



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

Date: Tuesday, 22 September 2020
:

**Committee:
People Overview Committee**

Date: Wednesday, 30 September 2020
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: THIS IS A VIRTUAL MEETING

Members of the public will be able to listen to this meeting by clicking on this link:

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/peopleoverviewcommittee30september2020/>

Please note that this meeting will be made available through Microsoft Teams Live Events - your device will need to meet the minimum specification as detailed on the Microsoft website at this link: [Device Specification](#)

- You will need to download MS Teams (free) and click on the link to listen to the meeting if you are using a PC
- If using a mobile device, you will need to download the MS Teams app (free) before clicking the link
- Use the link at 2.00 pm on the day of the meeting and click on 'Join as Guest'
- You may receive an error message or a request for login details if you try to gain access before 2.00 pm

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
Ruth Houghton
Christian Lea

Matt Lee
Elliott Lynch
Cecilia Motley
Kevin Pardy

Co-opted Members (Voting):

Carol Morgan
Sian Lines

Diocese of Shrewsbury (RC)
Diocese of Hereford (CE)

Substitute Members:

Julian Dean
Kate Halliday
Roger Hughes
David Vasmer

Claire Wild
Leslie Winwood
Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

Tim Ward Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

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)

The minutes of the last meeting, held on 15 January 2020, are attached for confirmation.

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 Monday 28 September 2020

5 Members' Question Time

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

Deadline for notification: 10.00am on Monday 28 September 2020

6 SEND Inspection Action Plan

REPORT TO FOLLOW

7 Covid-19 Update

REPORT TO FOLLOW

8 Work Programme (Pages 5 - 14)

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 25 November 2020 at 10.00am



PEOPLE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2020

10.00 - 11.40 am in the Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257713

Present

Shropshire Councillors

Councillor Peggy Mullock (Chairman), Roy Aldcroft, Rob Gittins, Christian Lea, Matt Lee, Elliott Lynch, Kevin Pardy, Julian Dean (Substitute) (substitute for Kevin Turley) and Roger Evans (Substitute) (substitute for David Vasmer)

43 **Apologies and Substitutions**

43.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cecilia Motley, Kevin Turley and David Vasmer and from Sian Lines (Hereford Diocese).

43.2 Cllr Julian Dean substituted for Cllr Turley and Cllr Roger Evans substituted for Cllr Vasmer

44 **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

44.1 There were no declarations of interest made

45 **Minutes**

45.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2019 had been circulated

45.2 **Resolved:**

That the minutes of the meeting of the People Overview Committee held on 20 November 2019 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

45.3 The minutes of the meeting held on 29 November 2019 had been circulated.

45.4 Councillor Pardy commented that he had expressed concern regarding the effect the reduction in budgets had on partner organisations and that this was not reflected in the minutes

45.2 **Resolved:**

That subject to the above, the minutes of the meeting of the People Overview Committee held on 29 November 2019 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

46.1 There were no questions from members of the public

47 **Members' Question Time**

47.1 There were no questions from Members

48 **Shropshire Music Service**

48.1 Members received the report of the Manager of the Shropshire Music Service which provided information about the work of the Music Service.

48.2 Members were informed that the service offered a fully traded offer to all schools, offering tuition in 21 instruments to over 5,000 pupils in a range of formats including whole class tuition and in addition pupils were able to attend 18 different bands and ensembles playing music from all genres.

48.3 In response to a comment from a Member the Music Service Manager paid tribute to the work of Bob Wysome, who had passed away recently. He had been an integral part of the Music Service for many years and had left a lasting legacy. The Executive Director of Children's Services confirmed that she would be writing to his family on behalf of the Council.

48.4 A Member asked whether given pressure on the curriculum and funding cuts, schools were reducing opportunities for pupils. The Music Service Manager informed Members that recent changes in Ofsted criteria had led to many schools asking the service to carry out an audit as to how music featured within the school which had led to an increase in the use of the service at some schools.

48.5 A Member asked what provision the Service made to enable looked after children (LAC) to access their service. The Music Service Manager informed the meeting that they received funding from the LAC team which enabled LAC in year 4 to receive free instrument hire and tuition and in addition there was a 50% reduction in fees for other LAC and pupil premium could also be used.

48.6 A Member asked what additional funding the Service was able to access. The Service Manager informed Members that additional funding was received from the DfE to deliver the aims of the National Plan for Music and that this money enabled the Service and its partners to deliver the 4 core roles and the 3 additional roles contained within the plan.

48.7 In response to a question from a Member the Music Service Manager confirmed that there had been no reduction in the number of staff employed by the service.

48.8 A member asked that a list of events organised by the service be circulated to all members in order that they could promote the work of the service. The Service Manager agreed to do this.

48.9 **Resolved:** -

That the People Overview Committee

- Recognise and congratulate the Shropshire Music Service on the work that it does with the young people of Shropshire, especially in the early years setting.
- Will work 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.
- Will support the Shropshire Music Service by publicising and attending service events and opportunities

49 Budget

- 49.1 The Executive Director of Children's Services informed the meeting that there was currently a predicted overspend of £5,362,961 in the 2019/20 budget made up of a £3,759,660 overspend in Children's Social Care and £1,601,301 in Learning and Skills. She advised Members that there was a total budget of £53,32,070 for the 2020/21 financial year.
- 49.2 The Executive Director of Children's Services commented that it had been a challenge to produce a balanced budget, given the changing demographic and the growth in demand and costs.
- 49.3 A Member expressed concern regarding how the savings in children's social care would be achieved. The Executive Director of Children's Services stated that it was not sustainable just to react to demand and that it was clear that in order to reduce high costs it was important to reduce demand and that in order to do this it was necessary to redirect expenditure to support families to ensure that children did not need to enter care/children's social care interventions. The Executive Director confirmed new preventative approaches need to be undertaken.
- 49.3 A Member asked for an update on progress with the proposed new children's homes. The interim Assistant Director, Children's Social Care and Safeguarding advised the meeting that the first home would hopefully open by the end of February and was just awaiting the final Ofsted inspection. She informed Members that a second property had been purchased and was currently undergoing work to bring it up to the required standard, and that a third property had been identified and work was ongoing to purchase the property. The Executive Director of Children's Services commented that the development of the new homes would reduce the reliance on expensive out of county care, and that this along with the other preventative work being carried out should impact positively on the expenditure in children's social care.
- 49.4 A Member commented that the main crux of the problem was that there was not enough funding received from central government. The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services assured the meeting that the administration was continually

lobbying for more funding and that regular conversations were had with the county's MPs regarding this.

49.5 A Member asked what role adoption played. The interim Assistant Director, Children's Social Care and Safeguarding advised the meeting that adoption provided good permanent outcomes for some children but that it was only a small part of the picture.

49.6 A Member asked what impact the Digital Transformation Programme had had, especially the move to using Liquidlogic. The Executive Director of Children's Services commented that whilst there were only very limited cashable savings in the business case, the real advantage of Liquidlogic is the efficiency of the work and recording.

49.7 A Member commented that the costs of school transport were high and asked whether there was opportunity to look at different ways of providing transport to school. The Service Manager Business Support advised the meeting that officers were working with the passenger Transport team to look at this. The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services commented that the costs of transporting SEND pupils was high but that the introduction of SEND Hubs should reduce the costs as well as reducing the distances students had to travel.

49.8 The Chair thanked officers for attending the meeting.

50 Work Programme

50.1 Members received the report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer, which set out the scrutiny work programme for the forthcoming year.

50.2 Members noted the content of the report and asked that the following items be added:

- School Ofsted Reports
- Pupil Place Planning
- Substance misuse amongst young people

50.3 The Scrutiny Officer suggested that the following items also be added:

- Early Intervention

51 Date of next meeting

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

Signed (Chairman)

Date:



<u>Committee</u>	<u>Item</u>
People Overview Committee	
30 September 2020	<u>Public</u>

Place Overview Committee Work Programme 2019 – 2020

Responsible officer

Tom Dodds, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

tom.dodds@shropshire.gov.uk

[01743 258518](tel: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

People Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
SEND inspection action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutinise progress in drafting, agreeing and implementing the OFSTED/CQC SEND inspection action plan. • Refer any recommendations regarding working in partnership or relating to health partners to the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee. 	<p>Overview report</p> <p>Presentation</p>	<p>Executive Director, Children's Services</p> <p>Service Manager, SEND services</p>	Shropshire Council has an agreed action plan to improve SEND services, and has the capacity to implement any agreed plan.	30 Sep 2020

People Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Covid-19 update	<p>What is the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Shropshire's children's services?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What have been the changes in demand? - What has been the impact on staff and budgets? - What will Shropshire Council do to mitigate these impacts? - How has the council been required to change how it delivers services? - How successful has been the reopening of schools in Shropshire? 	Committee Overview Report	Executive Director, Children's Services		30 Sep 2020
Safeguarding partnership overview and annual reports – November meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the committee on structure and operations of the Shropshire Safeguarding Partnership • Consider annual reports of the children's and adult's safeguarding partnerships. 	Overview report children's and adult's safeguarding partnership annual reports	<p>Chair, safeguarding partnership</p> <p>Service manager, safeguarding partnership</p>		25 Nov 2020

People Overview Committee

Topic	Intended outcomes or objectives	What output is required?	Who needs to be heard from?	Expected impact or added value	Work date
Transitioning to adulthood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Examine proposals to reduce the number of care leavers not in employment, education or training 	<p>Overview report</p> <p>Presentation</p>	Executive Director, Children's Services	Shropshire's most vulnerable children and young people have a smooth and positive transition into adulthood.	27 January 2021
Housing support for looked-after children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To receive updates on work to strengthen the housing services offered to looked-after children, and young people leaving care. To update the committee on the setting up of Shropshire Council's new children's homes and leaving care flats. 	Overview report	Assistant Director of Children's Services	Ensure that Shropshire provides good accommodation to looked after children, and young people leaving care.	27 January 2021
Community Safety Partnership and exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinise the role the community safety partnership plays in tackling child criminal and sexual exploitation. 	Overview report	Chair, community safety partnership	Community safety partnership plays an effective role in tackling exploitation.	24 March 2021

People Overview Committee

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 style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutinise how the service supports children and young people • Understand the role that the service plays in supporting other services for children and young people • 	<p>Overview report</p> <p>Presentation</p>	Service lead	Drug and alcohol services support children and young people, directly and through supporting other services.	24 Mar 2021
Short breaks for respite care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider existing services for respite care. • Explore any potential new ways to support carers. 	<p>Overview report</p> <p>Presentation</p>	Head of Fostering and Adoption	Parents and carers have good access to respite care.	24 Mar 2021

Appendix 2

Current and proposed task and finish groups

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Financial Strategy and Innovation and Income Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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• 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.• To consider the alignment of the Financial Strategy and the new Corporate Plan being developed autumn 2018.• 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.• To consider the direct and indirect impacts, including risks, of 2019/20 Budget proposals on current services and customers.• To complete specific pieces of work to identify and work up alternatives to emerging plans, including the feasibility of any alternative proposals• Make evidence based recommendations in relation to plans and approaches for innovation and income generation, and alternative proposals for future budget setting.	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Community Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand how community transport operates in Shropshire, and the demand for community transport services. • 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. 	Communities Overview Committee
Engaging Diverse Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review and propose the scope of Place Plans including their geography and subject areas • To propose options to ensure Place Plans are developed from the bottom-up • To understand how rural enterprise features in our procurement / commissioning processes. • To proposed opportunities to engage with Strategic Levels within the Council and partners in Place Planning • To engage with Town and Parish Councils on options to reset their relationship with Shropshire Council • 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 • Make evidence based recommendations 	Communities Overview Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Brexit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • To identify, with the relevant officers, the key evidence and related requirements of what Shropshire would require from a future UK funding approach. • To make evidence based recommendations to Cabinet. 	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee
Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand how Shropshire Council currently uses Section 106, CIL and NHB and the impact that this has had • 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 • 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 • 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 	Performance Management Scrutiny
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review Shropshire Council's existing work to reduce its CO²e output. • To scrutinise existing council policy and practice and recommend policy changes that would support further carbon reduction. • To identify and evaluate opportunities to reduce spending and generate income by adopting low-carbon technology and practices. 	Place Overview Committee

Title	Objectives	Reporting to
Youth work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand different models of providing Youth Services in a place like Shropshire. • To review information and evidence of need and demand for youth work in Shropshire. • To engage with Town and Parish Councils and explore their thoughts on their role in youth work. • To identify opportunities to lever in additional resources to deliver youth work • To identify how the impact of youth work should be measured and reported • To make evidence based recommendations on the options for youth work in Shropshire. 	Communities Overview Committee
Dog fouling and dangerous dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To scrutinise how the local authority tackles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ dog fouling ○ dog attacks ○ stray dogs • licenced dog breeding 	Performance Management Scrutiny Committee
Signs, banners and street furniture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand existing policies, charges and administrative arrangements • Scrutinise existing policy and suggest draft policy. • Identify opportunities to set and administer policy and licencing arrangements with town and parish councils. • Look at how other local authorities set and administer policy, to identify potential ways to improve arrangements in Shropshire. 	Place Overview Committee