

POTENTIAL REVIEW TOPICS OR IDEAS FOR FIRST MAJOR REVIEW OF 2015/16

Contact Officer: Jon Pitt
Telephone: 01895 277655

REASON FOR ITEM

To enable the Committee to consider which topics it wishes to review for its first major review during 2015/16. This will enable a full scoping report to be considered at the next meeting on 24 June 2015.

OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

The Committee is asked to select a single area within its remit, bearing in mind the topics suggested below, to be developed into a scoping report. This will require Members to agree as specific a topic for investigation as possible so that officers can produce a targeted and effective plan for the review.

INFORMATION

1. In order to ensure that there is sufficient capacity for the Committee to undertake two major reviews in 2015/16, it is proposed that the first topic for review is selected at the April 2015 meeting. A full scoping report, setting out the terms of reference of the first review, would then be presented to the Committee on 24 June 2015. Subject to approval of the Committee, the first witness session would be held place at the July 2015 meeting.
2. As per its Terms of Reference, the Committee is responsible for undertaking the 'policy overview' role in relation to the following areas:
 - § Education Services and statutory education authority functions
 - § School performance and attainment
 - § School Transport
 - § Relationships with Local Academies / Free Schools
 - § Pre-School & Early Years Services
 - § Youth Services & Careers Services
 - § Juvenile justice & probation services
 - § Adult Learning
 - § Education and learning partnerships
 - § Music & The Arts
 - § Social care services for children, young persons and children with special needs
 - § Adoption and Fostering
 - § Family Services

3. In selecting topics for further investigation, Members are reminded of previous reviews that have been undertaken by this Committee and by the Education & Children's Services Committee which preceded it. Details are set out below:

EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES POC	
2006/07	
§	Transition from Primary to Secondary School
§	Widening the Scope of the Education Service
2007/08	
§	Extended Schools and Children's Centres
§	Meeting the Needs of Troubled Teenagers
2008/09	
§	Development of Inclusion in Hillingdon Schools
§	14 to 19 Strategy
§	Develop a Short Breaks Provision
2009/10	
§	Reviewing whether current arrangements and future plans to support inclusive practice in Hillingdon schools are effective
§	Reviewing current arrangements and future plans for safeguarding children at Heathrow Airport as a port of entry
2010/11	
§	14/19 Education & Training
2011/12	
§	Elective Home Education Policy
§	Adoption & Permanency for Looked After Children
2012/13	
§	Safeguarding of Children that go Missing
§	Access to Education for Hillingdon's Vulnerable Children and Young People

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING POC	
2013/14	
§	Strengthening the Council's Role as a Corporate Parent
§	Improving Outcomes for Care Leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training
2014/15	
§	Reducing the Risk of Young People Engaging in Criminal Activity and Anti-Social Behaviour
§	Hillingdon's Implementation of the Special Educational Needs Disability (SEND) Reforms

4. It is at the Committee's discretion as to the areas it wishes to review. Bearing this in mind, the Committee Chairman and officers have proposed that the Committee gives consideration to the following potential review topics:

- Inspiring schools to be more proactive in working with LAC to improve outcomes - it is suggested that this could be expanded to all children with one session on LAC.

- Careers guidance and support services / Review the career guidance given to young people whilst at school/ college.
- Are early help systems in Hillingdon effective at preventing neglect?
- Review the fostering and adoption process to include selection, together with pre and post support.
- Review health education given to our school children to include obesity, STD and substance abuse - it is suggested that a single area of focus is identified e.g. substance abuse.