

# Westminster Scrutiny

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Title: The Scrutiny Function and Work Programmes for

the next municipal year 2016/2017

Report of: Julia Corkey-Director of Policy, Performance and

Communications

**Cabinet Member Portfolio** ΑII

Wards Involved: ΑII

**Policy Context:** City for Choice / Heritage / Aspiration

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#### 1. **Executive Summary**

This report:

- Updates the Westminster Scrutiny Commission on the work programmes for all the Committees for the municipal year ahead and any Task Groups which are either running or planned.
- Reminds the Commission of the budget held to support the Scrutiny function which can be used for member development or research.

#### 2. **Key Matters for the Committee's Consideration**

The Commission is asked to:

- note the work programmes for the year ahead
- Consider whether any events/member development would assist the delivery of these work programmes or future ambitions for Scrutiny
- Consider whether any of the items proposed or the task groups require the commissioning of research

#### 3. Background

#### 3.1 The Committee Work programmes

Since late January the Scrutiny team has been supporting the Chairmen and the committees to consider the work programme for each committee starting in June 2016. The process for this has varied slightly according the Chairmen's wishes but has typically included; consultation with the cabinet member, consultation with chief officers and/or the relevant departmental management teams, following up on previous items/commitments from previous reports, consideration of business plans and challenges identified in those, performance data and data from the City Survey. The aim has been to culminate in work programmes which:

- Focus on what is important
- Focus on areas where performance might be improved
- Focus on services which are important to residents
- Focus on where scrutiny can make a difference and add value
- Feed into pro-active policy development by e.g. contributing to pre tender considerations or feeding into strategy development
- Use the insight of back bench members to act as critical friend to services
  of the City Council and our partners thereby enabling good governance
  and excellent services.

The work programmes are attached as Appendix 1. Each committee has discretion to establish task groups to examine key issues in more detail and also to commission Single Member Studies.

The current/planned task group or single member studies are listed below.

#### Adults, Health and Public Protection Policy and Scrutiny Committee. (AH&PP)

This committee has no task groups running or planned but does have a current single member study focussing on Trafficking within Westminster. The scope of this study is: Eastern European Trafficking, The implications of the Visa regime for domestic workers and Westminster Service Industry Trafficking.

This committee will also contribute its Chairman to the Air Quality Task Group of the Environment and Customer Services Committee.

AH&PP has also faced challenges in having capacity to cover two very different and significant policy/service areas. That is to adequately cover the social care and health world which is going through significant transformation currently and also the public protection/community safety area which is also significant. There has been some discussion at Committee that the recent work programme is not achieving the necessary balance. Whilst the Committee have been receiving regular updates from the cabinet member for public protection, it is acknowledged that the agenda has been over focussed

on health. In order to remedy this, committee have been consulted on which public protection KPI's they would like to receive regularly. Once this dashboard is agreed, committee will then have two meetings a year to focus in more depth on two areas of their choice. It is anticipated this will correct the imbalance and that committee members will be satisfied.

#### Environment and Customer Services Policy and Scrutiny Committee (E&CS)

This committee has just established an Air Quality task Group with membership invited from AH&PP and also Children's Committee. The first meeting will take place in July to agree terms of reference, a work plan and to commission an evidence base/desk top review.

This committee also has a Sustainable Travel task group which meets as required. It has worked on the walking strategy and the strategic parking policy review.

#### Housing, Finance and Customer Services Policy and Strategy Committee

This committee hosts our only standing committee which is the Budget and Performance task group. This task group exists:

"To consider, on behalf of the Policy and Scrutiny Committees, budget options and draft business plans and estimates at the appropriate stages in the business planning cycle and to submit recommendations / comments to the cabinet and/or Cabinet Members."

#### In turn:

Cabinet *must take into account* and *give due regard* of any views and recommendations from the Budget and Performance Task Group in drawing up firm budget proposals for submission to the Council, and the report to Council must reflect those comments (and those of other Task Groups and Committees, if any) and the Cabinet's response.

In addition this committee has established a City Hall refurbishment task group, the terms of reference for this are:

"To provide a critical friend to the City Hall Refurbishment Programme, covering issues including; finance, contract management and the decant. The Task group will examine the impact of the refurbishment on service delivery, Council staff and organisational culture. The Task group will also analyse any additional and unforeseen issues linked to the programme, as and when they arise."

#### Children's, Sports and Leisure Policy and Scrutiny Committee

This committee has wanted to establish a youth mental health task group. However the health and Well Being Board have had a report on the same

issue so the committee will consider alternative angles where they can add value.

#### 3.2 Member Development and Transformation.

Members are aware that WCC has an award winning scrutiny function. In order to maintain our performance as a high performing function, it is important that we consider our support needs and the role of Scrutiny as local government continues to transform. The role of Scrutiny during transformation is crucial in providing a check about the direction of travel and ensuring that residents' needs are paramount throughout the journey. As such, members are encouraged to consider whether a facilitated session considering the potential role of scrutiny during transformation would be of merit.

Committees also individually or collectively have the opportunity to identify their development needs and request support. The Centre for Public Scrutiny provides a development function for officers and members and can customise for any particular requirements.

#### 3.3 Research to support Scrutiny Reviews

Members are reminded that there is a small budget held for Scrutiny which can fund either member development or research to support scrutiny reviews. This may be most useful when conducting a longer term scrutiny review via a task group. The Environment and Customer Services Committee will commission an evidence base to support the Air Quality review for example as it requires independence and academic rigour in order to be support a review which we hope will be influential internally and externally.

#### 3.4 Policy and Scrutiny Officer

Members will be aware that Anne Pollock is leaving this position in order to work full time for our Chief Executive as Policy and Governance officer. Anne was covering this role as well as carrying on with her scrutiny duties and we would like to acknowledge her hard work in doing so. We are currently in the process of recruiting a new Policy and Scrutiny Officer who will come into position in early July.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact Muge Dindjer x2636 mdindjer@westminster.gov.uk

#### **APPENDICES:**

**Appendix 1- Work programmes for each Committee** 

**Work programmes for the Policy and Scrutiny Committees.** 

Work Programme  Environment and Customer Services		
	ROUND ONE (8 JUNE 2016)	
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A	To hold to account and review the activity of the Cabinet Member.	<ul> <li>Cabinet Member for the Built Environment</li> <li>Cabinet Member for City Management &amp; Customer Services</li> <li>Cabinet Member for Sustainability &amp; Parking</li> </ul>
Update on the Baker Street two-way system	An update following the previous review and next steps.	Graham King
Code of Construction	An update following previous report and public consultation	<ul><li>Barry Smith</li><li>Nina Miles</li></ul>
Work Programme	To agree the annual work programme and terms of reference for the Air Quality Task Group  JND TWO (14 SEPTEMBER 2016)	Muge Dindjer
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A	To hold to account and review the activity of the Cabinet Member.	•
Examine the use of Highways/allocation of road space to feed into the development of the Local Plan and related strategies. The examination to include a	A holistic enquiry into what our highways are or should be for that can inform the development of our spatial planning, transport and environmental policies	<ul><li>Stuart Love</li><li>Barry Smith</li><li>Tim Long</li></ul>

focus on the road management issues caused by increased demand coming from the newer road users such as Deliveroo and Uber. To include; cycling, walking, parking, taxis, private hire vehicles and buses.		
Assets of Community Value	To cover planning, protection of Public Houses, our experience to date and the Carlton Vale decision. To request CAMRA as a witness and an independent Neighbourhood advocate. To consider witnesses who have experience of both successful and unsuccessful applications for ACV's.	<ul> <li>Barry Smith</li> <li>Ed Watson (Planning)</li> <li>Phoebe Morris- Jones</li> </ul>
Waste and Recycling Collection, Street Cleansing and Ancillary Services Contract	To examine proposals for the retendering of this major contract	<ul><li>Mark Banks</li><li>Phil Robson</li></ul>
ROU	ND THREE (16 NOVEMBER 2016	)
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A	To hold to account and review the activity of the Cabinet Member.	<ul> <li>Cabinet Member for City Management &amp; Customer Services</li> <li>Cabinet Member for Sustainability &amp; Parking</li> </ul>
Update on delivery against the Cycling Strategy-one year on.	Committee asked to be kept updated on delivery against the strategy.	<ul><li>Jayne Rusbatch</li><li>Toby Jacobs</li></ul>
Emissions Based Parking Charges-timing provisional dependent on LEN bid		<ul><li>Heather Acton</li><li>Stuart Love</li></ul>
ROUND FOUR (30 JANUARY 2017)		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A	To hold to account and review the activity of the Cabinet Member.	Cabinet Member for the Built Environment

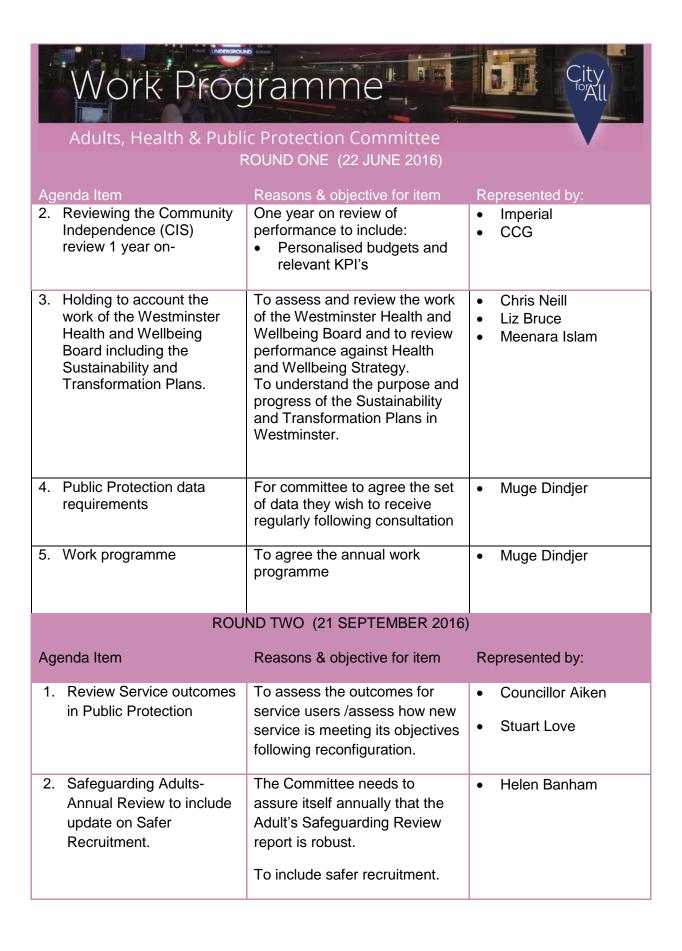
Impact of the Utility Companies in the Borough?  The Digital Programme	A strategic examination of the overall impact on the public realm. Internal research and a call for evidence from the utilities that identifies their plans for strategic investment in infrastructure to support our growth objectives/projections.  An update report to ascertain progress against strategic objectives. To include call centres and transformation.	<ul> <li>Barry Smith</li> <li>Muge Dindjer</li> <li>Tim Mitchell</li> <li>Melvyn Caplan</li> <li>Julia Corkey</li> <li>Suzanne McArdle</li> </ul>
F	ROUND FIVE (15 MARCH 2017)	
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A	To hold to account and review the activity of the Cabinet Member.	Cabinet Member for City Management & Customer Services      Cabinet Member for Sustainability & Parking
Examination of the impact on the environment of new major transport/ infrastructure projects. To include: managing the impact of visitor numbers with the advent of Crossrail and the advent of the night tube.  This committee will consider one major item.	To identify how risk to street cleanliness and ASB can be mitigated. To identify learning form Crossrail 1 and apply to Crossrail 2.  To review operation to date – to include witnesses from TfL, MPS, BTP and local residents	<ul><li>Stuart Love</li><li>Ed Watson</li><li>Graham King</li><li>Chris Wroe</li></ul>
·	Hualla sata di Itama	
Agenda Item	Unallocated Items Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Update on the Nine Elms Bridge	As and when there is further news to follow up the initial inquiry held.	Graham King
The Digital Programme	An update report to ascertain progress against strategic objectives. To include call centres and transformation.	<ul><li>Tim Mitchell</li><li>Melvyn Caplan</li><li>Julia Corkey</li><li>Suzanne McArdle</li></ul>

Community Infrastructure Levy – to be considered in next work programme after one year of operation.(May 2017)	To review operation to date	•	Barry Smith
Impact of the Utility Companies in the Borough	A strategic examination of the overall impact on the public realm. Internal research and a call for evidence from the utilities that identifies their plans for strategic investment in infrastructure to support our	•	Barry Smith Muge Dindjer

## **Task Groups**

Committee has just agreed to set up a task group on air quality. It will have representation from the AH&PP Committee and the Children's, Sports and Leisure Committee.

The Sustainable Transport task Group will also reconvene in September to consider the Walking Strategy.



Cumulative Impact     (Stress) Areas for     Licensing	To receive a report on current cumulative impact areas and whether any new areas are being considered.	Chris Wroe
4. Update on the work of the	Annual Review as per the	Councillor Aiken
Safer Westminster Partnership	committees statutory obligations	Mick Smith
·	· ·	
ROUI	ND THREE (23 NOVEMBER 2016	
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
1. UCC and A & E progress	To consider a progress report	Imperial
report from Northern Doctors	and receive information on mental health specialists in A &	CCGs?
	E in ST Mary's.	
Imperial- Planning     Process and Strategic	To review and interrogate their plans.	Imperial
interests	picino.	
ROI	 JND FOUR ( 1 FEBRUARY 2017)	
NO	SND FOOK ( FFEDROART 2017)	
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
1. End of Life Care	To assess whether services in Westminster meets best practice standards and whether funding is being spent in the most effective way. Nationally 65% of healthcare spend occurs in the last 6 months of life	• CCG's
6. Better Care Fund	Review post Council Tax	Rachel Wigley
	funding increase	Liz Bruce
		Chris Neill
		• CCGs
RO	DUND FIVE ( 29 MARCH 2017)	
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
		Represented by.
1. Children's healthy	To assess whether the Council	Eva Hrobonova
weight Information item	and our partners are doing all we can to improve children's	Gayan Pereira
	healthy weight in the light of the new JSNA.	

	ROUND SIX ( 8 MAY 2017)	
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Review of core drug     and alcohol services	To assess the new service one year after implementation.	Gaynor Driscoll
2. Dementia	To examine the current provision of services for those living with dementia and their carers and understand how the service is planning for the increase in demand. 45% increase in incidence of dementia is expected over the next 15 years.	<ul><li>Mike Robinson</li><li>Liz Bruce</li><li>Stella Baillie</li></ul>
	Health Urgency Sub Committee- tbc	
A new service model for NHS 111 and wider integrated urgent care.	The Committee have been asked to contribute to the development of this new service	At the request of the NWL CCG

Other Committee Events & Task Groups		
Briefings	Reason	Туре
Safer Westminster Partnership	To assess the work of the Safer Westminster Partnership. Please note that this is one of the statutory <b>duties</b> of the Committee.	On-going
NHS Provider Complaints	To assess complaints from local Provider Trusts as a result of the Francis Inquiry and new Health Scrutiny powers.	A potential briefing

Unallocated items		
MOPAC priorities and Funding Post	Public Protection and Police- we have	
	£1m worth of funding which is not secure	
2017?	beyond 2017	
Shield Pilot concludes October 2016?	Does Scrutiny want to review this pilot in	
Siliela Filot concludes October 2016?	dealing with gang related work	
Two thematic Public Protection	To help achieve balance across the	
meetings to be agreed.	portfolios of this committee.	

To assess and
review GP's
awareness of and
levels of referral
to community
services

Are GP's maximising their role in reducing pressure on hospitals? To seek assurance on this especially in relation to children.

#### Task Groups

This committee has a single member study (Councillor Ian Rowley) on Trafficking in Westminster running and is contributing its Chairman to the Air Quality task group.

Housing, Finance and Corporate Services ROUND ONE – 13 June 2016 Main Theme – Finance and Corporate Services		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A Finance & Corporate Services	A Q&A session with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Customer Services	Cllr Mitchell
Employment & Business Support	To provide a critical friend of the operational plans for the new employment service proposed in the Leader's Speech and to support the City for All ambition of reducing long term unemployment. The Plan is due in September and has interwoven links with PH Parental Employment Programme.	<ul><li>Greg Ward</li><li>Tom Harding</li></ul>
Rationalisation of the Operational Property Portfolio	To analyse the on-going work and the strategy, which is due to be completed in August.	Guy Slocombe

Statutory review of the treasury

outturn for 2015/16. Report to include an update on progress

in signing up to a Municipal Bonds Agency in the Treasury Outturn report for 2014/15 (as per Committee decision of 9

March 2015).

Steve Mair

Treasury outturn for

2015/16

ROUND TWO - 12 September 2016 Main Theme – Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development	A Q&A session with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development	Cllr Astaire
Rough Sleeping Strategy	The Rough Sleeping Strategy will go out to public consultation in Sept/Oct. This will allow the Committee time to scrutinise the strategy ahead of this.	<ul> <li>Sarah Monaghan/ Jennifer Travassos</li> </ul>
Return on Investment	To analyse alternative options for maximising the council's rate	Steve Mair

	of return on its investments.	
ROUND THREE – 7 November 2016		
Main Theme – Finance and Corporate Services		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A Finance & Corporate Services	A Q&A session with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Customer Services	Cllr Mitchell
CWH – Changes to Estates/Changes to Operating Model	To review the changes to the CWH Operating Model.	Jonathan Cowie
Treasury Performance Half Year Statutory Review	To review treasury performance.	Steve Mair
HOS Transformation	To examine the HOS Reprocurement before the new contract begins in November 2017.	Barbara Brownlee
Major Projects	To update the Committee on Major Projects taking place in the borough.	Stuart Reilly
	ROUND FOUR – 9 January 2017 , Regeneration, Business and Ec	conomic Development
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development	A Q&A session with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development	Cllr Astaire
Draft Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17	To assess the draft treasury management strategy prior to submission to Council for approval.	Steve Mair
HRA Business Plan	To review and comment upon the annual 30 year HRA business plan for 2017-18. To note the direction of travel and capital investment priorities.	Barbara Brownlee
	ROUND FIVE – 6 March 2017 seme – Finance and Corporate Se	ervices
Main Theme - Finance and Corporate Services		
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member Q&A Finance & Corporate Services	A Q&A session with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Customer Services	Cllr Mitchell

Affordable Housing Supply	A review of the delivery of affordable housing supply including social housing and intermediate housing.	Fergus Coleman	
Supply and Allocation of Social Housing	To scrutinise the supply and allocation of social housing in the City of Westminster.	Greg Roberts	
Estate Regeneration Programme Review	A review of the Ebury Bridge Project/Church Street Regeneration Programme	Barbara Brownlee	
ROUND SIX – 10 April 2017  Main Theme – Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development			
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:	
Cabinet Member Q&A Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development	A Q&A session with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration, Business and Economic Development	Cllr Astaire	
MSP Review – 1 year on	To analyse the progress of the re-launched Managed Services Programme.	John Quinn	
IT/ O365 – review 1 year on	How well supporting agile working is going – change security/privacy; how to enable more customer-centric approach:	John Quinn	

Other Committee Events & Task Groups		
Briefings	Reason	Date
Budget T/G	Standing task Group to consider the budget of Council	Jan/Feb 2017
City Hall T/G	Task group to analyse the City Hall Refurbishment Programme	June 2016 -



#### nildren, Sports and Customer Services Committee

# ROUND ONE - 20 June 2016 Main Theme – Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces/ Children and Young People

Main Theme – Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces/ Children and Young People			
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:	
Cabinet Member questioning	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces	
Prevent	To provide a critical friend to the Prevent Programme, its local delivery and the impact of radicalisation on young people in the City.	Mark Chalmers	
Focus on Practice Programme  – Year review	Phase 1 is now complete but it was noted that WCC is now a partner in Practice with DoE. We can bid for more funding and will know in the Summer if this bid has been successful.	Julie Rooke	
ROUND TWO - 17 October 2016  Main Theme – Children and Young People			
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:	
Cabinet Member questioning	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	

Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:
Cabinet Member questioning	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Annual Looked After Children Report	Evaluation of work undertaken into LAC, Care Leavers and Corporate Parenting. This report will include information on asylum seeker children and comparator figures with other local authorities.	Glen Peache Jean Daintith
Annual Safeguarding Review	To examine the work of the Safeguarding Board in the last year and the plans for the following year. This could examine any recent Serious Case reviews and trafficking.	Tri Borough Safeguarding Officers Board chair: Jean Daintith

ROUND THREE – 28 November 2016					
Ma	in Theme –Children and Young People				
Agenda Item Reasons & objective for item Represented by:					
Cabinet Member questioning	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People			
Annual Education Report	The committee will evaluate the key areas of success and areas to be developed in the Annual Education Report.	lan Heggs			
Libraries Transformation	To analyse the libraries transformation programme.	Mike Clarke			
Community Cohesion Commission (Report circulated for information)	A report on the published report of the Community Cohesion Commission. The Commission will be examining evidence of any local barriers to community cohesion, which includes a review of approaches taken to address the risk of radicalisation in relation to all forms of extremism.	Charlotte Breen			
Marin	ROUND FOUR – 6 February 2017				
iviain	Theme – Sport, Leisure and Open Spa	ces			
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:			
Cabinet Member questioning	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces			
Community Engagement	To review the new programme and its first year, including Open Forums.	Neil Wholey			
Troubled Families Year 2	To review Year 2 of the Troubled Families Service and suggest areas to be developed.	Melissa Caslake			
	ROUND FIVE – 13 March 2017				
Mai	n Theme – Children and Young People	e			
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:			
Cabinet Member questioning	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People			
SEN 6-Month Milestone	To review the SEN Programme	Ian Heggs			

Families of Service Personnel Update (For Information – Briefing note)	An annual update on the service was requested by the Committee in February 2016.	Steve Bywater	
ROUND SIX – 15 May 2017  Main Theme – Children and Young People			
Agenda Item	Reasons & objective for item	Represented by:	
Cabinet Member questioning	To hold to account and give 'critical friend' challenge to the portfolio holder.	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	
Access to the Cultural Offer in Westminster for Young People	To examine the uptake of the cultural offer by Young People and how the relationships with partner organisations work with the institutions based in Westminster.	Mike Clarke	
Healthy Schools	To examine measures to improve health in schools, including a review of the new school meals	Annabel Saunders	

contract mobilised in Westminster

in April 2016.

Unallocated items		
Review of Youth Services/ Young Westminster Foundation	To analyse the changes to the Youth Services (Rachael Wright-Turner)	
Reduction in Fostering Numbers/Regionalisation of Adoption	Changes to the adoption and fostering services to be tracked through Cabinet Member updates to the Committee (Annabel Saunders)	
Action for Change	To examine the work with organisations from Italy/Romania/UK/Hungary on mothers affected by domestic violence and the impact on their children (see <a href="RBKC">RBKC</a> ). (Natasha Bishopp)	
The Two Year-Old Offer in Early Intervention	To examine the promotion of the two year old offer and an update on uptake. A regular update to the Committee on this was agreed at P&S in January 2015.	
GCSE to 'A' Level School Transition  GCSE to 'A' Level School Transition  offer and an update on uptake. A rupdate to the Committee on this wa at P&S in February 2016.		
The Role of Social Workers	To examine the role of Social Workers, as requested at P&S in March 2016.	

Local Area Inspection Self-Assessment and Action Plan	To analyse the local area inspection self- assessment and action plan.
Changes to School Funding	To look at how prepared WCC will be as an Academy chain.
Volunteering	New Strategy development –November 2017?
Social Value	Autumn 2017-after 1 year of operation.

## Other Committee Events & Task Groups

Group/ Issue	Update	Туре
Youth Mental	Meeting dates tbc.	T/G
Health		