

TO EXAMINE CHILD ORAL HEALTH IN HILLINGDON WITNESS SESSION

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REASON FOR ITEM

To provide the Committee with an overview of child oral health in Hillingdon. To consider what services are currently provided, the issues arising from poor oral health and to examine the steps which can be taken to improve this in the future.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE

To question the witnesses about child oral health in Hillingdon and to address the following lines of enquiry:

1. To establish the causes of poor child oral health in Hillingdon.
2. To understand the likely future impacts should this go unchecked.
3. To establish what current action is taken to prevent decayed, missing and filled teeth (dmft).
4. To consider what more could be done to improve child oral health in the future.

INFORMATION

1. The Committee is responsible for undertaking the 'policy overview' role in relation to Social Services, Housing and Public Health. This role is outlined at the start of the agenda.
2. Previous experience from both Hillingdon and other Councils indicates that the Committee can have the greatest impact by focusing on a particular topic at one or several meetings.

BACKGROUND

3. At the 21 January 2015 meeting, the Policy and Overview Committee selected child oral health in Hillingdon as a single meeting review topic.
4. This is the sole witness session for the review. This will examine child oral health in Hillingdon, the challenges faced, as well as the possible courses of action which might be taken in the future.

Social Services, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee
24 February 2015

5. The following will be attending to give evidence to the Committee:
- **Claire Robertson** - Consultant in Dental Public Health, Public Health England (London Region)
 - **Kelly Nizzer** - Regional Lead (North West) Dental and Ophthalmic Services, NHS England London Area Team
 - **Shikha Sharma**, Consultant in Public Health, London Borough of Hillingdon
6. Questions (attached as Annex A) have been sent to the witnesses in advance. Members are not constrained by these and may wish to ask supplementary questions.
7. As supporting information, an overview report on child oral health in Hillingdon report is attached as Annex B.

Attachments:

Annex A: Questions for the witnesses

Annex B: Copy of the overview report on child oral health in Hillingdon

SUGGESTED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

- Question the witnesses, adding supplementary questions as appropriate.
- To consider the following outcomes:
 1. **To note the issues raised in the overview report and the actions currently underway and planned in this area.**
 2. **In view of the information received so far, that the Committee give strong consideration to selecting Dentistry as a major view topic in the next municipal year.**

Suggested questions to the witnesses:

- 1. What are the most common factors associated with poor child oral health?**
- 2. What are the health and socio-developmental implications if poor child oral health is not addressed?**
- 3. What steps does your organisation take to reduce and prevent poor child oral health?**
- 4. What steps could be taken in the future to improve child oral health?**