APPENDIX A - Standing Items

Regular items on the Work Programme (Cabinet Q & A, Budget and other fixed items)

No.	Item	Detail	Comment
1.	Cabinet Member Q & A (Standing Item)	Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Children's Social Care (Cllr Anntionette Bramble) to attend and respond to questions within this portfolio.	Usually taken in December / January
2.	Cabinet Member Q & A (Standing Item)	Cabinet Member for Early Years, Families, Parks and Play (Cllr Caroline Woodley) to attend and respond to questions within this portfolio.	Usually taken at year end - March '24?
3.	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.	Usually taken mid-year Nov/Dec (same time as CSC Annual Report)
4.	Budget Monitoring (Standing Item)	Hackney Education to present in-year budget monitoring (around 6 months in - October to December)	Usually taken mid-year Oct/Nov
5.	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.	Children's Social Care requested that this be taken on December 23 (same time as budget monitoring)
6.	School Places - School Place Planning (Standing Item)	Hackney Education provides annual review of school place allocation (at reception and secondary entry) ahead of September entry.	Agreed to be taken as School Estates Strategy update on June 27th 2023.
7.	Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (Standing Item)	Hackney Education is required to report on the sufficiency of childcare provision across Hackney annually.	Interim sufficiency update on June 27th 2023.

8.	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.	Usually taken in autumn when data is confirmed - October 2023?
9.	Pupil attainment (Standing Item)	Hackney Education to provide annual assessment of children's attainment at Reception, KS2 and GCSE level. Analysis of attainment gaps within and between pupil groups. (After January 2024)	Taken after January when data is confirmed - February 2024?
10.	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.	
11.	SEND Action Plan (Standing Item)	The SEND (Partnership) Action Plan was presented in February 2023. The Commission agreed to review this annually.	
12.	School Exclusions (Review Monitoring)	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).	
13.	Unregistered Educational Settings (Review Monitoring)	The Commission continues to maintain oversight of this work (completed in 2018) as progress has been difficult to achieve. Taken alongside CHSCP annual report.	
14.	Recruitment and Retention of Foster	The Commission retains periodic oversight of this work. Hackney Foster Carers Council to report back on progress	Last update in September 2022. Further report being.

	Carers (Review Monitoring)	2023	
15.	Housing Support for Care Leavers (Review Monitoring)	The Commission together with Living in Hackney CScrutiny Commission completed a review of housing support for care leavers in 2022. The Commission will need to agree follow up arrangements with Living in Hackney for 2023/24.	Cabinet to approve its response to recommendations at 26th June 2023 meeting.

APPENDIX B- Issues arising from 2022/23 Scrutiny Work Programme

	Possible items noted for 20	Possible items noted for 2023/24		
1.	School Admissions (Work Programme 22/23)	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 in the distribution of children attending school?		
2.	Residential Placements (Work Programme 22/23)	Commissioning arrangements for residential placements for looked after children, How is the Children and Families Service addressing longer term needs 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 (Work Programme 22/23)	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 (Work Programme 22/23)	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 in time.		
5.	A new vision for the Pupil Referral Unit. (Work Programme 22/23)	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 (Work Programme 22/23)	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 (Work Programme 22/23)	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 (Work Programme 22/23)	Hackney Youth Justice Plan - The current Youth Justice Plan expires in 2022 and a new plan is being developed for the period 2022-2025. Can scrutiny assist in development of the plan?	Area Youth Justice Inspection Report (April 2023)
9.	Children in temporary accommodation (Work Programme 22/23)	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?	Was scrutinised in April 2023 under Cabinet Q & A procedure.
10.	Children missing from care (Work Programme 22/23)	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?	Was scrutinised in April 2023 under Cabinet Q & A procedure.
11.	Health of looked after Children (Work Programme 22/23)	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.	Family Hubs (Work Programme 22/23)	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).	Consultation paper included within CYP Agenda for 27th June 2023. Commission to decide if and how to formally contribute to consultation before the closing date 13th July 2023.
13.	Affordable Childcare Commission (Work Programme 22/23)	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.	Is due to report in the autumn of 2023.
14.	Support for Young Parents - Enhanced health Visiting Service (Work Programme 22/23)	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).	It may be too early to evaluate in the municipal year 2023/24?
15.	Hackney Education Improvement Plan (Work Programme 22/23)	Hackney Education published an improvement plan for 2022-2025 setting out service areas for improvement to 2024. The Commission may wish to review in the 2023/24 municipal year.	If taken, it may be best to review alongside budget monitoring for Hackney Education so that budget and policy priorities are aligned.
16.	Primary School closures and mergers (Work Programme 22/23)	Under the School Estates Strategy, Hackney has announced plans to close two primary schools and merge a further 4 into two new schools. Proposals were presented at Cabinet in May 2023 with informal consultations following from that date, with	The Commission is scrutinising the School Estates Strategy on 27th June 2023 together with

		planned changes due to be in place by September 2024.	proposals to close / merge primary schools.
17.	Sufficiency of Children's Social Care (Work Programme 22/23)	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.	The Childcare Sufficiency Report was published in March 2023.
18.	Vaping (Work Programme 22/23)	Vaping use amongst children has continued to increase, with concerns of the impact that this is having on health and possible links to other drug use. This was also a suggestion from Hackney youth Parliament in 2022.	
19.	Behaviour Management in Schools (Work Programme 2022/23)	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.	Was planned to commence in 2022/23.

APPENDIX C - HORIZON SCANNING (Anticipated National and Local Policy /Strategy Changes or events)

No.	Issue	Details	Comment
1.	Outcomes of Child Q (Horizon Scanning - Local)	Child Q Safeguarding Practice Review -Update Report - Why was it me? Report released on 20th June 2023. The report highlights a makes an additional 13 recommendations	A further joint meeting of Living in Hackney and CYP scrutiny Commission is expected (awaiting the IOPC report). Commissions may wish to scrutinise issues identified in the report.
2.	Local Areas SEND (Ofsted Inspection)	The last Local Area SEND Inspection took place in 2017 and a further inspection is expected in the upcoming municipal year 2023/24. It is difficult to predict, but it is anticipated in September / October 2023.	The report will not be available until 8 weeks after completion of the inspection. Outcomes report not likely to be taken before December 2023.
3.	Children's Social Care (Ofsted Inspection)	The last full ILACs inspection by Ofsted in Hackney was in November 2019 and the most recent focused visit was in September 2022.	
4.	Anti-racist Action Plan (Local Horizon Scanning)	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.	An updated consultation draft is unexpected in the summer of 2023. (This may be best taken at the Scrutiny Panel?)
6.	Early Help Strategy (Local Horizon SCanning)	The formative Early Help Strategy was presented to the Commission in 2020/21 and agreed by Cabinet in early 2022. The strategy to date has been council focused which establishes corporate principles (e.g. early help is more effective, addressing	Early Help - and joined up provision across the council and wider partnership - ongoing theme for scrutiny.

		disproportionality) and a single council-wide assessment framework. The development of the Early Help Strategy is ongoing and is being rolled out to key partners (statutory and voluntary) to ensure that there is a consistent and coordinated early help offer across Hackney.	
7.	Children's Social Care - reform (National Horizon Scanning)	The Government is currently considering consultation responses to its plans to improve social care as set out in <u>Stable Homes</u> , <u>Built on Love (2023)</u> This is the government response to the McAllister Review of children's social care and advocates a systems approach to ensure that children get the right help at the right time. It aims to move services "away from costly crisis intervention to more meaningful and effective help for families." Additional investment of £200 million is planned over the next 2 years to "address urgent issues" and "laying the foundations for whole system reform."	Possible implications for 'market' in children's social care
8.	Alternative Provision	The DfE published its strategy for improving SEND and ALTERNATIVE PROVISION in March 2023.	
9.	Unregistered schools	Contrary to previous Reports there has been no legislation or other legal instrument which has been introduced to assist with the oversight and regulation of unregistered schools in the 2022/23 programme.	The Commission, the Cabinet Member/Mayor and Group Director have all written to DfE setting out their concerns as the lack of progress in this area and ongoing risks for local children.

10.	Free School Meals and childhood food poverty (Regional Horizon Scan)	The Mayor of London announced that all primary schools will be funded to provide FSM to all children for a 1 year period from September 2023 via a £130m investment.	How will this be assimilated into local FSM provision? How can this change local FSM systems beyond 2023/24?
11.	Childhood Food Poverty - Hackney Summit (Local Horizon Scanning)	The Mayor and Deputy Mayor setup childhood food poverty task force in October 2022 and held a summit in January 2023. This summit will develop the local response to extending FSM and addressing childhood food poverty in schools.	Expected summer 2023.

Appendix D- Public and other Stakeholder Suggestions

1.	Behaviour Management (Member of the Commision)	The need to investigate behaviour management policies in schools arising from the outcomes of the Child Q Safeguarding Practice Review. It would be useful to assess the evidence base for local priorities and the current impact of local policies.	
2.	Children Absent from School - Emotionally Based School Avoidance (Member of the Commission)	Children absent from School - persistent absence and severe absence and emotional based school avoidance. CAMHS practitioners reported that this consisted of 35% of local caseloads with young people - emphasised the need for early help as it was difficult to get children to return. Issues with thresholds for care and support leave schools trying to support children. Strategic response needed to this growing concern.	
3.	FSM and Childhood Food Poverty (Member of the Commision)	FSM and childhood food poverty in schools was positive line of scrutiny in 2022/23 and it is suggested that this be followed up in 23/24 when the Mayor of London FSM provision is extended alongside the planned developments.	
4.	Recruitment and Retention of Foster Carers (Member of the Commission)	Members noted that the testimonies of foster carers in 2022/23 was very powerful and the Commission should follow up on this work in 2023/24.	
5.	Attainment Gap (Member of the Commision)	Reports on achievement and the attainment gap were interesting for the Commission in 2022/23. It would be useful to follow up again in 2023/24, to focus on those local activities and interventions to close the attainment gap.	

6.	Impact of school closures. (Member of the Commision)	The Commission should assess the impact of proposed primary school closures (children, schools and wider education systems)	
7.	Family & Children Hubs (Member of the Commission)	It would also be important to scrutinise proposals for Family Hubs before these are finalised.	
8.	Youth Justice (Member of the Commision)	To follow up on the outcome of the inspection of Youth Justice Services across Hackney and the development of the new Youth Justice Plan.	
9.	LGBTQIA+ children and young people's access to services (Member of the Commision)	It would be helpful to investigate further LGBTQIA+ children and young people access to and experiences of local services and supported by LB Hackney and wider partnership.	
10.	Impact of school exclusion and behaviour policies. (Member of the Commision)	It was suggested that further work should be undertaken to assess the trauma which school exclusion can have on children, and the broader anxiety issues which school behaviour policies may create for children.	
11.	Falling school rolls - in year pupil mobility. (Member of the Commision)	In relation to falling school rolls, it was noted that there has been a high degree of in-year pupil mobility and it would be helpful to understand the impact that this was having on schools and the outcomes for children.	
12.	ARP (SEND provision) in secondary schools	To follow on from previous work with SEND, it was noted that there were no ARP provision being planned for local	

	(Member of the Commision)	secondary schools as yet and it would be helpful to know what progress had been made. Where do children transition in a primary ARP transition to if there is limited secondary ARP provision?	
13.	Foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (Member of the Commision)	It was suggested that the Commission should look at Foetal Alcohol spectrum disorder. Work in 2022/23 by the Commission also noted that CAMHS also flagged this as an issue where further information and data is needed.	
14.	Serious Youth Violence (Member of the Commission)	Would serious youth violence come under our remit or is that Living in Hackney?	
15.	Kinship Carers (Member of the Commission)	It would be helpful to assess the support offer for kinship carers. In particular can more be done for their housing needs when some of them are saving Hackney many £1000s. Should we be looking at an offer similar to council tax exemption for foster carers? What specialist support is given to this group navigating their way round different services ie legal, housing need Send, disability etc. Do they get any peer support? Is the financial support maximised?	
15.	Somali Re-Education Camps (Member of the Commission)	A member noted that there have been concerns within some parts of the Somali community about the existence of overseas 're-education' camps where children. Families may be sending young people to these camps because they are having difficulties (under achievement, low education engagement) which they attribute to becoming 'too westernised'. Also connected to dahqan celis.	
16.	SEND Action Plan	Delivering the SEND Action Plan.	

	(Cabinet member)		
17.	Children's Centres (Cabinet member)	The Children Centre review, with a focus on vacancies and viability.	
18.	SEND palace availability (Cabinet member)	The impact of the Schools Estate Strategy on expansion of in borough SEND places and on families affected by potential closures and amalgamations	
19.	Alternative Provision (Cabinet member)	Alternative Provision	
20.	SEND Transport Policy (Cabinet member)	SEND Transport policy, and engagement with the SEND Parent/Carer Forum and SEND Pupil Forum.	
21.	SEND Inspection (Cabinet member)	Outcomes of a SEND Ofsted visit, assuming this takes place in the coming months.	
22.	SEND Finance (Cabinet member)	DfE recommendations around 'Delivering Better Value';	
23.	Family & Children Hubs (Cabinet member)	Ongoing progression and delivery of Children and Family Hubs.	
24.	Service Integration (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Any contribution which furthers integration and join up of local services would be beneficial regarding the future travel of service.	
25.	Physical Activity and Play (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Play, Physical Activity and the impact on the physical and emotional health of young people?'	

26.	Early Help (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	The communication of the Early Help Offer and particularly digital	
27.	School Exclusions (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Schools & the alternative pathways to exclusion. Exclusions Strategy focus on alternative pathways to prevent exclusion	
28.	Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Further data on the experiences of children with ASD to help identify how provision can be better joined up across services.	
29.	Looked after Children (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Implications of improvement for social care provision for looked after children as set out in government consultation on reform. Focus on 'stable homes, built on love' e.g. investing in fostering, regional care cooperatives, pan-London initiatives, NEL, moves in lots of places to de-privatise the care home sector, etc.	
30.	Supported employment for vulnerable children (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Employment support and opportunities for children with additional needs, including care leavers - i.e. how do we help create opportunities in the 'family firm' for some of our most vulnerable children? Could help further join up the work with Hackney Education SEND team and Hackney Works and children's social care.	
31.	SEND Strategy (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	SEND Strategy implementation	
32.	Free School Meals	Universal Free School Meals- London Mayor programme	

	(Education & Children Senior officers Group)	implementation.	
33.	Disabled Children (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Disabled Children and support for transition/complex needs	
34.	School Estates Strategy (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	School Estates Strategy	
35.	Sexual health of young people (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Sexual health prevalence, offer and outcomes for young people	
36.	Substance misuse (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Substance misuse prevalence, offer and outcomes for young people	
37.	Early Years (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Sufficiency of Provision- Early Years	
38.	SEND Finance (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	SEND Developing Better Value Programme	
39.	Super Youth Hub (Education & Children Senior officers Group)	Children and Family Hubs/super youth hub development	
40	Children's Centres	Children Centre Review	

	(Education & Children Senior officers Group)		
41.	Air pollution impact on children and young people (Director of Public Health)	Although there is a scheduled discussion at Health Scrutiny on air quality, it could be very helpful to review this from the specific perspective of its impact on children and young people. Would be useful to know what other LA's are doing and diverse impact across community (i.e. OJC).	
42.	Sexual Health Services of children and young people (Director of Public Health)	Young people's sexual health (given persistent issues with the CHYPS service, it would be useful to discuss the implications for this at Scrutiny and get the Commission's input on next steps)	
43.	Vaping (Director of Public Health)	Broader recognition of the issue of vaping with children and young people. The core stop smoking services is being recommissioned to incorporate support for 12 year olds and upwards. What insight can specialists or other agencies bring to work in Hackney?	
44.	Substance Misuse (Director of Public Health)	There is a dedicated young people's substance misuse service where the outcomes are good. There is growing concern around levels of cannabis use and the impact that this may have on young people's long term emotional and mental wellbeing.	
45.	Health of Looked After Children (Director of Public Health)	This suggestion was carried over from last year and represents an ongoing piece of work for the PH team which it may be useful to look at later in the municipal year.	

46.	Young Parents (Director of Public Health)	The new Enhanced health Visiting Service for young parents will be established iN September 2023. It would be positive to review this once the service has bedded in and data is available.	
47.	Autism Spectrum Disorder (NHS Partnership)	The offer for children with Autism, taking an integrated approach across health, social care and education.	
47.	Diet / Nutrition of Children (Public Suggestion)	Investigate fast food establishments around schools	
48.	Air quality impact on Children (Public Suggestion)	Hackney needs to be greener and have improved air quality, with all primary schools having school streets as mandatory.	
49.	Young Parents and Housing (Public Suggestion)	Hackney Home Services moving young mothers into damp housing.	
50.	Unregistered schools (Public Suggestion)	Unregistered religious schools. Children are at risk of receiving a narrow and poor quality education with no safeguards in unregistered religious schools.	
51.	Holiday activities for children (Public Suggestion)	Lack of clubs for children 11+, especially during summer holidays.	
52.	Children missing school (Public Suggestion)	Council-wide change in attitude to parents taking children out of school for 2 weeks or less per school year without getting fined. Holidays are disgustingly overpriced during school	

		holidays, which leaves many unable to afford to go away, and/or if having family overseas prohibits them from visiting said family members.	
53.	Connecting children and the environment (Public Suggestion)	Greening of Hackney through enabling local residents to go green On the biodiversity front, we can do citizen science activities for kids, to monitor, care for, and bring back wildlife.	
54.	Street Safety for Children (Public Suggestion)	We live in Stamford Hill and are routinely placed in danger by rat-running drivers. We have a school street where the signs and cameras are constantly vandalised and road surfaces not fit for purpose due to vehicles destroying them. People are crying out for LTNs in order to keep people safe. Through-traffic has destroyed any sense of community as the streets are too dangerous.	
55.	School Closures (Public Suggestion)	The parent body of Colvestone Primary School is extremely concerned about the merger propositions. We fully understand the problem with pupil numbers but believe the inclusion of Colvestone on the list of affected schools is short-termist and fails to take in the bigger picture of future Hackney plans. Numbers have been affected at our school because of leadership disruption and Instability and we are now on track to address this. Hackney also has plans to turn the street into a 21st century street which will make the school one of the most desired in the area. Finally none of the parents want to send their children to Princess May, the school Colvestone is proposed to merge with. Continuing with this consultation is greatly damaging to the future of the school. The parent body	

		has put together an incredible dossier to demonstrate why our school is so special. Please investigate.	
56.	Children's rights (Public Suggestion)	Are children looked after adequately so they can develop their full potential. All children should have the right to opportunities but they cannot defend their rights themselves.	
57.	Access to sports (Public Suggestion)	I would like the panel to consider Hackney secondary schools having a designated afternoon a week for competitive sports. There is a paucity of competition in Hackney Schools and children who had previously been sporty in primary school have very limited opportunities to compete past 11. It has to be undertaken outside school, and so few participate obesity and general health - sports seems to have fallen down the list of extracurricular activities for secondary schools - if it's done at school then kids will have to join in (particularly girls) - access is currently limited to those with money and parents willing to take them places at the weekend - it would be easier for schools to organise competitions - talent would be encouraged and spotted	
58.	Emotional based School Avoidance (Public Suggestion)	Precis: A mother reported that both her children (a boy and a girl) both with an EHCP have been bullied at school and now emotionally avoiding school. Submission contains personal details and will be referred to Hackney Education for follow up.	
59.	Increased service provision (Public Suggestion)	We have issues in health, mental health and disability, autism and social services for children and adults. I think it is not enough. We need more people from different backgrounds	

		and languages to support people in need.	
60.	School Closures (Public Suggestion)	The Closing of Colvestone Primary school. I am 58 and was fortunate to have attended this school. For me it brings very fond memories [as I live nearby]. I I think that school holds this community together allowing parents of young children to drop their kids then visit Ridley Road, a historic part of Dalston. This school for me is needed for young families and the next generation to enjoy.	
61.	Positive youth culture (Public Suggestion)	The [perception] youth in general being a destructive or disruptive force: can we recognise youth as ambassadors and create leadership clubs that work alongside at every level of Hackney governance to groom and grow rounded adults capable of enacting the changes they need when we're no longer around to lease?	
62.	Secondary Admissions (Public Suggestion)	Can you please look into secondary school admissions. There are a lot of parents who did not get the school choice that they applied for, including my daughter. We applied to 5 schools but she did not get any and at the moment we have no school for her.	