

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
Policy and Resources Select Committee
PART II

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an annual update on the work of the following Hampshire County Council Select Committees from April 2020 to March 2021: Children & Young People Select Committee, Culture & Communities Select Committee, Economy Transport & Environment Select Committee and Policy & Resources Select Committee. The work of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee is reported elsewhere on this agenda.

2. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE

- 2.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Kirsty North

- 2.2. **Statutory Duties Undertaken:** None this period.

- 2.3. **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:**

Proposed Changes to Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2020

The Select Committee pre-scrutinised the proposed changes to the Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2020 at its 8 July 2020 meeting. The report also outlined the process followed to establish the Policy Statement. The Committee supported the recommendations to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People with an additional recommendation for the Committee to receive an update on the effects of the new Policy within six months.

Proposed Changes to the Short Break Activities Programme and Consultation Outcomes

The Select Committee pre-scrutinised the proposed changes to the Short Break Activities Programme and the outcomes of the public consultation held between March and July 2020 at its 11 November 2020 meeting. Following presentation of the report and ensuing questions, the Select Committee unanimously supported the proposals to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People.

- 2.4. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period

- 2.5. **Outcomes being monitored:**

The Impact of Changes to Post 16 Transport Policy Statement 2020 for Students Attending Post 16 Provision in the 2020/21 Academic Year
The Select Committee received a six-month update at its 13 January 2021 meeting, following pre-scrutiny of the proposed changes to the Post 16

Transport Policy Statement 2020, approved by the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People on the 8 July 2020.

2.6. **Referrals:** None in this period

2.7. **Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:**

Revenue Budget for Children's Services 2021/22

The revenue budget proposals for Children's Services for 2021/22 was pre-scrutinised by the Select Committee at its 13 January 2021 meeting. The Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People.

Capital Programme for Children's Services 2021/22 – 2023/24

The proposed capital programme for Children's Services for 2021/22 – 2023/24, and the revised capital programme cash limit for 2020/21 was pre-scrutinised by the Select Committee at its 13 January 2021 meeting. The Select Committee unanimously supported the proposals to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services and Young People.

2.8. **Policy Review:** None this period

2.9. **Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:**

The Select Committee received items on the following issues:

- Annual Safeguarding Report for Children's Services 2019-20
- Attainment of Children and Young People in Hampshire Schools 2020
- Autism Assessment Services for Children and Young People
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Covid Response - Children's Services Update
- Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and Covid-19 Impact and Response for the Childcare Sector
- Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS) Biennial Update
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 0-25 Reforms Update – SEN Performance and Joint Working

2.10. **Upcoming topics:**

The following topics feature on the Select Committee's Work Programme:

- Annual Safeguarding Report for Children's Services 2020-21
- Attainment of Children and Young People in Hampshire Schools 2021
- Autism Assessment Services for Children and Young People
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Children's Services – an Introduction
- Elective Home Education
- Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS) Biennial Update

- Fostering Overview
- Savings Programme 2023
- Scrutiny – an Introduction
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Update
- Youth Offending Service
- Youth Services in Hampshire

3. CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES SELECT COMMITTEE

3.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Anna McNair-Scott

3.2. **Statutory Duties Undertaken:** Not applicable to this committee

3.3. **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:**

- In March 2021, the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the following matters for consideration by the Executive Member for Recreation, Heritage, Countryside and Rural Affairs:
Winchester Discovery Centre - Future Strategy – proposals for a new partnership model between Hampshire Library Service and Hampshire Cultural Trust
Rights of Way Countryside Paths – proposal for funding remedial works to identified priority rights of way and paths to improve their condition and enable their continued use.
County Farms Policy – proposal for a revised County Farms Policy

The Committee supported each of the recommendations to the Executive Member for Recreation, Heritage, Countryside and Rural Affairs.

- Library Service Transformation and Strategy to 2025
 In July 2021, the Select Committee pre-scrutinised proposals for the Library Service Transformation and Strategy to 2025. The Committee supported the recommendations proposed and added a further recommendation for consideration by the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage.

3.4. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period

3.5. **Referrals:** None in this period

3.6. **Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:**

2021/22 Revenue Budget proposals

At the January 2021 meeting, the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the 2021/22 budget proposals for Recreation, Heritage, Countryside and Rural Affairs services. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Recreation, Heritage, Countryside and Rural Affairs.

3.7. **Policy Review:** None in this period

3.8. **Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:** The Committee received items on the following issues:

- Hampshire Cultural Trust update on recent operations throughout the Covid-19 pandemic
- Country Parks update/impact of Covid-19
- CCBS Climate Change - Natural Environment Workstream

4. **ECONOMY TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT SELECT COMMITTEE**

4.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Russell Oppenheimer

4.2. **Reviews undertaken / outcomes being monitored:**

- Planning White Paper (October 2020) - The Select Committee received a presentation on the Planning White Paper, which proposed fundamental reforms to the planning system.
- Flood Defence and Mitigation Strategy (January 2021) - The Select Committee received a presentation regarding the new flood and water management strategy along with information from the Environment Agency on areas and work being tackled across Hampshire.

4.3. **Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:**

The Committee received items on the following issues:

- Covid-19 Economic Recovery (July 2020 and October 2020) - The Select Committee received a presentation on the impacts of the pandemic on the economy of Hampshire and plans for recovery.
- Active Travel (October 2020 and January 2021) - The Select Committee received a presentation on the 'pop-up' schemes in place across the County as well as a 'school streets' scheme as discussed at Full Council in September 2021.

4.4. **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:**

- Transport for South East (TfSE) Strategy (July 2020) – The Select Committee received a report, regarding TfSE proposals to Government to establish a statutory sub national transport body for the South East. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the recommendations being made to Cabinet.
- Recycling and Single Materials Recovery Facility Update (July 2020) - The Select Committee received a report that detailed work undertaken through the Hampshire Waste Partnership programme and the recently introduced Environment Bill and how it would impact waste management in Hampshire. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

4.5. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period

4.6. **Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:**

ETE Proposed Capital Programme 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24.

At the January 2021 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the 2021/22 budget proposals for the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Following the debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

2021/22 Revenue Budget Report for Economy, Transport and Environment.

At the January 2021 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised 2021/21 budget proposals for the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Following the debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

4.7. **Policy Review:**

Climate Change Action Plan (January 2021)

The Select Committee received a presentation on work being taken towards climate change and target areas, along with tools in development as part of the decision-making process. The Environment Agency were also in attendance to answer questions relating the flooding aspects of climate change.

5. **POLICY AND RESOURCES SELECT COMMITTEE**

5.1. **Chairman for this period:** Councillor Jonathan Glen

5.2. **Statutory Duties Undertaken:**

Crime and Disorder

This Select Committee has the remit to cover the statutory duty to scrutinise Crime and Disorder issues as per the Police and Justice Act 2006 (However, this does not cover the Police and Crime Commissioner, who is held to account by the Police and Crime Panel). In November 2020, the Select Committee received an update on the Hampshire Community Safety Strategy Group and how it was addressing Hampshire's community safety priorities.

5.3. **Pre-scrutiny of Significant Executive Decisions:** None in this period.

5.4. **Call-in of Significant Executive Decisions:** None this period

5.5. **Referrals:** None this period

5.6. **Scrutiny of Budgets and Performance:**

Serving Hampshire – 2019/20 Performance Report

In June 2020, the Select Committee considered the 'Serving Hampshire' 2019/20 Annual Corporate Performance Report.

Medium-Term Financial Report

In September 2020, the Select Committee received an update on the medium-term financial prospects for the County Council to 2022/23, in particular in view of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Revenue Budgets for Corporate Services and Culture, Communities and Business Services for 2020/21 and the Proposed Capital Programme for Culture, Communities and Business Services for 2021/22 to 2023/24

At the January 2021 meeting the Select Committee pre-scrutinised the proposed Revenue Budgets for Corporate Services and Culture, Communities and Business Services for 2020/21 and the proposed Capital Programme for Culture, Communities and Business Services for 2021/22 to 2023/24. Following debate, the Select Committee supported the proposals to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources and the Executive Member for Commercial Strategy, Human Resources and Performance respectively.

5.7. **Questioning and exploring areas of interest and concern:**

- Covid 19 Financial Impact – June 2020
- Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan update - September 2020
- Presentations from Local Enterprise Partnerships (Solent LEP and EM3 LEP – November 2020)
- Economic Recovery Update and Measures – November 2020
- Broadband update and Presentations with Openreach – March 2021

5.8. **Management of the Scrutiny Function/Oversight of Other Scrutiny**

Committees: The Policy & Resources Select Committee has a remit to manage the work taking place across the scrutiny function. This year this was achieved through receiving a summary of activity taking place through the other Select Committees at each meeting.

5.9. **Upcoming topics:** The following topics feature on the Select Committee's Work Programme:

- New draft Serving Hampshire Strategic Plan
- IT Update
- Work of Hampshire Community Safety Strategy Group

6. **CONCLUSION**

6.1 Since the period to which this report relates, membership of the Select Committees has changed. Tribute is paid to all Members who played such an important scrutiny role through the Select Committees over the 2020/21 year.

COUNCILLOR JONATHAN GLEN
Chairman, Policy and Resources Select Committee

