

Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham, Executive Director - Resources

Report to:

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

29 September 2022

Subject:

Scrutiny Committee Work Programmes:
• Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

• Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee

Summary:

As set out in the Council's constitution, a key role for this Board is monitoring the future work programmes of the other scrutiny committees. The role of the Board is to satisfy itself that it is content with each committee's work programme, rather than to discuss the detail of particular items listed in the work programme, as these discussions are appropriately held at the relevant meeting of the scrutiny committee.

This report focuses on the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee and includes information on activity since 28 April 2022, when reports on these two committees were last considered by the Board.

Actions Required:

- (1) The Board is requested to determine whether it is satisfied with the activity undertaken since 28 April 2022 by:
 - (a) the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee; and
 - (b) the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee.
- (2) The Board is requested to determine whether it is satisfied with the planned work programme of:
 - (a) the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee; and
 - (b) the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

1. Background

The Council's constitution includes in this Board's terms of reference the following two clauses: -

- To agree and monitor the ongoing overview and scrutiny work programme, in particular holding the chairmen and/or vice chairmen to account for their committee's work programme on a quarterly basis.
- To monitor and guide the activities of the other overview and scrutiny committees.

<u>Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee</u>

Since 28 April 2022, when a report was last submitted, the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee has met on 17 June 2022 and 22 July 2022, and was due to meet on 9 September 2022 but the meeting was adjourned following the passing of Her Majesty the Queen. The September meeting will now be reconvened on 21 October 2022, which is the date of the next meeting. The Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee has met on 31 May 2022, 19 July 2022 and 20 September 2022. The key activities since April 2022 and the planned work programme of each committee are set out in Appendices A and B respectively. If members of the Board require further details on any item of previous activity, the full reports can be found on the County Council's website.

<u>Committee Reporting Timetable</u>

The table below sets out the planned reporting timetable until April 2023: -

Scrutiny Committee	Monitoring Date	Monitoring Date	Monitoring Date
Adults and Community Wellbeing	25 A 22	24 Nov. 22	22 Fab 22
Health	25 Aug 22	24 Nov 22	23 Feb 23
Children and Young People	20 Sant 22	15 Dec 22	30 Mar 23
Public Protection and Communities	29 Sept 22	15 Dec 22	30 IVIdi 23
Environment and Economy	27 Oct 22	26 Jan 23	27 Apr 23
Highways and Transport	27 OCt 22		27 Apr 23
Flood and Water Management			

2. Conclusion

The Board is asked to consider whether it is satisfied with the previous activity and the planned work programmes of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, and the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee.

3. Appendices – These are listed below: -

Appendix A	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – Activity and Planned Work
Appendix B	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee – Activity and
Appendix b	Planned Work

4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Tracy Johnson, Senior Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 07552 253814, or via tracy.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk and Kiara Chatziioannou, Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 07500 571868, or via kiara.chatziioannou@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ACTIVITY REPORT

Since its last report to the Board, the Committee has met on 17 June 2022 and 22 July 2022. Full details on all the items considered at these meetings are available on the County Council's website:

https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=124

Set out below is a summary of the outcomes since the last update in April 2022:

17 June 2022		
Item	Summary of Outcomes	
Family Hubs Feasibility and the refreshed Supporting Families Programme (formerly Troubled	The Committee supported the recommendations, which were approved by the Executive Councillor for Children's Services, Community Safety and Procurement on 8 July 2022, to commence early planning through self-evaluation and progression to a full Business Case to design a Family Hub Model for Lincolnshire.	
Families)	The Family Hubs model would be based around the 48 children's centres across the localities with an outreach provision for interacting with 'seldom reachable or heard' families by utilising resources in communities.	
Re-commissioning of Best Start	The Committee supported the recommendations, which were approved by the Executive on 5 July 2022, to recommission the Best Start Lincolnshire Services: Early Years and Family Service and Inclusion Service to commence 1 April 2023.	
Lincolnshire Services: Early Years and Family Service and Inclusion Service, for children in their early years and their families within Lincolnshire	The Committee explored how the pandemic had affected young children's development in communication and language skills and social skills, as the lockdowns had limited their exposure to other people. The Committee requested that a report be brought to a future meeting on the impact of the pandemic and post pandemic recovery including detailed information on progress data, immunisations, and health visiting. This has been scheduled for the meeting on 2 December 2022.	

17 June 2022		
Item	Summary of Outcomes	
Government Green Baner on	The Committee reviewed the Government's proposals in the Green Paper 'SEND Review: Right support, right place, right time' which was open to public consultation until 22 July 2022. The Green Paper proposed a single national SEND and alternative provision system, which set nationally consistent standards for how needs were identified.	
Government Green Paper on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Alternative Provision	The Committee highlighted that the Council's response to the consultation should contextualise concerns in terms of Lincolnshire's particularities, and recognised that without further review demand would outstrip supply for SEND places. Additional funding was being released by the Department for Education, but it fell short of the Council's ambitions. Children's Services has provided a response to the Green Paper consultation and the comments made by Members were taken into consideration when completing the Council's response.	
Building Communities of	The Committee reviewed the implementation of the SEND workforce development learning platform within the Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy and was pleased with the progress made so far.	
Specialist Provision; Together in Lincolnshire - Update on Workforce Development Strategy	The Committee explored the costs of using the learning platform and how it would become a self-funding model in the future. A further update on the learning platform would be included as part of the annual review of the Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy in October 2022.	

22 July 2022		
Item	Summary of Outcomes	
Government White Papers on Levelling Up the United Kingdom and Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child	The Committee explored the impact that these two White Papers would have on education in Lincolnshire. The Schools White Paper sets out the expectation that all schools will become part of a Multi Academy Trust by 2030. The Committee raised concerns about this approach and felt that academisation was a one size fits all approach which did not necessarily prioritise outcomes for children. The Council was looking into how to ensure that no school was left behind in the academisation process, with a focus on small rural schools.	
	A further report would be brought to a future meeting of the Committee once more information is released and the implications for Lincolnshire are known.	
	The Committee requested this report at its meeting on 3 March 2022 when Members considered a report on Schools' Standards and asked for further information on attainment and progress for pupils with SEND, pupils with English as an additional language (EAL), boys versus girls, and a breakdown by type of schools and disadvantaged areas.	
Schools' Standards in Lincolnshire	The Committee felt that the performance of male working-class children was an area that needed closer attention to ensure that the correct type of support was in place. The impact of academisation on school improvement was also explored and it was highlighted that local authorities were to become champions rather than drivers regarding school improvements under academisation, and the school improvements grant was to be cut to zero.	
Service Level Performance against the Corporate Performance Framework – Quarter 4	As part of its consideration, the Committee explored the two-year lag in the juvenile reoffending data. The Council continued to make representations to the Youth Justice Board to make reporting more timely.	
Expansion of St Lawrence School, Horncastle (EXEMPT)	The Committee supported the recommendations, which were approved by the Leader of the Council on 29 July 2022, and passed on its comments in relation to this decision.	

22 July 2022		
Item	Summary of Outcomes	
Residential Estates Expansion Programme – Children's Home Louth (EXEMPT)	The Committee supported the recommendations to the Leader of the Council and passed on its comments in relation to this decision. The Leader of the Council is due to make the decision between 1 September and 22 September 2022.	

PLANNED WORK

Set out below are the items planned for future meetings of the Committee, up to April 2023:

9 September 2022 (Adjourned - To be Reconvened on 21 October 2022)		
Item	Contributor	Notes
Update on the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Transformation Programme	Sheridan Dodsworth, Head of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)	This is an update on the progress of the SEND transformation work and what impact it is having.
Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2022-23 – Quarter 1	Jo Kavanagh, Assistant Director – Early Help	This is the quarterly performance report.
Children's Services Annual Statutory Complaints Report 2021-22	Carolyn Knight, Head of Service Quality and Standards and Principal Social Worker	This is an annual report which sets out the complaints received by Children's Services in relation to Children's Social Care.
Education Provision Planning (EXEMPT)	Matthew Clayton, Admissions and Education Provision Manager	This item is for pre-decision scrutiny prior to an Executive Councillor decision between TBC 2022.

21 October 2022		
Item	Contributor	Notes
Children In Care and Care Leavers Strategy	Andrew Morris, Corporate Parenting Manager	This item is for predecision scrutiny prior to an Executive decision on 1 November 2022.
Update on the Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy	Sheridan Dodsworth, Head of Special Educational Needs and Disability Eileen McMorrow, Programme Manager, Special Schools Strategy Dave Pennington, Head of Property Development	This is the yearly update and will consider the progress made in Year 4 of implementation of the Strategy to enable all special schools to cater for all needs.

2 December 2022		
Item	Contributor	Notes
Joint Diversionary Panel – Update against Recommendations from University of Lincoln Evaluation	Andy Cook, Service Manager - Future4Me/ Youth Offending Chief Inspector Daryl Pearce, Lincolnshire Police Tony Pryce, JDP Coordinator	The key findings of the evaluation undertaken by the University of Lincoln of the Joint Diversionary Panel was presented in November 2021 and this item will provide an update on the progress made against the recommendations.
Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic and Post Pandemic Recovery	Linda Dennett, Assistant Director – Children's Health and Commissioning	This item was requested by the Committee in June 2022 and will provide an update on how the pandemic has impacted children and young people and the services available to support them. It will include updates on progress data and immunisations for children and young people and the health visiting service.

2 December 2022		
Item	Contributor	Notes
Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2022-23 – Quarter 2	Jo Kavanagh, Assistant Director – Early Help	This is the quarterly performance report.
Review of the Summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme	Nicky Myers, Interim Head of Service – Early Years and Childcare Support	The commissioning arrangements for the HAF Programme were approved by the Executive on 4 May 2022. This item will review the offer and take up of the Summer HAF Programme, and include a comparison with neighbouring authorities, to help inform future HAF Programmes.
Childcare Sufficiency Update	Nicky Myers, Interim Head of Service – Early Years and Childcare Support Geraldine O'Neill, Sustainability and Development Manager, Children's Education	The Childcare Act (2006) places a duty on Local Authorities to take reasonable steps to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment. This item will set out the availability and sufficiency of childcare in Lincolnshire.
The Lincolnshire Secure Children's Home - New Build (EXEMPT)	Tara Jones, Head of Service – Children in Care Transformation Matthew Stapleton, Senior Project Manager, Corporate Property	This item is for predecision scrutiny prior to an Executive Councillor decision between 26 October and 31 October 2022.

13 January 2023		
Item	Contributor	Notes
Children's Services Budget Proposals 2023/24	Heather Sandy, Executive Director – Children's Services	The views of the Committee will be sought on the budget proposals for Children's Services for 2023/24.
Attendance in Schools, Elective Home Education and Children Missing Education Annual Report 2021/22	Jill Chandar-Nair, Inclusion and Attendance Manager	This is the annual report on school attendance, elective home education and children missing out on education.
Recommissioning of Children with Disabilities services	Rosemary Akrill, Senior Commissioning Officer	This item is for predecision scrutiny prior to an Executive decision on 7 February 2023.
Alternative Provision Key Stage 4 (APKS4) Interim Commissioning Arrangements	Charlotte Gray, Head of Service – Children's Strategic Commissioning	This item is for predecision scrutiny prior to an Executive Councillor decision on 7 February 2023.

3 March 2023		
Item	Contributor	Notes
Lincolnshire Local Authority School Performance 2021 - 22	Martin Smith, Assistant Director - Education	This is the annual update report on school performance and Ofsted outcomes.
Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2022-23 – Quarter 3	Jo Kavanagh, Assistant Director – Early Help	This is the quarterly performance report.

3 March 2023		
Item	Contributor	Notes
Response to the removal of the Local Authorities School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant	TBC	When considering the Budget proposals in January 2022, the Committee was informed of the removal of the funding for Local Authorities School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant for school improvement activities supporting maintained schools. This has been managed by the Council since April 2022 while a review was undertaken. This item will outline some options and recommendations for responding to the removal of this funding.

21 April 2023			
Item	Contributor	Notes	
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) Annual Update	Chris Cook, Chair of LSCP Stacey Waller, LSCP Manager	This is the annual update report from the Partnership.	

Items to be scheduled

• Review of Children and Young People Mental Health Services

PUBLIC PROTECTION AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ACTIVITY

Since its last report to the Board, the Committee has met on 31 May 2022, 19 July 2022, and 20 September 2022. Full detail on these items is available on the County Council's website:

https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=551

Set out below is a summary of the outcomes since the last update in April 2022:

	31 May 2022		
	Item	Summary of Outcomes	
1.	Multiply Adult Numeracy Programme in Lincolnshire	The Committee received assurance that every upper tier council across England had received an allocation for the programme based on need. Therefore, officers had liaised with peers across East Midlands, and had participated in several webinars that the Department for Education had organised for Local Authorities to keep informed of developing and innovative activity and to share best practice.	
		Future plans took into consideration engaging individuals furthest from the labour market and those who were expected to be reluctant to step forward and engage, due to negative social perceptions relevant to the lack of numeracy skills. Engagement was also being considered through Citizens Advice Bureau and other community organisations, as well as creative ways of reaching out to different groups and communities such as a bus.	
2.	Citizens Advice Annual Report	The Committee received a report on the overall performance of Citizens Advice Lincolnshire (CAL). Thanks were extended for the work being carried out. Reassurance was given that the grant provided to CAL was reassessed to ensure that CAL had as much flexibility as possible. Reassurance was given that staff/volunteers had access to wellbeing services.	
3.	A review of work to tackle Fraud, including its impact on vulnerable individuals during the Pandemic	Members of the Committee received an update on the work taking place within Lincolnshire County Council to reduce the impact of fraud, as a host and contributing partner to the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Crime and Disorder Priority Group. Members received assurance that areas of criminal activity such as phone spoofing, cold calling and other scams were being closely monitored and messages on avoiding being scammed and protecting those close were being communicated to the public.	

	19 July 2022		
	Item	Summary of Outcomes	
1.	Service Level Performance Reporting Against the Performance Framework 2021-2022 - Quarter 4	 The Committee received a report on Quarter 4 performance. Key messages: the number of domestic abuse reports were increasing; delay of Ermine Community Hub re-opening was due to factors beyond the Council's control; the positive work of trading standards officers removing counterfeit goods from a local market; speed cameras on the A52 and the A1 had been successful in reducing the number of accidents; there was a profile which was used in arson reduction activities, which tended to be younger nuisance type fires; and, Food Standards Agency extended deadline for inspections (June 2022) had been achieved. 	
2.	National Flood Rescue Assurance Inspection	The Committee was advised of the outcomes of the assurance visit on 28 January 2022 from the National Resilience Assurance Team (NRAT) to assess Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue's flood response against two national standards documents: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Flood Rescue Concept of Operations (DEFRA FRCO); and the National Fire Chiefs Council Rescue Boat Code (NFCC RBS). The Committee was advised that once the outstanding actions were completed, LFR would be able to confirm its status as Type B compliant with NRAT.	
3.	Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2020-2024 – Yearly Update	The Committee was advised of the proposed reporting areas for scrutiny as well as the proposed changes to the attendance standard, to make them clearer to communities (the measures would be going out for public consultation for the remainder of the 2020/2024 IRMP).	

	19 July 2022		
Item Summary of Outcomes		Summary of Outcomes	
4.	Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service - Lincolnshire Crewing Arrangements	The Committee received assurance that minimal impact was expected regarding response times/standards following implementation of the proposed crewing arrangements. Potential savings would enable more core personnel to be recruited that might live closer to the station, to ensure that the response standard was maintained in Sleaford. Assurance was also sought by Members that steps were then taken to ensure the service became an employer of choice for all people within local communities and to ensure that the service represented the diverse nature of Lincolnshire.	
5.	Performance of the Library Service Contract - Six Year Review Report	The Committee was advised that Greenwich Leisure Ltd (GLL) had brought vast improvements to the library service across the region, and that the performance for year six had been no different. The Committee received assurance that GLL would continue to focus on the recovery of the service during year seven, which included encouraging people back to the service to make the most of the facilities within their communities.	
6.	Domestic Abuse Support Services Re-Commissioning	The Committee supported the recommendations unanimously, which were approved by the Executive on 6 September 2022, to commence the re-commissioning of a countywide DASS which supported the priorities and delivery of: the Council's Corporate Plan, the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, Lincolnshire Preventing Domestic Abuse Strategy 2021/24; and the Councils' statutory duties under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. The Committee was pleased to receive the detailed report and were supportive of the proposals set out in the report, which aimed at tightening support measures around vulnerable individuals. Comments from the discussion were passed on to the Executive in support to its decision.	

20 September 2022		
Item Summary of Outcomes		Summary of Outcomes
Coroners Service Update		To be advised
1.	Report	

	20 September 2022		
	Item Summary of Outcomes		
2.	Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2022- 2023 – Quarter 1	To be advised	
3.	Registration & Celebratory Services Annual Report	To be advised	
4.	Trading Standards Annual Report	To be advised	
	SITTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
5.	Stay Safe	To be advised	
6.	Violence Reduction	To be advised	
	CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPT INFORMATION		
7.	Grantham Fire Station Refurbishment	To be advised	

PLANNED WORK

Set out below are the items planned for future meetings of the Committee, up to March 2023:

	8 NOVEMBER 2022		
	Item	Contributor	Notes
1.	Lincs Fire and Rescue – Progress on Response to Inspection Outcomes from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services	Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer	This is an update report on the progress made on implementing the actions identified in the HMICFRS inspection.
2.	FRS Attendance at Flooding Incidents – Annual Report on Performance	Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer	This is the annual performance report on flooding incidents.
3.	Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service- Proposed changes of duty arrangements- Follow up Report	Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer	This is a follow up report from the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS).
4.	Update on Lincolnshire's Response to Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis	Semantha Neal, Assistant Director of Prevention and Early Intervention	This is a six-monthly report on our response to the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis.

	13 DECEMBER 2022		
	ltem	Contributor	Notes
1.	Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2022- 2023 – Quarter 2	Martyn Parker, Assistant Director - Public Protection Nicole Hilton, Assistant Director - Communities Lee Sirdifield, Assistant Director - Corporate Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer Steven Batchelor, Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership Senior Manager	This is a quarterly report on performance of services.
2.	Fire and Rescue Statement of Assurance 2021-22	Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer	This is the FRS annual statement of assurance.
3.	Multiply – numeracy programme update	Thea Croxall, Adult Learning & Skills Manager - Economic Development	This report updates on the Numeracy Programme that was previously supported by this Committee.
	SITTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
4.	Reducing Offending – The Work of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership	Zoe Walters, Community Safety Strategy Co-ordinator	This report provides an update on the works of SLP in reducing offending in Lincolnshire.

	24 JANUARY 2023			
	Item	Contributor	Notes	
1.	Trading Standards Food Update (Inc. Sources of intelligence used by Trading Standards)	Mark Keal, Trading Standards Manager	This is an annual update by Trading Standards.	
	SITTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE			
2.	Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Update	Claire Seabourn, Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Business Manager	This is the annual SLP update.	

	14 MARCH 2023			
	Item	Contributor	Notes	
1.	Service Level Performance Reporting against the Success Framework 2022- 2023 – Quarter 3	Martyn Parker, Assistant Director - Public Protection Nicole Hilton, Assistant Director - Communities Lee Sirdifield, Assistant Director - Corporate Mark Baxter, Chief Fire Officer Steven Batchelor, Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership Senior Manager	This is a quarterly report on performance of services.	
	SITTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE			
2.	Prevent Annual Report	Clare Newborn, Interim Head of Service - Community Safety Manager	This is an annual report on Prevent Programme.	
3.	Substance Misuse	Jemma Clarke, Community Safety Strategy Coordinator	This report offers an overview of efforts to tackle substance misuse and the current picture in Lincolnshire.	

Potential Items to be Scheduled

- Anti-social Behaviour (Inc. Community Trigger Strategy)
- Citizen's Advice- Annual Report (May 2023)
- Community Safety and Public Trust in Police
- Domestic Abuse Strategy Update Report 2023
- Safer Together Update

