given the opportunity to access and achieve in the City is supported by the delivery of a strong and cohesive early help system.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Improving education and social care services that are connected to the wider partnership; build the resilience of children and families needed to achieve their potential and be integrated into their communities.

A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Improving outcomes for children and families across the city helps build and develop communities.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Services support families to be successful who are then able to deliver continuing growth in the city.

**Contact Officers:**

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**Background documents (available for public inspection):**

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy, please contact one of the contact officers above.

Ofsted Inspection of Manchester local authority children's services [Children Services Inspection Report March 2022](#)

## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 As part of OFSTED’s inspection regime Manchester’s children’s services were inspected by Ofsted from the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 to the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2022. The inspection was conducted using their Inspecting Local Authorities children’s services (ILACS) framework. The inspection consisted of one week off site and two weeks onsite. The offsite inspection enabled inspectors to analyse performance data, the authority's self-assessment and other intelligence relating to our performance. The onsite inspection focused on the effectiveness of local authority services and arrangements to deliver these services. The inspection is very focused on the quality of social work practice, the impact of this on children's lives and how both are evidenced through the quality of recording both the intervention and impact.

1.2 Ofsted judged Manchester's children's services overall effectiveness as “Good”, with the detail of their judgements noted below;

Judgement	Grade
The impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families	Good
The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection	Requires improvement to be good
The experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers	Good
Overall effectiveness	Good

1.3 The ILACS inspection of children's services followed a 4 day on-site local area inspection of services to children with special education needs and /or disabilities (SEND) which commenced on the 22nd of November 2021. The local area SEND inspection framework does not have judgements however the letter reflected a strong approach to planning and delivering services to children with SEND.

1.4 The judgment of good places Manchester children's services amongst the top performing children's services in the Northwest of the country, this is in sharp contrast to recent previous inspection results in 2014 and 2017 where services were judged to be inadequate and requires improvement to be good respectively. 1.5 Inspectors found that services had “significantly improved since the last inspection in 2017”. Ofsted identified several reasons for this judgement including; ongoing financial commitment to the recruitment and retention of social workers, effective quality assurance and performance management arrangements and strong political and professional leadership.

1.5 Despite the judgement the service is not complacent, the approach to service improvement since the last full inspection in 2017 has been to initiate reform of services that required improvement, develop and implement evidence-based interventions, revise our approach to commissioning, build a comprehensive

workforce development and career progression strategy and use our quality assurance framework and other methods to scrutinize the evidence of impact of these change activities on children and families. These approaches, in addition to the OFSTED action plan, will support our ongoing approach to continuous improvement.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 OFSTED judged the impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families as good some of the components of this are identified in the summary above but however OFSTED also recognised improvements in the care leavers service, privately fostered children, 16 – 17 years who become homeless, life story work, letters before proceedings and importantly, for attracting sustaining and developing our workforce, inspectors commented that leaders have successfully embedded a learning culture across the workforce. To support the monitoring of these developments OFSTED positively commented on the range of and regularity of good quality performance management reports.
- 2.2 The experiences and progress of children who need help and protection was judged as requires improvement to be good, the more positive comments from inspectors noted that when risk decrease children's cases are appropriately stepped out of pre – proceedings, children and families are then supported well and early help is a stable and effective service for children who require early intervention. However, there are other areas detailed in appendix 1 -an action plan to address improvements- that require ongoing attention such as the variability of assessment and some plans being assessed by Ofsted too adult focused with some containing generic actions. Inspectors also commented that impacts of risks arising from domestic abuse are not always fully considered or understood by social workers.
- 2.3 The experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers was judged as good, both had been identified by the service as features of our provision that required improvement and we have undertaken large scale reform in these two areas since the 2017 inspection. The service has carefully crafted a meaningful approach to finding the most appropriate outcome for children in the child's timeframe. This long-term approach designed to avoid drift and delay in decision making for children was acknowledged by inspectors who commented “Manchester has successfully embedded a culture of permanence planning for children.” Our leaving care service, which was taken back in- house shortly after the 2017 inspection, has benefited from the creation of a clear ambitious vision and standards supporting significant transformation of the service, inspectors acknowledged this when they commented that “care leavers in Manchester receive a consistently good service”.
- 2.4 The impact of leaders on social work practice was judged as good. Ofsted noted improvements in a range of themes of social work practice but also noted that influence other agencies have in the improvement of services to children. Ofsted



noted the “strength of the political and senior leadership relationships and a city-wide focus on the “our child” approach is improving outcomes for children” as well as “the commitment to partnership working strength of partnership working in Manchester children's young people and their families have received an improving level of service that has offered safety and support throughout the two years of the COVID 19 pandemic”. Importantly Ofsted further noted that leaders knew which areas required improvement, these are reflected in the action plan noted on appendix 1 and are discussed below.

### **3.0 Ofsted action plan**

- 3.1 The action plan is a requirement of the Ofsted inspection framework and is required to address the areas that Ofsted has stated require improving. The action plan provides a focus for improvement and will be tracked through the biannual self-assessment which in turn reports to the children's leadership team. However, the action plan is not the only activity to support the continuous improvement required within children's services. The embedded approach to continuous improvement as identified in paragraph 1.6 will continue to support further changes and developments of the service.
- 3.2 The attached action plan is a bespoke high-level plan of action to the specific actions OFSTED have identified as what needs to improve. Individual leads will develop a detailed implementation plan and as previously referred to the progress of the plan will be overseen by the children's leadership team. The Deputy Director will have overall responsibility for the plan and its intended outcomes

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<b>Manchester Children's Services Ofsted Plan (May 2022) High level plan</b>				
<b>Ref</b>	<b>What do we want to improve</b>	<b>How will we do it</b>	<b>What will the impact be and how will we know</b>	<b>Lead Officer and Timescale</b>
1.	<b><i>Understand the impact of the child's disability on their life and that of their parents</i></b>	All social workers within the disabled children social work teams will receive comprehensive disability awareness training. An element of this training will be informed by an approach that reflects the impact of disability through the experience of the child.	<p>Co-designed with parents and children, this programme will develop professional understanding of the impact of disability on the lives of children and their families. The training is intended to develop insight into children's and families' experiences of disability which in turn should develop understanding and improve planning, resourcing and outcomes for children.</p> <p>The impact will be monitored via our quality assurance processes, supervision, audit and through development of our approach to systematically listening to children and families regarding their experiences of service provision. This will be captured as part of the locality QAF report</p>	<p>Colleen Murphy</p> <p>Package of training agreed June 2022</p> <p>Implementation from July</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
		Design a programmed approach to dip sampling and quality assurance for assessments of disabled children undertaken by each of the disabled children's teams.	<p>Assessment will include a clear statement on the impact of disability on children's lives and that of their family.</p> <p>The impact will be captured via sampling activities, re-assessments, supervision and independent audit. This will be captured as part of the locality Quality Assurance Report.</p>	<p>Colleen Murphy / Kate Rose</p> <p>Initial programme June 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
		The service will co-locate social workers and the short breaks team and improve	More plans are coproduced with children and their families. Children will receive a timely and detailed service	<p>Colleen Murphy</p> <p>From May 2022</p>

		alignment with the local offer to maximise opportunities for health and social development for children with a disability	with appropriate, trained and increasingly specialist staff who will promote ambition for children and young people and deliver coordinated impactful packages of care.  Impact of the plan will be better alignment of services improving health and social development for children and will be overseen via the quality assurance framework scrutiny.	Ongoing
<b>2.</b>	<b><i>Improve communication and direct work with disabled children to gather their wishes and feelings and use these to inform planning and next steps</i></b>	Roll out the “About Me” - an interactive tool to assist in understanding the impact of the child's disability on their life and that of their parents.	Assessments will contain a clear statement on the wishes and feelings of children impacted by disability, which in turn will be sampled as to how this influences the planning for children. A bespoke launch of the “About Me” will be devised and overseen by CLT. Children’s insight about their lives in the About ME documentation will drive an increase in direct work and a coproduced understanding of basic needs of the child.  The QAF will report on both the qualitative and quantitative impact of this roll out.	Colleen Murphy  From June 2022  Ongoing
		Provide training to staff who undertake assessment and support to families and children to develop mechanisms to assist children with disabilities express their wishes and feelings.	Development of a range of means of communication and engagement skills across the workforce supporting an improvement in direct work with disabled children.  Our quality assurance arrangements of audit sampling and supervision will evidence the impact of these arrangements.	Colleen Murphy  Ongoing from June 2022  Ongoing
		Building relationships with	The impact of this partnership will enhance communication	Colleen Murphy /Julie Hicklin

		colleagues in the SEN sector who have expertise in communicating with children who have a disability to develop expertise in this area.	with disabled children which in turn will increase their influence in their assessment, plan and review of the plan of intervention from social  This will be measured by children and their parents reporting that they have had their voices heard and are influencing plans.  Our case records sampling and auditing will also record the impact of this approach.	June 2022 and ongoing  Ongoing
		Following the golden thread of doing with not to assessing social workers will work in partnership with parents in the recognition that they have expertise in communicating with their own child.	More plans are coproduced with children and their families. Children and their parents report that they have had their voices heard  Our surveys, case records and dip sampling regime will evidence the impact.	Ongoing as of April 2022  Ongoing
<b>3.</b>	<b><i>Ambition for disabled children</i></b>	The service will co-locate social workers and the short breaks team and improve alignment with the local offer to maximise opportunities for health and social development for children with a disability	Increased social activities for children sponsored by both the local offer and improved commissioning of services for children affected by disability  We will follow the impact via surveys of parents and children, dip sampling & case recording and auditing.	Colleen Murphy /Maureen Howell May 2022  Ongoing
		We will provide training for all independent reviewing officers. This will ensure their role and expertise challenges the planning and service delivery arrangements for disabled children who are in our care	The independent reviewing service will be better equipped to ensure the impact of the voice, wishes and feelings of the child on the plan and offer enhanced scrutiny of the plan by identifying gaps in the assessment and /or provision of service.  The expected impact would be an enhanced level of	Colleen Murphy /Kate Rose August 2022

		ensuring there is improved focus on disabled children reaching their full potential.	challenge to progress quality and aspiration ensuring children reach their potential.  This will be evidenced by our sampling of children's records and the reporting by children and young people that the quality of their support is assisting children achieve their potential.	Ongoing
		The service will develop a community of practice overseen by the DSCO consisting of commissioning, the virtual school, SEN representatives, parents and children IROs and social workers to review the above commitments and further codesign aspects of this plan, codesigning further developments	A cohesive group of professionals working on delivering these and other improvements reporting to the SEND board. The community of practice will coproduce the next stage of improvement influenced by a greater cross section engagement and collation of views and concerns.  A multi-agency plan with measurable targets will be developed to capture progress	Colleen Murphy November 2022  To be developed by July 2022
<b>4.</b>	<b><i>EHCP – ensure plans reflect care needs</i></b>	Social workers will contribute to statutory assessment process and set out clear outcomes to be achieved for children they are working with.	High quality Education Health and Care plans for children will be strengths based and reflect care needs and outcomes following assessment.  This will require the development of a programme of sampling for EHCPs	Colleen Murphy/ Amanda Corcoran  July 2022
		Multi-agency moderation of EHCPs will identify themes and issues in care section and feedback to social care.	The multi-agency approach to moderation will add additional scrutiny to reflect needs, risks and opportunities to enhance the quality of services to children.  Children and their parents report that they have had their	Colleen Murphy /Amanda Corcoran July 2022  Ongoing

			voices heard and our case records and formulation of support plans evidence this.	
<b>5.</b>	<b><i>Improve the understanding of the effects of domestic abuse on children and their parents' lives, including how this is captured in the child's written record</i></b>	<p>We will invite Lancaster University to review our approach to the Advice Guidance and Support service and refresh the guidance to staff at AGS on domestic abuse.</p>	<p>The review of the Advice Guidance and Support Service will challenge our implementation of the model providing critique and areas for improvement</p> <p>This will promote a consistent approach to practice in the early identification of domestic abuse and initial response at the " front door".</p> <p>The recommendation from the review will be overseen by the children's leadership team.</p> <p>The practice issues will be evidenced via supervision, dip sampling and external scrutiny.</p>	<p>Paul Allen</p> <p>May 2022</p> <p>July 2022</p> <p>July 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
		<p>Review the effectiveness of the Domestic Abuse Child – care Concern (DACC) arrangements to share information, risk assess and agree a response</p>	<p>Through information exchange between partners children and families will receive a timely, proportionate response to domestic abuse to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to safeguard children</p> <p>This will be reviewed through dip sampling and auditing as part of the quality assurance framework</p>	<p>Paul Allen / Julie Heslop</p> <p>July 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
		<p>Mandatory training, including refresher training, aimed at developing professional understanding of the connectivity between the safe and together model and tools to inform understanding and</p>	<p>Ensuring the effects and impacts of domestic abuse on children and their parents are appropriately understood and recorded from first contact with the service. The use of standardized tools alongside training will enhance workers' understanding of the impact of domestic abuse on children and their parents.</p>	<p>Kate Rose / Debbie Elsheikh</p> <p>September 2022</p> <p>July 2022</p>

		<p>improve practice in relation to understanding the effects of domestic abuse on children including the risk /safety matrix and the Multi agency risk identification matrix.</p>	<p>We will oversee the delivery of training through the workforce development team which will also set a delivery plan and defined outcomes.</p> <p>Improving the quality of practice will be evaluated via the locality quarterly assurance reports.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
		<p>Review the current guidance on recording on the child's written record and provide guidance to staff on the standards expected on recording to improve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The understanding of our assessment and planning to manage risks;</li> <li>➤ The identification and impact of our support plan to children, the non-abusing parent and action to hold perpetrators accountable for their behaviors; and</li> <li>➤ The contribution of management oversight to improve the impact of assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The file clearly articulates the rationale for the plan as well as the progress of the plan against identified needs and risks;</li> <li>✓ The file will clearly indicate progress or otherwise against the plan of support;</li> <li>✓ Management oversight will be reflective of both direction setting and ownership of intervention, this will include overview of the quality of work, effectiveness of planning and evaluating the overall effectiveness of the intervention in delivering child focused outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>All of these will be evidenced through the quality assurance quarterly report.</p>	<p>Sean Walsh/Debbie Elsheikh Commence July 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p>



		and planning on the child		
		Alongside the University of Stirling, we will review the impact of Safe and Together and consider options for further development	<p>The review will identify how to progress our approach to safe and together and will include actions to report on ensuring a consistent and more visible implementation of the model</p> <p>The impact of this review will be monitored by our multi-agency safe and together board and other relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>Activity will be monitored via our existing quality assurance processes.</p>	<p>From July 2022 and ongoing</p> <p>July 2022 and ongoing</p>
		Building on our current case recording guidance, use quarterly summaries to consistently record progress against our plan of support for individual children where there are concerns regarding the effects of domestic abuse.	<p>Ensure a service wide comprehensive understanding of the impact of domestic abuse. Increased focus on the impact of the abuse on the child evidenced through quarterly summaries and other case recording improvement actions as noted above.</p> <p>A bespoke dip sampling programme on quarterly summaries which are then reported as part of the quality assurance framework.</p>	<p>Debbie Elsheikh</p> <p>July 2022 and ongoing</p> <p>Implemented by September 2022</p>
<b>6. The recognition of and actions to meet, the diverse needs of children arising from their race, religion, ethnicity, and culture</b>				
<b>6.</b>	<b><i>The recognition of and actions to meet, the diverse needs of children arising from their race, religion, ethnicity, and culture</i></b>	Revise the current practice standards to explicitly state the importance of diversity and the importance of planning to assess and support the development of children's identity through attention to race, religion, ethnicity and culture and how this is	We will create a task and finish group with a cross section of staff to develop a training plan specifically focused on the issue of promoting the identity of children and young people. Development of a consistent approach to assessment planning and recording that can be audited in turn ensuring improvements.	<p>Sean Walsh / Debbie Elsheikh</p> <p>June 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

		reflected in children's plans	This will be overseen by our quality assurance arrangements	
		We will arrange for a cross-section of representatives to be part of a short-term work group to revise the pre-existing case recording standards.	The group will reconsider the effectiveness of the current guidance regarding recording, with a focus on recordings being more orientated towards rational for involvement and analytical regarding progress.  Progress will be assessed via our quality assurance processes, i.e., audit, dip sampling & supervision	Debbie el Shiek / Sean Walsh  June 2002  Ongoing
		The above noted group will produce guidance on the quality of assessment, drawing from those assessments that have characteristics OFSTED have identified as being stronger	The group will deliver guidance on assessment and planning to ensure reductions in variability of the quality of assessment by identifying characteristics of stronger assessments. Progress will be overseen by our quality assurance processes.	Debbie Elsheikh  June 2022
<b>7.</b>				
	<b><i>To improve the quality and timeliness of children's written records, including supervision records, children's plans children and family assessments and direct work</i></b>	Direction will be given to all staff in the Advice Guidance and support teams to ensure the rationale for decision making in Children's written records is clear and timely.	Practice will ensure there is clear recording regarding rationale for decisions when immediate decisions about further involvement of the service remain unassessed. This will be evidenced via our dip sampling and Quality assurance activity embedded in the approach to AGS	Paul Allen/Sean McKendrick  May 2022
		Utilising a training and development approach we will further develop the understanding of the purpose, function and ethics of reflective supervision.	Following the training all managers will attend local workshops with their plan for improvement and consolidation of practice  All managers will be confident to write an impact statement for a child discussed in supervision that is purposeful and provides a clear timescale and impact for the child	Debbie El Sheikh/Sean Walsh Commence July 2022

		<p>A task and finish group will revise the tools to deliver supervision in an increasingly consistent fashion.</p>	<p>The supervision policy will reflect Manchester's high standards and expectations to support best practice and effective delivery of services. The quality of supervision will be enhanced through the development of an evaluative tool co designed by a task and finish group,</p> <p>The impact will be monitored by a systematic approach to observation of supervision and sampling of supervision records.</p>	<p>Debbie Elsheikh / Sean Walsh</p> <p>Commence July 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
		<p>We will develop mechanisms to verify the quality of supervision, how this is being delivered and how these impacts on children, staff and services.</p>	<p>A task and finish group will deliver guidance on assessment and planning to ensure reductions in variability of the quality of assessment by identifying characteristics of stronger assessments as referenced in the ILACS inspection letter,</p> <p>Progress will be overseen by our quality assurance processes and via which will be reported in our annual principal social worker report.</p>	<p>Debbie Elsheikh / Sean Walsh</p> <p>July 2022</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
		<p>We will further develop our approach to ensuring good quality direct work with children and their families through ongoing training as part of our established learning culture and development programme.</p>	<p>Children will be further assisted to express their wishes and feelings and receive support to address their concerns.</p>	<p>Ongoing Sean Walsh/Debbie EISheikh</p>

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**Manchester City Council  
Report for Information**

**Report to:** Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – 22 June 2022

**Subject:** Overview Report

**Report of:** Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

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**Summary**

This report provides the following information:

- Recommendations Monitor
- Key Decisions
- Items for information
- Work Programme

**Recommendation**

The Committee is invited to discuss the information provided and agree any changes to the work programme that are necessary.

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**Wards Affected:** All

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**Contact Officer:**

Name: Rachel McKeon

Position: Scrutiny Support Officer

Tel: 0161 234 4997

Email: rachel.mckeon@manchester.gov.uk

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**Background Documents (available for public inspection):**

None

## 1. Monitoring Previous Recommendations

This section of the report contains recommendations made by the Committee, responses to them, if they will be implemented, and if it will be, how this will be done.

Date	Item	Recommendation	Action	Contact Officer
8 January 2019	CYP/19/05 Youth and Play Services	To request the needs analysis ranking information for the 32 wards in Manchester.	A response to this recommendation will be incorporated into a future report.	Neil Fairlamb, Head of Parks, Leisure, Events and Youth
9 October 2019	CYP/19/39 Skills for Life	To request that the Council work to ensure that, as far as possible, all settings are involved in Skills for Life, including independent schools, and that officers look into how Skills for Life could be incorporated into the contracts when Our Children are placed in non-Council-owned residential settings.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Neil Fairlamb, Head of Parks, Leisure, Events and Youth
6 November 2019	CYP/19/48 Youth and Play Services - Young Manchester	To request that clear information on the availability of toilet facilities, for example, in park cafes, be included on signage in parks.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Neil Fairlamb, Head of Parks, Leisure, Events and Youth
4 March 2020	CYP/20/16 Improving Children's Outcomes Through Collaboration	To request further information on how the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust is dealing with smoking around its hospital sites and to note that the Executive	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Paul Marshall, Strategic Director of Children and Education Services

Date	Item	Recommendation	Action	Contact Officer
	and Working in Partnership in a Locality	Member for Children and Schools will circulate a briefing note on work that is already taking place to address smoking in pregnancy.		
22 July 2020	CYP/20/26 Manchester's Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing	To request that school governors be included in the plans for schools and that CAMHS and the support on offer be included on the agenda of a future Chair of Governors briefing.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education
2 December 2020	CYP/20/51 Early Help Evaluation (2015 - 2020)	To ask officers to consider how Councillors could help with this work and to circulate a note to the Committee Members on this.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be circulated to Members.	Julie Heslop, Strategic Head of Early Help
2 December 2020	CYP/20/51 Early Help Evaluation (2015 - 2020)	To request that the Early Help Project Manager provide information on the number of families, in relation to the presentation slides on areas of the city and the sustainability of impacts.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back to the Committee via the Overview report.	Ed Haygarth, Early Help Project Manager
9 February 2022	CYP/22/11 Annual Virtual School Head's Report	To arrange a visit to Wetherby Young Offender Institution and Barton Moss Secure Children's Home, in conjunction with the Communities and Equalities	These visits are being arranged, in discussion with the Committee Chairs.	Rachel McKeon, Scrutiny Support Officer

Date	Item	Recommendation	Action	Contact Officer
		Scrutiny Committee.		
9 February 2022	CYP/22/11 Annual Virtual School Head's Report	To further discuss bringing a joint report on knife crime, in conjunction with the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee.	This is being scheduled for a future meeting of the Communities and Equalities Scrutiny Committee.	Rachel McKeon, Scrutiny Support Officer

## 2. Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish details of key decisions that will be taken at least 28 days before the decision is due to be taken. Details of key decisions that are due to be taken are published on a monthly basis in the Register of Key Decisions.

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution is an executive decision, which is likely:

- To result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, or
- To be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the city.

The Council Constitution defines 'significant' as being expenditure or savings (including the loss of income or capital receipts) in excess of £500k, providing that is not more than 10% of the gross operating expenditure for any budget heading in the in the Council's Revenue Budget Book, and subject to other defined exceptions.

An extract of the most recent Register of Key Decisions published on **13 June 2022** containing details of the decisions under the Committee's remit is included below. This is to keep members informed of what decisions are being taken and, where appropriate, include in the work programme of the Committee.



**Register of Key Decisions:**

<b>Subject / Decision</b>	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Decision Due Date</b>	<b>Consultation</b>	<b>Background documents</b>	<b>Officer Contact</b>
<p><b>Early Years - Tendered Daycare Settings (2021/07/16B)</b></p> <p>The approval of capital expenditure to support the continued provision of high-quality Early Years settings across the City.</p>	<p>City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive)</p>	<p>Not before 16th Aug 2021</p>		<p>Checkpoint 4 Business Case</p>	<p>Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education a.corcoran@manchester.gov.uk</p>
<p><b>Youth Offer Strategy (2019/12/11B)</b></p> <p>To agree a Youth Offer Strategy for the next 3 years and complete the production of the strategy document</p>	<p>Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods)</p>	<p>13 Jan 2020</p>		<p>Manchester Youth Offer Strategy</p>	
<p><b>TC451 Provision of Transport Service for Manchester Schools Swimming Programme (22/02/18A)</b></p> <p>To seek approval to appoint a company to provide transportation for the Manchester Schools Swimming Programme. The contract will be for 2 years commencing September 2022 with an option to extend for up to an</p>	<p>City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive)</p>	<p>Not before 18th Mar 2022</p>		<p>Confidential Contract Report with recommendations</p>	

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Officer Contact
additional 2 years.					
<p><b>Changing Primary and Secondary School Formula (2021/12/06A)</b></p> <p>Approve starting a transition to the National Funding Formula (NFF) in advance of submission of primary and secondary budget to the Department for Education in January 2022.</p>	Executive	19 Jan 2022		School Budget Report	
<p><b>Manchester Sensory Service (2022/02/04A)</b></p> <p>Proposal to take Manchester Sensory Service out to tender in order to identify new governance arrangements. The budget for this service is £2.83m</p>	Executive	16 Mar 2022		Report and recommendations	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education a.corcoran@manchester.gov.uk
<p><b>Home to school travel for children and young people with SEND (2022/02/08A)</b></p> <p>Proposal to implement a new policy across the City for home to school travel for children and young people with SEND.</p>	Executive	16 Mar 2022		Report and recommendations	Amanda Corcoran, Director of Education a.corcoran@manchester.gov.uk
<p><b>(TC1108) Dynamic Purchasing System for the Provision of Alternative Education for</b></p>	Strategic Director - Children	Not before 24th Mar 2022		Report & Recommendation	

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Officer Contact
<p><b>Manchester Schools (24/02/2022A)</b></p> <p>To establish a Dynamic Purchasing System of organisations to provide Alternative Education provision for Manchester Schools.</p>	and Education Services				
<p><b>Q20347 Consultant for EYES data Migration. 2019/04/25A</b></p> <p>Contract is to support Manchester City Council with the migration of their Education Management System away from Capita One towards the Liquidlogic EYES solution.</p>	City Treasurer (Deputy Chief Executive)	Not before 1st Jun 2019		Report and Recommendation	Jon Nickson j.nickson@manchester.gov.uk

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee  
Work Programme – June 2022**

Wednesday 22 June 2022, 10am (Report deadline Monday 13 June 2022)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Strategic Director/ Lead Officer	Comments
Youth and Play	To receive an update on Youth and Play including the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme.	Councillor Bridges	Fiona Worrall/ Jaffer Hussain	
Ofsted Inspection Action Plan	To receive the action plan developed in response to Ofsted's inspection of Manchester's Children's Services.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall/ Sean McKendrick	
Inclusion Strategy	To receive an update on the Inclusion Strategy.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	
COVID-19 Update	To receive a verbal update on any new developments or significant changes to the current situation.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall/ Amanda Corcoran	
Overview Report	The monthly report includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Rachel McKeon	

Wednesday 20 July 2022, 10am (Report deadline Monday 11 July 2022)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Strategic Director/ Lead Officer	Comments
Locality work with Manchester Local Care Organisation (MLCO)	To receive a report on locality work with MLCO.	Councillor Bridges Councillor T Robinson	Paul Marshall	
Our Year	To receive a presentation on Our Year.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	
COVID-19 Update	To receive a verbal update on any new developments or significant changes to the current situation.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall/ Amanda Corcoran	
The impact of COVID-19 on children and young people's mental health and well-being	To receive a report on the impact of COVID-19 on children and young people's mental health and well-being.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	
Home School Transport	To receive a report on Home School Transport.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	Executive Report See November 2021 minutes
Overview Report		-	Rachel McKeon	

Wednesday 7 September 2022, 10am (Report deadline Friday 26 August 2022)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Strategic Director/ Lead Officer	Comments
Care Review	To receive a report on the Care Review.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	
School Governance	To receive an update on school governance.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran/ Ruth Bradbury	
Schools White Paper	To receive a report on the Schools White Paper.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	
Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Green paper	To receive a report on the SEND Green Paper.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	
Overview Report		-	Rachel McKeon	

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### Items To Be Scheduled

Item	Purpose	Executive Member	Strategic Director/ Lead Officer	Comments
Children and Young People's Plan 2020 - 2024	To receive an annual report on the progress of this work.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	See November 2020 minutes
Provision of Services	To receive a report on the provision of	Councillor	Amanda Corcoran	See March 2021 minutes

Item 9

by One Education	services by One Education.	Bridges		
Lyndene	To receive a further report on Lyndene in 12 months' time.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	See March 2021 minutes
Update on wellbeing and mental health and support for schools and settings and education for children unable to attend school due to ill health	To receive a further report on this and to invite a representative from CAMHS to this meeting.	Councillor Bridges Councillor Midgley	Paul Marshall	See September 2021 minutes
Complex Safeguarding	To receive a report on how child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation are being addressed.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	October (TBC) See October 2021 minutes
Youth and Play	To receive a further report on Youth and Play commissioning arrangements at an appropriate time.	Councillor Bridges	Fiona Worrall/Neil Fairlamb	See October 2021 minutes
Adoption	To receive a report on adoption which includes what difference the move to Adoption Counts has made in providing stable adoption placements for Our Children and what happens when an adoption breaks down.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	See November 2021 minutes
Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and Alternative Provision	To receive an update report in approximately 12 months' time.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	See December 2021 minutes
Elective Home Education	To receive a report on Elective Home Education.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	See January 2022 minutes
Homeless Families	To receive a further report in 6 months' time.	Councillor Midgley Councillor	David Ashmore/ Mohamed Hussein/Paul Marshall	See February 2022 minutes

		Bridges		
School Attendance and Attainment	To receive regular reports regarding attainment and attendance.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	
Health Visiting	To consider health visiting at a future meeting.	Councillor Bridges Councillor Midgley	Paul Marshall	See March 2022 minutes.
Manchester Sensory Support Service Commission	To receive an update report at a future meeting.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	See March 2022 minutes.
Early Years Buildings (To be confirmed)	To receive a report on the structural condition surveys for Council-owned Early Years building and future works.	Councillor Rahman Councillor Bridges	Richard Munns Amanda Corcoran	To invite the Chair of the Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee
Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) Education	To receive a report on PSHE education in schools.	Councillor Bridges	Amanda Corcoran	