

For general release

REPORT TO:	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY SUB COMMITTEE 16 JUNE 2015
AGENDA ITEM:	9
SUBJECT:	SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16
LEAD OFFICER:	Julie Belvir, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, Director of Democratic & Legal Services
PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING:	Solomon Agutu, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny

ORIGIN OF ITEM:	The Council's constitution requires the SSOC to agree the scrutiny work programme for the municipal year. As part of the overall programme, the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee agrees its own work programme
BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE:	To agree the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee work programme for future meetings.
RECOMMENDATIONS:	The Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee is recommended to: 1) Acknowledge the adoption of the approaches to pre-decision scrutiny and Local Action Mini Reviews and include these within the work programme 2015/16. 2) Agree, with any amendments, the initial scrutiny work programme for 2015/16 including agreed topics for Local Action Mini Reviews.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Scrutiny & Strategic Overview Committee has a constitutional responsibility to set the initial scrutiny programme for the municipal year.

In 2014/15 it added new approaches to the methods Croydon Scrutiny Committees have traditionally used in order to encourage transparent decision-making and inspire back bench Member participation and action. Details relating to these new approaches are outlined below and overleaf.

2. A NEW APPROACH TO PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY

It is proposed that pre-decision Scrutiny on major policy initiatives should take place to provide transparency of decision-making and maximise back bench Member participation without slowing down the implementation of decisions.

Policy initiatives emerge from many sources although the majority emerge from public consultation and from formal business cases.

The new approach to pre-decision scrutiny involves:

- a) A brief, presentation of the business case in question or the consultation material to be presented to Scrutiny Committee Members – formally or informally. Such meetings should take place sufficiently early in the process to enable Scrutiny Members to contribute their ideas and feedback on the proposed initiatives before the detail of the initiative is confirmed or any decisions are taken.
- b) Where there is public consultation, relevant Scrutiny Committee Chairs should be explicitly advised of the details of the consultation timetable so that relevant Scrutiny Members may attend such events.
- c) When consultation responses have been evaluated and before recommendations to Cabinet (or other decision maker) are made, draft plans should be presented formally at the relevant Scrutiny Committee as pre-decision scrutiny.
- d) The Scrutiny and Strategic Overview Committee should have oversight of meetings held and consultations contributed to, in order to ensure their effectiveness.

3. LOCAL ACTION MINI REVIEWS

- 3.1 This process is designed to provide all Members (not just Scrutiny Committee Members) with the opportunity of investigating and making recommendations on local issues or matters of interest which they feel merit action. It is intended that Members would lead the process under the auspices of the Scrutiny and Strategic Overview Committee or relevant Sub-Committee using the asset of community knowledge to help with research/ input of ideas.
- 3.2 It is intended that the Scrutiny and Strategic Overview Committee will:
 - a) Receive proposals for Local Action Mini Reviews from Members
 - b) Determine whether or not it is in the public interest for the Local Action Mini Review to take place

- c) Give monitoring responsibility for the Local Action Mini Review to the Scrutiny and Strategic Overview Committee or relevant Sub-Committee
- d) Receive reports on progress for each Local Action Mini Review as part of the verbal update each Scrutiny Chair provides at each meeting.

3.3 An indicative flowchart to show the likely progress of a Local Action Mini Review is attached as **Appendix 1**.

3.4 Members are invited to consider the following topics or to put forward alternative topics to be investigated as Local Action Mini Reviews:

- Sports and physical activity
- The Youth offer in the borough
- The transition from children's social care to adult social care
- The impact of parenting on educational attainment and achievement

4. INITIAL SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

4.1 The Scrutiny Procedure Rules (extracted from the Constitution) state that:

“6.01 ...the Scrutiny & Strategic Overview Committee shall be responsible for setting its own work programme and the initial work programme of its Sub-Committees.

6.02 A balanced work programme should be developed including pre- and post-decision scrutiny, monitoring and external scrutiny. As far as reasonably practicable, there should be wide consultation on the work programme with Councillors, Chief Officers, external agencies and the wider community prior to its consideration by the Scrutiny & Strategic Overview Committee.”

4.2 The initial work programme is attached as **Appendix 2**.

CONTACT OFFICER:

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None

APPENDICES:

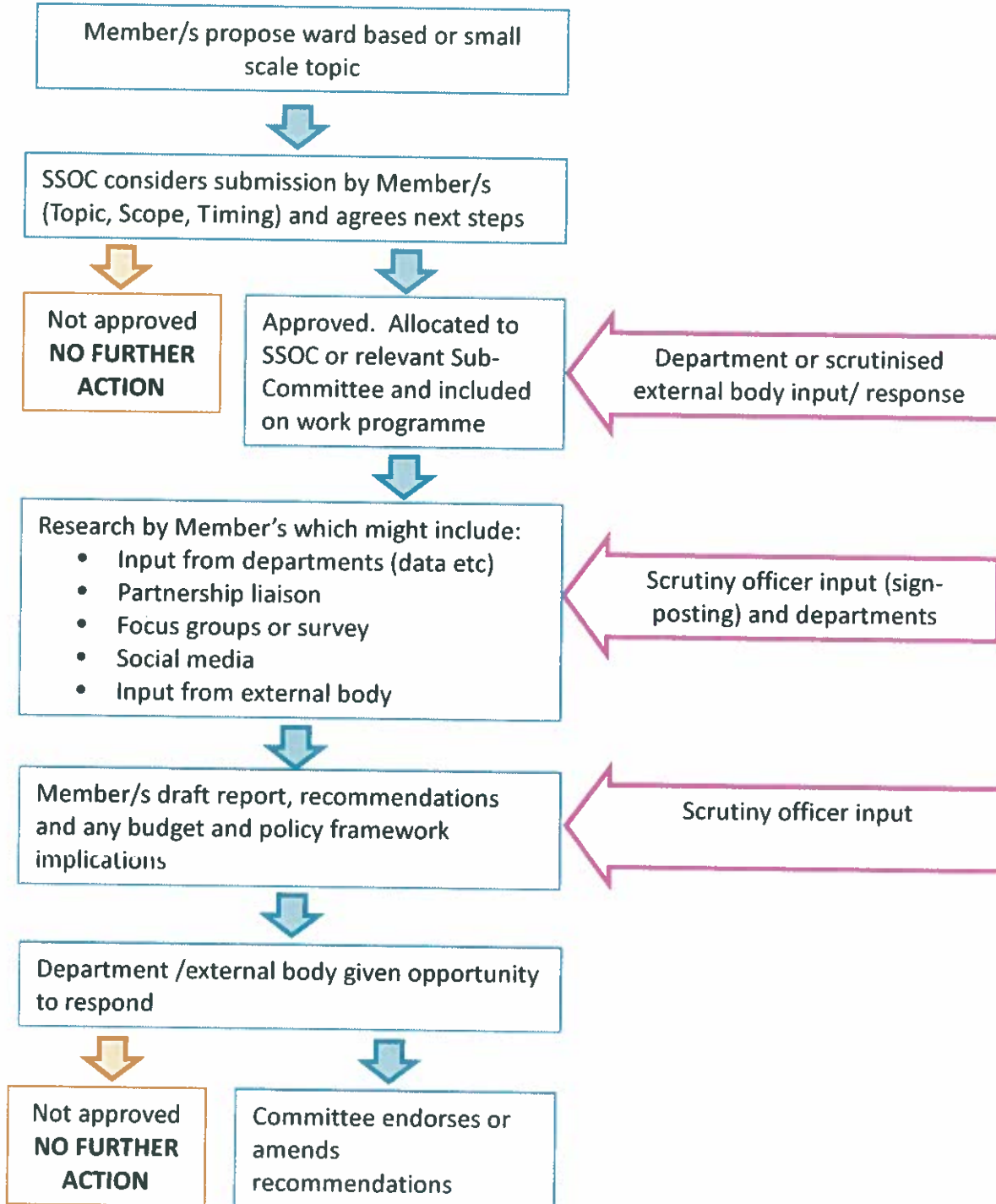
Appendix 1 – Local Action Mini Reviews – Flowchart

Appendix 2 – Overall Scrutiny Initial Work Programme 2015/16

Appendix 3 – Initial Children and Young People Scrutiny Work Programme 2015/16

APPENDIX 1

LOCAL ACTION 'MINI' SCRUTINY REVIEWS FLOWCHART



SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

Items in italics to be confirmed

SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (SOC)	9 June 15	8 September 15	3 November 15	15 December 15	19 January 16 (change of date)	22 March 16	12 April 16
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Leader & CX (post-election impact) • Work programme • Terms of reference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Finance and Treasury • <i>Overview of Council Contracts</i> • <i>Essential/ frontline workers</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Culture and Sport • <i>Capital budgets</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Leader and CX • Budget 2016/17 and performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Safety and Justice • Crime and Safer Croydon Partnership • <i>Criminal Justice System</i> • Scrutiny Annual report (draft) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics for 2016/17 • <i>Stronger Communities Partnership</i> 	
HEALTH, SOCIAL CARE AND HOUSING SUB-COMMITTEE (HSCH)	23 June 15	15 September	22 September <u>JOINT MEETING WITH CYP SUB</u>	10 November 15	8 December 15	26 January 16	10 May 16
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work programme • Terms of reference • Co-option • Healthwatch rep • CCG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic conditions • Transitions • Ambulance service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>CAMHS</u> • Children affected by domestic violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Homes and Regeneration • Homelessness/tenancy strategies • Adult safeguarding • Housing repairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP Performance • Immunisation • Professions allied to medicine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: People & Communities • Better Care Fund • Croydon Health Services NHS Trust • PH Annual Report (themes 2016) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLAM (and CAMHS) • Immunisation • HWB (nb. sexual health) • Review of the Work Programme
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SUB-COMMITTEE (CYP)	16 June 15	14 July 15	22 September 15 <u>JOINT MEETING WITH HEALTH SUB</u>	17 November 15	12 January 16 (change of date)	15 March 16	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School places • Estates strategy • Work programme • Terms of reference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Plan – focus on fostering and adoption (safeguarding) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>CAMHS</u> • Children affected by domestic violence • Cabinet response report & action plan re. children's safeguarding recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 January 16 (change of date) • QT: Children, Families and Learning • School standards and inclusion • The Budget 2016/17? • Review of the Work Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding/ Council social care • Transition from children's social care to adult social care • The work of the Children's Safeguarding Board and its Annual Report • Topics for 2016/17 	
STREETS AND ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE (S&E)	30 June 15	29 September 15	24 November 15	2 February 16	1 March 16	5 April 16	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work programme • Terms of reference • Scene setting reports from PTLP, Cycle Forum, Disability forum • <i>Vision Zero</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Transport & Environment • <i>Network Rail</i> • <i>Street lighting PFI contract</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Council housing (Joint item with Health)</i> • <i>Planning and neighbourhoods</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QT: Green and Clean • <i>Village style street cleaning and waste collection</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the Work Programme • <i>Sustainability</i> • <i>Flood risk management</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics for 2016/17 	

Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee Proposed Work Programme 2015/2016

Meeting 1: 16 June 2015, 6.30 pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon CR0 1NX			
Number	Item details and report authors	Responsible Director	Brief for the Committee
1	Sub-Committee Terms of Reference	Julie Belvir	To confirm the sub-committee's terms of reference
2	Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair	Julie Belvir	To confirm the membership and chairs of the sub-committee
3	School Places and Estates Strategy	Paul Greenhalgh	to examine the proposed programmes for delivering school places in the borough and the resources required
4	Scrutiny Work Programme including requests for local action mini reviews	Julie Belvir	To agree the sub-committee's work programme for 2015-2016 and consider requests for mini-reviews

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Proposed Work Programme 2015/2016**
(continued)

Meeting 2: 14 July 2015, 6.30 pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon CR0 1NX

Number	Item details and report authors	Responsible Director	Brief for the Committee
1	Children's Plan Focus on fostering and adoption (safeguarding)	Paul Greenhalgh	To scrutinise the effectiveness of the fostering and adoption service and identify areas for improvements
2	Scrutiny Work Programme including requests for mini-reviews	Julie Belvir	To agree the sub-committee's work programme for 2015-2016 and consider requests for mini-reviews

Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee Proposed Work Programme 2015/2016

(continued)

Meeting 3: 22 September 2015, 6.30 pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon CR0 1NX			
Joint Meeting with Health Social Care and Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee			
Number	Item details and report authors	Responsible Director	Brief for the Committee
1	Children's Mental Health Services		To scrutinise the quality of Children's Mental Health Services and the referral process and where relevant, put forward recommendations for improvement
2	Children affected by domestic violence	Paul Greenhalgh	To investigate what support is available for children affected by domestic violence and ascertain whether this can be improved further
3	Cabinet response report and action plan re children's safeguarding recommendations	Paul Greenhalgh	To scrutinise the effectiveness of partnership work to safeguard the wellbeing of children and young people in the borough
4	Scrutiny Work Programme including requests for mini-reviews	Julie Belvir	To agree the sub-committee's work programme for 2015-2016 and consider requests for mini-reviews

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Proposed Work Programme 2015/2016**
(continued)

Meeting 4: 17 November 2015, 6.30 pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon CR0 1NX			
Number	Item details and report authors	Responsible Director	Brief for the Committee
1	Young People's meeting	Julie Belvir	For a committee of young people to scrutinise a topic of their choosing
2	Scrutiny Work Programme including requests for mini-reviews	Julie Belvir	To agree the sub-committee's work programme for 2015-2016 and consider requests for mini-reviews

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Proposed Work Programme 2015/2016**
(continued)

Meeting 5: 12 January 2016, 6.30 pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon CR0 1NX				
Number	Item details and report authors	Responsible Director	Brief for the Committee	
1	Question Time with the Cabinet Member for Children Families and Learning	Paul Greenhalgh	To scrutinise the resources available for services to children and young people	
2	School standards and inclusion (including attendances)	Paul Greenhalgh	To scrutinise achievement and challenges in Croydon's schools	
3	The budget 2016-2017	Paul Greenhalgh	To scrutinise the proposed Children Families and Learning budget for 2016-2017 and pressures on current and future resources	
4	Scrutiny Work Programme including requests for mini-reviews	Julie Belvir	To agree the sub-committee's work programme for 2015-2016 and consider requests for mini-reviews	

**Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Proposed Work Programme 2015/2016**
(continued)

Meeting 6: 17 March 2015, 6.30 pm, Council Chamber, Town Hall, Croydon CR0 1NX			
Number	Item details and report authors	Responsible Director	Brief for the Committee
1	Safeguarding and Council Social Care		To scrutinise the quality of the council's Social Care Services for children and young people
2	Transition from children's social care to adult social care		To scrutinise the procedures involved in the transition from children's social care to adult social care and make any necessary recommendations for improvement
3	The work of the Children's Safeguarding Board and its Annual Report		To scrutinise the quality and effectiveness of partnership work within the Board and make any necessary recommendations for improvement
4	Review of the Work Programme for 2015/2016 and suggestions for 2016-2017	Julie Belvir	To review the work programme for 2015/2016 and to consider topics for inclusion in the 2016/2017 work programme