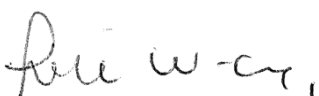


Date of issue: Wednesday 28th January 2020

MEETING	EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL (Councillors Basra (Chair), Kelly (Vice-Chair), Ajaib, Begum, N Holledge, Qaseem, Sadiq, A Sandhu and Sarfraz) <u>Education Voting Co-opted Members</u> James Welsh – Roman Catholic Representative <u>Education Non-Voting Co-opted Members</u> Paul Kassapian – Secondary School Representative Fifi El Sayed – Slough Youth Parliament
DATE AND TIME:	THURSDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY, 2020 AT 6.30 PM
VENUE:	COUNCIL CHAMBER - OBSERVATORY HOUSE, 25 WINDSOR ROAD, SL1 2EJ
SCRUTINY OFFICER: (for all enquiries)	NICHOLAS PONTONE 01753 875120

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are requested to attend the above Meeting at the time and date indicated to deal with the business set out in the following agenda.



JOSIE WRAGG
Chief Executive

AGENDA

PART 1 PART I

AGENDA
ITEM

REPORT TITLE

PAGE

WARD

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>	<u>WARD</u>
CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS			
1.	Declarations of Interest <i>All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary or other Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Section 4 paragraph 4.6 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed.</i>	-	-
2.	Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th December 2019	1 - 6	-
SCRUTINY ISSUES			
3.	Member Questions <i>(An opportunity for Panel Members to ask questions of the relevant Director/ Assistant Director, relating to pertinent, topical issues affecting their Directorate – maximum of 10 minutes allocated).</i>	-	-
4.	Briefing on the Scope - 'Children Missing Education'	7 - 12	All
5.	Prevention of Youth Offending / Re-Offending	To Follow	All
ITEMS FOR INFORMATION			
6.	Forward Work Programme 2019/20	13 - 16	-
7.	Members Attendance Record 2019/20	17 - 18	-
8.	Date of Next Meeting - 11th March 2020	-	-

Press and Public

Attendance and accessibility: You are welcome to attend this meeting which is open to the press and public, as an observer. You will however be asked to leave before any items in the Part II agenda are considered. For those hard of hearing an Induction Loop System is available in the Council Chamber.

Webcasting and recording: The public part of the meeting will be filmed by the Council for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The footage will remain on our website for 12 months. A copy of the recording will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings. In addition, the law allows members of the public to take photographs, film, audio-record or tweet the proceedings at public meetings. Anyone proposing to do so is requested to advise the Democratic Services Officer before the start of the meeting. Filming or recording must be overt and persons filming should not move around the meeting room whilst filming nor should they obstruct proceedings or the public from viewing the meeting. The use of flash photography, additional lighting or any non hand held devices, including tripods, will not be allowed unless this has been discussed with the Democratic Services Officer.

Emergency procedures: The fire alarm is a continuous siren. If the alarm sounds Immediately vacate the premises by the nearest available exit at either the front or rear of the Chamber and proceed to the assembly point: The pavement of the service road outside of Westminster House, 31 Windsor Road.

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Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel – Meeting held on Thursday, 5th December, 2019.

Present:- Councillors Basra (Chair), Ajaib, Begum and A Sandhu.

Education Non-Voting Co-opted Members: Paul Kassapian (Secondary School Representative)

PART 1

20. Declarations of Interest

Agenda Item 4 (Minute 23) East Berks Local Transformation Plan for Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing. Councillor Basra declared an interest in that she currently worked with two employers associated with the work area in relation to this agenda item.

21. Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd October 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2019 be approved as a correct record

22. Member Questions

None received.

23. East Berks Local Transformation Plan for children's mental health and wellbeing

The Service Lead – Early Years and Prevention, Slough Borough Council and Head of Children, Young People and Families, NHS East Berkshire Clinical Commissioning Group introduced a report on an overview of the work that had been undertaken as a result of the Local Transformation Plan (LTP) of the Children and Young People Mental Health and Wellbeing (East Berkshire) Plan.

In addition Members viewed an information video on the Young Health Champions programme. The Panel noted that the programme was credited by the Royal Society of Public Health and based on a partnership between health, education and local authorities. The programme provided additional value to existing work including that in conjunction with CAMHS.

In response to questions, the Panel was advised that:

- the LTP was currently being refreshed with a January consultation deadline. The focus of the Local Transformation Plan in the current year was on early intervention;
- measurements of the success of young health champions included the award of level 2 of the Royal Society of Public Health

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel - 05.12.19

qualification and mental first aid qualifications. Further analysis was planned including the monitoring of school performance. The Young Health Champions had met with representatives of youth parliament in October;

- table 1 did not include the 2055 pre-school children (aged 2 to 5) who were estimated to have a mental health disorder as some were national prevalence data. The new age groups of 1-8 and 5-16 enabled more access to services and early intervention. The Youth Champions supported tier 1 universal which was the majority of cases and from September the mental health support team would assist tier 2;
- the funding was ring fenced and part of the long term NHS funding for 5 years;
- early intervention training was taking place at Reading University and staff would be ready to accept cases from September 2020. 4 qualified education mental health practitioners would be based in schools from January 2020 and would receive training as part of their course;
- the capture of early health data from a young age would become more seamless with the new system.

The Panel expressed concern that although the average waiting time for an autism assessment had dropped by 45% in East Berkshire from 83 weeks in October 2018 to 45 weeks in June 2019, it was still a long wait. The officers indicated that work was on track to achieve a greater reduction.

It was agreed that the Panel would be provided with details of the websites containing the Young Minds evaluation of the youth health champions and work on the comprehensive review of autism and ADHD.

The Chair thanked the officers for the report and presentation

Resolved – That the report be noted

24. Leisure offer for young people in Slough

The Panel received a report on the current leisure offer to young people in Slough which highlighted why it was considered to be a top priority.

The Leisure Services Manager introduced the report, stating that Slough had some of the lowest activity rates in the country together with a high prevalence of obesity. She outlined the programme to rebuild and upgrade its core leisure facilities as part of its five year leisure strategy. Particular mention was made of Arbour Park Community Sports Stadium, Slough Ice Arena, Salt Hill Activity Centre and The Centre and Langley Leisure Centre. The new leisure provider's emphasis on an outreach programme was noted, in

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel - 05.12.19

particular the numbers attending their swimming programme were very good with numbers increasing by about a third. The next step was to drill down data on service users to postcode level.

The Panel received a presentation on the wider health implications of exercise and were advised that a press release had been circulated. A Member reported that councillor interaction with residents indicated that affordability was an issue. In response, the officers advised that 30% of the programme of activity was free as were parks and open spaces, including green gyms. Benchmarking indicated that Slough's leisure centres were some of the cheapest, particularly those with contracts which included swimming and gyms. In 2008 swimming was made free for under 16s and over 60s but there was no impact on the number of people participating in swimming. Reference was made to a study in the Midlands which had initially indicated that making all facilities free had shown participation to increase but further detail had revealed a sharp decline in private gym attendance.

In response to a Member's questions the Panel was informed that:

- information would be circulated as to whether concessions included university students
- the Leisure Services Manger would be holding a session for Head Teachers and Heads of PE;
- a lot of schools offered facilities to communities outside school hours and during school vacations;
- funding had been secured for the next 3 years to work with some of the most inactive people. The initiative would concentrate on Chalvey ward and would include a target to work with 30 families to get them more active. These families would be identified in conjunction with the Children's Trust and schools;
- the high rates of asthma in Slough were due to a range of issues including health inequalities, links to air pollution predominately from diesel cars, and higher rates of smoking than the national average. It was important to understand how this condition could be managed to avoid hospital admission.

In response to a question as to the leisure offering of involvement in sport in relation to knife crime, the Panel was advised of meetings to look at issues happening overnight in order to stop escalation, examine thematic issues and the short, medium and long term offer. The violence task force set up by the Chief Executive would be meeting for the third time the following month.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel - 05.12.19

25. Health outcomes for children and young people

The Panel received a report in response to questions raised by Members regarding health outcomes for children and young people. The report highlighted key health metrics, relevant concerns and the ongoing work to address these concerns. This report was considered in conjunction with minute 24.

The Panel was informed of the positive intervention work that had taken place over the past years which had shown that the targeted public health work and partnership working had led to positive outcomes with regard to the teenage pregnancy rate, the rate of smoking whilst pregnant, smoking prevalence at age 15, numbers breastfeeding and educational attainment.

The Chair referred to the need for funding to put in place services to target immunisations.

Resolved – That

- a) the report be noted and
- b) the agenda item for the next meeting on school attainment indicate whether reference to schools in Slough included pupils who lived beyond the Slough boundaries or pupils living in Slough.

26. Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel Work Programme

The Panel reviewed the current work programme.

Resolved – That the report and following amendments be noted:

1. A discussion be arranged between the Chair and Director of Children, Learning and Skills on the suggestion that the Joint Parenting Panel quarterly report become an annual report;
2. that the report on the School Place Strategy/ Admission service update be removed from the agenda for the next meeting as an update was not yet available;
3. School leavers Readiness for Work and Higher Education be deferred to the April Panel meeting;
4. the Prevention of Youth Offending/reoffending report include the Violence Taskforce;
5. Members be consulted on dates for the site visits to Solutions for Health (0-19 Service) and Aik Saath.

27. Members Attendance Record

Resolved - That the Members' attendance record be noted.

Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Panel - 05.12.19

28. Date of Next Meeting - 6th February 2020

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 6th February 2020.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 6.35 pm and closed at 8.40 pm)

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SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Education and Children Services Scrutiny Panel

DATE: 6th February 2020

CONTACT OFFICER: John Wood, Interim Service Lead for Inclusion
(For all Enquiries) (01753) 877674

WARD(S): All

PART I
FOR INFORMATION**BRIEFING ON THE SCOPE - 'CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION'**1. **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of the report is to provide the Committee with an explanation of what is meant by the term 'children missing education' and it's the links with the risk of exclusion. It also explains what actions are being taken to improve way in which children missing education are monitored and returned to education.

2. **Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

The Committee is requested to note the report.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

The services described in this report and the improvements being made to them support the following priorities:

Priorities:

1. Protecting vulnerable children
3. Improving mental health and wellbeing

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

The services described in this report and the improvements being made to them support the following outcome:

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful

4. **Other Implications**(a) **Financial**

There are no financial implications of proposed action.

(b) Risk Management

Recommendation from section 2 above	Risks/Threats/ Opportunities	Current Controls	Using the Risk Management Matrix Score the risk	Future Controls
None				

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Acts implications.

5. **Supporting Information**

5a. **Definition/Legislation**

Children Missing Education CME are children of compulsory school age (5-16 years) who are:

- not registered pupils at a school and are...
- not receiving suitable education otherwise than at a school (EOTAS).

Children missing education are at significant risk of underachieving, being victims of harm, exploitation or radicalisation, and becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) later in life.¹

Local authorities have a duty under section 436A of the Education Act 1996 to make arrangements to establish the identities of children who fall into this category.

5b. **Interpretation**

The range of situations in which a child could be considered as CME is wide ranging:

- Permanently excluded children not provided with an education within 6 days
- Routine in-year admissions who have not been offered a place within 4 weeks of application eg newly arrived OOB or immigrants
- Routine admission cases in which parents have multiple offers but have not chosen a school
- Children who have been removed from a school register without informing the LA
- Unauthorised absences which are not investigated
- Unauthorised home education
- School to school (Managed) transfers which break down
- Children who are known to have left the country but who then return 'unannounced'
- Children considered under the Fair Access Protocol, (the purpose of which is to ensure that children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible):

¹ Children missing education Statutory guidance for local authorities September 2016

- Children from the criminal justice system or Pupil Referral Units
- Children out of education for more than 2 months
- All children moving into the area without a school place
- Children of Gypsies, Roma, Travellers, refugees and asylum seekers
- Children who are homeless
- Children with unsupportive backgrounds, including where parents are disengaged and not taking action to provide education.
- Children who are carers
- Children without a statement or Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) who have special educational need, disabilities or medical conditions

Examples of Education otherwise than at a school EOTAS² include:

- EHE Elective Home Education
- Home Education provided as part of an package of support contained within an EHCP
- Alternative provision – commissioned by mainstream schools and provided by schools like Haybrook College

Despite there being an official definition, it is unsurprising that the term is used much more loosely in every day dialogue between schools and between schools and the LA. This makes the monitoring and identification of CME somewhat problematic.

5c. Council arrangements

The council has a range of resources available and measures in place to monitor the whereabouts of children and young people at risk of becoming CME:

- Attendance Team - responsible for supporting schools and other council services including: EHE (Elective Home Education), CME, attendance monitoring, management of warnings, fines and prosecutions for unauthorised absence, exclusions
- Pupil Tracking system - managed by the Attendance Team and published weekly:
 - Contains referrals from a wide range of agencies, eg schools, social care, police
 - Children referred are all missing education due to various reasons (see 5b above) and are therefore potentially at risk of becoming CME
 - – the referral system is intended not only to monitor children’s whereabouts but to facilitate pre-emptive action by agencies to prevent children becoming CME
- School Admissions Team – who track in year transfers, new arrivals, exclusions
- Fair Access Protocol and panels (part of Admissions Code)

² Education Other Than at School (EOTAS) includes all forms of education that takes place outside of the formal school environment.

- Monitoring, liaison, information share via a series of regular meetings eg MASH, Contextual Safeguarding, both of which are daily and involve representatives from social care, youth services, police, virtual school, Attendance et al
- Formation of special groups to deal with crises or work with specific demographic groups such as gypsies, Roma
- Littledown School and Haybrook College who provide a range of provision to ensure that children remain in education or are able to return to mainstream education following intervention:
 - Pupil Referral Unit – for excluded children - short term interventions and full time education (GCSEs)
 - Range of ‘revolving door’ intervention packages
 - Nurture groups
 - Outreach support for schools
 - Alternative provision such as vocational training in car mechanics
- Exclusions
 - Children can either be given a fixed term exclusion (FTE) or a permanent exclusion (PEX). For FTEs the child remains on the school roll and the responsibility of the school. When FTEs exceed 5 days the school is obliged to provide education eg in the form of home based work (‘6th Day Provision’).
 - For permanent exclusions, the local authority must arrange suitable full-time education for the pupil to begin no later than the sixth school day of the exclusion. In these cases the pupil can be referred to the PRU or they can be provided with work at home. All permanent exclusions are referred to the Fair Access Panel which tries to ensure that the child can continue in education. Permanent exclusions are considered a last resort and the focus is very much all schools, the LA and AP providers working closely together.

5d. Slough Picture

CME

The movement of children and families is very fluid and so the number of children being tracked and the number of CME varies considerably throughout the year.

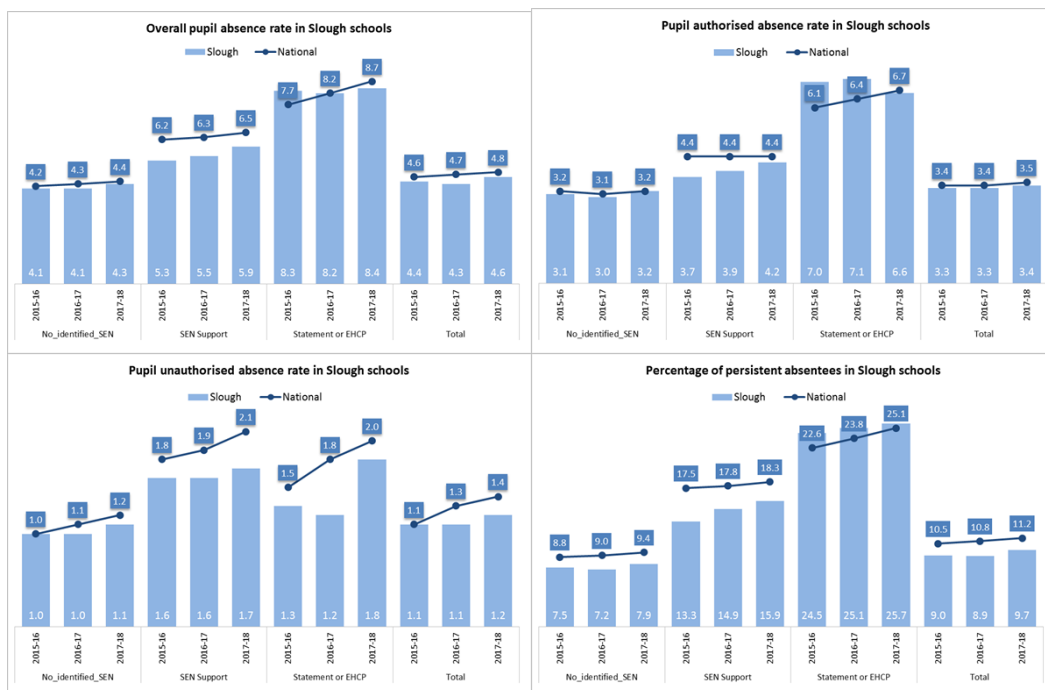
In a typical year nearly 20% of referrals are made in September, the majority being children who have left the borough and/or have moved abroad. A further peak occurs in January. Most referrals are closed within a month and do not result in a classification of CME. The vast majority of referrals are made by schools.

Over the last three academic years the average number of referrals has been 1412. The number of referrals for 2018-19 was 1412 of which 118 or 8% were classified as CME.

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Referrals	1241	1584	1412	1485
				<i>Est</i>

Absence and Exclusions

Overall, the position in Slough compares favourably with national trends. Despite this, pupils with SEND remain disproportionately at risk of exclusion and recent trends suggest that the rate of exclusion is on the increase.³



5e. Areas for Development

The inter-agency working in Slough is strong and is being improved. For example, in addition to the daily Front Door meetings which manage formal referrals to social care, daily Contextual Safeguarding meetings involving the police, social care, YOT, Inclusion have now started at which intelligence on incidents involving children and young people at risk is shared and quick responses agreed.

The increases in absence rates and exclusions combined with some misunderstanding in attendance recording and procedures for off rolling, has triggered a review of all attendance related procedures and policies which will be followed by a training and awareness programme for schools and relevant council services.

The Fair Access Protocol is being reviewed by the Schools Service and is shortly to be issued to schools for consultation. In tandem with this a full review of all policies and procedures related to school attendance is being undertaken by the Inclusion Service during February which will then be followed by a training and awareness programme.

As explained above the tracking of children who may be missing education is complex but areas for improvement have been identified including, the criteria used to derive the number of CME, the classification of referrals and the improved

³ Support for SEND in Slough – Ambition and Strategy for: a system that works for everyone, December 2019

case closure procedures. Attendance data is now being migrated onto Capita One which will improve the integration of data across children's services.

6. **Comments of Other Committees**

None

7. **Conclusion**

The scope of the definition of CME is very broad and the cohort of children and families is very mobile. Therefore, pupil tracking systems need to be quite sophisticated but they are only truly effective when there is integrated working between partners. The arrangements in Slough are basically sound but can and are being improved.

Children at risk of exclusion or who have been excluded are just one subset amongst many which constitute children at risk of missing education.

8. **Background Papers**

None

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Education & Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel

DATE: 6th February 2020

CONTACT OFFICER: Tiran Khehra, Policy Insight Analyst
(For all Enquiries) (01753) 875560

WARDS: All

PART I
FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION

EDUCATION & CHILDREN’S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL
2018 – 19 WORK PROGRAMME

1. **Purpose of Report**

For the Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel (ECS Scrutiny Panel) to discuss its current work programme.

2. **Recommendations/Proposed Action**

That the Panel review the current work programme for the 2019-20 municipal year, and propose future topics for scrutiny as appropriate.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3.1 The Council’s decision-making and the effective scrutiny of it underpins the delivery of all the Joint Slough Wellbeing Strategy priorities. The ECS Scrutiny Panel, along with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and other Scrutiny Panels combine to meet the local authority’s statutory requirement to provide public transparency and accountability, ensuring the best outcomes for the residents of Slough.

3.2 The work of the ECS Scrutiny Panel also reflects the priorities of the Five Year Plan, in particular the following:

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful

4. **Supporting Information**

4.1 The current work programme is based on the discussions of the ECS Scrutiny Panel at previous meetings, looking at requests for consideration of issues from officers and issues that have been brought to the attention of Members outside of the Panel's meetings.

4.2 The work programme is a flexible document which will be continually open to review throughout the municipal year.

5. **Conclusion**

5.1 This report is intended to provide the ECS Scrutiny Panel with the opportunity to review its upcoming work programme and make any amendments it feels are required.

6. **Appendices Attached**

A - Work Programme for 2019 - 20 Municipal Year

7. **Background Papers**

None.

Education and Children’s Services Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2019/20

Potential Task and Finish Group / Site Visits	
Potential Task and Finish Group	Site Visits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aik Saath (28th January) Solutions for Health (0-19 Service)
Meeting Date	
11 March 2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child poverty. Outcomes for children with disabilities. Parenting strategy. 	
15 April 2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual education standards report. Slough Children’s Services Trust Annual Report. Progress made since Ofsted ILACS inspection. School leavers’ readiness for work and higher education. 	
Unprogrammed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Parenting Panel Annual report. School Place strategy / Admission service update. 	

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MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE RECORD

EDUCATION & CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL 2019 – 20

COUNCILLOR	MEETING DATES					
	16/07/2019	23/10/2019	05/12/2019	06/02/2020	11/03/2020	15/04/2020
Ajaib	P	P	P			
Basra	P	P	P			
Begum	P	P	P			
N Holledge	P	Ap	Ab			
Kelly	P	P	Ab			
Qaseem	P	P	Ab			
Sadiq	-	P	Ab			
A.Sandhu	P	P	P			
Sarfraz	P	P	Ab			
Sharif	P	-	-	-	-	-

P = Present for whole meeting
Ap = Apologies given

P* = Present for part of meeting
Ab = Absent, no apologies given

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