



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the **CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW
AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** will be held in
Council Chamber - Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham
RG40 1BN on **MONDAY 21 MARCH 2022 AT 7.00 PM**

Susan Parsonage
Chief Executive
Published on 11 March 2022

The role of Overview and Scrutiny is to provide independent “critical friend” challenge and to work with the Council’s Executive and other public service providers for the benefit of the public. The Committee considers submissions from a range of sources and reaches conclusions based on the weight of evidence – not on party political grounds.

Note: Although non-Committee Members and members of the public are entitled to attend the meeting in person, space is very limited due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. You can however participate in this meeting virtually, in line with the Council’s Constitution. If you wish to participate either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams, please contact Democratic Services. The meeting can also be watched live using the following link:
<https://youtu.be/Oh78rQAIP0g>



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Our Vision

A great place to live, learn, work and grow and a great place to do business

Enriching Lives

- Champion outstanding education and enable our children and young people to achieve their full potential, regardless of their background.
- Support our residents to lead happy, healthy lives and provide access to good leisure facilities to complement an active lifestyle.
- Engage and involve our communities through arts and culture and create a sense of identity which people feel part of.
- Support growth in our local economy and help to build business.

Safe, Strong, Communities

- Protect and safeguard our children, young and vulnerable people.
- Offer quality care and support, at the right time, to prevent the need for long term care.
- Nurture communities and help them to thrive.
- Ensure our borough and communities remain safe for all.

A Clean and Green Borough

- Do all we can to become carbon neutral and sustainable for the future.
- Protect our borough, keep it clean and enhance our green areas.
- Reduce our waste, improve biodiversity and increase recycling.
- Connect our parks and open spaces with green cycleways.

Right Homes, Right Places

- Offer quality, affordable, sustainable homes fit for the future.
- Build our fair share of housing with the right infrastructure to support and enable our borough to grow.
- Protect our unique places and preserve our natural environment.
- Help with your housing needs and support people to live independently in their own homes.

Keeping the Borough Moving

- Maintain and improve our roads, footpaths and cycleways.
- Tackle traffic congestion, minimise delays and disruptions.
- Enable safe and sustainable travel around the borough with good transport infrastructure.
- Promote healthy alternative travel options and support our partners to offer affordable, accessible public transport with good network links.

Changing the Way We Work for You

- Be relentlessly customer focussed.
- Work with our partners to provide efficient, effective, joined up services which are focussed around you.
- Communicate better with you, owning issues, updating on progress and responding appropriately as well as promoting what is happening in our Borough.
- Drive innovative digital ways of working that will connect our communities, businesses and customers to our services in a way that suits their needs.

Appendix Acronyms

CPD	Continuous Professional Development
EYFS	Early Years Foundations Stage
FGB	Full Governing Body
KS1	Key Stage 1
KS2	Key Stage 2
MAT	Multi Academy Trust
NLE	National Leader of Education
NLG	National Leader of Governance
RI	Requires Improvement
RSC	Regional Schools Commissioner
SDP	School Development Plan
SEF	Self Evaluation Form
SIB	School Improvement Board
SIO	School Improvement Officer
SLT	Senior Leadership Team
TSA	Teaching School Alliance
WLP	Wokingham Learning Partnership

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Councillors

Prue Bray
Norman Jorgensen
(Chairman)
Morag Malvern

Anne Chadwick
Rebecca Margetts (Vice-
Chairman)
Jackie Rance

Pauline Helliar-Symons
Andrew Mickleburgh

Substitutes

Sam Akhtar
David Hare
Alison Swaddle

Phil Cunnington
Sarah Kerr

Guy Grandison
Barrie Patman

Parent Governor Representatives

Vacancy, Parent Governor Representative
Vacancy, Parent Governor Representative

Diocesan Representatives

Vacancy, Roman Catholic Representative
Vacancy, C of E Representative

ITEM NO.	WARD	SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
39.		<p>APOLOGIES To receive any apologies for absence.</p>	
40.		<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 January 2022.</p>	7 - 14
41.		<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest.</p>	
42.		<p>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME To answer any public questions</p> <p>A period of 30 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions submitted under notice.</p> <p>The Council welcomes questions from members of the public about the work of this committee.</p> <p>Subject to meeting certain timescales, questions can relate to general issues concerned with the work of the Committee or an item which is on the Agenda for this meeting. For full details of the procedure for submitting questions please contact the Democratic Services Section on the numbers given below or go to www.wokingham.gov.uk/publicquestions</p>	

- 42.1 Peter Williams asked the Chairman of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee the following question
- Question**
Noting WBC says it is for “everyone”, will the Chairman ensure the committee undertakes to treat all census category ethnic minority groups as defined by Equalities & Human Rights Commission equally in provision of cultural and support services, comply with EHRC in replacing excluding terms BME/BAME, by “Ethnic minority” or e.g. EM, and ensure that all under achieving under privileged pupil sub-groups are treated equally on merit regardless of colour or ethnic group?
43. **MEMBER QUESTION TIME**
To answer any member questions
44. None Specific **CHILDREN'S SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDICATORS** 15 - 26
To receive and consider the Children’s Services Performance Indicators report.
45. None Specific **SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION** 27 - 34
46. None Specific **HARM OUTSIDE THE HOME STRATEGY** 35 - 68
To receive and consider a report containing the Harm Outside the Home Strategy
47. None Specific **SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND OFSTED REPORTS** 69 - 76
To receive and consider a report containing School Performance Indicators and Ofsted Reports.
48. **FORWARD PROGRAMME** 77 - 82
To consider the Committee’s Forward Programme of work.
49. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**
That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended) as appropriate.
50. None Specific **SCHOOLS CAUSING CONCERN** 83 - 86
A report containing details of schools causing concern will be considered in a Part 2 report.

Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent

A Supplementary Agenda will be issued by the Chief Executive if there are any other items to consider under this heading

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2022 FROM 7.00 PM TO 9.07 PM**

Committee Members Present

Councillors: Prue Bray, Anne Chadwick, Pauline Helliard-Symons, Norman Jorgensen (Chairman), Rebecca Margetts (Vice-Chairman), Andrew Mickleburgh, Morag Malvern and Jackie Rance

Other Councillors Present

Councillors: Graham Howe (online)

Officers Present

Luciane Bowker, Democratic and Electoral Services Specialist
Gillian Cole, Service Manager Schools
Zoe Storey, School Admissions and Transport Manager
Daniel Robinson, SEN Consultant
Heather Tomlinson, Consultant, Learning Achievement and Partnerships
Helen Watson, Interim Director of Children's Services

30. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

31. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 November 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

Members thanked Officers for the information which was circulated relating to permanent exclusions after the meeting. The data showed that there was a large number of permanent exclusions data relating to pupils with recognised Special Educational Needs (SEN). Members asked what support was being given to schools in relation to this issue. Heather Tomlinson, Consultant Learning Achievement and Partnerships explained that the response to this question was complex and offered to circulate a written answer to Members outside of the meeting.

Daniel Robinson, SEN Consultant stated that the service was aware of issues around transitions, for example from Year 6 to Year 7 and more support was needed to help with this transition. Also, there were issues with supporting children without Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) and delays in issuing EHCPs. However, the service was aware of the challenges and there was ongoing work with colleagues from schools and from Health to improve the situation.

Members also asked for information about permanent exclusions of Looked After Children (LAC) and Care Leavers.

Members agreed to receive further information outside of the meeting.

In response to a question relating to lateness in EHCPs assessments, Daniel Robinson stated that Speech And Language Therapy and Assessment (SALT) relied on the service of Educational Psychologists (EP), and there was a local and national shortage of EPs.

The lack of capacity was the reason for delays. However, the service was working to address this issue and the timeliness of EHCPs was improved this year if compared to last year.

Members questioned the absence of the Key Performance Indicators report in the Agenda. Helen Watson, Interim Director of Children's Services agreed to schedule this item back into the forward programme.

32. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

33. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions.

34. MEMBER QUESTION TIME

There were no Member questions.

35. REVIEW OF HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT PROCESSES

The Committee received the Review of Home to School Transport Processes report which was set out in Agenda pages 13-18.

Daniel Robinson, SEN Consultant and Zoe Storey, School Admissions and Transport Manager presented the report. The following comments were made during discussions of the item:

- Members noted that one of the issues which had caused difficulties last year was the lateness of parental responses and asked what actions were being taken to prevent it from happening again;
- Zoe Storey stated that communication had been sent out to parents in the beginning of the summer and the lack of responses had not been anticipated. The plan was to send out communications earlier this year;
- Daniel Robinson explained that this application process had not happened for four or five years, and parents were not expecting it. This year there would not be a need to ask for a form from each family in order to re-commission the service. The communication going forward would be through schools and SENCOs, he acknowledged that last year the communication with parents had not been sufficiently clear. It was necessary to have 90% of responses in order to commission the service accordingly;
- Daniel Robinson informed that the process for commissioning home to school transport had been signed off today with Corporate Transport Unit (CTU) and SEN teams. He offered to share more information about this with the Committee;
- Members were pleased that a review had taken place and that there was acknowledgement that things had gone wrong in the past year. A Member shared an example of unsatisfactory travel arrangements for an autistic child, and expressed frustration that the report listed excuses for bad practices which should not have occurred;
- It was suggested that Officers should have telephoned parents who had not returned their forms on time. Daniel Robinson stated that the SEN Team had, later on, called parents asking them to return their forms;
- A Member felt appalled by the distress that the lack of efficiency had caused parents in the Borough;

- Daniel Robinson stated that the report sought to give an overview of the situation at the start of the review and to explain the actions which were being put in place to prevent errors from occurring again;
- It was explained that because so many forms were received late, the service had had to be re-commissioned, which had resulted in changes two days before the start of term;
- Part of the review was looking into strengthening communication with parents going forward;
- A Member believed that the key issue was that there had not been joint up work between CTU and Children's Services; she believed that the transport for SEND children should be placed under Children's Services. It was also worrying that communication with schools had not been good;
- A Member was very concerned that no one had realised that the process of re-commissioning all the providers would be complex and time consuming, and therefore not enough time and resources had been allocated to deal with it;
- Members urged Officers to learn from the mistakes that had taken place and not to let the same situation happen again;
- Daniel Robinson stated that the new role of the liaison officer, linking CTU, SEND and Admissions would be very important in improving the communication between departments going forward;
- In response to a question it was clarified that all children who were eligible to home to school transport would be provided with the service. If there were enough children from one area, it was preferable to arrange for collective transport for those children, as taxis were the most expensive form of transport;
- In response to a question it was explained that the Council did not have a statutory obligation to provide sole transport. The review found that some children who had in the past been provided with sole transport, could in fact use collective modes of transport. However, this had caused some complaints as some children were used to sole transport;
- In response to a question Daniel Robinson stated that the SEND review would be made available to the Committee, it had concluded too late to be included in the Agenda papers for this meeting;
- It was explained that the process of applying for home to school transport would involve parents sending a completed form, which would be submitted to a panel for a decision on eligibility. Communication with parents would be directly from the panel, including information on how to appeal;
- In response to a question it was explained that the SEND Team had 12 members of staff who would be able to answer questions from parents with regards to eligibility. Questions relating to problems with drivers would be directed to CTU;
- A Member asked if there were sufficient resources to deliver the service and what input schools would have in the process of arranging home to school transport, for example in terms of pick up timings and safety;
- Daniel Robinson stated that structurally, it was important to use the expertise from both the CTU and SEND departments and to enable better communication between them for better outcomes. It had also been identified that a better transport management system for collecting data and producing reports was needed;
- It was clarified that the Local Authority only had a duty to provide home to school transport during school hours. On cases where a staggered start to school was required, this was worked out with SENCOs at schools.

Members considered making a recommendation to help Officers to acquire the necessary resources/systems to improve the service. After discussions it was agreed that the Committee would wait to make recommendations at a later stage, with more information from the SEND Review and further analysis from Officers.

Members asked if there were any current issues with the provision of home to school transport. Zoe Story stated that there were issues in relation to availability of drivers, cost of petrol and the availability of buses. She stated that the review had streamlined the transport system, with the new routes 11 buses were taken out of the roads, reducing pollution and emissions.

A Member pointed out that communication with schools should not be limited to communicating with SENCOs, schools needed to be kept informed of changes and bus times. There had been serious issues last year with schools not receiving information about changes to bus times, this had damaged the relationship between the schools and the Local Authority. However, it was recognised that the Local Authority was taking action to repair the relationship with schools.

Members asked that a follow up report on Home to School Transport be submitted to the Committee, including information about the Budget.

In response to a question Daniel Robinson explained that the request for a new transport system was going to be submitted for approval to the Corporate Transport Board. He felt confident that there was sufficient information to gain approval for a new system.

RESOLVED That:

- 1) The report be noted; and
- 2) A follow up report will be submitted to the Committee, which will include information about the Budget.

36. EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee received the Education Partnership Terms of Reference report which was set out in Agenda pages 19-28.

Councillor Howe, Executive Member for Children's Services stated that over the last few years, many maintained schools converted to academy. There had been a perception that academy schools were independent from the Local Authority. There had also been a belief that there ought to be a line of command. However, both assumptions were now outdated.

Councillor Howe believed that the conduit to the schools were the headteachers. The Partnership sought to reconnect schools and the Local Authority through working in partnership with headteachers, in order to achieve the needs and aspirations of the children.

Heather Tomlinson added that the Partnership sought to enable collaboration and co-production to find solutions for big issues. It was also a mechanism for schools to work together and to hold each other and the Local Authority into account.

During discussions of the item the following comments were made:

- Members were in support of this initiative and asked to be regularly updated on its progress;
- Heather Tomlinson stated that this was going to be a completely open and transparent forum. She informed that schools had also requested to be kept informed of its progress;
- Members asked that care be taken to not overlap the work of the Partnership with Schools Forum and to avoid any duplication of work;
- Heather Tomlinson explained that Schools Forum had a very specific financial role and function. However, some complex strategic issues had been discussed at Schools Forum because there had not been another place to debate those issues. The Partnership would sit in parallel with Schools Forum and would have representations from Schools Forum in it;
- A Member asked if examples of best practice in other local authorities had been looked at. It was also asked if the cost implications could be included in future reports;
- Heather Tomlinson informed that there were many different versions of such partnerships across the country, which had developed to meet the needs and culture of specific areas. There was a national association of partner education partnerships. She stated that she had experience of working with different local authorities with different versions of education partnerships. Wokingham's Education Partnership was being established to provide a forum for collaborative strategic discussions, which was something that did not exist before. The model could change shape in the future according to local needs. She agreed that costs could be included in future reports;
- In response to a question Heather Tomlinson stated that there were no limits to which discussions could take place in the partnership. The main priorities identified by schools leaders were school organisation and the delivery of additional school places due to population expansion, school admissions and fair access protocol. Some of these work had already been undertaken and would be discussed at the first meeting of the Partnership on 27 January;
- A Member asked if the Partnership's Chairman would receive a salary. Heather Tomlinson stated that she would temporarily chair the Partnership, it was for the group to decide who would be the chair. headteachers had indicated that this should be an independent person with broad experience in education;
- Councillor Howe stated that other similar partnerships did not pay for the position of chairman, and he was of the opinion that it was not necessary for this to be a paid position.

RESOLVED That:

- 1) The report be noted; and
- 2) The Committee would receive regular updates on the progress of the Wokingham Borough Education Partnership.

37. CHILDREN'S SERVICES COVID TASK FORCE

The Committee received the Children's Services Covid Task Force report which was set out in Agenda pages 29-36.

Gillian Cole, Service Manager for Schools addressed the Committee and made the following points:

- The Task Force had been providing support to schools by:

- signposting and disseminating information
- helping to interpret national guidance from central government and health agencies
- working with local and other partners
- coordinating additional resources
- supporting schools with local outbreaks
- Currently, the Task Force was helping schools with their business continuity planning, dealing with the spread of Omicron and its impact on the attendance of both children and staff;
- There were limited mitigation plans in primary schools, most mitigation plans were in place for secondary schools (mask wearing was mandatory in secondary schools). Primary school children were also not vaccinated and were the most vulnerable section of the population;
- Conversations were ongoing with the Department for Education (DfE) to find mitigations for primary school aged children to support continued uninterrupted learning;
- The corporate Health and Safety Team produced guidance on air cleaning devices and ventilation for schools.

During the discussion of the item the following comments were made:

- A Member asked if there were any particular concerns in relation to LAC and Care Leavers;
- Gillian Cole informed that there was a dedicated Officer checking that the children for whom the Local Authority had corporate parenting responsibilities for were having their needs met during the pandemic, and identifying any additional needs;
- A Member asked if there were sufficient resources to continue this high level of provision and if the costs were being covered by the central government;
- Gillian Cole stated that additional capacity had been secured at the end of October, which would run until the Autumn term. The funding for the additional hours came through the central government;
- The contingency threshold framework measures had changed since Christmas, the national guidance in relation to isolation rules and advice on lateral flow tests had changed. The advice was now for primary aged children to undertake lateral flow tests;
- When schools reached the threshold they would be advised to carry out lateral flow tests for seven days, be advised on ventilation and be encouraged to purchase air cleaning devices. There was now an air cleaning marketplace for which schools would have to self-fund to purchase devices to clean the air;
- CO2 monitors were funded by central government, however they only measured the particles in the air, they did not clean out the air;
- The Health and Safety team was advising schools on ventilation and technical aspects of air cleaning devices;
- There was ongoing work with the communications team to advise parents and the community on the current guidance;
- A Member stated that there had been an increase in the number of children with eating disorders since the start of the pandemic and asked if the Local Authority was working with the community around awareness about this issue;
- Gillian Cole stated that there was a Wellbeing for Education Return Programme, this was a DfE funded initiative which the Council had been working with since August 2020. There were also a range of activities being delivered to schools by the Education Improvement Team and Educational Psychologists for all age ranges.

Members thanked Gillian Cole and the Task Force Team for the work that had been undertaken to support schools during this difficult time, it was much appreciated.

In response to a question Gillian Cole stated that CO2 monitors eventually arrived after some chasing, but for some schools they arrived very late.

In response to a question about the availability of Covid testing kits, Gillian Cole informed that the Council was having to manage and prioritise the distribution of kits. WBC had a stock of kits which could be provided to schools that had not received their orders. Also, communication was being signposted to advise residents where kits were available in the community.

In response to a question Gillian Cole stated that the current expectation was that exams would be going ahead this year. However, it was possible that this could change, therefore schools were being advised to run three mock exams in preparation for possible Teacher Assessed Grades, should they be needed.

In relation to a question about anti-vaccine material that schools had been subjected to, Gillian Cole stated that the DfE was providing very strong legal support on this issue. Every such correspondence received by schools were being passed straight to the DfE's legal department who were dealing with them.

RESOLVED That the report be noted.

38. FORWARD PROGRAMME

The Committee considered the Forward Programme of work which was set out in Agenda pages 37-40.

The following items were added:

- Review of Home to School Transport Processes
- Key Performance Indicators
- Wokingham Borough Education Partnership update
- Education Welfare Service Review
- Secondary School Strategy
- Schools Causing Concern (Part 2 report)

Members asked that the Schools Causing Concern (Part 2) report be submitted to every meeting of the Committee, and that the local ward Members of the schools causing concern be invited to attend the meeting and take part in the discussion of this item. Members pointed out that this was important to keep Members, especially local ward Members, informed of schools that were underperforming in the Borough. They stated that the monitoring of schools' performance was not limited to Ofsted reports.

A Member explained that the Schools Causing Concern (Part 2) report had been included in the Forward Programme following the recommendation of a Task and Finish Group. There had been an issue with lack of information in relation to a school which had been underperforming. At the time the relevant local ward Member had not been informed of the situation until it became public.

Helen Watson agreed to liaise with Officers to decide the best time to present the reports which were added to the work programme.

RESOLVED That the Forward Programme be amended to include the added items.

Agenda Item 44.

TITLE	Children's Services Performance Indicators
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 4 November 2021
WARD	None Specific;
LEAD OFFICER	Director, Children's Services - Helen Watson

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Children's Services performance indicators underpin the council's priorities and principles to focus on every child reaching their potential and looking after the vulnerable.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Children's Services performance indicators be noted.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

The timing of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee means that the information reported against in each performance indicator relates to the position at the end of December 2021.

Background

A full report covering the broad scope of Children's Services is included as an appendix to this report.

Analysis of Issues

Please see Appendix A.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe funding pressures, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	N/A		
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	N/A		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	N/A		

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
N/A

Cross-Council Implications (how does this decision impact on other Council services, including properties and priorities?)
N/A

Public Sector Equality Duty
Please confirm that due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty has been taken and if an equalities assessment has been completed or explain why an equalities assessment is not required.

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2
N/A

List of Background Papers
N/A

Contact Sudeshna Banerjee	Service Quality Assurance and Safeguarding Standards
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CHILDREN'S SERVICES DASHBOARD – QUARTER 3 2021-22

This report covers Children's Services performance during October, November and December 2021, which will be referred to as quarter three (Q3) throughout this report.

Dashboard Item 1 - Education, Health & Care Plans

Measure	2020-21	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
Current EHCPs placed in borough (snapshot at end of period)	814	746	814	827	806	865	↑
Current EHCPs placed out of borough (snapshot at end of period)	434	421	434	437	462	511	↑
EHCPs issued within 20 weeks of the referral	75%	59.5%	78.4%	86.4%	87.7%	71.8%	↓

What does this show us?

The numbers of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) funded by Wokingham Borough Council placed in the borough have increased this quarter.

The EHCPs between the same period last year and this quarter have risen by 18%.

The percentage of plans issued within the 20-week period has decreased by 16% from last quarter, however this has significantly improved from Q3 20-21.

What is the background to this?

The total number of requests for October to December 2021 is 94, compared to 85 for July to Sept 2021.

Timeliness of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks had started to decline sharply from 91% in October 2021 to 55% in December. But there have been few delays from receiving information from other partners due to their service capacity combined with the increase in requests received. Without the information received in due time, the timelines of the assessment process administered with SEND is restricted.

As Wokingham do not have a FE college, most of post-16 cohort were placed in out of Borough provisions.

What action is the service taking?

Focus remains on continuing the timeliness of EHC Plans for children. But it may be a challenge in the future again if the reports are not received timely from our partners.

What is the national context?

This quarter's timeliness is well above national average (55.6%) and statistical neighbours (57.4%).

Dashboard Item 2 – Early Help

Measure	2020-21	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
No. of referrals to Early Help	1118	395	222	449	314	362	↑
No. Early Help Assessments	1095	304	263	321	337	281	↓
Avg. length of time in days between referral and assessment completion	24	25	26	19	23	30	↑

What does this show us?

The number of referrals has increased from the previous quarter but not as high as in Q1. This quarter has seen an 8% decrease in referrals compared to the same period last year.

The length of time taken to complete an assessment has increased compared to the previous quarters and the average for 20/21, but it is in line with the statutory guidance.

What is the background to this?

There are no targets for the number of referrals received by Early Help, nor any for the number of assessments carried out, as they are considered on a case-by-case basis. According to CSC's Red, Amber, Green (RAG) rating system for performance management, an average of 30 days or less between referral and assessment completion is in target (Green), 31 to 35 is Amber, and 36+ is of concern (Red).

What action is the service taking?

Early Help will continue to carefully monitor demand and ensure there is capacity to address the increase of the demand and further improve timeliness despite the increases in demand. A designated person is assigned to monitor cases on the waiting list and parents are kept informed.

What is the national context?

Comparative national figures are not available for Early Help activity and timeliness.

Dashboard Item 3 – Children’s Social Care Front Door

Measure	2020-21	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
No. of referrals to CSC	1383	303	414	416	327	383	↑
% of referrals to CSC which are repeat referrals within 12 months	21.8%	18.2%	20%	14.9%	15.9%	19.1%	↑
% assessments completed within 45 working days	72.8%	80.1%	73.3%	70.6%	61.8%	69.9%	↑

What does this show us?

There has been a 17% rise of referrals this quarter.

The proportion of referrals to Children’s Social Care which are repeat referrals has increased this quarter as well. In Q3, 73 out of 383 referrals were repeat referrals within 12 months.

Timeliness of assessments completed within 45 working days increased this quarter. In Q3, 214 out of 306 assessments were completed within 45 working days.

What is the background to this?

When an agency shares info with the local authority on a Multi-Agency Referral form, or a member of the public shares concerns about a child this is considered a Contact. A Contact progresses to a Referral when a decision has been taken to complete an Assessment. There is no target for the number of Referrals to Children’s Social Care as each Contact is individually assessed.

Children’s Social Care aims for less than 20% of its referrals to be repeat referrals within 12 months and strives for 90% of assessments to be completed within 45 days.

Repeat referrals are within target this quarter, with the average rate of 17% over the course of the year. Assessment timeliness has increased compared to last quarter.

What action is the service taking?

The increase of referrals coupled with a high rate of staff sickness in Q3 has been a challenge for the social care teams. This has been further impacted by staff turnover as we started exiting the pandemic. We are reviewing the number of Contacts that have not progressed to Assessment to ensure that thresholds are being applied consistently. We will review all assessments that are approaching 45 days to ensure completion in timeframe where possible.

Given that the Service continues to see cases of increased complexity, it assesses and closely monitors them to ensure children receive the right help and support and therefore reduce the need for a second referral.

What is the national context?

The statistical neighbours and England averages for assessments completed within 45 days are 89% and 87.6% respectively. The Wokingham percentage of repeat referrals within 12 months in Q3 is better than the England average of 22.6% and the statistical neighbours average of 23.9%.

Dashboard Item 4 – Child Protection

Measure	2020-21	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
Children subject to CP Plans (snapshot at end of period)	161	161	149	169	166	160	↓
% of children starting a plan who had a previous one in the last 2 years	11.8%	8.7%	2.7%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	↔
% of child protection visits within timescale	80%	78%	80%	73%	71%	72%	↑

What does this show us?

The number of children on a CPP has slightly reduced this quarter and is in line with the figure for the same period last year.

There were 43 children who became subject to a CPP in Q3 and none of these had a previous plan in the last 2 years.

The proportion of CP visits occurring within timescales has increased very slightly in Q3 to 72%.

What is the background to this?

Subject to thresholds, CSC places no limits on the number of children that may be eligible for Child Protection Plans; the figure is for information purposes only. The Service aims to have less than 5% of children on a plan for a second time in the last two years: in Q3 there were none.

CSC places great emphasis on preventing the need for children to return to a Protection Plan. There has been a rise in plans in the first quarter this year and an increase in repeat plans at the same time. But in the last two quarters, there has been a trend of decline in both areas.

Wokingham sets itself a best-practice standard of carrying out each Child Protection visit within 10 working days of the previous visit. The service has a target of 80% of visits within this timescale.

What action is the service taking?

The Service will continue its work towards the timeliness targets and maintain its flexible approach so as to have the capacity to deal with demand as it rises or remains consistent.

What is the national context?

Wokingham's Child Protection Plans per 10,000 at end of Q3 was at 40.7 which is below the England average of 42.8. Since 2020, the increase in our numbers have placed us above our statistical neighbour's average of 32.5.

Dashboard Item 5 – Children in Care

Measure	2020-21	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
No. children in care (snapshot at end of period)	106	104	106	112	113	119	↑
% visits to children in care within timescale	79%	84%	76%	83%	76%	76%	↔
% children in care who have more than 1 allocated social worker in 12m (snapshot at end of period)	21%	18%	21%	20%	34%	22%	↓

What does this show us?

The number of children in care have slightly increased this quarter.

There has been consistency in the percentage of visits to children in care within timescale, representing 323 out of the 425 visits carried out in Q3.

The percentage of children in care who have had more than one allocated worker in the previous 12 months had decreased since last quarter.

What is the background to this?

Wokingham's children in care figures are lower than statistical neighbours and regional averages, which reflects our approach of only ever taking children into care as a last resort.

The timeliness of visits taking place has remained the same as Q2.

The target is to have less than 10% of children allocated more than one social worker in a twelve-month period. Whilst it is our ambition for this indicator to be as low as possible, we acknowledge that there will always be some occasions where a change of social worker will be in the best interests of the child. The allowance of 10% is therefore in line with Wokingham CSC's strong emphasis on child experience.

What action is the service taking?

The number of visits carried out has increased quarter-on-quarter this year. CSC emphasises a child-focused approach to social work; in some instances, visits will be permitted to go outside of timescale to ensure that children are visited by the same social worker in order to provide reassuring continuity. Furthermore, greater weight is being placed on visits and their recording as part of the service's performance scrutiny so that the figures reflect the work carried out by social workers.

The breakdown of face-to-face visits and virtual visits is as follows:

	Children in Care				All visits carried out by CSC	
	F-to-F	Virtual	Total	% Virtual	All visits	% Virtual
Apr-21	111	8	119	6.7	731	8.9
May-21	116	3	119	2.5	699	7.9

Jun-21	128	8	136	5.9	801	6.4
Jul-21	126	9	135	6.6	751	6.9
Aug-21	131	4	135	3.0	709	2.3
Sept-21	129	7	136	5.1	752	3.6
Oct-21	140	2	142	1.4	787	3.9
Nov-21	129	4	133	3.0	825	3.5
Dec-21	156	13	169	7.7	842	7.6

In the event of positive COVID cases, CSC carries out risk assessments ahead of visits in order to establish if a face-to-face visit is possible or a virtual visit more appropriate.

What is the national context?

The rate of Children in Care per 10,000 in 2021 is 67.0 for England and 46.3 for statistical neighbours. The Wokingham rate is significantly lower, at 24 per 10,000.

Dashboard Item 6 – Care Leavers

Measure	2020-21	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
% of care leavers 'in touch' (snapshot at end of period)	96%	92%	96%	95%	96%	94%	↓
% of care leavers aged 18-24 "in touch" and who are NEET	40%	38%	40%	38%	30%	32%	↑
% of care leavers "in touch" in suitable accommodation (snapshot at end of period)	92%	94%	92%	97%	100%	97%	↓

What does this show us?

The percentage of care leavers that remain in touch have reduced slightly but the Service tends to maintain a good working relationship with those formerly in its care. Currently 88 of the 94 care leavers remain in touch with CSC.

There has been a slight increase in the number of care leavers not in education, employment or training - the number now at 28, a rise from 24 last quarter.

The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation has slightly decreased since last quarter.

What is the background to this?

The target is to have at least 90% of care leavers in touch, which continues to be achieved. Amongst the reasons for care leavers not being in touch with CSC are a simple refusal to engage with the Service and young people no longer needing the support provided by CSC.

The Service aims to have 52% of care leavers in education, employment or learning. Despite the increasingly challenging economic situation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, CSC has remained consistently above target for Care Leaver employment, education and training figures across 2020-21.

CSC endeavours to ensure at least 90% of care leavers are in suitable accommodation, which it continues to achieve.

What action is the service taking?

CSC will continue to place emphasis on maintaining good relations with care leavers so that they can receive all the support they need, particularly during the current challenging times.

The Service places great importance on the futures of the children for which it has responsibility, and addresses each care leaver's situation, helping them either re-engage with education or find suitable employment opportunities where possible. Efforts in this have increased in response to the current economic situation.

The number of care leavers in unsuitable accommodation has decreased over the course of this year, and those in supported lodgings, living independently and semi-independently have increased.

What is the national context?

Nationally, 95% of care leavers are in touch with their LA; 41% of care leavers are NEET, and 88% are in suitable accommodation. Wokingham performs consistently in line or above comparable averages in regard to care leavers.

Dashboard Item 7 – Children Missing from Home/Care

Measure	2020-21	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
Children missing from home	74	29	21	25	21	34	↑
Children missing from care	46	16	6	5	9	19	↑
% return home interviews carried out on time	56%*	80%*	50%*	56%*	83%*	62%	↓
Children missing from education (not currently on a school roll)**	7	5	7	14	22	12	↓
No. of permanent exclusions	8	7	1	0	2	4	↑

*Combined figure for children missing from home and from care

** Snapshot figure at the end of the period.

What does this show us?

The number of children going missing from home or care (53) shows an increase as we enter the third quarter of 2021-22. Children missing from care includes looked after from other local authorities who reside in Wokingham.

CSC aims to have 100% of Return Home Interviews (RHIs) taking place within timescale. The figures had increased significantly in the last quarter but decreased this quarter. It is also lower than the same period in 2020-21.

The number of children not currently on a school roll has decreased in the third quarter of 2021-22.

The new school term having commenced in September, there have been 4 permanent exclusions in Wokingham schools so far this year.

What is the background to this?

It can be difficult to persuade children who have gone missing to engage with a Return Home Interview, hence achieving the target for timeliness of 100% is difficult to reach. Regardless, CSC's emphasis on tackling child exploitation risks has led to a focus on RHIs. While not always within the timescale, every child that goes missing is interviewed about the motivations and reasons behind their leaving.

The number of children not currently on a school roll has decreased in this quarter compared to the previous quarter as admissions service managed to find places for all the children who were waiting for a school place at the start of the academic year.

What action is the service taking?

Children's Social Care works closely with the Berkshire West Safeguarding Children's Partnership and the issue of child exploitation remains a focus. The Service is currently examining the problem of and risks of child exploitation and working with neighbouring local authorities to gain insight and develop a joined-up approach.

What is the national context?

Comparative national figures are not available for children missing education.

Dashboard Item 8 – Children’s Services Workforce

Measure	Q3 20-21	Q4 20-21	Q1 21-22	Q2 21-22	Q3 21-22	Direction of Travel
12 months rolling turnover of permanent qualified social workers	9%	12%	10%	14%	14%	↔
% agency staff across qualified social work workforce (snapshot at end of period)	23%	21%	17%	14%	16%	↑

What does this show us?

During Q3, the percentage of agency staff across qualified social workforce has increased this quarter.

What is the background to this?

Permanency of workforce has been a continuous focus for CSC, though we have seen an increased turnover across the whole organisation this quarter.

What action is the service taking?

Recruitment where the business case has been made continues for vacant and new posts across the service in order to keep dependency on agency workers low, ensure as little disruption for children and young people as possible, and provide consistency of service.

What is the national context?

The Borough have performed considerably better than statistical neighbours (16.92%) and England (13.5%), with a rate of 8.8 in 2020 for the staff turnover.

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TITLE	Specialist accommodation
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21 March 2022
WARD	None Specific;
LEAD OFFICER	Director, Children's Services - Helen Watson

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

- 1.1. Increasing in-borough local and affordable housing options for children leaving care and homeless 16- and 17-year-olds to support their transition in adulthood and independence.
- 1.2. This programme of work will enable WBC to meet its statutory obligations by accommodating Wokingham's care leavers in suitable local provision enabling them to retain local links and family relationships and reduce use of temporary and Bed and Breakfast accommodation.
- 1.3. This programme of work aligns with the strategic direction of Children's Services and Housing Services by creating local provision for children leaving care and care leavers ensuring the Council fulfils its duties as a Corporate Parent.
- 1.4. Localised provision will create a more graduated pathway towards independence for young people by creating stability and affording them the opportunity to maintain local employment, remain in local schools/colleges and maintain relationships with primary and secondary health services.
- 1.5. The Council will be able to closely monitor, and quality assure the service through direct contract management, regular contract monitoring and quality assurance reviews ensuring value for money.
- 1.6. Increasing localised provision will reduce WBCs expenditure on semi-independent (SIL) placements that are currently commissioned from external private providers.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. It is recommended that Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes the report and supports the programme of work outlined below.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 3.1. The purpose of this paper is to inform Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee about the programme of work in relation to improving housing options and provision for children leaving care and homeless 16- and 17-year-olds within the borough of Wokingham.
- 3.2. Local Authorities have a duty to accommodate all homeless 16- and 17-year-olds and care leavers (16 and older) under statutory legislation (The Children Act 1989,

The Children Leaving Care Act 2000, Children and Social Work Act 2017, Housing Act 1996 (as amended) and the Homeless (Priority Need) Order 2002).

- 3.3. At present, Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) does not have enough localised housing options for care leavers and young people. A programme of work has been established in order to address this need by providing housing and support for young people, more specifically care leavers and homeless 16 and 17 year olds.
- 3.4. Increasing provision for these two cohorts is being undertaken in a phased approach (outlined below).
- 3.5. Current in borough housing provision for Young People:
- 3.6. WBC has one property situated in central Wokingham which provides accommodation and support for Young People aged 16 – 25.
- 3.7. The accommodation provides:
 - Two self-contained one-person bedsit flats that have their own access, kitchen, cooking areas and recreational and en-suite facilities.
 - seven individual bedrooms that have en-suite facilities but share kitchen and recreational facilities within the main building.
- 3.8. This property provides excellent accommodation and support for young people in Wokingham however more of this housing is required in order to meet demand and to ensure that our young people can remain in Wokingham Borough.
- 3.9. More specifically there is a need to provide housing for two groups of young people: care leavers aged 16 – 25 and homeless 16- and 17-year-olds.

Phase 1: Housing and Support for Care Leavers aged 16 – 21 (complete)

- 3.10. Officers across the council have been working together to increase local in-borough and affordable semi-independent accommodation specifically for Care Leavers aged 16 – 21.
- 3.11. Housing and support will be provided in borough to ensure that children leaving care are able to remain local and maintain local networks and services
- 3.12. It will also ensure that the council are able to provide an effective transition to adulthood and independence for children leaving care.
- 3.13. A property located in central Wokingham underwent significant renovation in 2021 and has been remodelled and extended to provide accommodation for 7 young people.
- 3.14. A support Provider, Two Saints, have been commissioned by WBC to provide 24/7 onsite support
- 3.15. The property and support service officially opened in February 2022 and occupation of the property is underway.

Phase 2: Housing and Support for Care Leavers 18+ and homeless 16- and 17-year-olds

- 3.16. A site in central Wokingham was purchased by WBC in 2021 to provide further housing and support for young people.
- 3.17. A feasibility study of the site has recently been commissioned
- 3.18. A business case is currently in development which will incorporate a needs assessment to determine the exact specification of the building.
- 3.19. Capital money has been identified to undertake the renovations required in order to make this property fit for purpose

A timeline is currently being drafted but it is anticipated that the property will be ready for occupation in the summer of 2023

Background

Phase 1: Housing and Support for Care Leavers aged 16 – 21 (complete)

- 4.1. In 2019 the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) in discussions with Children's Services identified a property which could provide supported housing for young people (care leavers aged 16 – 21).
- 4.2. Renovation of the property commenced in early 2021 and work was completed in the Autumn of 2021. This property is located in central Wokingham.
- 4.3. In 2021 'Two Saints' (support provider) were awarded a contract to provide a 24/7 support service based at the property.
- 4.4. Two Saints have been commissioned to:
 - Provide accommodation-based support and an effective transition to adulthood and independence for children in care and care leavers aged 16 – 21.
 - Ensure that young people have a safe place to live and access to appropriate support.
 - Improve the physical, emotional, and mental health of young people and ensure that they can access relevant universal and specialist services as and when necessary.
 - Ensure that young people are prepared for future independent living
 - Ensure that young people have a good understanding of finances and can manage their own and budget effectively
 - Enable young people in Wokingham to achieve their optimal potential
 - Ensure that young people are fully supported to engage in appropriate education, training, or employment
- 4.5. The support contract was awarded to Two Saints via a robust and competitive procurement process for up to 3 years at the cost of approximately £216,000 per year.
- 4.6. The support contract will be monitored closely at set quarterly intervals. The performance of the service will be subject to a robust performance and outcome framework ensuring quality service provision, high performance and value for money.
- 4.7. The property is able to provide accommodation-based support for up to 7 young people.
- 4.8. The accommodation consists of:
 - 4 bedrooms with ensuite facilities, and 3 self-contained bedsits. There is a shared kitchen and lounge.
 - A staff office as well as provision for staff to sleep at the service. There is the option to offer the staffing sleep in area as emergency accommodation (crash pad). This will be in addition to the other 7 placements.
 - A purpose-built training and meeting room which is separate to the main building. This is located at the rear of the property as a separate outbuilding. It is proposed that this will be a multi-functioning space,

operating as a meeting room, a base to deliver relevant training and potentially as a hub for care leavers.

4.9. The ‘service’ officially opened in February 2022. Care leavers are in the process of moving into the property.

Phase 2: Housing and Support for Care Leavers 18+ and homeless 16- and 17-year-olds

4.10. In recognition that Phase 1 provided accommodation to a specific cohort of young people (care leavers aged 16 – 21), a further site was purchased by WBC in 2021 in order to increase housing options for older care leavers (18+) and homeless 16-and17-year olds.

4.11. Capital money (approximately £840,000) to undertake significant renovations to the building was also identified in order to make the building fit for purpose and extend the current property.

4.12. A feasibility study has recently been commissioned in order to review the property and provide an understanding of what potential the site could deliver.

4.13. A business case is currently in development to ensure appropriate governance and oversight of:

- a WBC asset
- the building and renovation programme of work
- a robust needs assessment which evidences the need for this provision (in the context of changing, dynamic and growing need)
- value for money
- delivery of good outcomes for young people

4.14. A number of teams across the council are involved in this programme of work: Children’s Services, Commissioning, Housing and Place as well as Operational Property. This ensures a co-ordinated and strategic approach.

4.15. The timeline for this project is currently being scoped but it is anticipated that the property will be ready for occupation in the Summer of 2023.

4.16. Children’s Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the report and progress being made

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe funding pressures, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	£27,000 (part year of Support Contract, Phase 1)		Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	£216,000 (Support Contract, Phase 1)		Revenue
	£840,000 (Property)		Capital

	renovation, Phase 2)		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	£216,000 (Support Contract, Phase 1) Support costs information for Phase 2 have not yet been determined		Revenue

<p>Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision</p> <p>Phase 1 To provide 24/7 support at the property costs approximately £216,000 per annum.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the programme of work will support Children’s Services to manage costs in relation to the decreasing availability of semi – independent private accommodation for young people as demand on services across the country continues to increase.</p> <p>By developing council owned provision, it enables Children’s Services to reduce exposure to inflated prices of external provision born out of a lack of supply. It also ensures better placement options for children and young people.</p> <p>The purchase and renovation of the property was funded via the Housing revenue Account.</p> <p>Phase 2 An allocation of £10,000 has been assigned to the feasibility study of the site.</p>

<p>Cross-Council Implications (how does this decision impact on other Council services, including properties and priorities?)</p> <p>Children’s Services, Housing and Place are working closely together to ensure that the delivery of work identified above is approached strategically and is effectively co-ordinated to ensure that the council is making the best use of its assets and resources in the interests and benefits of the young people in the borough. This workstream is aligned to the Children’s Services Strategy, Housing Strategy, and the Corporate Plan.</p>
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<p>Public Sector Equality Duty</p> <p>Please confirm that due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty has been taken and if an equalities assessment has been completed or explain why an equalities assessment is not required.</p>

<p>Climate Emergency – <i>This Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to playing as full a role as possible – leading by example as well as by exhortation – in achieving a carbon neutral Wokingham Borough by 2030</i></p> <p>As part of our plans to become Carbon Net Zero by 2030, WBC continue to build and refurbish buildings so they are as energy efficient as possible. This latest supported accommodation (phase 1) is no different and, in fact, is the first council building to be rated A on its Energy Performance Certificate. The building has been redesigned so it reduces CO2 emissions by 38%. Tesla Powerall batteries have been installed, which store electricity from the roof’s solar panels, meaning the building is self-sufficient for</p>
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electricity. There is no gas-powered equipment in the property so the gas supply has been removed, greatly improving the carbon footprint. There is also a 20,000-litre tank in garden to store rainwater for re-use when flushing the toilet and there are air source heat pumps for underfloor heating and hot water.

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2

List of Background Papers

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TITLE	Harm Outside the Home Strategy: progress update
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 21 March 2022
WARD	None Specific
LEAD OFFICER	Rachel Oakley, Assistant Director Quality Assurance and Safeguarding Support

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

The Harm Outside the Home Strategy sets out how we will prevent and respond to the risk of children and young people experiencing harm outside their home environment.

The Strategy contributes directly to the Wokingham Borough Community Vision that Wokingham is a great place to live, learn and grow, and a great place to do business, as well as the Council's Corporate Delivery Plan objectives – particularly those in relation to Enriching Lives, creating Safe, Strong Communities, Changing the Way We Work for You and Being the Best We Can Be.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members of the Committee review, discuss and provide feedback on progress to date with the Harm Outside the Home Strategy, ahead of the next phase of work to complete the Strategy.

The purpose of this report is to:

1. Update the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on progress to date with development of the "Harm Outside the Home Strategy" since December
2. Discuss with and take feedback from the Committee on work completed to date, including emerging strategic priorities and areas of focus
3. Update the Committee on details around next steps for further development of the Strategy, prior to sign off by the Community Safety Partnership in May

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Since December 2021, work has been undertaken to develop a Harm Outside the Home Strategy and Action Plan which sets out specific, measurable actions to help prevent and respond to incidents of harm affecting children and young people outside their home environment.

Key themes in scope of this work include actions to prevent and respond effectively to child sexual exploitation and criminal exploitation, extra-familial harm, and serious youth violence. Three strategic priorities have emerged from the work so far, as well as ten areas of focus which will be explored and developed further as part of the next phase of work.

The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to review work completed to date on the Strategy and Action Plan and provide officers with any feedback ahead of formal approval, full implementation, and publication.

Background

General Context

As a Council we want to ensure that Wokingham Borough is a great place for all children and young people to grow up. We also want to ensure that all key outcomes set out in the Council's community vision and Corporate Delivery Plan are achieved – including the aspiration to build Safe and Strong Communities within the Borough.

Most children and young people in the Borough experience highly positive outcomes in relation to educational attainment, health and well-being, and successful transition to independent adulthood. Relative to statistical neighbours and other authorities in the Thames Valley, Wokingham performs strongly in terms of low levels of serious incidents of Harm Outside the Home. However, for some children and young people in the Borough, there is a higher chance of poorer outcomes and higher risk of harm outside the home environment.

The Harm Outside the Home Strategy sets out how we will prevent and respond to the risk of children and young people experiencing harm outside their home environment. The Strategy contributes directly to the Wokingham Borough Community Vision that Wokingham is a great place to live, learn and grow, and a great place to do business, as well as the Council's Corporate Delivery Plan objectives – particularly those in relation to Enriching Lives, creating Safe, Strong Communities, Changing the Way We Work for You and Being the Best We Can Be.

We recognise we need a whole system, partnership response to protecting and safeguarding children and young people from Harm Outside the Home, particularly the most vulnerable. We will achieve this through collaborative leadership and delivery across our strategic partnerships and together with young people, families and communities.

This report sets out some of the progress to date with the Harm Outside the Home Strategy, in order to get input from members of the Committee ahead of progressing to the second phase of strategy development.

Analysis of Issues

1. Purpose of the Harm Outside the Home Strategy

Safeguarding children and young people from psychological and physical Harm Outside the Home is a key priority for the Wokingham Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP). Our principal aim with this Strategy is to prevent and respond effectively to Harm Outside the Home.

Our definition of "Harm Outside the Home" encompasses:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Child Criminal Exploitation
- Children missing and/or excluded from education
- Risks of becoming a victim or perpetrator of serious youth violence.

The contexts in which Harm Outside the Home take place include:

- online and in the digital world
- amongst peer groups
- within schools and places of learning
- within and between neighbourhoods and borough boundaries
- on and around public transport
- wider community settings where young people live their lives.

Key Drivers

There are several key drivers behind the Harm Outside the Home Strategy, including:

- National and Statutory Drivers – including the requirement for local authorities to set out clear plans for addressing exploitation and serious youth violence, and statutory duties around safeguarding and support for vulnerable children, young people and families
- Regional and Sub-Regional Drivers – including the need to collaborate across the South East region and across the Berkshire West patch around prevention and effective responses to exploitation, extra-familial harm and serious youth violence
- Local Drivers – including the need to deliver clear actions in the context of the Wokingham Borough Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment and Children’s Services Strategy, in relation to early intervention and prevention, and focused services and initiatives to improve outcomes for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups.

Three key themes addressed through the Harm Outside the Home Strategy

There are three key thematic areas in focus for the Harm Outside the Home Strategy:

- **Exploitation** (including Child Criminal Exploitation and Child Sexual Exploitation)
- **Extra-Familial Harm** (relating to harm experienced outside the home environment and caused by individuals other than primary caregivers, as well as issues relating to contextual safeguarding)
- Preventing and tackling **Serious Youth Violence**.

Although each of these three themes are distinct and require focused activity to address them, it is our aim to ensure that actions to address them are strategically aligned, joined up and co-ordinated, to help ensure the maximum beneficial impact. The Harm Outside the Home Strategy will set out how this will be achieved.

Issues in scope of this Strategy which relate to the three key themes

Several issues relate to the three key themes listed above, which are collectively in scope of this Harm Outside the Home Strategy. The issues are distinct but connected, and initial analytical work undertaken on the Strategy shows that in many cases, several of these issues affect the same cohorts of (particularly vulnerable) children, young people and families.

Examples of issues in scope of the Harm Outside the Home Strategy are set out in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Examples of issues in scope of this Strategy which relate to the 3 key themes

Child Criminal Exploitation
Child Sexual Exploitation
Youth Violence and weapon carrying
Substance misuse and drug-related crime
Domestic Abuse
Contextual Safeguarding / safeguarding outside the home environment
Trauma-informed practice and approaches
Therapeutic Thinking
Resilience, mental health and wellbeing
Support for vulnerable parents
Vulnerable children and young people with SEND
School exclusions
Children missing
Children and young people on part-time timetables
Vulnerable children and young people who are NEET
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and addressing disproportionality

2. Inputs into the Harm Outside the Home Strategy so far

There are several different types of input which are shaping and informing the Harm Outside the Strategy.

These include:

- Contextual drivers, including existing and forthcoming statutory duties
- Input from key stakeholders, including multi-agency partnerships and Task and Finish Groups
- Reviews and Reports on issues in scope already completed or in development
- Developments in practice and models of multi-agency delivery
- Existing strategies and plans (within Wokingham Borough, as well as examples of Strategies and best practice elsewhere, and national/regional studies and policy reviews).

In addition, information has been gathered about approaches and interventions to tackle Harm Outside the Home which are in place now. These are described in summary form in the section below.

Our current approach to tackling Harm Outside the Home

There are a variety of strategic and operational initiatives across Wokingham Borough designed to support children and young people at risk of various types of Harm Outside the Home. These initiatives and service-led interventions are designed to reflect and mitigate risk factors at an individual and community level, through relationship-based practice and disruption techniques. As such, these interventions collectively form the basis of the Borough's current approach to Harm Outside the Home, and contextual safeguarding practice.

These initiatives, interventions and services are underpinned by the principles set out in related Strategies and Plans, including the Children's Services Strategy, the Community

Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment, and Wokingham's current Child Exploitation Strategy.

A summary of current strategic and operational approaches to tackling Harm Outside the Home is as follows:

Current strategic initiatives and approaches to Harm Outside the Home

Initiatives co-ordinated by the Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

The Community Safety Partnership oversees and steers several initiatives and interventions designed to prevent and respond effectively to incidents of Harm Outside the Home. In addition to overseeing work to tackle Exploitation (Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation), the Partnership also steers and directs activity to address risk of Serious Violence and Serious Youth Violence. The Serious Violence and Exploitation Group co-ordinates and steers much of this activity, and this Group reports directly to the CSP.

specific partnership group that focuses on problem solving local issues such as direct engagement with young people and raising awareness of local activities to encourage more positive behaviours.

Exploited and Missing Risk Assessment Conference (EMRAC)

Wokingham Children's Services chair and administer a multi-agency forum known as EMRAC (Exploited and Missing Risk Assessment Conference). The aim of this meeting is to cite and flag cases in which particular young people are at risk of exploitation or frequently missing; and that multi-agency safeguarding plans are developed at a strategic level to reduce risk for both the individual and the wider youth population of Wokingham.

Whilst this is a targeted intervention, meaning that referrals are received via Social Care and the Police, the work of the EMRAC and the insight and intelligence generated through its work has a broader safeguarding impact that helps to reduce risk of Harm Outside the Home for all children and young people across the Borough.

Wokingham Serious Violence and Exploitation Group

The Wokingham Exploitation Sub-Group is a multi-agency meeting that involves key stakeholders and strategic partners delivering effective responses to Exploitation and Serious Violence. The meeting, held on a quarterly basis and chaired by the Assistant Director of Wokingham Children's Social Care. The Group uses key data, trends and themes related to Exploitation and Serious Violence, in order to determine the most effective strategic and operational responses on the ground. Although the Group is focused on issues which affect directly only a small proportion of children and young people in Wokingham, its strategic work helps to protect all children and young people from these forms of Harm Outside the Home.

Pan Berkshire Child Exploitation Meeting

Involving representatives from across the Berkshire Local Authorities, Thames Valley Partnership (TVP) and the Safeguarding Partnerships, this meeting explores trends, themes and practice on a Berkshire-wide footprint, with a view to developing uniformity,

promoting models of best practice and enhancing safeguarding responses. This Pan-Berkshire approach helps to ensure learning about the most effective ways to prevent and address Harm Outside the Home are shared across local areas, and that any common issues and/or issues which cut across Borough boundaries are explored and tackled through strategic and operational actions at a local level.

Current operational initiatives and approaches to Harm Outside the Home

Early Help provision

Wokingham Children's Services offer Targeted 1:1 and family interventions through their Early Help provision. Access to this is determined via Early Help assessment and/or step-down from Social Care. Engagement in the support offered is voluntary. The service is also involved in the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh Explorers Extreme programmes, which offer participants to opportunity to engage in constructive and positive activities and develop key life skills: a significant protective and preventative measure in tackling Harm Outside the Home.

Core Statutory Social Work Services

Wokingham Children's Services support young people who are at risk of exploitation through Child in Need, Child Protection and Children in Care processes. An allocated Social Worker engages with the young person using relationship-based practices and oversees a multi-agency plan designed to manage and mitigate risk.

KICKS and Targeted KICKS projects

The KICKS project aims to create safer, stronger and more respectful communities, through supporting the social, emotional and educational development of young people. Key stakeholders consulted with so far in development of the Harm Outside the Home Strategy regard this project to be one of Wokingham Borough's most popular and effective interventions in terms of preventing Harm Outside the Home.

Funded through Wokingham's Community Safety Partnership and run by Reading Football Club, the aim of the KICKS project is to engage hard to reach young people aged 11-19 years; all sessions are free. KICKS aim to give young people information that raises their awareness about how to keep themselves safe within the community and helps them make informed choices, now and later in life.

Reading Football Club also run a programme known as Targeted KICKS. This is funded via a grant from the Premier League and match funded by Wokingham Borough Council's Early Help service. The aim of the project to is to work with young people to help build resilience, develop positive role models and offer support to those who may be at risk of being drawn into youth violence. There are two tiers of provision, the first of these is targeted at those in Years 7-9 and the second targeted at those in Years 9-11. Referrals for Tier One provision are generated through the professional network, and referrals for Tier 2 through EMRAC. The latter can be in place for up to one year. The programme is also delivering educative interventions in three school settings across Wokingham Borough Council; these were identified in consultation and agreement with the EMRAC chair.

Youth Mentoring

Wokingham Borough Council's Community Engagement Team mentors 15 young people a year between the ages of 11-18, who have been referred via the Early Help Hub. In addition, our Junior Warden programme continues to be a success with the Borough. The work of the Junior Wardens has included intergenerational project work with local sheltered housing residents, visiting PCSOs and litter picks.

Positive Pathways Project

Delivered across five Wokingham Borough Council schools to students in years 6, 7 and 8, the Positive Pathways Programme targets children who are at risk of offending or who are already involved in offending behaviour. Schools provide a baseline in terms of presenting behaviours and success is measured throughout and at the completion of the project. Behaviours are also measured by the children themselves for up to twelve months following the completion of the project. Schools refer children to the programme and only those children who will positively engage with the project are accepted.

Prevention and Youth Justice Service (PYJS) services and initiatives

The Prevention and Youth Justice Service works with young people who have committed criminal offences with the aim of reducing the risk of re-offending, however prevention support is also offered to those who are at risk of offending. Referrals for prevention support are received via the Children's Services Early Help Hub.

PYJS have also been involved in delivering educative programmes to groups of children in schools. This has included work in four secondary schools aimed at reducing violence and offending, along with targeted workshops for smaller groups of students.

In the 2020/2021 financial year, PYJS launched a campaign to raise awareness amongst secondary school staff, students and the wider public about Child Exploitation, how to recognise the signs that it might be occurring and what supports are available to address this. Evaluation of outcomes from this exercise will feed into the further development of the Harm Outside the Home Strategy.

Data and input into the evidence base underpinning the Harm Outside the Home Strategy

Partners involved in developing the Harm Outside the Home Strategy are determined to ensure that strategic priorities and key actions set out within the Strategy are underpinned by a comprehensive and robust analysis of relevant data.

To achieve this objective, several datasets have been gathered so far as part of the first phase of Strategy development.

As part of the next phase, these datasets will be interrogated and analysed to determine:

- Key themes and patterns relating to Harm Outside the Home in the Borough
- Trend, comparator and direction of travel data in relation to issues related to the strategy – for example, data relating to year-by-year comparisons, comparisons with geographical and statistical neighbours
- intersectional analysis: where do the same children/young people occur in multiple categories?
- analysis in the context of multi-agency thresholds and levels of vulnerability

A summary of the key datasets received for analysis so far is as follows:

- Borough-wide demographic data
- The Annex A dataset*
- Prevention and Youth Justice data
- Children Social Care Missing Children data
- Child Sexual Exploitation episodes
- Exploitation and Missing Risk Assessment Conference data
- Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Strategic Assessment
- Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit Strategic Needs Assessment
- Profiles of children and young people in the borough who are NEET, including Care Leavers and other vulnerable groups
- School exclusion data and analysis
- Profiles of children and young people on part-time timetables
- Survey and consultation data (pending)

* Includes information relating to Children's Social Care contacts, early help, referrals and assessments, CIN, CP, Looked After Children and Care Leaver data.

Initial Consultation and Engagement with key stakeholders and multi-agency groups

As part of this first phase of developing the Harm Outside the Home Strategy, consultation and engagement with several key stakeholders and multi-agency groups has been carried out.

This initial engagement has helped to:

- source key data and intelligence relevant to the scope of the Harm Outside the Home strategy
- identify examples of current practice, strategic and operational initiatives designed to tackle and prevent Harm Outside the Home
- shape initial thinking about strategic priorities and areas of focus for the Strategy

Initial engagement to date has included the following groups:

- Community Safety Partnership's Serious Violence and Exploitation Sub-Group
- Children and Young People's Partnership (via "Systemic Leadership Conference")
- Multi-Agency Task and Finish Group focused on Harm Outside the Home Strategy development
- Initial engagement with key service areas across Children's Services, including Prevention and Youth Justice Service, Children's Social Care, Quality Assurance and Safeguarding Support
- Initial engagement with representatives from the SEND Innovation and Improvement Programme

Consultation and engagement will be extended in breadth and depth as part of the next phase of the Strategy development process. Key activities coming up in the coming month include:

- Further consultation with key stakeholders through 121 meetings, discussions and updates to Strategic Partnerships and multi-agency groups, as directed by the

Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and its subgroups, and Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP)

- Consultation and Engagement with Children and Young People (a detailed consultation and engagement plan for the Harm Outside the Home Strategy has been prepared and is attached as Appendix 2, which includes engagement activities to inform development of the Strategy, as well as activities post-implementation)
- CSP commissioned survey specifically on issues around Serious Violence and Exploitation, to help feed into the Strategy development process

3. Emerging Insights from work so far

Emerging thinking about Strategic Priorities

Based on the work completed to date, the following are emerging as top Strategic Priorities for the Strategy:

1) Focus on Prevention

Making sure that young people feel safe at early intervals is the most effective way of reducing Harm Outside of the Home. Stopping Harm before it takes place to help sustain the low levels of serious youth violence in Wokingham. Intelligence-led, public health and inclusive approaches. Tackling the underlying causes, not just the symptoms.

2) Right Response, Right Time

Not all harm can be prevented. Where incidents have taken place they must be noted, learnt from and reacted to; in order to stop similar events occurring repetitively. Consistent approach to interventions and responses – e.g. Trauma Informed, Therapeutic Thinking approaches. Tiered responses according to situations / needs / context

3) Effective Partnership

Interagency co-operation is key so that no young people aren't cared for when taken either out of or into the borough. Clear lines of communication are required so that standards of care provided to young are maintained.

Actions which follow from these Strategic priorities will be a mixture of short-term (immediate and within the next 12 months), and longer term (over the next 3-5 years).

Emerging thinking about areas of Focus

Following from the 3 Strategic Priorities listed above, **the following ten areas** are emerging as priority areas of Focus:

1. The Strategy and actions within it needs to reflect the heightened vulnerability of some children and young people in terms of risk of Harm Outside the Home, which in Wokingham Borough include:
 - a. Children and Young People with SEND
 - b. Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children
 - c. Children and young people missing and/or excluded from education, or on part-time education timetables
 - d. Children and young people in care / leaving care who are not in education, employment or training

- e. Children exposed to Domestic Abuse and conflict
2. Strengthen consistency in professional engagement with children and young people: in terms of who is working with the child/young person, and how
3. Ensure we are listening to families (particularly those in crisis) and putting in place the right help at the right time. This may involve looking again at our model of support for families in crisis, and our support for vulnerable parents
4. Build a better shared understanding across agencies and partnerships of Child Criminal Exploitation: how it works, warning signs, effective multi-agency interventions
5. Strengthen interface between Schools, Police, Social Care and Youth Justice – particularly in terms of sharing information relating to risk and vulnerability
6. The Strategy should set out clear actions to ensure that professionals working on the “front line” with vulnerable children, young people and families are supported to take effective and timely actions to prevent and address harm outside the home, and protect and enhance their own resilience and wellbeing
7. Continue to strengthen partnership approaches to enhanced vulnerability around borough boundaries – for example through the Berkshire West Safeguarding Children Partnership
8. Establish shared, partnership-wide thresholds and indicators of vulnerability. Develop a shared understanding of “red flags” indicating risk of harm outside the home and the agility to act on these in a preventative way
9. Continue to drive forward with substantial information and data-sharing projects such as Thames Valley Together (TVT) and Better Together, to improve the efficacy and timeliness of information about vulnerable children and young people to prevent and address harm outside the home
10. Ensure all meetings about vulnerable individuals or groups at risk of harm outside the home have clear remits, appropriate decision-making and recording arrangements, and accountable governance

These emerging areas of focus will be explored further as part of the additional analysis of data and further consultation and engagement in the next state of the Strategy development process.

4. Emerging thinking about how we will work together to deliver the Strategy

In addition to thinking about the areas of focus for the strategy, we have also been thinking about the approaches we need to take across agencies to ensure that the strategy is successfully delivered.

Based on our reviews of best practise, strategies and plans developed elsewhere, national and regional research into harm outside the home, and our initial discussions with key stakeholders, we have developed a unique model of working which blends aspects of Contextual Safeguarding and the public health approach to tackling social issues.

- **Contextual Safeguarding** is an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people’s experiences of significant harm beyond their families. It recognises that the different relationships that young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools and online can feature violence and abuse.
- A **Public Health approach** to Harm Outside the Home seeks to use evidence to understand the risk by addressing underlying risk factors that increase the likelihood that an individual will become a victim or a perpetrator of harm outside their home environment.

The purpose of blending these approaches is to ensure we approach Harm Outside the Home in terms of all the environments and contexts in which a child or young person may be at risk – including:

- online and in the digital world
- amongst peer groups
- within schools and places of learning
- within and between neighbourhoods and borough boundaries
- on and around public transport
- wider community settings where young people live their lives.

It is also to ensure we take an intelligence-led, preventative approach designed to address the root causes and risks of Harm Outside the Home, whilst taking effective targeted actions to respond to Harm Outside the Home when it occurs.

Strengthening multiagency Data and Intelligence: Thames Valley Together

In parallel with development of this Strategy, work is progressing to develop a shared data platform for the purposes of prevention and early identification of Serious Violence and other forms of Harm Outside the Home. The “Thames Valley Together” platform is currently in development and will be live in 2022; progress with development of the platform is being monitored by members of the Task and Finish Group steering development of the Harm Outside the Home Strategy, and key actions relating to use of the platform in preventing and addressing Harm Outside the Home will be incorporated into the Action Plan attached to the Strategy.

Strengthening our shared understanding of vulnerability and risk of Harm Outside the Home

In order to strengthen multi-agency working to prevent and address Harm Outside the Home, discussions with key stakeholders in the first phase of development of the Strategy have focused in part on the different approaches agencies take to assessing vulnerability and risk of Harm Outside the Home.

Work in this area has already been undertaken and embedded in the Borough. For example, the Exploitation and Missing Risk Assessment Conference (EMRAC) has developed a tool designed to enable a comprehensive and robust assessment of risk of several forms of Harm Outside the Home.

The Task and Finish Group tasked with development of the Harm Outside the Strategy has started to gather examples of best practice from other areas who have developed multi-agency risk and vulnerability assessment methodologies, and tools to support professionals to identify risk early and respond appropriately. Appendix 1 provides one such example, the “SAFEGUARD” tool developed as part of Barnet’s approach to supporting Vulnerable Adolescents.

As part of the next stage of the Strategy’s development, approaches and tools used across the sector will be reviewed in the context of current practice, in order to identify opportunities for strengthening the multi-agency approach to Harm Outside the Home in Wokingham Borough.

Developing a shared and strategically aligned understanding of thresholds of risk and vulnerability is a key enabler of effective interventions, by individual professionals and/or

agencies, as well as multi-agency teamwork. Work to strengthen shared understanding of levels of risk and vulnerability will also assist with data analysis in the next phase of work, as common thresholds and understanding of vulnerability will enable those developing the strategy to interrogate data in the context of agreed levels of vulnerability and risk. Typically, levels of risk and vulnerability are assessed as “High” “Medium” or “Low”; or “Red”, “Amber” and “Green”. A shared multiagency understanding of which characteristics or issues constitute High, Medium or Low risk of Harm Outside the Home will enable data analysts to determine the profile of how many children and young people in Wokingham Borough fall into each category, any trends of note, or key themes that will help inform strategic priorities and key actions.

5. Governance

The Harm Outside the Home Strategy is owned by the **Community Safety Partnership (CSP)**, with input from other key multiagency strategic partnerships such as the **Children and Young People’s Partnership (CYPP)**, in order to ensure the range of issues the Strategy seeks to address are given sufficient focus.

The primary group responsible for oversight of the Strategy once implemented is the **Serious Violence and Exploitation Group** which reports directly into the Community Safety Partnership.

A summary of the governance arrangements is set out Appendix 1, in the section “Governance”.

6. Next Steps

Appendix 1 summarises the “Next Steps” for further development of the Harm Outside the Home Strategy.

Key next steps include:

Action	Timescales
Engagement with CSP Serious Violence and Exploitation Group and Harm Outside the Home Strategy Task and Finish Group	Throughout this timeline; T&F Group meetings every 4 weeks
Engagement with Overview and Scrutiny Committee	March 21 st
Progress data collection and analysis	March 2 nd – March 31 st
Further Stakeholder engagement on development of the Consultation Draft Strategy	March 2 nd – March 31 st
Engagement with children and young people on Harm Outside the Home Strategy: areas to focus on and priorities (as per Engagement Plan)	March 2 nd – 18 th April
Revisions to Strategy further to consultation and engagement	March 31 st – April 18 th
Engagement with Children’s Services Leadership Team on draft Strategy	April 13 th

Engagement with Children and Young People's Partnership on Final Draft prior to sign off	April 25 th
Presentation to Community Safety Partnership for sign-off on Final Draft	May 19 th

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

The assumption made by key stakeholders shaping this piece of work is that the Harm Outside the Home Strategy is to be developed and implemented within the envelope of existing resources, and within the context of budgets already agreed. However, it is possible that implementation of the Strategy and its Action Plan have the potential to carry financial implications. Any resource implications arising from implementation of the Strategy and its Action Plan will be discussed with the Community Safety Partnership and appropriate governance groups prior to completion.

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
N/A

Cross-Council Implications
Tackling Harm Outside the Home involves an approach to preventing and safeguarding children and young people in various contexts – including neighbourhood and community spaces, on or around public transport, places of education and learning. The next phase of developing the Harm Outside the Home Strategy will seek to engage representatives from across relevant council departments to ensure a joined up, “one Council” approach to tackling the priorities and issues within the scope of the Strategy. (See further detail on Stakeholder Considerations and Consultation below.)
Stakeholder Considerations and Consultation
As part of this first phase of developing the Harm Outside the Home Strategy, consultation and engagement with several key stakeholders and multi-agency groups has been carried out. This initial engagement has helped to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - source key data and intelligence relevant to the scope of the Harm Outside the Home strategy - identify examples of current practice, strategic and operational initiatives designed to tackle and prevent Harm Outside the Home - shape initial thinking about strategic priorities and areas of focus for the Strategy Initial engagement to date has included the following groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Safety Partnership's Serious Violence and Exploitation Sub-Group - Children and Young People's Partnership (via “Systemic Leadership Conference”)

- Multi-Agency Task and Finish Group focused on Harm Outside the Home Strategy development
- Initial engagement with key service areas across Children's Services, including Prevention and Youth Justice Service, Children's Social Care, Quality Assurance and Safeguarding Support
- Initial engagement with representatives from the SEND Innovation and Improvement Programme

Consultation and engagement will be extended in breadth and depth as part of the next phase of the Strategy development process. Key activities coming up in the coming month include:

- Further consultation with key stakeholders (including representatives from across council departments) through 121 meetings, discussions and updates to Strategic Partnerships and multi-agency groups, as directed by the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and its subgroups, and Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP)
- Consultation and Engagement with Children and Young People (a detailed consultation and engagement plan for the Harm Outside the Home Strategy has been prepared and is attached as Appendix 2, which includes engagement activities to inform development of the Strategy, as well as activities post-implementation)
- CSP commissioned survey specifically on issues around Serious Violence and Exploitation, to help feed into the Strategy development process

Public Sector Equality Duty

An Equality Impact Assessment is being developed in parallel with the Harm Outside the Home Strategy, and will be attached to the final version of the Strategy prior to formal approval.

Work in the first phase of the Strategy's development has already identified the requirement to address issues around equality, diversity, inclusion and disproportionality; for example, by ensuring an appropriate focus on delivering better outcomes for particularly vulnerable groups. Initial analysis carried out suggests that the following groups could be considered particularly vulnerable in terms of risk of Harm Outside the Home:

- a. Children and Young People with SEND
- b. Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children
- c. Children and young people missing and/or excluded from education, or on part-time education timetables
- d. Children and young people in care / leaving care who are not in education, employment or training
- e. Children exposed to Domestic Abuse and conflict

As part of the data analysis in the next phase of the Strategy's development, work will be undertaken to identify how risks of Harm Outside the Home relate to children and young people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

The final Equality Impact Assessment will set out details of any Differential Impacts which may arise from implementation of the Strategy, including details of actions intended to bring about positive Differential Impacts.

Climate Emergency – <i>This Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to playing as full a role as possible – leading by example as well as by exhortation – in achieving a carbon neutral Wokingham Borough by 2030</i>
N/A

List of Background Papers
Appendix 1: Summary of progress to date with the Harm Outside the Home Strategy Appendix 2: Plan for engagement with young people on the Harm Outside the Home Strategy

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Appendix 1

Harm Outside the Home Strategy

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Progress Update to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

March 21st 2022

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1. Purpose of this Strategy

Safeguarding children and young people from psychological and physical harm outside the home is a key priority for the Wokingham Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP).

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Our principal aim with this Strategy is to prevent and respond effectively to Harm Outside the Home.

Our definition of "Harm Outside the Home" encompasses:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Child Criminal Exploitation
- Children missing and/or excluded from education
- Risks of becoming a victim or perpetrator of serious youth violence.

The contexts in which Harm Outside the Home take place include:

- online and in the digital world
- amongst peer groups
- within schools and places of learning
- within and between neighbourhoods and borough boundaries
- on and around public transport
- wider community settings where young people live their lives.

2. Harm Outside the Home: Scope and focus of this Strategy

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Harm Outside the Home Issues in scope of this Strategy

Child Criminal Exploitation	Contextual Safeguarding	Vulnerable children and young people with SEND
Child Sexual Exploitation	Trauma-informed practice and approaches	School exclusions
Youth violence & weapon carrying	Therapeutic Thinking	Children missing
Substance misuse and drug crime	Support for vulnerable parents	Children and young people on part time timetables
Domestic abuse	Resilience, mental health and wellbeing	Vulnerable children and young people who are NEET
Equality, diversity and inclusion, and addressing disproportionality		



3. Inputs into this Strategy so far (i)

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The Harm Outside the Home Strategy has been developed and shaped by a combination of contextual drivers (including statutory duties); engagement with key stakeholders and strategic partners; reviews and reports on issues in scope already completed or in development; developments in practice and models of multi-agency delivery; and existing strategies and plans (within Wokingham Borough, as well as examples of Strategies and best practice elsewhere, and national/regional studies and policy reviews).



3. Inputs into the Strategy so far (ii): Summary of current approach and interventions

Several interventions – at the strategic and operational level – are already in place across the Borough which are designed to tackle and prevent Harm Outside the Home. A selected summary of these follows in the table below. Please see the body of the covering report to the O&S Committee for further detail.

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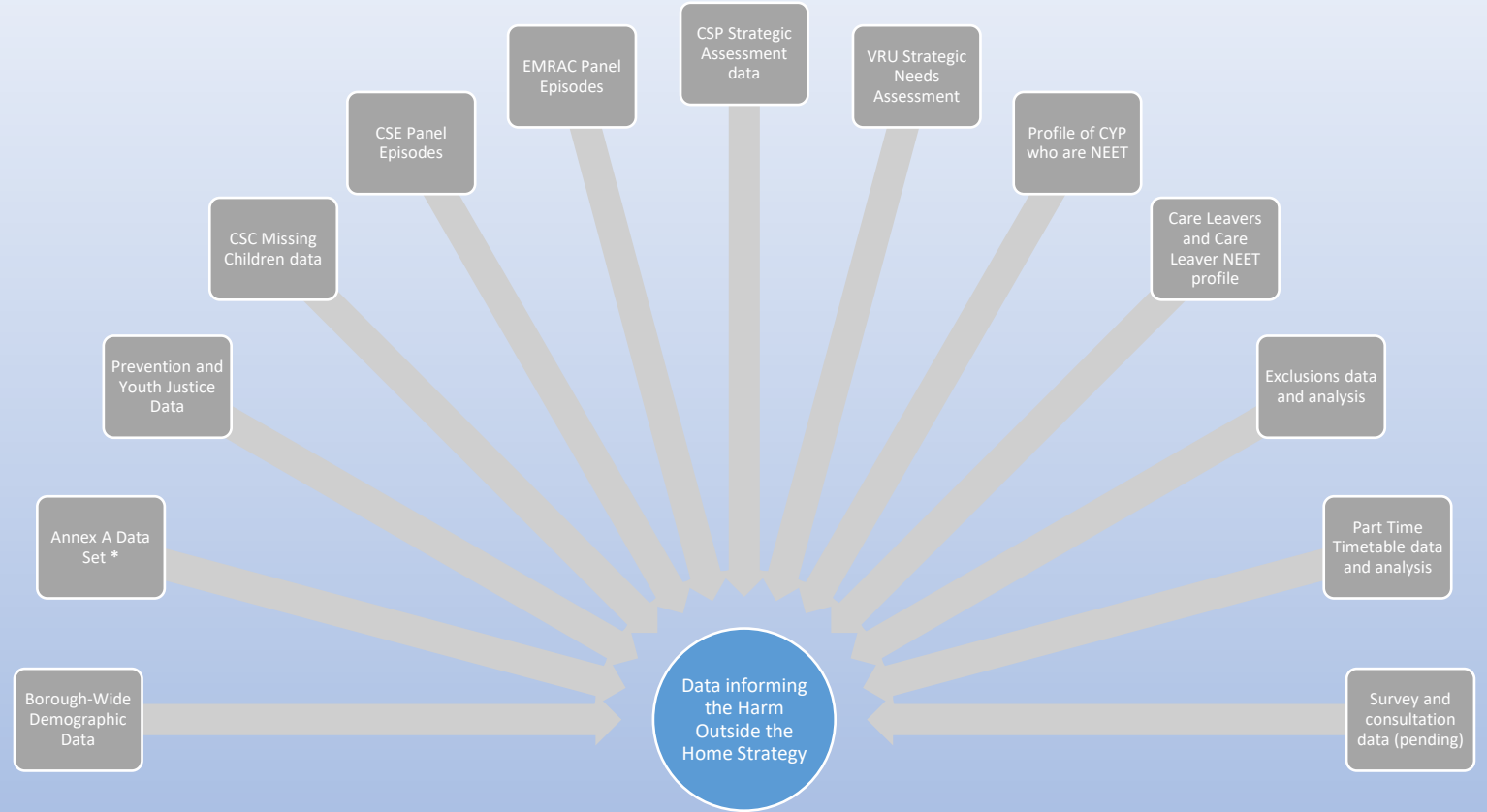
Strategic interventions	Operational interventions
Work of the Community Safety Partnership and Children and Young People’s Partnership	Early Help provision
Exploited and Missing Risk Assessment Conferences (EMRAC)	Core Statutory Social Work Services and support
Serious Violence and Exploitation Group activity	KICKS and targeted KICKS projects
Pan-Berkshire Child Exploitation Meeting	Youth Mentoring
Strategic work of the Prevention and Youth Justice Service	Positive Pathways Project
	Operational Work of the Prevention and Youth Justice Service

3. Inputs into this Strategy so far (iii): Data feeding into our evidence base

Over a dozen substantial datasets have been submitted by partners to help inform the evidence base behind this Strategy. Each of the datasets contains indicators which reflect vulnerability, actual or potential risk of harm outside the home.

In order to ensure these datasets are used to quantify levels and types of vulnerability in Wokingham, to help determine the evidence base and priorities for our Strategy, over the coming weeks we will be gathering:

- a) **trend and comparators information: what are the trends and patterns in the Borough? How does data compare one year to the next? How does our data compare with other areas (e.g. geographical and statistical neighbours)?**
- b) **intersectional analysis: where do the same children/young people occur in multiple categories?**
- c) **analysis in the context of agreed thresholds and levels of vulnerability**



* Includes information relating to Children's Social Care contacts, early help, referrals and assessments, CIN, CP, Looked After Children and Care Leaver data

4. Emerging Insights (i)

Emerging strategic priorities

1) Focus on Prevention

Making sure that young people feel safe at early intervals is the most effective way of reducing Harm Outside of the Home.

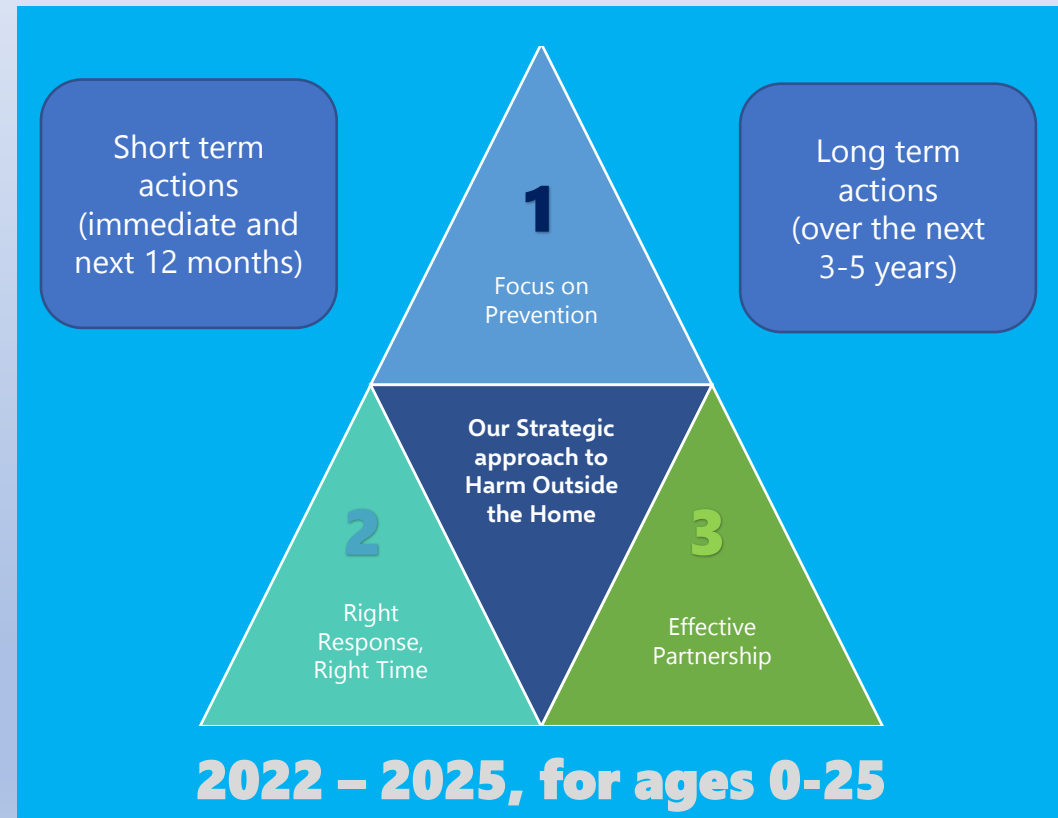
Stopping Harm before it takes place to help sustain the low levels of serious youth violence in Wokingham. Intelligence-led, public health and inclusive approaches. Tackling the underlying causes, not just the symptoms.

2) Right Response, Right Time

Not all harm can be prevented. Where incidents have taken place they must be noted, learnt from and reacted to; in order to stop similar events occurring repetitively. Consistent approach to interventions and responses – e.g. Trauma Informed, Therapeutic Thinking approaches. Tiered responses according to situations / needs / context

3) Effective Partnership

Interagency co-operation is key so that no young people aren't cared for when taken either out of or into the borough. Clear lines of communication are required so that standards of care provided to young are maintained.



4. Emerging Insights (ii)

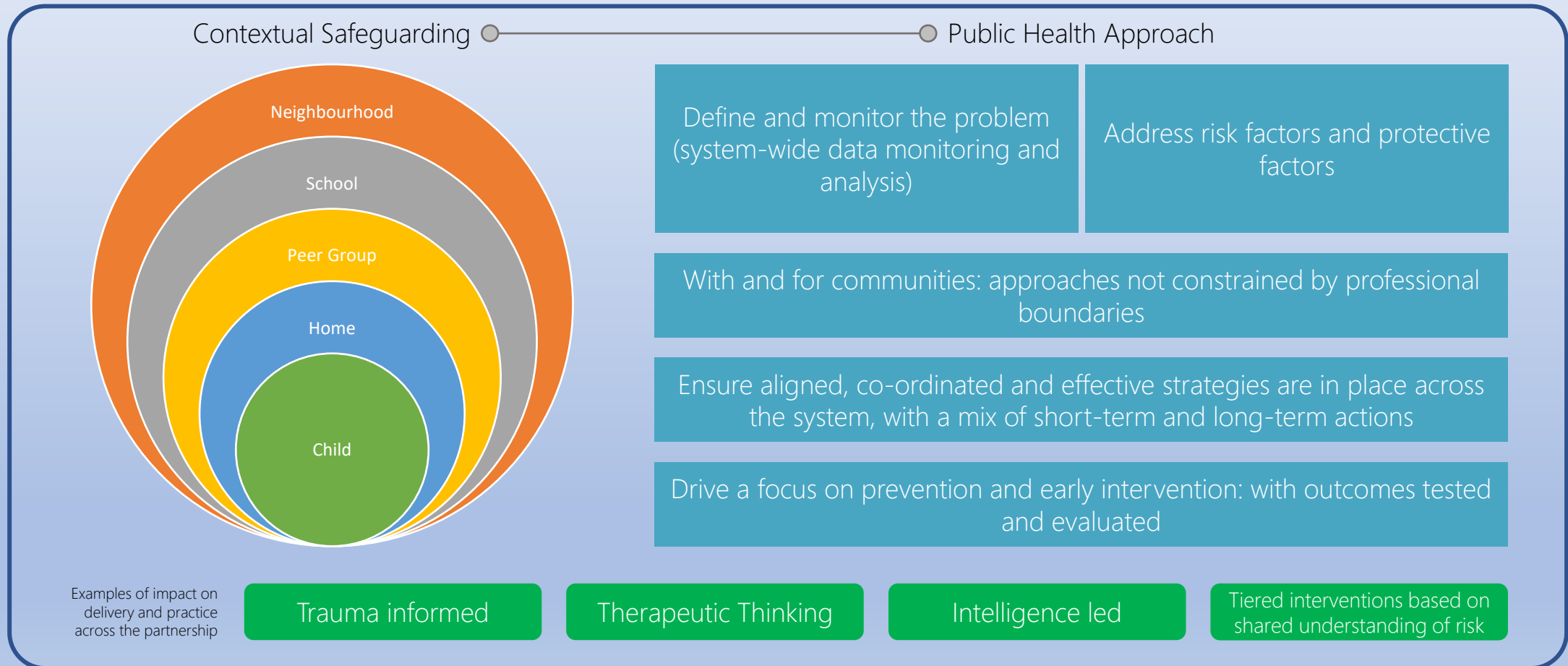
10 emerging insights from data and consultation to date about areas of focus for the Harm Outside the Home Strategy

1. The Strategy and actions within it needs to reflect the heightened vulnerability of some children and young people in terms of risk of Harm Outside the Home, including:
 - a) Children and Young People with SEND
 - b) Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children
 - c) Children and young people missing and/or excluded from education, or on part-time education timetables
 - d) Children and young people in care / leaving care who are not in education, employment or training
 - e) Children exposed to Domestic Abuse and conflict
2. Strengthen consistency in professional engagement with children and young people: in terms of who is working with the child/young person, and how
3. Ensure we are listening to families (particularly those in crisis) and putting in place the right help at the right time. This may involve looking again at our model of support for families in crisis, and our support for vulnerable parents
4. Build a better shared understanding across agencies and partnerships of Child Criminal Exploitation: how it works, warning signs, effective multi-agency interventions
5. Strengthen interface between Schools, Police, Social Care and Youth Justice – particularly in terms of sharing information relating to risk and vulnerability
6. The Strategy should set out clear actions to ensure that professionals working on the “front line” with vulnerable children, young people and families are supported to take effective and timely actions to prevent and address harm outside the home, and protect and enhance their own resilience and wellbeing
7. Continue to strengthen partnership approaches to enhanced vulnerability around borough boundaries – for example through the Berkshire West Safeguarding Children Partnership
8. Establish shared, partnership-wide thresholds and indicators of vulnerability. Develop a shared understanding of “red flags” indicating risk of harm outside the home and the agility to act on these in a preventative way
9. Continue to drive forward with substantial information and data-sharing projects such as Thames Valley Together (TVT) and Better Together, to improve the efficacy and timeliness of information about vulnerable children and young people to prevent and address harm outside the home
10. Ensure all meetings about vulnerable individuals or groups at risk of harm outside the home have clear remits, appropriate decision-making and recording arrangements, and accountable governance

5. How we will work (i): our unique model and approach

In terms of how we work in partnership to deliver the Harm Outside the Home, latest discussions have focused on a unique approach which **integrates Contextual Safeguarding and Public Health approaches** to improving outcomes, as shown below:

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Level 1 – Low level Risk Indicators – any three indicators

- a. Regularly coming home late or going missing
- b. Sexualised behaviour, including on the phone and internet which is not age appropriate
- c. Associating with unknown adults or other exploited children or young people
- d. Reduced contact with family and friends and other support networks
- e. Sexually transmitted infections
- f. Experimenting with drugs and/or alcohol
- g. Poor self-image, eating disorders and/or some self-harm
- h. Change in behaviour — being more secretive/ withdrawn/ isolated from peers and not mixing with usual friends
- i. Involvement in offending
- j. Exclusion from school, disengaged from education, unexplained absences from school
- k. Failing to respond to attempts from workers/carers to keep in touch/disengagement from professionals

Level 2 – Medium Level Indicators – any of level 1 and ONE or more of these indicators

- a. Entering/leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults
- b. Persistently missing from home/care/school for different periods including overnight
- c. Associating with known adults who exploit children
- d. Being groomed on the internet
- e. Concern that an online relationship has developed into an offline relationship.
- f. Frequenting areas known for on/off street sex work and/or drug supply
- g. Having a significantly older boyfriend/girlfriend
- h. Possessing multiple mobile phones, sim cards, or concerning use of a phone
- i. Concealed/concerning use of the internet and/or mobile phone, including during the night
- j. Breakdown of placements due to behaviour
- k. Increasing use of drugs/alcohol or misuse of drugs/alcohol.
- l. Unexplained money/clothing/goods/activities
- m. Multiple sexually transmitted infections
- n. infections
- o. Increased self-harming.
- p. Association with gangs/fear of victimisation from gangs.
- q. Arrested for PWITs (Possession (drugs) With Intent to Supply)
- r. Carrying, or in possession knife / other weapon

Level 3 - High Level Indicators- any of Levels 1 and 2 and ONE or more of these indicators

- a. Child under 13 years engaging in sexual activity
- b. Pattern of street homelessness and staying with an adult believed to be exploiting them
- c. Child aged 13 years or over meeting with different adults/peers and exchanging/'selling' sexual activities
- d. Disclosure of serious sexual assault and then withdrawal of statement
- e. Abduction and forced imprisonment
- f. Being taken to/trafficked to an area/place for the purposes of exploitation e.g. sell drugs/sexual activity
- g. Disappearing from the 'system' with no contact or support
- h. Being bought/sold/trafficked
- i. Multiple miscarriages or terminations
- j. Indicators of exploitation in conjunction with chronic alcohol and drug use
- k. Child receiving money, goods or status for forcing or coercing other children into child exploitation
- l. Attendance at a hospital / surgery with a stab wound

5. How we work (ii): Shared thresholds of vulnerability and risk CSE / CCE Example

Pan-Berkshire EMRAC Risk Matrix

5. How we will work (iii): common tools to address vulnerability and risk

Example of option under review: Vulnerable Adolescents S.A.F.E.G.U.A.R.D. tool

Sexual health & behavior	Concerns of sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy and termination; inappropriate sexualised behaviour
Absent	From school or running away – episodes of truancy or periods of being missing from home or care
Familial abuse	Problems at home – familial sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, neglect, risk of forced marriage or honour-based violence; domestic violence; substance misuse; parental mental health concerns; parental criminality; experience of homelessness; looked after child
Emotional and physical condition	Thoughts of or attempted, suicide or self-harming; low self-esteem or self-confidence; problems relating to sexual orientation; learning difficulties; poor mental health; unexplained injuries or changes in physical appearance identify

Gangs	Older age groups and involvement in crime – involvement in crime; direct involvement with gang members or living in a gang-afflicted community; involvement with older individuals or lacking friends from the same age group; contact with other individuals who are sexually exploited
Use of technology, sexual bullying	Evidence of ‘sexting’, sexualised communication on-line or problematic use of the internet and social networking sites
Alcohol & drug misuse	Concerns regarding alcohol and or substance use
Receipt of unexplained gifts or money	Unexplained finances, including phone credit, clothes and money
Distrust of authority figures	Resistance to communicating with parents, carers, teachers, social services, health, police and others

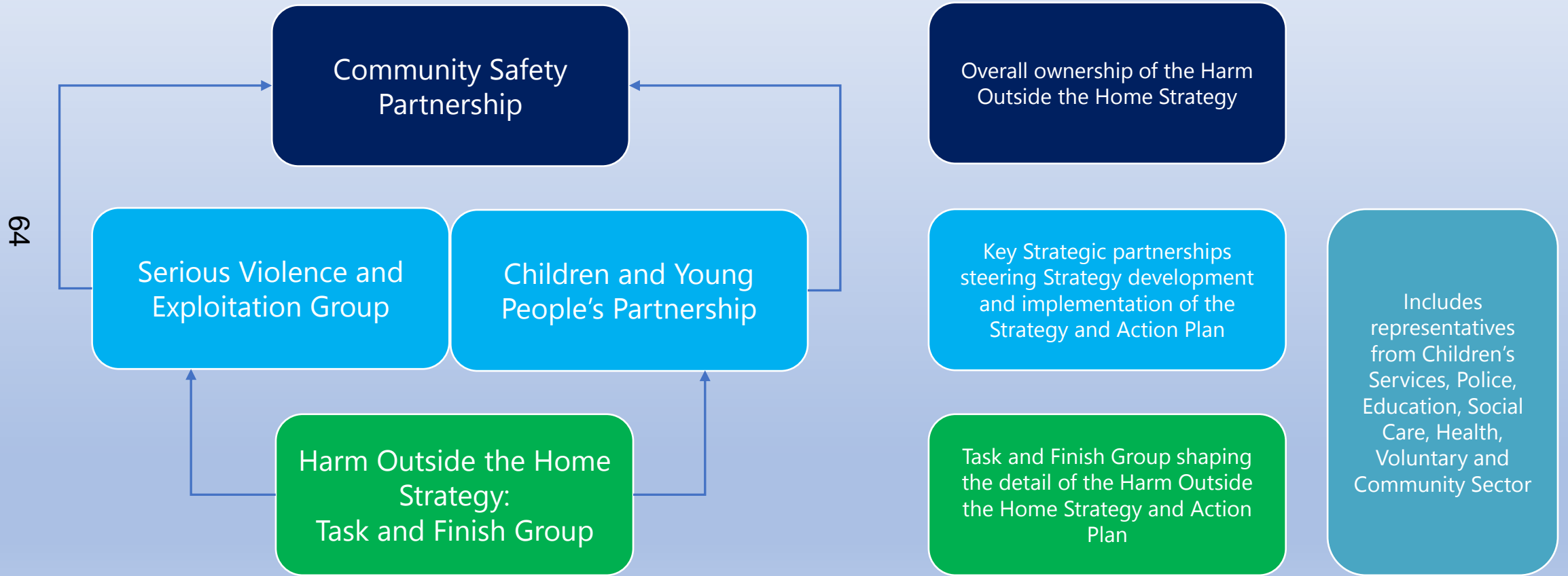
Consultation and Engagement

- Further consultation with key stakeholders through 121 meetings, discussions and updates to Strategic Partnerships and multi-agency groups, as directed by the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and its subgroups, and Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP)

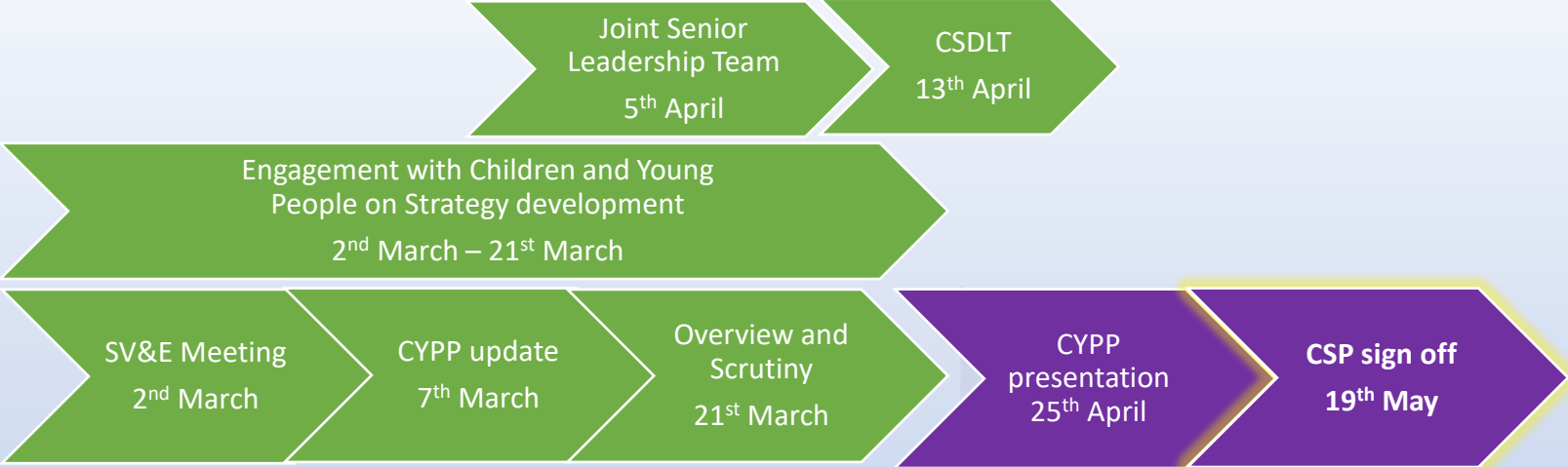
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- Consultation and Engagement with Children and Young People (detailed consultation and engagement Plan has been prepared, which includes engagement activities to inform development of the Strategy, as well as activities post-implementation)
- CSP commissioned survey specifically on issues around Serious Violence and Exploitation, to help feed into the Strategy development process

Governance of the Harm Outside the Home Strategy



Timeline and Next Steps



Nov 9th – Jan 10th

Jan 10th – Feb 28th

March 2nd – March 31st

March 31st – April 18th

25th April – 19th May

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Initial engagement and information gathering

Data and Analysis & Consultation Draft development

Data and Analysis & Additional stakeholder engagement

Revisions, Consultation Draft of Strategy and Action Plan developed

Sign-off by Governance Groups

We are here

Please note: report prepared 23rd Feb 2022

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Appendix 2: Youth Engagement Strategy: Harm Outside the Home Strategy

February – March: consultation on developing draft

May onwards: to be delivered post-completion of Strategy

Actions to be taken forward as part of the Strategy development process

Actions to be outlined in the Action Plan underpinning the Strategy, delivered as part of implementation

Open Consultation: ask the young people the best way to gather opinions. Potentially the best action to take first or before March is to use existing channels to consult with young people on what the best way to gather wider opinions would be.

Focus Group (Identified groups): Consult with existing groups. Benefit of this is we can do this before the strategy goes out in March. If we then want to take this wider we would need agreement from schools (anticipating this will take a long time so need to take place post march).

Such as:

Youth Council: Could ask representatives to go back to their schools and gather opinions, or conduct surveys. However this may not lead to the best results as this will be conducted in different ways by each young person and not at all by some.

Youth MP: For more in depth discussion we could go to specific young people such as the Youth MP and champions.

Identify channels to reach vulnerable children: Identify groups that are vulnerable and therefore more likely to be at risk, identify appropriate channels to reach them such as CICC, SEND youth forum and Me2.

Focus Group (open sign up): can advertise openly for young people to participate. Benefit of this is only getting young people who actively want to discuss the issue. Issue might be getting enough sign ups or the group being representative enough.

Survey: An anonymous survey to all young people. Depending on the sensitivity of the issue you are gathering data on this might be the safest option. This would need to be done in collaboration with schools and therefore take some careful planning.

Primary Schools: Any consultation with younger children needs to be in collaboration with schools as it will need to be during school/lesson time. If lesson time is unavailable a survey could be sent to parents to fill in with children at home. Focus groups could also be carefully planned.

Collaboration with UNICEF discovery phase:

During the first 6 months of the UNICEF Child Friendly Communities project (launching 1st Feb 2022), we aim to gather data from all young people in the borough on the key issues that affect them. We could potentially incorporate HOTH issues into the UNICEF survey/focus groups. We could also use the UNICEF resources such as work packs and training days to benefit from their expertise on approaching young people on such sensitive topics.

Collaboration with partners: Collaboration with key partners could lead to useful data sharing. For example TVP's hate crime team are looking at issues such as sharing of indecent images in schools, this may overlap.

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Agenda Item 47.

TITLE	School Performance Indicators and Ofsted Reports
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21 st March 2022
WARD	None Specific;
LEAD OFFICER	Director, Children's Services - Helen Watson

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Clear understanding of schools' performance in order to recognise and promote success and ensure robust challenge and support continues to deliver improvement

RECOMMENDATION

Note the outcomes of the relevant Ofsted reports and understand implications of CV-19 on reporting of results in from 2020 through to 2023.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Ofsted Schools Update

Ofsted resumed its programme of routine inspection of schools during the autumn of 2021. Due to the hiatus in inspection activity created by the pandemic the Ofsted inspection schedule is behind where it would normally expect to be. This means that for many schools there is likely to be a delay to their anticipated inspection date. Ofsted has released information to schools suggesting that there may be an interim delay of up to 6 terms for a school on top of the usually anticipated inspection intervals. This will take some schools beyond the anticipated 5 year interval of inspection if they are currently a good school.

In September 2021 schools previously deemed to be exempt from inspection based on a prior inspection outcome of Outstanding, were removed from that exemption and placed back into the routine inspection cycle. Ofsted has published information to the system indicating how these schools will be slotted back into the inspection cycle and the type of inspection that they will receive.

All schools previously judged to be Outstanding prior to 2015 will receive a full Section 5 inspection, schools who received their inspection judgement after that date will receive a Section 8 monitoring visit. A Section 8 monitoring visit cannot change a schools overall existing inspection judgement, however, inspectors can call forward a Section 5 inspection should they feel that the school's work no longer reflects the grade it is currently identified as.

As a Borough we have a number of schools who are currently judged as outstanding on the Ofsted website. The majority of these schools were inspected prior to 2015 and so will be scheduled for a full Section 5 inspection.

It is important to note that the inspection requirements have changed significantly since these schools were inspected, there have been several new inspection frameworks and each of those have been subject to revisions and increased expectations on schools. The focus of inspections and the criteria for each judgement have undergone substantial change in recent years and the previous inspection dates for some of these schools reach back as far as 2008. Schools in Wokingham continue to work hard to keep abreast of changing national expectations and standards and the changed expectation by Ofsted in relation to achieving the Outstanding Grade in 2022 needs to be understood by everyone in the system. Amanda Spielman, HMCI, has herself spoken about the exceptional nature of the new Outstanding grade as described in the current schools inspection framework. HMI are clear in their discussions with schools and officers that the outstanding grade should now be seen as 'exceptional'. To give a sense of those expectations the framework sets out that in order to be considered for judgement as Outstanding a school must meet every one of the Good descriptor criteria. At that point the decision about whether they are met in an 'exceptional' way will be applied in order to consider the award of Outstanding. For example, a school needs to have a clear and consistent curriculum in all subjects. This means that each subject must be taught with consistency across all classes and all year groups, any deviation from that consistency of application and practice precludes the award of outstanding.

Outstanding (1)

- The school meets all the criteria for a good quality of education securely and consistently.
- The quality of education provided is exceptional.

In addition, the following apply.

- The school's curriculum intent and implementation are embedded securely and consistently across the school. It is evident from what teachers do that they have a firm and common understanding of the school's curriculum intent and what it means for their practice. Across all parts of the school, series of lessons contribute well to delivering the curriculum intent.
- The work given to pupils, over time and across the school, consistently matches the aims of the curriculum. It is coherently planned and sequenced towards cumulatively sufficient knowledge and skills for future learning and employment.
- Pupils' work across the curriculum is consistently of a high quality.
- Pupils consistently achieve highly, particularly the most disadvantaged. Pupils with SEND achieve exceptionally well.

Outstanding Judgement Criteria
for Quality of Education element

Ofsted Handbook 2019

These changes in the inspection framework present a challenge for schools in their aspirations to be outstanding. The bar is now exceptionally high. Schools continue in their aspirations to provide an outstanding provision for pupils and stakeholders need to be aware of the new 'exceptional' nature of the Outstanding grading.

School Inspections reported September 2021- February 2022

Earley St Peters Primary School

S8 Inspection of a Good School

[50170965 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspections/50170965)

St Sebastians CE Primary School

S8 Inspection of a Good School

[50172549 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspections/50172549)

All Saints CE Primary School

S8 Inspection of a Good School

[50172203 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspections/50172203)

Highwood Primary School

S5 Inspection of an RI school now judged to be GOOD

[50176318 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspections/50176318)

Bohunt Academy Wokingham

No formal designation inspection (unannounced)

[50173185 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspections/50173185)

Radstock Primary School

S5 Inspection of an RI school now judged to be GOOD

[50177174 \(ofsted.gov.uk\)](https://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspections/50177174)

School Performance Indicators 2021

During the response to the pandemic, significant changes were made to the operation of schools and examinations.

DfE removed the testing requirements in respect of all reportable statutory outcomes in the primary phase of education for the academic year 2021. This included the following:

Y1 Phonics Screening

Y2 SATs

Y6 SATs.

At KS4 and KS5 guidance was issued to schools to use course work and assessments to construct Teacher Assessed Grades which were then used to report outcomes to pupils. The process of awarding TAGs was a complex operation for schools with a significant increase in workload for practitioners. It should be noted that this process was a different process to that undertaken during the exam period in 2020.

All performance tables were suspended in 2021 and no data from 2021 outcomes will be used to judge school performance. This means that there will be no Analyse School Performance (ASP) reports issued by the DfE and no local statistics for 2021 are available.

Ofsted will be using 2019 published data as the start point for any future judgement-based inspection activities. DfE guidance is clear in that '*Those working with schools and colleges, such as Ofsted, Department for Education regional teams and local authorities,*

should use data from previous years as a starting point for discussions around a school's or college's performance but should not use 2020 or 2021 results data for this purpose.'

DfE statistical release for 2020/21 indicates at a national level that:

- 38.7% of pupils were entered into the full EBacc. This is a decrease of 1.3 percentage points in comparison with the last exam year of 2018/19 when 40% of pupils were entered into the full EBacc.
- 51.9% of pupils achieved a grade 5 or higher in both English and maths. This is an 8.7 percentage point increase (from 43.2%) in comparison with 2018/19.

School Performance Indicators 2022

Statutory assessments are planned to go ahead in 2022. At KS4 and KS4 examination activity is anticipated to return to pre-pandemic modes although schools have been asked to prepare for a return to Teacher Assessment should this be required and so schools have been advised to collect mock exam/assessment data at three points during the current academic year should this information be required to calculate grades without examinations.

Results from qualifications achieved in 2021 to 2022 will be published on school and college performance tables.

KS4 performance measures will be available to schools in ASP and 16 to 18 school and college data will be shared via the [checking exercise website](#).

Institution-level qualification achievement rates for post-16 providers will be published for education and training, traineeships and apprenticeships. These will be published through [explore education statistics](#).

It will be important to recognise the uneven impact on schools and colleges of the pandemic and will ensure clear messages are placed on the performance tables to advise caution when drawing conclusions from the 2021 to 2022 data. Qualification results achieved in 2021 to 2022 will also count towards school and college performance measures in future years.

Key stage 4 and 16 to 18 performance measures in 2022

Adjustment will need to be made to some performance measures at both KS4 and 16 to 18 stages for 2021 to 2022 to take account of the fact that results of qualifications achieved in 2020 and the 2020 to 2021 academic year will not be included. At 16 to 18 in particular, it will not be possible to use KS4 baseline data from 2020 or 2021, which will affect the 16 to 18 value added measure and the English and maths progress measure in 2021 to 2022 and future years.

Primary School performance measures 2022

Primary school tests and assessments are designed for use in accountability and to enable benchmarking between schools. As these assessments will be returning for the

first time since 2019, without any adaptations, the DfE have indicated that results will not be published in key stage 2 (KS2) performance tables in the academic year 2021 to 2022.

There will be a normal suite of KS2 accountability measures at school level. This will be a transitional arrangement for the first year in which primary assessments return. DfE intend to publish primary assessment data in performance tables again in the academic year 2022 to 2023. Until this point, KS2 performance data for the academic year 2018 to 2019 will continue to be publicly available on [compare school and college performance](#).

KS2 results from 2021 to 2022 will also be used to calculate Progress 8 baselines for future institution-level progress measures.

Primary schools will be able to access their own performance data via the schools checking exercise and Analyse School Performance (ASP).

Primary schools will continue to inform parents of their own child's recent test and assessment results.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe funding pressures, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)			
Next Financial Year (Year 2)			
Following Financial Year (Year 3)			

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
N/A

Cross-Council Implications (how does this decision impact on other Council services, including properties and priorities?)
N/A

Public Sector Equality Duty
Please confirm that due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty has been taken and if an equalities assessment has been completed or explain why an equalities assessment is not required.

List of Background Papers
N/A

Contact Gillian Cole, Sal Thirlway	Service Learning Achievement and Partnerships
Telephone No Tel: 07909998224, Tel: 0118 908 8238	Email gillian.cole@wokingham.gov.uk, sal.thirlway@wokingham.gov.uk

WOKINGHAM SCHOOLS

School	Phase	Inspection Date	Inspection Grade	Status/Organisation
Addington School	Special	Oct-17	Outstanding	maintained
Aldryngton Primary School	Primary	Dec-11	Outstanding	maintained
All Saints Primary School	Primary	Sep-21	Good	maintained Cof E
Ambleside Centre	Nursery	Nov-16	Outstanding	maintained
Bearwood Primary School	Primary	Mar-19	Good	maintained
Beechwood Primary School	Primary	May-18	Inadequate	Sponsored Frays
Bohunt	Secondary	May-19	Good	Bohunt Trust
Bulmershe School	Secondary	Nov-17	Good	maintained
Chiltern Way (previously Northern House)	Special	Oct-18	Special Measures	Chiltern Way
Colleton Primary School	Primary	Jul-17	Good	maintained
Coombes Primary School	Primary	May-16	Special Measures	Keys Trust C of E
Crazies Hill CE School	Primary	Mar-16	Good	Keys Trust C of E
Earley St Peter's Primary School	Primary	Sep-21	Good	Keys Trust C of E
Emmbrook Infant School	Primary	Jan-19	Outstanding	maintained
Emmbrook Junior School	Primary	Jun-18	RI	maintained
Emmbrook School	Secondary	Mar-17	Good	maintained
Evendons Primary School	Primary	Jun-17	Outstanding	Belle Vue Place
Farley Hill Primary School	Primary	Oct-19	Good	maintained
Finchampstead Primary School	Primary	Oct-18	Good	maintained Cof E
Florest Montague Park	Primary	Jun-19	RI	GLF Trust
Forest School	Secondary	Jul-21	Good	Stand Alone Academy
Gorse Ride Infant School	Primary	Nov-19	Good	maintained
Gorse Ride Junior School	Primary	Sep-18	RI	maintained
Grazeley Parochial Primary School	Primary	Sep-19	Good	maintained Cof E
Hatch Ride Primary School	Primary	Feb-17	Good	Corvus
Hawkedon Primary School	Primary	Oct-18	Good	maintained
Hawthorns Primary School	Primary	May-17	Good	maintained
Highwood Primary School	Primary	Dec-21	Good	maintained
Hillside Primary School	Primary	May-18	Good	maintained
Holt School	Secondary	Jun-08	Outstanding	Stand Alone Academy
Keep Hatch Primary School	Primary	Oct-18	Good	maintained
Lambs Lane Primary School	Primary	Jan-17	Good	maintained
Loddon Primary School	Primary	Jan-18	Good	maintained
Maiden Erlegh School	Secondary	Mar-20	Outstanding	Maiden Erlegh Multi-Academy Trust
Nine Mile Ride Primary School	Primary	Dec-13	Good	The Circle Trust
Oakbank	Secondary	Jan-20	RI	Anthem Trust
Oaklands Infant School	Primary	Jun-16	Good	Corvus
Oaklands Junior School	Primary	Oct-16	Good	Corvus
Polehampton Infant School	Primary	Jan-11	Outstanding	maintained Cof E
Polehampton Junior School	Primary	Nov-12	Outstanding	maintained Cof E
Radstock Primary School	Primary	Jan-22	Good	maintained
Rivermead Primary School	Primary	Nov-18	Good	maintained
Robert Piggott Infant School	Primary	Jun-18	good	maintained Cof E
Robert Piggott Junior School	Primary	May-18	Good	maintained Cof E
Shinfield Infant School	Primary	Feb-19	Good	maintained
Shinfield St Mary's Junior School	Primary	Feb-18	Good	maintained Cof E
Sonning Primary School	Primary	Mar-16	Good	Keys Trust C of E
South Lake Primary School	Primary	Mar-13	Outstanding	maintained
St Crispins School	Secondary	Mar-17	Good	The Circle Trust
St Dominic Savio Primary School	Primary	May-19	Good	maintained Catholic
St Nicholas Primary School	Primary	Apr-19	Good	Keys Trust C of E
St Paul's Junior School	Primary	Jun-11	Outstanding	maintained Cof E
St Sebastian's Primary School	Primary	Oct-21	Good	Keys Trust C of E
St Teresa's Primary	Primary	May-10	Outstanding	Frassati Catholic Trust
The Piggott CE School	All through	Nov-17	Good	Stand Alone Academy
Waingels College	Secondary	Feb-18	Good	Stand Alone Academy
Walter Infant School	Primary	Nov-13	Outstanding	maintained
Wescott Infant School	Primary	Dec-10	Outstanding	The Circle Trust
Westende Junior School	Primary	Jan-20	Good	The Circle Trust
Wheatfield Primary School	Primary	May-17	Good	GLF

WOKINGHAM SCHOOLS

Whiteknights Primary School	Primary	Dec-18	Good	Belle Vue Place
Willow Bank Infant School	Primary	Jan-17	Good	maintained
Willow Bank Junior School	Primary	Jul-17	Good	maintained
Windmill Primary School	Primary	Jan-20	good	GLF
Winnersh Primary School	Primary	Jan-20	Good	maintained
Woodley Primary School	Primary	Nov-18	Good	maintained Cof E

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2022/23 WORK PROGRAMME

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
21 March 2022	Key Performance Indicators	To monitor the performance of the service.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Helen Watson
	Specialist Accommodation	To review progress with development of Specialist Accommodation.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Hayley Rees
	Harm Outside the Home	To review and comment on the strategy.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Matthew Booth
	Resource Base Units at Schools – Sufficiency Review – Part 2	To consider the sufficiency of school places.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Heather Tomlinson
	Schools Causing Concern – Part 2	To consider the working being undertaken to support schools causing concern in a part 2 session.	Challenge Item	Children's Services / Heather Tomlinson
	CSO&S Forward Plan	To consider the forward plan of the Committee.	Standing item	Democratic Services/ Luciane Bowker

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Agenda Item 48.

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
15 June 2022	Education Update	To update the Committee on developments relating to Education and Learning Achievement and Partnerships, including information about narrowing the gap.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Heather Tomlinson
	Key Performance Indicators	To monitor the performance of the service.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Helen Watson
	Wokingham Education Partnership (including update on Post-16 provision)	To update the Committee on the work of the Partnership	Information item	Children's Services/ Heather Tomlinson
	Review of Home to School Transport Policy	To review the policy.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Heather Tomlinson
	Early Years' Service Review	To review the provision of Early Years, including pre-school planning of provision.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Heather Tomlinson
	Fostering Transformation	To review progress with Fostering Transformation.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Adam Davis
	Schools Causing Concern – Part 2	To consider the working being undertaken to support schools causing concern in a part 2 session.	Challenge Item	Children's Services / Heather Tomlinson

	CSO&S Forward Plan	To consider the forward plan of the Committee.	Standing item	Democratic Services/ Luciane Bowker
DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
7 September 2022	SEND Innovation and Improvement Programme Update	To update on progress with delivery of the SEND Innovation and Improvement Programme.	Challenge item	Children's Services / Heather Tomlinson
	Update on Children's Strategy Delivery	To update on progress with delivery of the Children's Services Strategy.	Challenge item	Children's Services / DCS
	Schools Causing Concern – Part 2	To consider the working being undertaken to support schools causing concern in a part 2 session.	Challenge Item	Children's Services / Heather Tomlinson
	CSO&S Forward Plan	To consider the forward plan of the Committee.	Standing item	Democratic Services/ Luciane Bowker
DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
2 November 2022	Fostering Transformation update	Update on progress with Fostering transformation.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Adam Davis
	Key Performance Indicators	To monitor the performance of the service.	Challenge item	Children's Services/ Helen Watson

	Schools Causing Concern – Part 2	To consider the working being undertaken to support schools causing concern in a part 2 session.	Challenge item	Children's Services / Heather Tomlinson
	CSO&S Forward Plan	To consider the forward plan of the Committee.	Standing item	Democratic Services/ Luciane Bowker
DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
4 January 2022	Travel Assistance Policy Implementation	Update on outcomes from implementation of the Travel Assistance Policies (formerly Home to School Transport policies).	Challenge item	Children's Services / Heather Tomlinson
	Schools Causing Concern – Part 2	To consider the working being undertaken to support schools causing concern in a part 2 session.	Challenge item	Children's Services / Heather Tomlinson
	CSO&S Forward Plan	To consider the forward plan of the Committee.	Standing item	Democratic Services/ Luciane Bowker
DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	PURPOSE OF REPORT	REASON FOR CONSIDERATION	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER / CONTACT OFFICER
22 March 2022	Key Performance Indicators	To monitor the performance of the service.	Challenge item	Children's Services / Helen Watson

	CSO&S Forward Plan	To consider the forward plan of the Committee	Standing item	Democratic Services/ Luciane Bowker
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Currently unscheduled items:

- Education Welfare Service Review
- Secondary School Strategy

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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