# **Collated Suggestions for Work Programme**

# **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITY (SEND)**

1.	SEND Green paper (HORIZON SCANNING)	- SEND Green paper published in March 2022 entitled The Right Support Right Place Right Time	
2.	SEND Inspection (HORIZON SCANNING)	An inspection of SEND services by Ofsted is expected within the next 12 months. Spring/summer 2023.	
3.	SEND Restructure and Better Value Review (EXECUTIVE MEETINGS)	Local SEND services in Hackney and across London continue to face acute demand which is generating significant local authority cost pressures (in Hackney £7m 2021/22). A SEND Restructure and Better Value review is forthcoming locally and it was suggested that it might be helpful if the Commission has oversight of this. (The emerging SEND strategy is expected at Cabinet for approval by autumn).	
4.	School Estates Strategy (Issue from 21/22)	<ul> <li>The Commission received a report on the planned School Estates Strategy during 2021/22 which sets out the Council's approach for the best use of school estate in relation to falling school rolls, growing SEND needs, and the need to provide more in borough and maintained SEND provision. The formal strategy and business case was approved by the Cabinet in early 2022.</li> <li>Areas of interest to the Commission were the Additional Resource Provisions (ARP) in schools and the introduction of the graduated response of schools to supporting children with SEND.</li> </ul>	

5.	Autism services and support for girls (PUBLIC SUGGESTION)	Lack of adequate support and training in identifying and helping Autistic children and young people engage in both mainstream and specialist education within Hackney. In particular- lack of targeted provision for the increasing number of anxious, late-diagnosis autistic girls (without LDs) who often have a very different presentation and needs from ASD boys. Many of these girls are now seriously isolated out of school and in need of mental health support In particular many autistic girls are diagnosed late and not until after secondary transfer. There are increasing numbers of girls in the borough who have quietly dropped out of school due to high levels of social anxiety & sensory issues associated with Autism. The staff at my daughter's 1st school, including the SENCO, we're inadequately trained and did not recognise or understand her condition.	
6.	Support for children with Autism (PUBLIC SUGGESTION)	A programme to support activities for young/juniors with a disability/Autism to help protect them from loneliness.	
7.	Graduated response for SEND support in schools (Hackney Independent Forum Parents)	Graduated Response to SEND. This strategy is the cornerstone of the SEND Restructure and therefore central to the provision of services and support to SEND children and their families. The effectiveness or otherwise of the Graduated Response will impact on the experience and outcomes of all within the SEND community; therefore it is imperative it meets the actual needs of families effectively and efficiently. The attention of the CYP Scrutiny Committee would enable families and professionals to review this strategy and	

		explore its strengths and weaknesses, building a better service for future families.	
8.	SEND Restructure (Hackney Independent Forum Parents)	The SEND Restructure: Implementation and effects. Both families and professionals report that the current state of SEND at HE is chaotic. It is therefore imperative that the restructure in its entirety is examined by an external body able to make assessments and recommendations, evaluating elements that are having a positive and effective impact on the SEND community compared to those aspects that need review and improvement.	
9.	Need to improve specialist education provision (Hackney Independent Forum Parents)	Increased Education Provision for SEND children. The promise of increased SEND educational provision has been a constant element of HE's SEND planning. Whilst we welcome the increased post 16 provision at The Garden and additional primary units, there remain outstanding areas of need. There is a serious discrepancy between the levels of specialist provision available between primary and secondary, which is exacerbated as many of social and emotional needs become apparent as children enter the teenage years, currently this area in particular is being failed by Hackney Schools. Therefore the promised increase in SEND provision needs to be mapped out, presented and reviewed to ensure that it meets the most urgent needs of the SEND community.	
10.	SEND Restructure (Member of the Commission)	SEND service restructure. What are the new accountability lines within the new structure? It would be good to evaluate the impact.	
11.	ARP provision within schools (Member of the Commission)	New educational provision for SEND children in schools. What is planned for ARP units and will these meet local needs? What work has been done to properly evaluate what is needed - has there been any consultation with parents about what they feel is needed (schools themselves don't always have the same	

		views or as full a picture as parents). At the moment there is much more provision at primary level versus secondary level. This is a particular issue as social and emotional needs often come to a head after transition to secondary and there is currently a gap in provision for much of this cohort.	
12.	Uptake of EHCP and demographic analysis (MEETINGS WITH EXECUTIVE)	(Related to above) The number of children with SEND and in need of an EHCP has continued to increase both locally and nationally. <u>EHCP data shows that there has been a 25% increase in the 12 months to 2021</u> . Whilst these may be increasing, the work of the Commission in relation to exclusions indicated that the additional or special educational needs of some groups of children may be being missed or diagnosed late (at secondary). In relation to (2) it might be helpful to undertake a further analysis of EHCP Plans - which children are being assessed and in receipt of educational support - and those young people that may be missing out (or incorrectly diagnosed).	To be taken on 8th September 2022.
13.	Underdiagnosis of SEND (Member of the Commission)	How to improve education services for disadvantaged school children, in particular those children with SEND. Why are children with SEND accessing secondary provision without this being formally diagnosed and /or without an EHCP?	Addressed in part at through data on 8th September 2022.
14.	Independent Provision of SEND (Issue from 2021/22)	In 2021/22 the Commission assessed how Independent SEND provision was commissioned. The Commission has indicated that it would like to follow up this work particularly in relation to the quality of provision, location of provision and value for money provided from these services.	

### Notes:

- SEND Strategy is due to be agreed by the Cabinet in autumn of 2022. An action plan covering the strategy commitments, restructure, and finance (Better Value) is being developed.

# **MENTAL HEALTH**

15.	Access to CAMHS services (Issue from 2021/22)	At the last meeting of 2021/22, the Cabinet member was questioned on increased demand for CAMHS services, waiting lists for CAMHS and efforts to improve access (e.g. single point of entry). This was highlighted by members of the 2021/22 COMmission as a priority for 2022/23.	
16.	Access to CAMHS (Hackney Youth Parliament)	CAMHS: Waiting lists for mental health services were too long - young people experienced many issues through the pandemic which resulted in the need for more support. Some people who were not actually in school (but in Elective Home Education) were waiting a long time to be seen by CAMHS.	
17.	Mental health of Young People post pandemic (Member of the Commission)	CYP mental and physical health, especially in the wake of pandemic measures and other contributory factors (including social media and advertising)	
18.	Mental health impact of stop and search (Member of the Commission)	Review the impact of Stop & Search on children and young people's mental health including but not limited to: a. Conducting a borough-wide consultation on young people's development and future prospects post stop & search (es) b.Conducting a consultation on family members, siblings, carers, and parents on the emotional impact on themselves post stop & search on their child/sibling/family member	
20.	Mental health in schools (Member of the	Stress at school - Is the curriculum and standards of education in Hackney offering a safe, secure and thriving space for young people and one that supports healthy mental health and builds confidence in their skills and future prospects?	

	Commission)	a. Conduct a Hackney school-wide consultation to ask students to give their opinion on the teaching methods, share their views on what stresses students and their idea of solutions for these problems  b. Ask students across Hackney, say biannually, on their views on what they would like to see added to their school curriculum as life skills, sexual education, decolonisation, politics, workers rights, housing, credit rating etc	
21.	Mental health of young people (Member of the Commission)	Mental health of young people and to consult with Members Champion for Mental Health)	

## **CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE**

22.	Independent (McAlister) Review of Children's Social Care (HORIZON SCANNING)	Children's Social Care Review (McAlister review). The <u>review</u> of children's social care began in January 2021 and recently published its <u>FINAL REPORT</u> . The review will have implications for local children's social care which needs to be unpacked and addressed.	
23.	Ofsted Action Plan (Issue from 2021/22)	Children and Families were last inspected by Ofstedin July 2021. The Commission continues to monitor and track progress of the services in response to the suggested areas for improvement to ensure that the service reaches its stated ambition to be good or outstanding in future full inspections.	
24.	Impact of the Cyber Attack (Issue from	The Cyber Attack on the Council precipitated the loss of the children's social care database (MOSAIC) and case records that it held. Given the practice and safeguarding risks, the Commission has maintained oversight of recovery and	

	2021/22)	improvement plans. The interim database was assessed by Ofsted to be in need of improvement at the last inspection and a full systems restoration (to Mosaic) was expected on_4th April 2022.	
25.	Ofsted Inspection (HORIZON SCANNING)	A further Focused Visit by Ofsted is expected in 2022/23.	
26.	Children's Social Care Annual Report (STANDING ITEM)	Children and Families Service to report on full year activity across children's social care (April to March) - generally taken in Autumn.	Standing Item to be taken November 30th 2022
27.	Recruitment and Retention of Foster Carers (REVIEW UPDATE)	The Commission retains periodic oversight of this work. Hackney Foster Carers Council to report back on progress 2022.	To be taken on 8th September 2022
28.	Foster Care (Member of the Commission)	The council's approach to foster care and the financial and quality of life costs of outsourced services.	Incorporated on 8/9/22?
29.	Adoption (Member of the Commission)	Focus on adoption and implementation of Adoption UK recommendations for a personalised pathway of care for each adoptive family based on the report Adoption Barometer: Adoption Stocktake 2022. Which include:  - Provide an assessment of need and support plan for every child - A full therapeutic assessment for every child with a permanence plan, to be	

		carried out before placement.  - The assessment should inform a clear and specific written support plan, distinct from the placement plan, anticipating future as well as current support needs, agreed with the adopters before placement and linked to a commitment to provide the support that is needed.	
30.	Looked after Children and Fostering (Member of the Commission)	Continuation of work on looked after children (LAC) and other issues relating to fostering.	
31.	Migrant children (Member of the Commission)	Support for migrant children.	
32.	Young carers (Member of the Commission)	Support available for young carers.	
33.	Looked after children (Director of Public Health)	The health of looked after children in Hackney.	
34.	Race, racism and children's social care (EXECUTIVE MEETINGS)	Building on the work of the Commission and Children Families Service in relation to anti-racist practice, it may be beneficial to undertake work to assess the demographic profile of children on a Child Protection Plan, Children in Need and those who become looked after - where there are known	

		disparities (ethnicity, gender). This work may help to understand the social work principles and practices which underpin such social care assessments and and contribute to local disparities.	
35.	Young Parents Offer (EXECUTIVE MEETINGS)	Given that the outcomes of young parents are much lower than for other parent groups (postnatal depression, mental health) and the disportionalities that exist further work should be considered on what role local authority can play in better supporting this parent group and their children.  The Local Government Association and Public Health England have produced supporting guidance on the role of local authorities in supporting young parents.	
36.	Sufficiency of children's Social Care (HORIZON SCANNING)	<ul> <li>Local Authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that there is sufficient children's social care to meet local needs. The <u>current strategy</u> expires in 2022.</li> <li>The Competition &amp; Markets Authority has reviewed the children's social care market with <u>a full report</u> published with recommendations.</li> <li>What Works in Social Care has also undertaken a <u>review</u> to assess whether local authorities are undertaking their stewardship of local children's social care services effectively.</li> </ul>	

## **SCHOOL EXCLUSIONS**

37.	Exclusions and all school moves (STANDING ITEM)	Hackney Education to report on the number of permanent exclusions, school moves, children moving to Elective Home Education and the process of off-rolling challenge to schools.	Standing item to be taken on 31st October 2023
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38.	School Exclusions (REVIEW UPDATE)	The Commission produced a report on the outcome of school exclusions in December 2021, to which the Cabinet response was made in March 2022. The Commission to decide when to take follow-up to monitor implementation of recommendations (July 2022).	Review follow up to be taken 9 months after approval - January 2023
39.	School Exclusions (Member of the Commission)	Measures to address the root causes of school exclusions, inequality and child poverty	

## **PUPIL ATTAINMENT**

40	Pupil attainment (STANDING ITEM)	Hackney Education to provide annual assessment of children's attainment at Reception, KS2 and GCSE level (likely to be just GCSE 2022). Analysis of attainment gaps within and between pupil groups. (After January 2023)	To be taken on 27th February 2023
41.	Attainment Gap (EXECUTIVE MEETINGS)	2022 will be the first year that GCSE /A Level exams have been sat formally in person since 2019. Assessments at Early Years (Good Level of Development) and KS2 will continue to not take place / be published. Given data around the unequal impact of lockdown and disproportionality of those who have missed education, it is expected that analysis of this years results will result in the widening attainment gap for different cohorts of children and young people.  - role of catch up progs  - tutoring scheme locally?	

#### **BUDGET MONITORING**

42.	Budget Monitoring (STANDING ITEM)	Children and Families Service to present in year budget monitoring (around 6 months in October/December). To be taken alongside Children's Social Care Annual Report.	November 30th 2022
43.	Budget Monitoring (STANDING ITEM)	Hackney Education to present in-year budget monitoring (around 6 months in - October to December)	November 30th 2022

#### Notes:

- Budget monitoring reports best taken mid-year to assess trends and any action taken to address overspends and review progress against savings targets for the year
- It is possible to focus on a particular area of the budget to reflect ongoing or new priorities e.g:
  - Hackney Education: Commissioning of External SEND Provision / Children's Centres
  - Children & Families: Commissioning of residential children's social care placements / care leavers accommodation.

### **CHILDCARE & EARLY YEARS EDUCATION/EARLY HELP**

44.	Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (STANDING ITEM)	Hackney Education to report on the sufficiency of childcare provision across Hackney.	To be taken on 11th July 2022
45.	Financial sustainability of childcare providers (Member of the Commission)	Situation of youth workers, nursery staff and teachers in challenging financial circumstances and with declining school admissions.	
46.	Family Hubs	DfE announced that LB Hackney is among 78 Local Authorities which have	

	(HORIZON SCANNING	been successful in securing additional funding to set up Family Hubs. Funding of £302m to be divided among successful LA's, with £100m earmarked to roll out bespoke parent-infant relationship and perinatal mental health support.  The Family Hubs model may inform the redesign of local children's centres (expected 2022)	
47.	Early Years Strategy (Issues from 2021/22)	Early years strategy was approved by Cabinet in October 2021 and was presented at CYP Scrutiny thereafter.  - How will Family Hubs be incorporated into the children centre network of provision?  - What will be the role of the cost of childcare commission?	
48.	Early Help Strategy (Issues from 2021/22)	The formative Early Help Strategy was presented to the Commission in 2020/21 and agreed by Cabinet in early 2022. The strategy to date is council focused which establishes corporate principles (e.g. early help is more effective, addressing disproportionality) and a single council-wide assessment framework.  The development of the Early Help Strategy is ongoing as this now needs to be rolled out to key partners (statutory and voluntary) to ensure that there is a consistent and coordinated early help offer across Hackney.	

## SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR POLICIES

49.	School behaviour policies (Hackney Youth Parliament)	School behaviour policies: Members felt that restrictive school behaviour policies were having a negative impact on students - there were problems getting students to talk openly and freely with each other (student forum) and that some students would find it difficult to transfer to other - more open	
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		settings with more relaxed behaviour codes. What is the role of student forums - are these effective?	
50.	Behaviour Management in Schools (EXECUTIVE MEETINGS)	The Commission's review of school exclusions highlighted the disproportionate impact that behaviour management strategies were having on children, particularly children from Black and Global Majority communities and those with SEND. These concerns have also been raised in relation to the outcomes of the Child Q Safeguarding Practice Review.  Further work needs to be undertaken around how these are developed (in consultation with parents and children), have these are overseen (by governing bodies) and assessed in relation to equalities impact.	

## **SCHOOLS GENERAL**

51.	Education and Schools White Paper. (HORIZON SCANNING)	- The Education White Paper, Opportunity for All was published in April 2022. Schools Bill currently going through parliament.	
52.	School Places - School Place Planning (STANDING ITEM)	Hackney Education to provide annual review of school place allocation (at reception and secondary entry) for September 2022 and wider school place planning.	To be taken on 11th July 2022
53.	Unregistered Educational Settings (REVIEW UPDATE)	The Commission continues to maintain oversight of this work (completed in 2018) as progress has been difficult to achieve. Taken alongside CHSCP annual report.	To be taken January 16th 2023

54.	Improving quality of schools (PUBLIC SUGGESTION)	Improving the quality of schools in Hackney with fairer distribution of funding according to needs/size of different communities.	
55.	Children missing education (Member of the Commission)	Connected to the above would be a look at the extent of 'Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) across Hackney. Much is being made of new policies relating to school attendance by the Secretary of State for Education and we know that this is a problem that is growing nationally, as well as in Hackney. There doesn't seem to be accurate data collection by Hackney Education on the number of children missing in the education system. They are often 'hidden' by being on roll, but are not being provided with any, or a vastly reduced education. What is HE's strategy to deal with this in a joined up way? Where is the early help for this group of vulnerable students?	
56.	Unregistered schools (HORIZON SCANNING)	- Reports indicate that legislation is likely to be forthcoming which will tighten regulation around unregistered school settings. This will likely impact the ongoing review work of the Commission.	To be taken at the January 2023 meeting.
57.	Children missing education (HORIZON SCANNING)	Following the pandemic, there are national and local concerns about the number of children who may be missing education (persistent non attendance). It was not clear if there were local disproportionalities and the degree to which these linked to  - Mental Health needs  - Links to specific communities (e.g. Roma /Traveller communities  - SEND  Data does suggest that persistent absence is much greater amongst vulnerable children which may be contributing to a growing attainment gap (Education data lab).	

## **CHILD SAFEGUARDING**

58.	City & Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report (STANDING ITEM)	CHSCP produces an annual report which is presented to the Commission to support oversight of child safeguarding across Hackney.	To be taken at the 16th January 2023 meeting.
59.	Child Safeguarding (PUBLIC SUGGESTION)	Children and families safeguarding. Families are being failed. A new structure and staff training is required	
60.	Child safeguarding out of school settings (Member of the Commission)	Ensuring effective safeguarding children from sexual abuse and or exploitation particualrly where oversight may not be as robust such as sports clubs and other out of school settings. Do all such settings have clear safeguarding policies and practices and how is assurance determined?	

## **ADOLESCENTS ENTERING CARE**

61.	Adolescents Entering Care	The scope of this review was approved by the Commission. The Commission has conducted a meeting with officers to assess local policy and practice with remaining sessions to assess comparative provision to be agreed. These evidence sessions will need to be reported back and the final report produced for approval by the Commission.	
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### Notes:

- This is the review carried over from 2021/22 and the agreed scope can be viewed <u>here.</u>

- Two further evidence sessions to be scheduled with other LA's and adolescent support projects these can be scheduled outside of the main meeting.
- To feed in data from Foster Carer consultation.

### CHILDHOOD FOOD POVERTY/ ACCESS TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS

62.	Free School Meals (HACKNEY YOUTH PARLIAMENT)	Cost of living crisis: children and their families were feeling the impact of this locally (rent, council tax, food costs). It was suggested that eligibility and access to free school meals could be looked at.	
	I AINLIAINLINI)	access to free seriour means could be rooked at.	
63.	Child poverty (Member of the Commission)	Measures to address the root causes of school exclusions, inequality and child poverty	
64.	Childhood food poverty / healthy start (Member of the Commission)	The take up of healthy start vouchers by families with young children in Hackney (improving nutrition, reducing health inequalities).	
65.	Child food poverty (Member of the Commission)	Child food poverty in Hackney - take up of holiday lunch clubs, household support fund, how accessible the information is (especially for those with ESOL needs). Raising awareness of cultural needs when providing food provisions through some of these services.	

### **CHILD Q**

S	Outcomes of Child Q Safeguarding Practice Review <b>(HORIZON</b>	- The City & Hackney Safeguarding Partnership undertook a serious case review (SCR) in respect of strip-search of Child Q which have implications for local CYP and safeguarding:	
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	SCANNING)	<ul> <li>Policing in schools - role of SSO</li> <li>Expectations of the community in relation to outcomes of SR</li> <li>Authentic voice of the child - ensuring that needs of the child comes first in decision making</li> <li>Behaviour policies in schools - do these result in disproportionate outcomes for certain groups e.g. Black and global majority children/ children with SEND</li> <li>Parental engagement - good models of parental involvement</li> <li>The importance of an inclusive school.</li> <li>The Joint LiH and CYP Commissions will also report recommendations which may impact on the work of individual commissions.</li> </ul>	
67.	Disproportionate policing of children (PUBLIC SUGGESTION)	'The policing in Hackney has been shown to be discriminatory towards black people, and black children. What happened with Child Q was an unacceptable breach of her rights and dignity. The fact that it took over two years for the police to apologise for Child Q publicly is unacceptable. Hackney council needs to figure out a way to hold the police to account for their egregiously racist and violent actions. The safety of black people and black children, in particular, should be absolutely paramount. It should be self-evident also that when the police use their powers in violent and disproportionate ways that community trust is eroded or destroyed. The police are meant to protect, but they don't. How are we meant to tackle our social issues if we can't rely on the police to act appropriately?'	
68.	Addressing racism (PUBLIC SUGGESTION)	More services for children and young people to tackle racism / discrimination.	

69	Impact of stop and search (Member of the Commission)	health including but not limited to:	Would need to be with Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission
70	Police Officers within Schools (Member of the Commission)	Review the need for the presence of blue officers in Hackney schools, including understanding the rationale for blue officers allocation per school in the borough	Would need to be with Living in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

## **PSHE/PHYSICAL HEALTH**

71.	PSHE in SChools (Hackney Youth Parliament)	PSHE: There was broad agreement that this aspect of the curriculum was not diverse or inclusive or well taught in local schools. There was very little discussion of LGBT issues or broader relationship aspects to PSHE. The message was of tolerance rather than a positive choice.	
72.	Sexual Assualt and Harrassment in Schools (Hackney Youth Parliament)	Sexual assault /harassment; members noted that there had been a number of sexual assault cases in local education settings which young people felt had not been dealt with effectively by the school, police or other authorities. Other sexual harraassment incidents were dealth with inappropriately by schools, with both vicitim and perpretrator being placed in isolation (together) and very little after care or support for young people exposed to such incidents. It was noted that in some instances, young people leave school as the situation was too difficult/ embarrassing to deal with.	

73.	Physical Health (PUBLIC SUGGESTION)	More funding for provision of activities for physical health for children.	
74.	Vaping (Hackney Youth Parliament)	Public Health: There were concerns around the level of vaping and alcohol use among young people locally. Concerns around the level of nicotine in the former and how this was being addressed in PSHE - an absolutist approach: one cigarette leads to drink and addiction rather than harm reduction.	
75.	Substance misuse (Director of Public Health)	Young people's substance misuse services.	
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76.	Advocacy for	More effective advocacy for children.	
	children and young people (Public Suggestion)		
	young people (Public		

## YOUTH SERVICES/ YOUTH OFFENDING

78.	Youth Centres (Member of the Commission)	Youth centre provision and opportunities across the borough.
79.	Youth Violence (Member of the Commission)	Community based and community led solutions to youth violence.
80.	Youth engagement (Member of the Commission)	Meeting with youth workers and young people at their youth clubs outside of the meetings.
81.	Youth Justice (Director of Public Health)	Youth justice health provision.
82.	Hackney Youth Justice (HORIZON SCANNING)	<ul> <li>Hackney Youth Justice Plan</li> <li>The <u>current Youth Justice Plan</u> expires in 2022 and a new plan is being developed for the period 2022-2025.</li> </ul>
83	HMIP Inspection (HORIZON SCANNING)	- Inspection expected of Youth Justice services in 2022/23

# **OTHER**

84.	Anti-racist Action Plan (Issue from 2021/22)	- The Commission has maintained oversight of the development of a joint Anti-Racist Action in recent work programmes. It has indicated that it wishes to maintain this going forward.	
85.	Homeless young people (Member of the Commission)	Provision for homeless young people in Hackney - in particular the extent of hidden homeless in Hackney where young people sofa surf with friends and family and which increases vulnerability.	
86.	LGBTQ chidlren and young people (Member of the Commission)	Provision for young people within the LGBTQ community.	
87.	Families and Wellbeing Framework (Director of Public Health)	To review the Joint Children and Families Health and Wellbeing Framework for City and Hackney (the working group is putting further detail on the framework so it would be better if this came later in the calendar).	