

LIFELONG LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Work Programme from September 2019

Please note that the forward work programme is a 'live' document and subject to change at short notice.

The information in this work programme is subject to agreement at the meeting on 12 September 2019

The order in which items are listed at this stage may not reflect the order they subsequently appear on the agenda / are dealt with at the scrutiny meeting. Please note that for items marked as 'part 2' it is recommended that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during its consideration in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Please note: Workshops and Task & Finish Group meetings are not open to the general public.

For general enquiries relating to the Council's scrutiny function, including this committee's work programme, please contact Craig Stevens, Scrutiny Facilitator, Scrutiny Team on 292253.

For administrative arrangements such as enquiries relating to report dispatch dates, venue layouts, setting up of presentations, etc., please contact Sarah Royce, Committee Officer, Committee and Member Services on 292240.

All Meetings start at 2.30pm in the Guildhall, Wrexham, unless otherwise stated.

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
10 October 2019	School Performance Working Group	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Improving secondary education – providing support and challenge to our secondary schools to ensure that our children and young people achieve good outcomes, so that they are able to access further and higher education, training or the world of work</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes; • Support school leaders to ensure effective teaching that matches the needs of learners to ensure a positive impact on learning and achievement; • Support schools to ensure that robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements support a self-improving system; • Support and challenge schools to improve school attendance and to reduce persistent absenteeism, permanent and fixed term exclusions and to maximise educational opportunities for vulnerable learners. <p>The School Performance Monitoring Working Group once per school term to invite schools causing concern (informed by the Accelerated Improvement Board) to attend and present the actions in place to secure improvement and impact is evident</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
<p>14 November 2019</p>	<p>Performance of Wrexham Pupils/Schools in the Academic Year 2018/19.</p>	<p>Link to In Year Priority Improving secondary education – providing support and challenge to our secondary schools to ensure that our children and young people achieve good outcomes, so that they are able to access further and higher education, training or the world of work</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes • Support school leaders to ensure effective teaching that matches the needs of learners to ensure a positive impact on learning and achievement; • Support schools to ensure that robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements support a self-improving system; • Support and challenge schools to improve school attendance and to reduce persistent absenteeism, permanent and fixed term exclusions and to maximise educational opportunities for vulnerable learners <p>Data and relevant information in respect of performance in Wrexham schools, to include schools performance at KS5 and outcomes from the School Performance Task & Finish Group</p>	<p>People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention</p>

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
5 December 2019	School Performance Working Group	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Improving secondary education – providing support and challenge to our secondary schools to ensure that our children and young people achieve good outcomes, so that they are able to access further and higher education, training or the world of work</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes; • Support school leaders to ensure effective teaching that matches the needs of learners to ensure a positive impact on learning and achievement; • Support schools to ensure that robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements support a self-improving system; • Support and challenge schools to improve school attendance and to reduce persistent absenteeism, permanent and fixed term exclusions and to maximise educational opportunities for vulnerable learners. <p>The School Performance Monitoring Working Group once per school term to invite schools causing concern (informed by the Accelerated Improvement Board) to attend and present the actions in place to secure improvement and impact is evident</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
16 January 2020	Behaviour and Exclusions	<p>Link to In Year Priority Priority Improving secondary education – providing effective support services to groups of vulnerable young people so that they are able to access appropriate learning provision</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity Support and challenge schools to improve school attendance and to reduce persistent absenteeism, permanent and fixed term exclusions and to maximise educational opportunities for vulnerable learners</p> <p>To monitor pupil behaviour and the levels of fixed term permanent exclusions and use of fixed penalty notices.</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention
13 February 2020	Education and Early Intervention – Dept Self Evaluation and 2020/21 priorities	<p>Link to in-year priority: Improving secondary education</p> <p>Link to underpinning activity: All under this priority.</p> <p>To scrutinise and challenge priorities for improvement in 2020-21 to help support schools in preparation for implementation of the new curriculum for 2022</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention
	Evaluation of GwE and Local Authority Education Business Plans	<p>Link to In Year Priority Improving secondary education – All</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity – All</p> <p>To consider recommendations to inform the Business Plans for the following year. Members to identify key areas for GwE to respond to when the GwE Annual Report is submitted to Committee in July. Representatives of WASH and the Primary Headteachers’ Federation to be invited to attend.</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
12 March 2020	School Performance Working Group	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Improving secondary education – providing support and challenge to our secondary schools to ensure that our children and young people achieve good outcomes, so that they are able to access further and higher education, training or the world of work</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes; • Support school leaders to ensure effective teaching that matches the needs of learners to ensure a positive impact on learning and achievement; • Support schools to ensure that robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements support a self-improving system; • Support and challenge schools to improve school attendance and to reduce persistent absenteeism, permanent and fixed term exclusions and to maximise educational opportunities for vulnerable learners. <p>The School Performance Monitoring Working Group once per school term to invite schools causing concern (informed by the Accelerated Improvement Board) to attend and present the actions in place to secure improvement and impact is evident.</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention
2 April 2020	Preparation for implementing the New Curriculum and ALN reform Act	<p>Link to in-year priority: Improving secondary education.</p> <p>Link to underpinning activity: All activities under this activity.</p> <p>To support schools in preparation for implementation of the ALN Act from 2020</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer for Education and Early Intervention

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
14 May 2020	21 st Century Schools Band B Programme	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Improving secondary education - Ensuring education and early intervention budgets and services are prioritised and seen as essential to achieving improved outcomes</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity –</p> <p>To consider the implementation of the 21st Century Schools Programme Band B.</p>	<p>People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention</p>
	Period Poverty	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Promoting Good Health and Wellbeing - Deliver and enable services to support good health, well-being and community resilience, ensuring close links are made with the priorities of the PSB where appropriate</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity Utilise the period poverty grant to ensure young peoples’ sanitary needs are met;</p> <p>To consider a progress report in 18 months from making the original recommendations on the implementation of the Welsh Government Funding.</p>	<p>People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention</p>

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
18 June 2020	School Performance Working Group	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Improving secondary education – providing support and challenge to our secondary schools to ensure that our children and young people achieve good outcomes, so that they are able to access further and higher education, training or the world of work</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes • Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes; • Support school leaders to ensure effective teaching that matches the needs of learners to ensure a positive impact on learning and achievement; • Support schools to ensure that robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements support a self-improving system; • Support and challenge schools to improve school attendance and to reduce persistent absenteeism, permanent and fixed term exclusions and to maximise educational opportunities for vulnerable learners. <p>The School Performance Monitoring Working Group once per school term to invite schools causing concern (informed by the Accelerated Improvement Board) to attend and present the actions in place to secure improvement and impact is evident.</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/GwE/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
9 July 2020	GwE Annual Report	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Improving secondary education – providing support and challenge to our secondary schools to ensure that our children and young people achieve good outcomes, so that they are able to access further and higher education, training or the world of work</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity: Support schools in preparation for implementation of the new curriculum from 2022; Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes; Support school leaders to ensure effective teaching that matches the needs of learners to ensure a positive impact on learning and achievement; Support schools to ensure that robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements support a self-improving system; Implement bespoke support and challenge plans for each secondary school; Support and develop governors and elected members in their strategic leadership role through a comprehensive training programme including mandatory requirements;</p> <p>To consider whether the support provided by GwE (NW Regional School Improvement Service) has contributed to sufficient improvement in education standards in Wrexham and is providing value for money.</p>	Managing Director of GwE/ Scrutiny Facilitator

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT	PURPOSE OF REPORT	LEAD MEMBER/ CONTACT OFFICER
	Coleg Cambria – Outcomes for Wrexham Based Learners	<p>Link to In Year Priority: Improving secondary education – raising the aspirations of young people in Wrexham</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity: Work with key partners to create an environment that enables young people to raise their own aspirations to ensure that they can fulfil their learning and career potential.</p> <p>To consider the verified Key Stage 5 (post-16) results, performance of Wrexham pupils at Key Stage 5 (post 16) and vocational qualifications.</p>	Principal, Coleg Cambria

* Welsh language simultaneous translation to be arranged for these items at the meeting.

ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED

ITEM	AS AGREED at meeting of:	PURPOSE OF REPORT	Lead Member/ Contact Officer
Support for Pupil Wellbeing	20 June 2019	<p>Link to In Year Priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Supporting and enabling individuals, families and communities to be resilient and have good physical health, mental health and well-being; •Delivering services with a focus on prevention and early intervention including working in partnership with health, third sector, communities and other partner agencies <p>Link to Underpinning Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Work in partnership with the PSB to promote good sleeping patterns for children and young people to support a healthy and physically active start in life; <p>To consider the support arrangements for the well-being of Wrexham pupils</p>	People – Youth Services and Antipoverty/ Chief Officer Education and Early Intervention
Scrutiny of support, challenge and intervention strategies used by local authority in schools causing concern		<p>Link to in-year priority: Improving secondary education</p> <p>Link to underpinning activity Support, challenge and improve the quality of school leadership at all levels to ensure impact on provision and outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support school leaders to ensure effective teaching that matches the needs of learners to ensure a positive impact on learning and achievement; • Support schools to ensure that robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements support a self-improving system; <p>Support and challenge schools to improve school attendance and to reduce persistent absenteeism, permanent and fixed term exclusions and to maximise educational opportunities for</p>	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention

ITEM	AS AGREED at meeting of:	PURPOSE OF REPORT	Lead Member/ Contact Officer
		<p>vulnerable learners</p> <p>To scrutinise and challenge the impact of LA processes for improving schools causing concern</p>	
<p>Report of Task & Finish Group to consider future use of the Groves School Building</p>	<p>21 February 2019</p>	<p>Link to In Year Priority: -Improving the environment - Promoting the county borough as a clean and attractive place that preserves and promotes its heritage. -Developing the Economy – Focusing on modernising and diversifying the town centre.</p> <p>Link to Underpinning Activity:- -Determine the boundary of a 'smaller town centre' and identify actions required to increase activities and occupation of empty units in enhancing the retail, residential and entertainment offer within the revised boundary.</p> <p>To consider any relevant recommendations of the Task & Finish Group.</p>	<p>Task and Finish Group</p>

REGULAR ITEMS

ITEM	AS AGREED at the meeting held on:	PURPOSE OF REPORT	EXPECTED OUTCOME	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER/ CONTACT OFFICER
School Performance Monitoring Working Group	20 July 2017	To hold a meeting of the School Performance Monitoring Working Group once per school term to invite schools causing concern (informed by the Accelerated Improvement Board) to attend and present the actions in place to secure improvement and impact is evident.	Significant improvement in schools causing concern to the Local Authority and GwE.	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention
* Education Standards	20 July 2017	<p>To be split over a number of meetings as follows: * October – Standardised NW Report on Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and 3 results, including provisional FSM data. Provisional results for Key Stages 4 and 5. Outcomes from the School Performance Task & Finish Group. To also include details of levels of results below expectation.</p> <p>* December – Evaluation of GwE and Local Authority Education Business Plans. Any recommendations to inform the Business Plans for the following year. Members to identify key areas for GwE to respond to when the GwE Annual Report is submitted to Committee in July. Representatives of WASH and the Primary Headteachers' Federation to be invited to attend.</p>	Significant improvement in education standards in Wrexham schools to bring in line with the Local Authority's expected Wales rankings.	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention

ITEM	AS AGREED at the meeting held on:	PURPOSE OF REPORT	EXPECTED OUTCOME	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER/ CONTACT OFFICER
		<p>June Learner Outcomes Report for Wrexham pupils attending Coleg Cambria (this will include both A level and vocational qualifications). Report to include Percentage of Year 11 Pupils remaining in full time education.</p> <p><i>Reports to highlight both underachieving and good performing schools in order to demonstrate best practice, as agreed at the meeting held on 16 July 2015. Schools to be anonymised.</i></p>		Principal, Coleg Cambria
GwE (NW Regional School Improvement Service) Annual Report	19 June 2014	To consider the annual report on the performance of GwE, following the end of the financial year (July).	As above.	Managing Director of GwE/ Scrutiny Facilitator
Behaviour and Exclusions	8 February 2018	To consider a monitoring report on pupil behaviour and the levels of fixed term and permanent exclusions, to include all Wales comparative data, outcome of review of secondary schools behaviour and expectations policies and the recording of exclusions, Governor training, and the education and training indicator for the Youth Justice Service. To include additional information as requested at the meeting held on 21 February 2019.	To reduce the levels of fixed term and permanent exclusions	People – Education, Councillor Phil Wynn/ Chief Officer Education & Early Intervention