

BCP Council Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Work Plan. Updated 01.05.25

Guidance notes:

- 2/3 items per committee meeting is the recommended maximum for effective scrutiny.
- The Children's Services O&S Committee will approach work through a lens of **TBC**
- Items requiring further scoping are identified and should be scoped using the Key Lines of Enquiry tool.

	Subject and background	How will the scrutiny be done?	Lead Officer/Portfolio Holder	Report Information
Meeting Date: 10 June 2025				
1.	Youth Justice Service Plan 2025/2026	Committee Report	David Webb, Head of Service, Dorset Combined Youth Justice Service	Officer report going to Cabinet in July
2.	Environmental Health Service Powers - To advise the Committee of the extent of environmental health services powers to ensure the remit of housing is of good quality and fit for purpose for care experienced young people.	TBC	Director of Housing and Corporate Director for Children's Services Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People	Officer report requested by Committee. Delayed from December meeting due to resources.
3.	Item to be selected from Pro-Active Scrutiny topic list			
	Virtual School HT Annual Report	For information only	Headteacher of BCP Virtual School and College	Information only item as Committee can add no value

Key: Pre-Decision Scrutiny Pro-active Scrutiny



Meeting Date: 15 September 2025				
1.	Reserved for pre-decision or reactive scrutiny decision or reactive scrutiny consult Cabinet Forward Plan			
2.	CAMHS Transformation Update	Committee Report	TBC	Was the second proactive priority chosen by the Committee Deferred from March and June meeting
3.	SEND Budget Pressures	Committee Report	Director of Education and Skills	Agreed at Cabinet - April meeting for this item to come back to Children's O&S
	Compliments and Complaints Report	Information only		
	BCP Safeguarding Children Annual Report	Information only		
Meeting Date: 25 November 2025				
1.	Reserved for pre-decision or reactive scrutiny decision or reactive scrutiny consult Cabinet Forward Plan			
2.	Permanent Exclusions & Suspensions	Committee Report	TBC	Was agreed to come as Committee report in March 2025 meeting

Key: Pre-Decision Scrutiny Pro-active Scrutiny

3.	HOLD - Budget Scrutiny – to be agreed			
	Safeguarding Annual Report	Information only		
Meeting Date: 27 January 2026				
1.	Reserved for pre-decision or reactive scrutiny decision or reactive scrutiny consult Cabinet Forward Plan			
2.	Item to be selected from Pro-Active Scrutiny topic list			
3.	Item to be selected from Pro-Active Scrutiny topic list			
	Safeguarding Annual Report	Information only		
Items with Dates to be allocated				
	Annual report from Corporate Parenting Board to include information on Children in Care To include details of any protected characteristics detailed within the Equalities Act	Committee Report	TBC	Enable the Committee to maintain oversight of this issue and target scrutiny as required.
	Children's Services Data Toolkit	TBC	TBC	To enable the Committee to have a toolkit to consider data relating to CS
	Strengthening Families, Supporting Communities Update (New Service Delivery Model)	TBC	TBC	Was suggested by Officers but was not

Key: Pre-Decision Scrutiny Pro-active Scrutiny

				chosen as a priority by the Committee
	Post 16 Provision	TBC	TBC	Was suggested by Officers but was not chosen as a priority by the Committee
	CS Budget Updates	TBC	TBC	Was suggested by Officers but was not chosen as a priority by the Committee
Working Groups				
	Budget Development 2025/26	2 working group sessions.	Completed in w/c 11/11/24.	Agreed for inclusion of the workplan at the 24th July 24 meeting
	Family Hubs across BCP	Proposed outline of working group included in scrutiny request	TBC	Requires full scoping Appendix E - Request for consideration of an issue by OS Family Hubs - Cllr Brown 003.pdf (bcpcouncil.gov.uk)
	Transition of mental health services from children to adults			CS O&S CAMHS.docx Was chosen by the Committee as their top priority after conclusion of Family Hubs working group
	The increased use of and funding for TAs in schools to support SEND and increase inclusion			Scrutiny request form TAs.docx Was chosen as second priority

Key:  Pre-Decision Scrutiny  Pro-active Scrutiny

	Child Exploitation inc knife crime – To consider and track Cabinet's response to the recommendations and how they could potentially be furthered by the Committee and whether this topic should be revisited by a working group			Discussed at the meeting of 24 July 2024. Was chosen as third priority
	Parent / Carer Forums and wider family engagement channels used by BCP Children's Services and health colleagues			Scrutiny request form Was chosen as fourth priority
	Review of the quality of food served to children at our schools			Scrutiny request form School meals.docx Was chosen as fifth priority
Item Suggestions for Briefing Sessions				
	POTENTIAL BRIEFING SESSIONS	TBC	TBC	TBC
Update Items The following items of information have been requested as updates to the Committee. The Committee may wish to receive these in an alternative to format to Committee updates (e.g. by emailed briefing note outside of the Committee) to reserve capacity in Committee meetings for items of value-added scrutiny.				
	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) To receive KPIs to include updates on CMOEs and NEETs	Committee Report	Head of Performance for Children and Young People Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People	Consideration being given to include in data tool kit

Key: Pre-Decision Scrutiny Pro-active Scrutiny

Annual Report				
•	Virtual School Head Annual Report	Committee Report	Headteacher of Virtual School and College Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People	To be received annually in January as an annual update.
•	School Admissions Arrangements for community and maintained schools	Committee Report	Director of Education	To be received annually in September/November as an annual update.
•	Youth Offending Service Annual Youth Justice Plan	Committee Report	Service Manager, Dorset YJS	To be received annually in June as an annual update.
•	Annual Report from CPB to include info on CIC	Committee Report	TBC	TBC
•	Annual Report – Complaints and Compliments	Committee Report		To note the information only report – in March