Shropshire Council Legal and Democratic Services Shirehall Abbey Foregate Shrewsbury SY2 6ND

Date: Tuesday, 7 January 2020

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Committee:

**People Overview Committee** 

Date: Wednesday, 15 January 2020

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,

Shropshire, SY2 6ND

You are requested to attend the above meeting. The Agenda is attached

Claire Porter

Director of Legal and Democratic Services

### **Members of the Committee**

Peggy Mullock (Chair)

Kevin Turley (Vice-Chair)

Roy Aldcroft

Rob Gittins

Cecilia Motley

Kevin Pardy

Christian Lea

Matt Lee

Elliott Lynch

Cecilia Motley

Kevin Pardy

David Vasmer

## Co-opted Members (Voting):

Carol Morgan Diocese of Shrewsbury (RC)
Sian Lines Diocese of Hereford (CE)

Vacancy Parent Governor – Secondary Schools

Vacancy Parent Governor – Primary & Special Schools

## Co-opted Members (Non-Voting):

Mark Hignett Voluntary and Community Sector

Assembly



# **Substitute Members:**

Julian Dean Roger Evans Kate Halliday Roger Hughes Claire Wild Leslie Winwood Paul Wynn

# Your Committee Officer is:

**Tim Ward** Committee Officer Tel: 01743 257713

Email: <a href="mailto:tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk">tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk</a>

# **AGENDA**

## 1 Apologies and Substitutions

To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Committee

# 2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded they must not participate in the discussion or vote on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

## **3 Minutes** (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2019 and 29 November 2019

The minutes of the meeting, held on 20 November 2019, are attached.

The minutes of the meeting, held on 29 November 2019, are to follow.

### 4 Public Question Time

To receive any public questions or petitions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. The deadline for this meeting is 10.00am on 13 January 2020

## 5 Members' Question Time

To receive any questions of which Members of the Council have given notice.

Deadline for notification: 10.00am on 13 January 2020

## 6 Budget

To receive a presentation from the Director of Children's Services on service budgets for 2020-2021.

A link to the report that was considered by Cabinet in December 2019 is below.

http://shropshire.gov.uk/committeeservices/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cld=130&Mld=4053&Ver=4

# 7 Shropshire Music Service (Pages 5 - 8)

To understand the role that Shropshire Music Service plays in teaching music to children and young people in Shropshire

# **8 Work Programme** (Pages 9 - 20)

The report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer is attached

# 9 Date of next meeting

Members are reminded that the next meeting of the People Overview Committee will be held on Wednesday 18 March 2019 at 10.00am

# Agenda Item 3



## PEOPLE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2019 10.00 - 11.27 am in the Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

**Responsible Officer**: Emily Marshall

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257717

#### **Present**

**Shropshire Councillors** 

Councillor Peggy Mullock (Chairman)

Councillors Roy Aldcroft, Rob Gittins, Christian Lea, Elliott Lynch, Cecilia Motley,

Kevin Pardy and Roger Evans (Substitute) (substitute for David Vasmer)

## 26 Apologies and Substitutions

Apologies were received from Councillors Kevin Turley, David Vasmer (Substitute: Roger Evans) and Sian Lines (Hereford Diocese).

## 27 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were none.

## 28 Minutes

### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## 29 Public Question Time

There were none.

### 30 Members' Question Time

There were none.

## 31 Chair's Update

The Service Manager, LAC and Care Leavers provided an update on the Care Leavers Covenant and circulated a brief report summarising the event to the Committee.

A Member expressed concern at the percentage of young care leavers that were not in education, employment or training and also at the percentage of young care leavers that were not in suitable accommodation. The Interim Assistant Director of Children's Social Care and Safegua Pagerésponded that these were local and

national concerns and was one of the reasons the Care Leavers Covenant had been established, to provide wider options for young people leaving care. These issues were also looked at by the Corporate Parenting Panel and suggested that a report be brought to a future meeting to examine the issues relating to young care leavers transition into adulthood in more detail. Members agreed this suggestion.

Councillor Cecilia Motley provided an update on the work of the Youth Activities Task and Finish Group. Councillor Motley explained that the work had been intensive, and the Group had received input from West Mercia Police, Shropshire Youth Association and experienced Youth Workers. The Task and Finish Group identified that there was a need for open access provision and outreach access for young people. The proposals put forward were to have a period of transition and to work with Parish and Town Council's and encourage support from them, it was reported that there had a mixed response to date. The Task and Finish Group concluded that outreach workers were needed to meet up with vulnerable children and that these workers were needed wherever children meet. A further report would be presented to Cabinet in December.

The Chairman thanked the Service Manager and Councillor Motley for their updates and for the good work that was being carried out.

#### 32 Children's Services Performance Dashboard

Members received the report of the Children's Social Care EH&F Specialist, Information, Intelligence and Insight Officer which presented the Committee with Children's Social Care performance measures for Quarter 2 2019/2020.

In response to a question from a Member relating to social worker caseloads and the use of agency workers, the Director of Children's Services and Safeguarding explained that the aspiration was to have social workers with caseloads of no more than 19-20, however there were some with caseloads of 25 and it was added that there were plans in place to address this. It was further explained that the reality was that most authorities used agency workers and although there had been quite a high level of "churn" there were steps being taken to reduce this, such as a retention strategy, incentivised recruitment, training and development of existing staff and a trainee recruitment program.

In response to a question relating to the percentage of care leavers in education, employment or training, the Children's Social Care EH&F Specialist, Information, Intelligence and Insight Officer provided further information as to the national averages and brief breakdown of the cohort who were not in education, employment of training and the reasons for this.

### **RESOLVED:**

That the Children's Social Care Performance measures for Quarter 2 2019/20 be noted.

#### 33 Residential Care for Looked After Children

Members received the report of the Interim Assistant Director, Children's Social Care and Safeguarding which presented the Committee with an update on the progress of the Shropshire residential children's homes developments.

In response to a question, the Interim Assistant Director, Children's Social Care and Safeguarding reported that the development had been overseen by a tightly chaired project group and she was extremely pleased to see them nearing completion.

In response to a question relating to neighbourhood engagement, the Interim Assistant Director, Children's Social Care and Safeguarding that feedback had been positive and there had been questions mainly around parking and fencing, there were no ongoing issues or concerns. Councillor Potter commented that as the local member for one of the properties and the neighbouring local member for one of the other properties it was is important to keep the engagement going.

Members were pleased to note the update and commented that it was pleasing to note that savings would be achieved but importantly the project was beneficial to those children in need of care.

### **RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

# 34 Ofsted Feedback and Action Plan - Focussed Visit into Achieving Permanency

Members received the report of the Director of Children's Social Care and Safeguarding, providing an update on the recent focused visit made by Ofsted to Shropshire Children's Services, along with a copy of the Ofsted feedback letter and Shropshire's Permanency Action Plan.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the content of the Ofsted feedback letter and Shropshire's Action Plan be noted.

### 35 Unregistered Placements

Members received the report of the Interim Assistant Director, Children's Social Care and Safeguarding which set out information and assurance for Members regarding Shropshire's approach to the use of unregistered and unregulated settings for children and young people.

## **RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

# 36 Work Programme

The Scrutiny Work Programme had been circulated.

The following January agenda items were agreed:

Shropshire Music Service Budget 2019/20 Transition into adulthood.

# 37 Date of Next Meeting

Members were advised that the next meeting of the People Overview Committee would be held on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 2.00 p.m.

Signed	(Chairman)
Date:	
Date.	

# Agenda Item 7



## **Committee and Date**

People Overview Committee

15 January 2020

<u>Item</u>	
Public	<u>c</u>

# **Shropshire Music Service**

Responsible Officer: Alison Stevens, Manager of Shropshire Music Service

Email: alison.stevens860@shropshiremusicservice.org.uk

Telephone: 01743 874145

# 1 Summary

Shropshire Music Service is a valuable cultural and educational asset to the Council. It would benefit from your awareness and support.

#### 2 Recommendations

Committee members to:

- Increase their awareness of the work of the Shropshire Music Service and to act as advocates for the service in schools, other settings and the wider Shropshire community.
- Support the Shropshire Music Service by publicising and even attending service events and opportunities.

### **REPORT**

## 3 Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

## **Opportunities:**

- To increase the number of children taught/amount of time given/additional support offered.
- To work with schools to increase the amount and standard of general music tuition.
- To expand provision outside the education age range there is already a substantial early years programme, but as yet the service does not offer adult tuition. A pilot programme of singing events for older people in the care system has proved very successful.

#### Risks

The service is at risk if the grant from Arts Council England is cut. It is at risk if there is a fall in families' disposable income, or in school budgets.

# 4 Financial Implications

- The service turns over around £1.2 million per year.
- Around £350,000 comes from the Arts Council England grant.
- The remaining income comes from charges to schools and parents.

## 5 Background

Countless studies have shown that music education is beneficial to young people. Not only does it promote wellbeing and self-esteem and nurture life skills such as concentration and teamwork, but it is now universally accepted that music education *improves* academic performance.

To ensure the quality of delivery of such a crucial part of children's education, it is important to have a team of highly skilled, experienced and dedicated professionals. Shropshire Music Service is that team.

Formed in the 1960's, the music service is part of the Learning & Skills Directorate in Children's Services. In its early days, the service taught classical instruments to school children individually and provided a youth orchestra for them to attend. It was fully funded by the Council and lessons were free.

Nowadays, the service is fully traded. The service teaches 21 instruments to over 5,000 children each week, in a range of formats including whole class tuition. Pupils are able to attend 18 different bands and ensembles, playing music from all genres.

The service is peripatetic. The service's 60 teachers travel to schools to provide instrumental lessons on brass, strings, woodwind, keyboard, voice, guitar and drums. They also provide classroom music lessons and run groups and clubs.

Whole class instrumental teaching is offered to all schools in the county at a heavily subsidised rate. This means that all children can begin playing an instrument in school at no cost to the family and with an instrument provided for the duration of the tuition. In this way, they ensure that parents' financial circumstances are not a barrier to learning an instrument.

Financial constraints are also addressed by the service's remissions policy, under which disadvantaged pupils can receive up to 50% reduction in fees and instrument hire.

Inclusion has long been one of the top priorities. Shropshire Music Service staff are adept at differentiating music lessons in order to ensure those children with special educational needs and disabilities are not prevented from accessing and excelling in music lessons. In addition, the service is delivering bespoke music provision in SEND settings such as Severndale Specialist Academy and the tuition service.

The service works with schools to ensure the best possible music provision across the board. Continuing professional development is offered to school teachers, both as a staff in their own schools, and centrally with other schools. Visits to schools to deliver free audits of music provision are well received and

often result in an increase in engagement with service. There is an 'open door' policy for support for any aspect of a school's musical life.

Musical instruments can be expensive to buy. The service offers its pupils instrument hire at very low cost, further ensuring that financial background is no barrier to musical progression.

Events are a large part of what makes the service different from individual music teachers. As well as a regular schedule of concerts from their ensembles, they run a very successful calendar of annual events. For example, 'Shropshire Sings' features hundreds of children singing in a massed choir to an audience of thousands.

The service is the lead partner of the Shropshire Music Education Hub, through which funding is received from DFE to deliver the aims set out in the National Plan for Music. This role allows the service to work with a large number of other arts and cultural organisations within the county, helping to ensure our young people have access to a rich cultural experience.

The service is also part of West Midlands Music, a group of 12 music services from around the region, as well as being loosely federated with neighbouring services on Staffordshire, Stoke and Telford. Being a member of these groups allows them to look outside the county to identify best practice and ensure the quality of their provision.

The service's strap-line 'Teaching Music, Changing Lives' reflects the passion they have as an organisation have for music tuition and their belief in its power to transform. Members are most welcome to come and see for themselves: visit their teachers in schools, join their rehearsals with ensembles, events around the county or their regular concerts. Members will be proud of the county's young musicians, and of the organisation that exists to support them.

Music services are under threat across the country. Powys and Wrexham have no provision at all. Once a service folds, the evidence suggests that it is extremely difficult to reform. The service needs your support and advocacy to raise and maintain the profile of the service, thereby helping it to continue and expand.

### 6 Conclusion

Members are invited to do whatever they can to raise and maintain the profile of Shropshire Music Service.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)** 

**Edward Potter** 

**Local Member** 

All councillors across all Shropshire wards.

# **Appendices**

- · Overview of services offered
- Arts Council roles
- 'Why Buy SMS?'
- Calendar of events
- List of available ensembles

# Agenda Item 8



Committee

People Overview
Committee

Public

15 January 2020

## Place Overview Committee Work Programme 2019 – 2020

## Responsible officer

Tom Dodds, Statutory Scrutiny Officer tom.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk 01743 258518

## 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This paper presents the People Overview Committee's proposed work programme for the year ahead. The committees have based their programmes on topics from Shropshire Council's Strategic Action Plan. Committees will also
  - scrutinise thematic priorities
  - respond to emerging issues and
  - follow up on previous work.

### 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Committee members to:
  - confirm the proposed committee work programme attached as appendix 1.
  - suggest changes to the committee work programme and
  - recommend other topics to consider

## 3.0 Background

- 3.1 Overview and Scrutiny's committees base this work programme on topics from Shropshire Council's Strategic Action Plan. They also
  - scrutinise thematic priorities
  - respond to emerging issues
  - follow up on previous work
  - carry out cross-committee work through task and finish groups.
- 3.2 The overview and scrutiny work programme for this committee is attached as **appendix 1**.

# 4.0 Next steps

4.1 Overview and scrutiny updates this report on an ongoing basis and presents it to each overview and scrutiny committee. This will allow members the opportunity to contribute to its development at each committee meeting.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
None
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder) All
Local Member All
Appendices
Overview and scrutiny work programme
Overview and scrutiny task and finish groups

Appendix 1
Overview and Scrutiny work programme 2020-2021

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Shropshire Music Service	Understand the role the service plays in the education of children in Shropshire.	Overview report Presentation	Director, Shropshire Music Service	Members recognise the value of the service to children in Shropshire.	15 Jan 2020
Children's Services budgets 2019-2020	<ul> <li>Scrutinise proposed budgets for children's services</li> <li>Understand service priorities and their funding</li> <li>What is the impact on discretionary services on the change in statutory services?</li> <li>How do we best fund preventative services?</li> <li>Identify specific topics from the budget for further scrutiny</li> </ul>	Budget overview Presentation	Executive Director, Children's Services	More detailed scrutiny of the council's budget.	15 Jan 2020

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is	Who needs to	Expected impact or added	Work
		required?	be heard from?	value	date
Transitioning to adulthood	<ul> <li>Understand how the local authority supports looked after children, as well as children and young people with a special educational need or disability, as they transition into adulthood.</li> <li>Examine proposals to reduce the number of care leavers not in employment, education or training</li> <li>Adults transitioning team (within adults services)(mostly SEN children)</li> <li>(Carole Croxford) (Kelly Koubalis)</li> <li>How does that work with children's services</li> </ul>	Overview report Presentation	Executive Director, Children's Services	Shropshire's most vulnerable children and young people have a smooth and positive transition into adulthood.	18 Mar 2020
Housing support for looked-after children	To receive updates on work to strengthen the housing services offered to looked after children, and young people leaving care.	Overview report	Assistant Director of Children's Services	Ensure that Shropshire provides good accommodation to looked after children, and young people leaving care.	18 Mar 2020

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
SEND inspection	<ul> <li>Scrutinise preparations for future inspection of services for SEND</li> </ul>	Overview report	Executive Director,	The council has made good preparations for any future	18 Mar 2020
Action plan	<ul> <li>children; or</li> <li>Scrutinise findings of the inspection and any resulting plan for improvement.</li> </ul>	Presentation	Children's Services	service inspection.	
Community Safety Partnership and exploitation	Scrutinise the role the community safety partnership plays in tackling exploitation.	Overview report	Chair, community safety partnership	Community Safety Partnership plays an effective role in tackling exploitation.	April 2020
Safeguarding  partnership (joint committee with Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee)	<ul> <li>Consider the reports of safeguarding partnerships.</li> <li>Scrutinise the effectiveness of new working arrangements</li> </ul>	Overview report  Presentation	Independent Chair, Safeguarding Partnership	Safeguarding arrangements are robust and well planned.	April 2020
Mental Health pathways for children and young people	•				June 2020

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Drug and alcohol services for young people	<ul> <li>Scrutinise how the service supports children and young people</li> <li>Understand the role that the service plays in supporting other services for children and young people.</li> </ul>	Overview report Presentation	Service lead	Drug and alcohol services support children and young people, directly and through supporting other services.	June 2020
Short breaks for respite care	<ul> <li>Consider existing services for respite care.</li> <li>Explore any potential new ways to support carers.</li> </ul>	Overview report Presentation	Head of Fostering and Adoption	Parents and carers have good access to respite care.	June 2020
Exploitation – exploitation of adults - cuckooing	Scrutinise how the local authority, housing associations and the police work together to tackle the exploitation of vulnerable adults through cuckooing	Overview report Presentation	Head of adult services	The council and partners work together effectively to tackle cuckooing.	July 2020
Supporting the children and young people directorate	Understand how other directorates ensure that their services meet the needs of children and young people.	Overview report Presentation	Director of adult services  Director of Place	Shropshire Council's policies and services meet the needs of people of all ages.	July 2020

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is	Who needs to	Expected impact or added	Work
		required?	be heard from?	value	date
Exploitation	Receive an update on embedding	Overview report	Executive	Children, young people and	July
	new pathways to tackle exploitation		Director,	vulnerable adults are	2020
	of children, young people and	Presentation	Children's	protected from criminal	
	vulnerable adults.		Services	exploitation.	

Appendix 2
Current and proposed task and finish groups

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Financial Strategy and Innovation and Income Generation	<ul> <li>To understand the process and activity stages for developing the Financial Strategy 2018/19 to 2022/23 and how these translate into the Council's annual budgets</li> <li>To consider and scrutinise the proposals and emerging plans for the whole Financial Strategy and 2019/20 budget, including how they align to the four pillars. This will be through their development and their implementation, in particular for innovation and raising income.</li> <li>To consider the alignment of the Financial Strategy and the new Corporate Plan being developed autumn 2018.</li> <li>To consider the recommendations and areas for action identified in the Corporate Peer Challenge report relating to the Financial Strategy, and how they are being addressed.</li> <li>To consider the direct and indirect impacts, including risks, of 2019/20 Budget proposals on current services and customers.</li> <li>To complete specific pieces of work to identify and work up alternatives to emerging plans, including the feasibility of any alternative proposals</li> <li>Make evidence based recommendations in relation to plans and approaches for innovation and income generation, and alternative proposals for future budget setting.</li> </ul>	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Community Transport	<ul> <li>To understand how community transport operates in Shropshire, and the demand for community transport services.</li> <li>Identify how the community transport groups, the council, and other partners can work together to provide community transport to people in Shropshire who do not have access to public or private transport.</li> </ul>	Communities Overview Committee
Engaging Diverse Communities  Page 17	<ul> <li>To review and propose the scope of Place Plans including their geography and subject areas</li> <li>To propose options to ensure Place Plans are developed from the bottom-up</li> <li>To understand how rural enterprise features in our procurement / commissioning processes.</li> <li>To proposed opportunities to engage with Strategic Levels within the Council and partners in Place Planning</li> <li>To engage with Town and Parish Councils on options to reset their relationship with Shropshire Council</li> <li>To identify appropriate and effective mechanisms to communicate with and engage with diverse communities that can be used to inform co-design and collaboration on a range of matters</li> <li>Make evidence based recommendations</li> </ul>	Communities Overview Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Brexit	<ul> <li>To consider the information brought together to develop a view for Shropshire of the possible implications of Brexit for the Shropshire economy and the achievement of the Economic Growth Strategy.</li> <li>To identify, with the relevant officers, the key evidence and related requirements of what Shropshire would require from a future UK funding approach.</li> <li>To make evidence based recommendations to Cabinet.</li> </ul>	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee
Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy	<ul> <li>To understand how Shropshire Council currently uses Section 106, CIL and NHB and the impact that this has had</li> <li>To understand how Section 106, CIL and NHB could be used in Shropshire to enable or encourage projects or initiatives for economic growth and prosperity</li> <li>To learn from other places how they have used Section 106, CIL and NHB to enable or encourage projects or initiatives for economic growth and prosperity</li> <li>To make evidence based recommendations on how Section 106, CIL and NHB could be used in Shropshire to enable or encourage projects or initiatives for economic growth and prosperity</li> </ul>	Performance Management Scrutiny
Climate Change	<ul> <li>To review Shropshire Council's existing work to reduce its CO²e output.</li> <li>To scrutinise existing council policy and practice and recommend policy changes that would support further carbon reduction.</li> <li>To identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce spending and generate income by adopting low-carbon technology and practices.</li> </ul>	Place Overview Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Youth work	<ul> <li>To understand different models of providing Youth Services in a place like Shropshire.</li> <li>To review information and evidence of need and demand for youth work in Shropshire.</li> <li>To engage with Town and Parish Councils and explore their thoughts on their role in youth work.</li> <li>To identify opportunities to lever in additional resources to deliver youth work</li> <li>To identify how the impact of youth work should be measured and reported</li> <li>To make evidence based recommendations on the options for youth work in Shropshire.</li> </ul>	Communities Overview Committee
Dog fouling and dangerous dogs	<ul> <li>To scrutinise how the local authority tackles</li> <li>dog fouling</li> <li>dog attacks</li> <li>stray dogs</li> <li>licenced dog breeding</li> </ul>	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee
Signs, banners and street furniture	<ul> <li>Understand existing policies, charges and administrative arrangements</li> <li>Scrutinise existing policy and suggest draft policy.</li> <li>Identify opportunities to set and administer policy and licencing arrangements with town and parish councils.</li> <li>Look at how other local authorities set and administer policy, to identify potential ways to improve arrangements in Shropshire.</li> </ul>	Place Overview Committee

# Exploitation – future topics

- Adults exploitation ie cuckooing

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