

Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022/23

July 11th 2022	September 29th 2022 (Moved from 8th September 2022)
School Admissions (40)	Foster Carers (i) Recruitment and Retention Strategy (ii) Assessing local support offer (ii) (75)
Childcare Sufficiency Strategy (40)	Update on GCSE and A Level results in Hackney (20)
Outcome of School Exclusion - Cabinet response (10)	Demographic Analysis of EHCPs in Hackney (40)
Work Programme - Consultation Reporting 2022/23 (40)	Work Programme - Outline 2022/23 (10)
October 31st 2022 -	November 30th 2022
School Exclusions and School Moves Monitoring (45m) (To include absence, persistent absence, emotional withdrawal)	Budget Monitoring - Children & Families Service (30-45)
Ofsted Focused Visit Outcome (10m) verbal update	Children & Families Annual Report (45)
Childhood food poverty - eligibility, accessibility and uptake of FSM (60)	SEND Strategy (40)
January 16th 2023	February 27th 2023
City & Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership (45)	Cabinet Q & A - Cllr Woodley (Early Years, SEND, Parks and Play) (45)
Unregistered Educational Settings (30)	SEND Action Plan (45 min)
Outcome of School Exclusions - Progress of Recommendations (45)	Budget Monitoring - Hackney Education (30)
	(Children and Families Annual Report - to note - written Q &A for March/April 2023)
March 20th 2023	April 17th 2023
Support for Young Parents (Race, racism and children's social care) (60)	Accessibility of CAMHS - strategic plan to reduce waits, single point of access, support for CYP on waiting lists
Pupil Attainment - Attainment Gap (45) Focus on children in AP	Cabinet Q & A - Cllr Bramble (Children, Education & Children's Social Care) (45) Areas of questioning

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Meeting 1	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: Monday 11th July</p> <p>Deadline for reports: 28/6/22</p> <p>Publication 1/7/22</p>	<p><u>School Admissions</u> To review sufficiency of primary and secondary school places ahead of September 2022 school entry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● David Court TBC ● Annie Gammon, Director of Education and Head of HLT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Background reports to be circulated
	<p><u>Childcare Sufficiency</u> It is a statutory requirement for members to review local childcare sufficiency reports which are produced bi-annually. The Commission to review the full assessment report for 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Donna Thomas, Head of Early Years, Early Help & Well-being ● Tim Wooldridge, Early Years Strategy Manager ● Annie Gammon, Director of Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus groups with small number of nursery providers
	<p><u>Outcome of School Exclusions</u> The note and review the Cabinet response to the Commission's review of the Outcome of School Exclusions.</p>	<p>Members of the Commission</p>	
	<p>Development of new CYP Work Programme for 2022/23</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commission/ Scrutiny officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To consult local stakeholders ● Meet with service Directors ● Collate topic suggestions ● Informal meeting with Commission

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Meeting 2	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: Thursday 29th September</p> <p>Papers deadline: 30/8/22</p> <p>Agenda dispatch: 21/9/22</p>	<p><u>Recruitment & Retention of Foster Carers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to review the progress of Commissions recommendations contained in an earlier review - to assess the local offer to in-house foster carers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care • Laura Bleaney, Head of Corporate Parenting • Korinna Steele, Head of Fostering Placements • Hackney Foster Carer Council representatives 	<p>Consultation with in house foster carers set for 31st August 2022</p> <p>Supported by a survey to all in-house foster carers.</p>
	<p><u>School Exam Results 2022</u></p> <p>A brief verbal update on the performance of young people at GCSE and A Level in Hackney</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anni Gammon, Director of Education 	
	<p><u>Demographics of EHCPs in Hackney:</u></p> <p>The Commission has requested the following data for the past 3 years (age group, ethnic group, originating setting (inc those not in education):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children with EHCPs in Hackney; - New EHCPs granted in Hackney; - Number of EHCP requests - Number of requests for assessments refused - Requests for assessments which do not result in EHCP issued. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Wilson, Head of SEND • Annie Gammon, Director of Education 	
	<p><u>Work programme 2022/23</u></p> <p>To continue discussions on future work programme items for 2022/23.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission • Scrutiny Officer 	

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Meeting 3	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: <u>Monday</u> <u>October</u> <u>31st</u> <u>2022</u></p> <p>Papers deadline: <u>18/10/22</u></p>	<p>School Exclusions and School Moves: (45) This is a standing item on the work programme of the Commission to review the number of school exclusions, School Moves, children in Elective Home Education and in Alternative Provision (with demographic analysis including SEND status). In light of rising rates (in connection with exclusion) a short section on school /AP absence, persistent absence to be included. Including missing children - emotional withdrawal etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Roberts, Head of Wellbeing and Education Safeguarding Paul Senior, Director of Education 	
<p>Agenda dispatch : <u>21/10/22</u></p>	<p>Ofsted Focused Visit (15) A focused visit by Ofsted was announced for 21st and 22nd of September 2022. Ofsted will focus on front door service for children's social care (e.g. assessments, thresholds etc).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacque Burke, Group Director for Children and Education Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care 	
	<p>Childhood food poverty: eligibility, accessibility and uptake of free school meals (FSM) (60) In response to the scrutiny consultation which raised childhood food poverty, the Commission is assessing schools response: the eligibility and uptake of FSM, breakfast club provision and connection to wider food poverty networks and programmes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paul Senior, Interim Director of Education David Court, Head of School Organisations, Admission and Pupil benefits and Commissioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite local head teachers for illustrative work they have been doing in relation to FSM, accessibility On site visits to local schools and community food programme projects.
	<p>Work programme 2022/23 To continue discussions on future work programme items for 2022/23.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission Scrutiny Officer 	

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Meeting 4	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Officers	Preparatory Work
<p>Meeting Date: <u>November 30th 2022</u></p> <p>Papers deadline: <u>18th November 2022</u></p> <p>Agenda dispatch: <u>22th November 2022</u></p>	<p><u>Children and Families Annual Report (45)</u> This report could not be provided for this meeting and a briefing will be provided to members of the Commission summarising activity in children's social care for the period 2021/22. To be taken alongside the budget monitoring report.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care • Jacquie Burke, Group Director of Children and Education 	
	<p><u>Children and Families - Budget Monitoring (30-45)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme which reviews and monitors in year budgets for Children and Families Service, including progress against agreed savings proposals. This is taken alongside the CFS Annual report, so scrutiny of policy and budgets are aligned. The Commission has requested a more detailed breakdown of the Corporate Parenting Budget (e.g. foster care, residential placements, supported housing etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naeem Ahmed, Director of Finance (Children, Education, Adults, Health & Integration) • Sajeed Patni, Head of Finance Children's and Education, Finance • Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care 	
	<p><u>SEND Strategy (20-30)</u> Alongside partners, the Council has developed a SEND Strategy for 2022-2025 which is due for approval at Cabinet in November 2022. This item is predominantly to note the key priorities set out in the Strategy and to update the Commission on the progress on the subsequent Action Plan, and scrutiny role in the oversight and monitoring of that.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Senior, Director of Education • Nick Wilson, Interim Head of High Needs & School Places • Joe Wilson, Head of SEND 	
	<p><u>Work programme 2022/23</u> To continue discussions on future work programme items for 2022/23.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission • Scrutiny Officer 	

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Meeting 5	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
Meeting Date: January 16th 2023	<p><u>City & Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership (45)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme which reviews the annual report and activities of City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jim Gamble, Independent Chair, CHSCP ● Rory McCallum, Senior Professional Adviser 	
Papers deadline: 4th January 2023	<p><u>Unregistered Educational Settings (30)</u> This is a short item to review progress against the Commission's recommendations made in 2018.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Katherine Cracknell, Head of Wellbeing and Education Safeguarding ● Paul Senior, Director of Education and Inclusion ● Jim Gamble, Independent Chair, CHSCP ● Rory McCallum, Senior Professional Adviser 	
Agenda dispatch: 6th January 2023	<p><u>Outcome of Schools Exclusions (45):</u> The Commission to follow up the recommendations made in its review which was completed in December 2021 and approved by Cabinet March 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Katherine Cracknell, Head of Wellbeing and Education Safeguarding ● Paul Senior, Director of Education and Inclusion 	
	<p><u>Work programme 2022/23</u> To continue discussions on future work programme items for 2022/23.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commission ● Scrutiny Officer 	

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Meeting 6	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: 27th February 2023</p> <p>Papers deadline: 14th February 2023</p> <p>Agenda dispatch: 17th February 2023</p>	<p><u>Cabinet Q & A (45)</u> The Commission may question the Cabinet member (Cllr Caroline Woodley, Cabinet member for Families, Parks and Leisure) on three policy areas for which they are responsible within their Cabinet portfolio. The Cabinet member to be notified of topics 6 weeks in advance (3rd January 2023).</p> <p>Cabinet members to verbally present on these three areas and take questions from the Commission.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on children's centres (and Family Hubs) 2. Support for parents of children with SEND 3. Waiting times and action plans for SLT and Ed Psych. 		
	<p><u>SEND Action Plan (60)</u> The SEND Strategy was agreed by the Cabinet in November 2022. A partnership action plan has been developed in response over which the Commission will maintain oversight, review delivery and progress. Invitees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paul Senior, Director of Education ● Nick Wilson, Interim Head of High Needs & School Places ● Joe Wilson, Head of SEND ● Jacqueline Agyekum – Designated Clinical Officer for Health (TBC) ● Sarah Darcey - Health Commissioner - Hackney ● Stephen Jahoda - Head of Disabled Children's Service - LB Hackney ● Georgina Diba, Director of Adult Services – LB Hackney 		
	<p><u>Hackney Education - Budget Monitoring (30)</u> This is a standing item on the work programme to review in year budgets and progress against savings proposals for Hackney Education. The Commission has also requested a more detailed budget breakdown for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Childrens Centres (budget circa £10-12m); - Commissioning of (SEND) Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools (budget circa £14m). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sajeed Patni, Head of Finance Children's and Education, Finance ● Naeem Ahmed, Director of Finance (Children, Education, Adults, Health & Integration) 		

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Meeting 7	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: 20th March 2023</p> <p>Papers deadline: 7th March 2023</p> <p>Agenda dispatch: 10th March 2023</p>	<p>Support for Young Parents (75 mins) Following on from the work in relation to disparities in maternity outcomes, the Commission will assess what support is available to young parents and how this is coordinated across statutory partners and other responsible agencies. To cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family Nurse Partnership - HV/MW - CFS/ YH <p>The Commission will view this in the context of disproportionality of children's social care, where it has requested ethnicity data for children's social care contacts in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looked after children - Children in Need - Children on a Child Protection Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's social Care ● Laura Bleaney, head of Looked after Children ● Carolyn Sharpe, Consultant in Public Health Children and Young People ● Cathy Ashley, Chief Executive of Family Rights Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scoped with PH and CFS ● Focus Group with young parents through Care Council 6th and 8th March 2023
	<p>Pupil Attainment - Attainment Gap (45) This is a standing item on the work programme where the educational attainment of children in Hackney is reviewed.</p> <p>This will be the first year since returning to in person exams. The Commission has indicated that in addition to usual focus on the attainment gap between key cohorts (Black Caribbean boys, Turkish Cypriot boys, Gipsy Roma/ Irish Traveller) there will be an additional emphasis on children in Alternative Provision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Paul Senior, Director of Education and Inclusion ● Jason Marantz, Assistant Director, School Standards & Improvement 	

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Meeting 8	Item title and scrutiny objective	Directorate – Division – Officer Responsibility	Preparatory work to support item
<p>Meeting Date: 17th April 2023</p> <p>Papers deadline: 31st March 2023</p>	<p>Accessibility of CAMHS The accessibility of CAMHS figured prominently in the scrutiny consultation 2022. There were ongoing concerns around waiting times, access to services and plans to develop a single point of access.</p> <p>This item is being scoped with respective service leads.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nadia Sica, Workstream Director Integrated Commissioning: Children, Young People, Maternity and Families, NHS North East London London Borough of Hackney • Greg Condon, Mental Health Programme Manager, Health & Care Board • Sophie Mcelroy, CAMHS Alliance Senior Project Manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus group with providers for all members on 22nd March 2023. - Site visits to Hackney Ark and Homerton Row Specialist Service - dates to be confirmed.
<p>Agenda dispatch: 5th April 2023</p>	<p>Cabinet Q & A The Commission may question the Cabinet member on three policy areas for which they are responsible within their Cabinet portfolio.</p> <p>Three areas (full detail here):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children in temporary accommodation - Young Hackney - quality and outcomes - Children missing from care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Bramble, Deputy Mayor and cabinet member for education, young people and children’s social care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet member notified of topics 6 weeks in advance: March 6th 2023

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Possible items noted for 2023/24	
1. School Admissions	A review of the local school admissions system and to assess disparities. What demographic variations exist among local schools? Does the current local admissions system generate inequities?
2. Residential Placements	Commissioning arrangements for residential placements for looked after children, How is the Children and Families Service addressing longer term need for residential placements? How is the Children and Families Service working with other boroughs to jointly provide/ commission services (rather than reliant on the private sector which may be some distance from Hackney and of variable quality).
3. Graduated SEND provision within schools	A new graduated response was introduced within local schools to enable more children to be supported in schools but without the need for an Education and health Care Plan. How is this working out in practice? Are all schools taking up the local SEND offer by the Local Authority?
4. Disabled Children Service	This service was moved to Children and Families Service in 2020 from Hackney Education. Past safeguarding partnership reports have noted that there have been concerns around reviews not being completed.
5. A new vision for the Pupil Referral Unit.	The PRU is being redeveloped. How will it work preventatively with young people with SEND or at risk of exclusion?
6. Childhood obesity in Hackney	How do the levels of Childhood obesity compare with other boroughs? Is there a local strategy and how effective are local interventions to address this issue?
7. Childhood immunizations in Hackney	How do levels of childhood immunisation rates in Hackney compare to other boroughs? Are rates of immunisation equal across the community, and if not, what actions are being taken to address this?
8. Hackney Youth Justice Plan	Hackney Youth Justice Plan - The current Youth Justice Plan expires in 2022 and a new plan is being developed for the period 2022-2025. Scrutiny assists in

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	development of the plan - or input before finalisation.
9. Children in temporary accommodation	How many children are living in temporary accommodation - and what type? Is the data of sufficient quality and depth to maintain oversight of this cohort - needs, impact and support? What support is provided for children placed in TA outside of the borough - who is responsible for social care, SEND, education provision and health provision? How is support coordinated? If children are vulnerable (LAC, CiN, CPP, SEND) how does this impact on housing placements / allocations?
10. Children missing from care	Young people who are going missing from care is an area of significant safeguarding risk. What is the local incidence - does it affect different cohorts of children (e.g. boys, unaccompanied young asylum seekers)? What support is offered to local foster carers - and other settings?
11. Health of looked after Children	This was suggested as a topic of investigation in summer of 2022 by DPH. During the course of this year's scrutiny, care experienced children and young people's access to health care and support has been raised within a number of contexts (support for young parents, foster carers and access to CAMHS)
12. SEND Action Plan	The Commission agreed that it should maintain oversight of the planned improvements in SEND services by scrutinising the SEND Action Plan in the 2023/24 work programme. A formal performance scorecard to be requested (statutory KPI and local waiting times) will support scrutiny.
13. Family Hubs	Family Hubs are still in development and a number of member briefing sessions have been held. An update was presented to the Commission at Cabinet Q and A, but no formal plan has been presented to Cabinet for approval as yet. The Cabinet member indicated that CYP Scrutiny would be involved in the consultation for this development (expected May and June 2023).
14. Affordable Childcare Commission	This was established in March 2023 and was likely to run for 6-9 months, which will bring reporting or updates into the 2023/24 work programme. This will also have implications for local children's centres.

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<p>15. Support for Young Parents - Enhanced health Visiting Service</p>	<p>The Commission reviewed support for young parents at the meeting of 20/3/23 noting the introduction of the replacement for Family Nurse Partnership would be a new Enhanced Health Visiting Service. The new service would start in September 2023, and it may be opportune to review 6-12 months after that (March - September 2024).</p>
<p>16. Hackney Education Improvement Plan</p>	<p>Hackney Education published an improvement plan in 2022 setting out service areas for improvement to 2024. The Commission may wish to review in 2023/24.</p>
<p>17. School closures</p>	<p>Hackney has announced plans to close two primary schools and merge a further 4 into two new schools. Proposals will formally be presented at Cabinet in May 2023 with consultations following from that date, with planned changes due to be in place by September 2024. The Commission may wish to be involved in the consultation.</p>
<p>18. Sufficiency of Children's Social Care</p>	<p>Local Authorities are required to set out plans to ensure that there is sufficient children's social care capacity to meet local needs. This is undertaken biannually with the next report expected in 2023.</p>