

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 6th September, 2017

2.00 pm

**Or on the rising of the Growth, Economic
Development and Communities Cabinet Committee –
whichever is the later.**

**Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall,
Maidstone**





AGENDA

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 6th September, 2017, at 2.00 pm Ask for: **Joel Cook/Anna Taylor**
Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone Telephone: **03000 416892/416478**

Membership

Conservative (9): Mr P W A Lake (Chairman), Mr A M Ridgers (Vice-Chairman),
Mrs C Bell, Mr A Booth, Mr G Cooke, Mr R C Love,
Mr J P McInroy, Mr B J Sweetland and Mr J Wright

Liberal Democrat (2): Mr R H Bird and Mrs T Dean, MBE

Labour (2) Mr D Farrell and Dr L Sullivan

Church Mr D Brunning, Mr J Constanti and Mr Q Roper

Representatives (3):

Parent Governor (2): Mr K Garsed and Mr A Roy

Tea/coffee will be available 15 minutes before the start of the meeting

County Councillors who are not Members of the Committee but who wish to ask questions at the meeting are asked to notify the Chairman of their questions in advance.

Webcasting Notice

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for the live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by any member of the public or press present. The Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed by the Council

By entering into this room you are consenting to being filmed. If you do not wish to have your image captured please let the Clerk know immediately.

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

A - Committee Business

- A1 Introduction/Webcast Announcement
- A2 Substitutes
- A3 Declarations of Interests by Members in items on the Agenda for this Meeting
- A4 Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2017 (Pages 5 - 10)
- A5 Select Committee Work Programme (Pages 11 - 34)

B - Any items called-in

C - Any items placed on the agenda by any Member of the Council for discussion

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

John Lynch
Head of Democratic Services
03000 410466

Tuesday, 29 August 2017

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Friday, 7 July 2017.

PRESENT: Mr P W A Lake (Chairman), Mrs C Bell, Mr R H Bird, Mr I S Chittenden (Substitute for Mrs T Dean, MBE), Mr D Farrell, Mr R C Love, Mr J P McInroy, Dr L Sullivan, Mr J Wright and Mr M J Horwood

ALSO PRESENT: Mr E E C Hotson

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms K Ripley (Facilities Management and Capital Lead), Ms C Holden (Head of Strategic Commissioning - Accommodation Solutions), Mr F Walker (Head of Health and Safety (KCC)) and Mr J Cook (Scrutiny Research Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

131. Membership

(Item A2)

RESOLVED that the Committee note its membership arrangements.

132. Election of Vice-Chairman

(Item A4)

1. Mr Cooke proposed that Alan Ridgers be elected Vice-chairman, seconded by Mr McInroy. No other nominations were received.

RESOLVED that Mr Ridgers be duly elected Vice-chairman.

133. Minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2017

(Item A6)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 31 March 2017 were an accurate record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

134. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2017

(Item A7)

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2017 were an accurate record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

135. Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

(Item A8)

1. Members discussed the need for the work programme to be flexible and responsive to shifting circumstances and that the Committee Members would

require equal access to briefings from Officers on key issues as part of considering the suitability of potential agenda items.

2. Members considered the need for bespoke training for Members on their role within Scrutiny and the activities of the Scrutiny Committee.
3. Members discussed the need to properly consider a range of information sources, noting that there was potential benefit in reviewing which Key Performance Indicators would be most helpful in identifying issues of concern for the council.
4. Members discussed the challenges involved in Cabinet Committee consideration of contract management and wider commissioning. It was confirmed that Scrutiny had a role to play in supporting and scrutinising the authority in areas of business already considered by Cabinet Committees, providing that any duplication was minimised.

RESOLVED that work programme be noted and that Scrutiny training be organised for Members.

136. Select Committee Work Programme

(Item A9)

RESOLVED that the Select Committee work programme be noted.

137. Status of KCC buildings with regard to fire risk and steps being taken to mitigate risk (Verbal update)

(Item C1)

1. Mr Hotson, Cabinet Member for Strategic and Corporate Services, provided a brief introduction to the item, advising that officers from the Facilities Management and Health & Safety teams from KCC would be outlining the key points to the committee. Mr Hotson explained that the KCC's response to the fire safety concerns following the Grenfell Tower tragedy had been significant, not just in respect of resources sent to directly assist in the management of the aftermath but also in terms of assessing risk issues within Kent. He advised that a team of twenty-five staff had been working on this issue as the KCC sought to gather information to make safety assessments across its property portfolio and where clients or other people for whom KCC held responsibility were using buildings or facilities provided by other relevant bodies, such as commissioned providers of social care or non-council administered schools.
2. Mr Hotson advised the committee that KCC estate was very large; in excess of 1000 buildings across a number of sites around the county. The scale of the estate meant that reviewing risk factors and collating safety certificates in a short space of time was a challenging task and Mr Hotson noted that despite this challenge, it was positive that the work had moved at pace. In addition to the officer activities, Mr Hotson explained that all political leaders across the county had been involved in briefings and partnership discussions around co-ordinated responses to the issue.
3. Karen Ripley, Facilities Management and Capital Lead, provided an overview of the work being undertaken. She highlighted KCC's Fire Strategy which details

expectations around safety measures and risk assessments necessary to confirm compliance and provide reassurance around appropriate safety protections. She explained that this helped with the ongoing work around checking all the Fire Risk Assessments across KCC's estate (both council managed and commissioned). Ms Ripley advised that KCC maintained an effective programme of audit programmes around the corporate estate which meant the recent work on fire risk was built on several years of good work and ongoing risk management.

4. A key part of the current assessment involved requiring all properties and facilities to submit their Fire Risk Assessments for review by the team, which included to accredited members of the Institute of Fire Safety Managers. Ms Ripley reassured the committee that almost all assessments had been submitted in response to the request.
5. In terms of the cladding concern, in reference to the combustibility factors associated with the Grenfell tragedy, Ms Ripley advised the committee that a 155 sites (some including multiple buildings) had been identified as having cladding. Auditing of the types of cladding was nearly complete, with only a few still unknown. She also highlighted that the inspection and assessment activity had not been limited to these 155 cladding sites and that 295 sites had been visited to ensure fire risk audit could provide further reassurance.
6. Ms Ripley explained that the national priority around this was in relation to residential high rise properties. KCC owns two high rise properties (both in Maidstone) which are for residential use. She noted that KCC was the corporate landlord for these properties, which were managed by two Housing Associations, both of which had been contacted regarding the necessary safety inspections and assessments.
7. Ms Ripley explained that schools had responded well to the request that they submit their Fire Risk Assessments; almost all had been received and this element of the fire review was expected to be completed soon, with no significant risk concerns identified so far.
8. Flavio Walker, Head of Health & Safety at KCC, provided an overview of the Health & Safety activity taking place. He explained that there was a good record of effective fire safety management in Kent and his team was now working closely with KCC's property teams as well as Kent Fire and Rescue Service (KFRS). He highlighted Ms Ripley's earlier point that the team included specialist officers, highly qualified in fire safety. Mr Walker explained that the previous fire safety audit work has put KCC in a good place to deliver ongoing, person safety focused work. He advised that almost all actions arising from the 2016 audit had been implemented and that any outstanding issues had now been prioritised and funded for completion immediately. Mr Walker also highlighted that there was good partnership working, information sharing and training, noting that KCC maintained an ongoing training offer to all stakeholders, particularly to head teachers. He advised that this training has had good attendance and would continue to be offered as a means of ensuring appropriate levels of awareness and competence.
9. Mr Hotson advised the committee that he had been reassured by the quick work of the council in prioritising local risks collating the necessary information to

manage the ongoing fire risk assessment process. He also commented that it was positive that District and Borough Councils had been working closely with KCC to ensure the county's response to the concerns around potential risks could be managed appropriately at all levels.

10. Christy Holden, Head of Strategic Commissioning for KCC Adult Social Care, provided an update on how the council was considering its responsibilities for vulnerable people using facilities that were commissioned via external providers. Ms Holden advised that the contracts in social care included day services and home care as well as residential care homes. She reassured the committee that all contracts for such services include requirements for appropriate fire protection and that KCC was in contact with the providers to ensure ongoing compliance with these requirements.
11. Ms Holden explained that in addition to the recent work to support the safety assessments, there is annual check on all contracted care home providers which looks at elements such as personal evacuation processes, fire risk assessments and safety plans. She explained that KFRS support this work with joint monitoring, along with their standard fire prevention activities.
12. Ms Holden advised the committee that KCC has two PFI housing contracts, which includes Emily Court in Dartford which unfortunately experienced a fire in June where a man died. She explained that an investigation was ongoing. Despite the tragic death, information available so far suggests the operational response was appropriate and effective, including some actions above the contractual expectations of the staff. Ms Holden also noted that care home in Canterbury had also been closed following a fire in May.
13. Mr Lake thanked the guests for providing an overview and invited questions from Members.
14. Responding to Member questions, Ms Ripley explained that the 3 year rolling condition survey on all KCC property did include consideration of fire safety but only for individual components and that the survey was due to continue across school build estate later in 2017. Members were advised that the safety inspections and preventative work undertaken delivered an even service across the range of KCC's estate, ensuring a high standard of protection for all people using these facilities.
15. Responding to Member questions, Mr Walker explained that building regulations were different from fire safety regulations and therefore all the fire risk assessment activity undertaken in recent years was compliant and effective, in line with guidance for ensuring reasonable protections. This meant the reviews were focused on all elements of fire safety, not just building materials and combustibility.
16. Mr Walker advised the committee that where issues were identified during safety checks, recommendations were made with a specified timeframe for compliance with processes in place for intervention and escalation where necessary actions remain outstanding.

17. Responding to Member questions, Mr Hotson explained that it had been challenging organising the response initially due to limited information available from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) but that ongoing work with KFRS and central government was allowing work to progress faster. However, it was expected that the public enquiry would cause a delay to all information being available for public release due to enquiry processes.
18. Ms Ripley advised the committee that the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) had been asked by KCC to give reassurances that they are mirroring KCC's work on fire safety and assurance. She explained that it was expected that the reassurances would be provided. She noted that less than 15 schools in Kent had yet to return the audit on fire risk assessments and cladding that this had been escalated, with full return on compliance information expected very soon.
19. Ms Holden reassured the committee that all safety testing and audit was based on assessing practice, rather than just policy. She also noted that checks were undertaken by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and the DCLG, for housing provision. Ms Holden explained that where clients live in homes that are not covered by the wider care home contract, they remained covered by 'spot contracts' which contained the same safety requirements which ensured providers remained under the same duty of care to deliver effective safety provision. She reassured the committee that safeguarding was a key principle throughout all processes in place for vulnerable people.
20. Responding to Member questions, Ms Ripley explained that processes were in place for emergency services to respond to dormant or disused sites. It was expected that any service would be able to force entry to deliver appropriate intervention in the event of a fire. Mr Walker also explained that detailed business continuity plans were in place, alongside partnership working arrangements and emergency response plans for joint activity between KCC, Districts, emergency services and central government which should reassure Members and the public.
21. Responding to Member questions, Mr Walker explained that sprinkler systems were rare across most properties, not just KCC, but noted that they were always considered as part of risk assessments and appropriate mitigations.
22. Responding to comments from Members, Mr Hotson noted concerns raised regarding the potential risk involved in public sector procurement practices which required a focus on agreeing the lowest cost option.
23. Mr Hotson commented that the while more information was coming in all the time, all details received so far had provided reassurance that all appropriate action as being taken and that no significant risks had been identified in Kent. He was hopeful that the committee and the public would be reassured by the update.

RESOLVED that the committee thank the guests for attending and that the update be noted.

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By: Peter Lake - Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee
John Lynch - Head of Democratic Services

To: Scrutiny Committee – 6 September 2017

Subject: Select Committee – Work Programme

Status: Unrestricted

Summary: The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and prioritise the 3 Select Committee proposals set out in this report.

1. Introduction

- (1) One of the Scrutiny Committee's responsibilities is to co-ordinate the programme of Select Committee Reviews.
- (2) The Select Committee Work Programme co-ordinated by this Committee is subject to endorsement by Cabinet.
- (3) 3 proposal forms for Select Committees have been received for consideration by this Committee (Overview at **Appendix 1**, for detail see **Appendix 2**).

2. Resources to support the Select Committees

- (1) The Research Officer resource has recently been relocated into the Democratic Services Unit alongside the meeting administration support which includes all of the evidence gathering sessions.
- (2) It would be very challenging with the officer resources currently available to support more than one Select Committee at one time.

3. Setting the Select Committee topic review work programme

- (1) The proposer of each of the Select Committee topic reviews along with the relevant Cabinet Member and supporting officer have been invited to attend and present each of the topics.
- (2) At the end of all of the presentations, the Committee will be invited to consider which topic to establish as the next Select Committee, and whether to include any of the other topics on the Scrutiny Committee work programme.

4. Timetable for Select Committee Reviews

- (1) Based on the resources available to support Select Committee topic reviews, it is suggested that work on the review should start immediately,

with the aim of its report being submitted to Cabinet and County Council in March 2018.

5. Select Committee Terms of Reference and Membership

- (1) It is the responsibility of any Select Committee to agree its Terms of Reference. However, the proposal forms in Appendix 2 do contain some suggested issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference to assist the Scrutiny Committee in deciding whether to include the review in the Work Programme. The Terms of Reference for the review as agreed by the Select Committee will be circulated to the Scrutiny Committee for information.
- (2) As agreed by the County Council in July 2013 there will be 9 Members on each Select Committee. Current proportionality, agreed by County Council in May 2017, means each Select committee will comprise 7 Conservatives, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Labour. Where additional expertise or knowledge may be beneficial, additional, non-voting, members may be co-opted by agreement of the Select Committee.

6. Recommendation:

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to agree which Select Committee proposal to establish as the next Select Committee review and to determine the overall reporting timetable. The Scrutiny Committee may also agree to include one or all of the other topics on the Scrutiny Committee work programme.

Contact: Anna Taylor/Joel Cook
scrutiny.committee@kent.gov.uk
03000 416478/416892

Background document - none

Appendix 1 – Overview of Topic Proposals

Time	Subject	Proposer	Cabinet Member
14:10	Social Isolation	Ken Pugh	Peter Oakford / Graham Gibbens
14:20	Provision of affordable housing to Kent residents	Trudy Dean	Mark Dance
14:30	Pupil Premium	Shellina Prendergast	Roger Gough
14:40	Discussion and decision on the topics to be included in the Select Committee work programme.		

Timings are indicative and subject to change.

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ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

* - sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic

<p>*Subject of Proposed Review:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To investigate KCC's current public health and social care provision around social isolation• To report on public health and social care strategy with respect to low level mental ill health and social isolation
<p>*Reason for the Review:- (see Note 1 below)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parity of esteem between physical and mental ill health is a national priority and an issue of social isolation brings these together Social isolation can lead to a variety of problems including mental health issues. Addressing these issues could be a route to reducing pressures on health and care services, reducing or preventing health problems.• Prevention of social isolation could lead to an improvement in the well-being of the people of Kent and a reduction of costs to KCC and NHS.
<p>*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish what social isolation is.• Identify who is socially isolated in Kent.• Investigate the extent to which current service provision is effective in dealing with social isolation• Establish if there is a close correlation between social isolation and mental ill health• Investigate the efforts to improve mental well-being at all stages of life
<p>*Scope of the review:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To take statements from witnesses from public health and social care together with Commissioners and Providers. Also, to gain witness statements from the clients and or their representatives who access the services• To produce a report that makes meaningful recommendations pointing towards potential solutions
<p>*Purpose and objectives of the Review:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To identify the strengths and weaknesses of the services on offer to the clients• Assess the scope and nature of social isolation in Kent• Finding ways of addressing social isolation

Proposer of the review - (Please print name and sign)

.....Cllr Ken Pugh (Member).....

Signed.......... Date...30th July 2017

To be completed by the Directorate/Cabinet Member(s)

Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2017/18? (see Note 2 below)

We do not believe that there are any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme.

How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?

KCC is now a public health authority and has responsibility for improving the health and wellbeing of the population of Kent and this extends to mental health and wellbeing in addition to physical health. For this reason there are suitable measures of loneliness and isolation included in the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) and the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF).

How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?

There is a clear link between social isolation and poor mental and physical health. A key element of the Government’s vision for social care, set out in the Care and Support White Paper (2012), tackled loneliness and social isolation, supporting people to remain connected to their communities and to develop and maintain connections to friends and family.

The Five Year Forward view was published in 2014 and sets out the vision and strategy for the NHS. This includes the ambition for parity of esteem. The 2017 ‘Next Steps’ document includes the intention to fund further mental health therapists as part of the implementation of the Five Year Forward View. Recent policy decisions taken in this area e.g. the implementation of the NHS Five Year Forward View include the promise of increased numbers of mental health professionals.

Any review of KCC work on this area could add to the knowledge base on social isolation and mental health, and could identify areas of good practice that could be shared with other authorities and Public Health England. There is considerable evidence on social isolation and mental health in scientific literature as can be seen in the table below.

Risk factors for social isolation	Number of times topic featured in currently used literature
Older People	18
Disability	11
Carer	3
Poverty	5
Transport	11
Mental Health	7
Alcohol	2
Household Status	10
Bullying	4

The table above contains reference to 28 individual publications; some papers deal with more than a single factor of social isolation.

There is evidence that social isolation is more severe in older life, but we believe that a life course approach would be helpful when considering social isolation as there are other times in one's life when social isolation can become an issue. These include, for example, during pregnancy and the perinatal and postnatal periods and during childhood and adolescence.

This review would allow the partnership working between Adult Social Care and Public Health to be explored and would assist in the development of new programmes such as the European research programme on 'Men's Sheds' for which Public Health has just been awarded funding. A review may also allow the mapping of various services that impact on loneliness and social isolation, many of which work in partnership with, or with advice from, Public Health. Some of these services are included in Appendix 1. This appendix is not an exhaustive list, but we believe it demonstrates that this topic review should be widened to include Growth, Environment and Transport and Children, Young People and Education.

There may also be opportunities to explore strategic alliances with partners, including other public authorities (e.g. Fire and Police services), the NHS and the voluntary/charity sector.

How will this review add value to the County Council and residents of Kent?

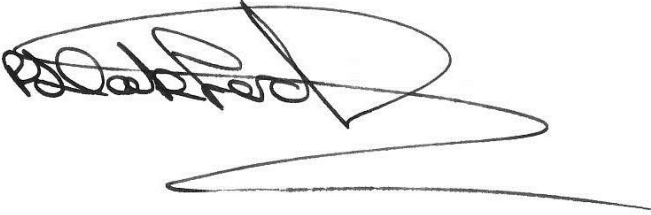

There will be opportunities to influence the mental health, local care and prevention work streams of the Kent and Medway Sustainability and Transformation Plan.

There may be opportunities for greater communication between the Social Care, Public Health and CCG/NHS teams, and other KCC departments which may lead to the identification of synergies, opportunities for partnership working and also lead to further research.

Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe? If yes, please give details:

Not from our perspective, but it might be worth considering the changes to Directorates and, in particular, the appointments of new Directors of Children's Services and Adult's Services.

Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Corporate Director:-

Portfolio Holder's Signature:- 	
Corporate Director's Signature:- 	
Contact Officer:- Andrew Scott-Clark	Date:- 29.08.2017

Notes

Note 1 - Possible reasons for the review

1. Key public issue, identified by
 - Member contact with constituents/member surgeries
 - Contact with key representative bodies/forums
 - Media coverage – Public interest issue covered in local media
 - Focus groups/citizens panels
2. Issue highlighted via previous reviews
3. Issue recommended to another body e.g. Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee, a Cabinet Committee, Directorate or an external body.
4. Poor performing service i.e.:-
 - High level of complaints/dissatisfaction with service
 - Performance standards poor/below target – (evidence from PI's or benchmarking)
 - Identified through external review/inspection (OFSTED/Audit etc)
 - Budgetary overspends
5. Key reports or new evidence published

6. County Council priority
7. Central Government priority/New Government guidance or legislation published

Note 2 - Possible reasons why a review should not be added to the work programme.

1. Issue being examined by
 - Cabinet
 - Scrutiny
 - Officer Group
 - another internal body
 - an external body
2. It has been the subject of a topic review by other Councils from which details of best practice can be obtained.
3. New legislation or guidance expected.
4. **NB:** Before suggesting that a review should not be included in the work programme the following should be considered:-

Could consideration of this issue 'add value' without causing unnecessary duplication, for instance by:

- i) Looking at this issue in conjunction with another group,
- ii) Through appropriate timing of the topic review,
- iii) Through considering another group's findings rather than duplicating the same/or similar activity.

Appendix 1 – Current KCC services, programmes and campaigns with social isolation components; not exhaustive

- Live Well Kent [Mental Health and Wellbeing Service]
- Headstart
- Kent Sheds
- Children's Centres
- Health Visiting Service
- Release the Pressure
- Befriending grants
- Healthy Living Centres
- NHS Health Checks Outreach
- Postural Stability classes [and transport]
- Mental Health Matters Helpline
- Maternity Services
- Community Wardens
- Six Ways to Wellbeing
- Social Prescribing
- Employment Support for people with MH issues
- Get Out Get Active
- Kent Cycling Partnership [Ride Social, Breeze]
- Sport and PA programmes with Housing Associations
- Home Library Service
- Wellbeing Zones [within hub libraries]
- Beyond Words book groups
- Older Persons and People Living With Dementia core offer of services [from 1st April 2018]

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ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

* - sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic

<p>*Subject of Proposed Review:-</p> <p>Provision of affordable housing for Kent residents</p>
<p>*Reason for the Review:- (see Note 1 below)</p> <p>It is well established that good housing is one of the key determinants of people's health and social well-being.</p> <p>The shortage of affordable housing is a national issue. It is particularly acute in Kent and the South-East where there are overspill pressures caused by property shortages and prices in London. Developers are set quotas for affordable housing but Kent's district councils and housing associations struggle to meet demand.</p> <p>At the LGA Conference 2017 the Secretary of State stated, <i>'Our aim is simple: to ensure these plans begin life as they should, with an honest, objective assessment of how much housing is required..... Where housing is particularly unaffordable, local leaders need to take a long, hard, honest look to see if they are planning for the right number of homes.'</i> This review could provide the opportunity to do this.</p> <p>Housing development needs to be of sufficient scale to make a difference and to make it truly affordable. But this cannot happen without the essential infrastructure such as schools, surgeries, transport links, open space, etc. Underpinning the housing crisis is the lack of funding for the infrastructure needed to support new housing growth. This therefore argues for an over-arching and joined-up approach to the planning, development and funding of new housing across the county.</p> <p>Once again this was identified in the Secretary of State's Speech – <i>'Most people are willing to accept new housing in their areas, they know that their children and grandchildren need places to live. But they also don't want to see massive development being imposed on an area where schools, GP surgeries, roads, buses and trains and already under pressure. They'll accept the new homes, but they also want the right infrastructure put in at the right time in a joined-up way.'</i></p> <p>The County Council's Network newly released report <i>'A New Deal for Counties: Our Plan for Government'</i> also focussed on these concerns.</p> <p>KCC could lead from the front and show a readiness to assist its communities in one of the biggest challenges and opportunities that the county faces now and in the future. In the words of the CCN report, <i>'Empowering counties in the planning system and reforming and finding new ways for councils to finance infrastructure is needed if we are to tackle the intergenerational unfairness of our housing economy.'</i></p>
<p>*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What is the demand for additional affordable housing for both rental and purchase?2. What are the benefits in terms of improved health & well-being?3. Can KCC provide an overarching approach to planning for housing development and

- how best can this be linked into the aspirations of the districts?
4. How KCC can work with developers, districts and housing associations in delivering additional housing and that the necessary associated infrastructure is provided at the same time?
 5. What is the scope for KCC to use its borrowing powers for the building of affordable housing and related infrastructure?
 6. If KCC were to become a lead housing developer, what would the appropriate corporate and governance for this activity?

***Scope of the review:-**

- Determine a definition of ‘affordable’ for Kent. An equation to earnings?
- Assess current and future demand for affordable housing – to rent and to buy including rent to buy schemes.
- Interviews with districts, housing associations, developers, CCGs, public transport providers, banks/building societies.
- Investigations into infrastructure pressures: traffic, school places, health & social care provision, open space and recreation, boundary concerns, health, etc.
- Understand Community Infrastructure Levy and S106 Contributions use and variances across the County. (This was summarised in the CCN report.) Why does it vary across Kent, how well is it spent? Should KCC have a bigger role in setting it?
- Consider new technology and potential options for lower house-building costs.
- Consider options for supporting smaller Kent-based developers – growth agenda, could enterprise help here?
- Assess the opportunities and risks of KCC becoming a lead financial provider for affordable housing.

***Purpose and objectives of the Review:-**

As stated in the CCN report, ‘**Housing and the county role of place shaping is vital to ensuring that our communities are able to thrive and helping to tackle the housing shortage and affordability.**’

The proposed select committee would

- Examine what role KCC could have as the principal driver of new local authority developed affordable housing in Kent.
- It would assess the scope for KCC to provide an over-arching spatial planning role for the development of new affordable housing as well as the necessary infrastructure.
- It would determine whether the provision of affordable housing would benefit from the greater scale which county council can bring to bear.
- It would examine the arguments for KCC to become the lead financial promotor for affordable housing in the county.

Every person should be given the opportunity to live in good quality and affordable housing. This committee would determine whether KCC can play a key role in tackling the intergenerational unfairness of our housing economy.

Proposer of the review - (Please print name and sign)

.....Trudy Dean.....

To be completed by the Directorate/Cabinet Member(s)

Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2017/18? (see Note 2 below)	
<u>To follow</u>	
How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?	
How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?	
How will this review add value to the County Council and residents of Kent?	
Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe? If yes, please give details:	
Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Corporate Director:-	
Portfolio Holder's Signature:-	
Corporate Director's Signature:-	
Contact Officer:-	Date:-

Notes

Note 1 - Possible reasons for the review

1. Key public issue, identified by
 - Member contact with constituents/member surgeries
 - Contact with key representative bodies/forums
 - Media coverage – Public interest issue covered in local media
 - Focus groups/citizens panels
2. Issue highlighted via previous reviews
3. Issue recommended to another body e.g. Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee, a Cabinet Committee, Directorate or an external body.
4. Poor performing service i.e.:-
 - High level of complaints/dissatisfaction with service
 - Performance standards poor/below target – (evidence from PI's or benchmarking)
 - Identified through external review/inspection (OFSTED/Audit etc)
 - Budgetary overspends
5. Key reports or new evidence published
6. County Council priority
7. Central Government priority/New Government guidance or legislation published

Note 2 - Possible reasons why a review should not be added to the work programme.

1. Issue being examined by
 - Cabinet
 - Scrutiny
 - Officer Group
 - another internal body
 - an external body
2. It has been the subject of a topic review by other Councils from which details of best practice can be obtained.
3. New legislation or guidance expected.
4. **NB:** Before suggesting that a review should not be included in the work programme the following should be considered:-

Could consideration of this issue 'add value' without causing unnecessary duplication, for instance by:

- i) Looking at this issue in conjunction with another group,
- ii) Through appropriate timing of the topic review,

- iii) Through considering another group's findings rather than duplicating the same/or similar activity.

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ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

* -sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic

***Subject of Proposed Review:-**

Pupil Premium - narrowing the attainment gap for Kent's vulnerable learners

***Reason for the Review:-**

(see Note 1 below)

To review performance standards
Issue highlighted via previous review
County Council priority

***Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-**

Impacts of Pupil Premium in Kent at every stage - is it doing well for vulnerable learners?
How is it spent and is it value for money?
Has it been used to support children who need it most?
Is it closing the attainment gap in Kent?
How is the evidence collected/collated?
Is FSM (Free School Meals), reliant on parental input/economic factors/funding etc. a reliable way to identify those who would benefit?

***Scope of the review:-**

All schools for data analysis
Identify and focus on schools that significantly outperform national standards

***Purpose and objectives of the Review:-**

Identify impacts of Pupil Premium in narrowing the gap for Kent's vulnerable learners
To identify successful best practice in order to share with others to narrow the attainment gap for vulnerable learners.

Proposer of the review- (Please print name and sign)

SHELLINA PRENDERGAST



To be completed by the Directorate/Cabinet Member(s)

Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2017/18? (see Note 2 below)

No. This Select Committee is timely and will contribute to the national focus on Vulnerable Learners.

Theresa May, in June 2017, reinforced the national priority of securing higher levels of social mobility by stating: "I want to make Britain a country that works for everyone.....when it comes to opportunity we won't entrench the advantages of the fortunate few. We will do everything we can to help anybody, whatever their background, to go as far as your talents will take you."

How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?

KCC's Strategic Statement 2015-20 'Increasing Opportunities, Achieving Outcomes' has three strategic outcomes at its core. CYPE is the Directorate responsible for achieving the outcome 'every child and young person in Kent gets the best start in life'. In order to achieve this outcome, CYPE's Vision and Priorities for Improvement details the priorities and targets for improvement, which have been built in partnership in schools and other stakeholders

The stark contrast in learner outcomes requires an urgent prioritisation of the support for vulnerable learners in Kent in order to ensure that the aspirations 'Vision and Priorities for Improvement' 2017-20 are achieved.

Accordingly, one of CYPE's key strategic priorities in 2017-18 is to narrow the achievement gaps, particularly for vulnerable learners. This Select Committee provides us with the opportunity to review our 'Vulnerable Learners Strategy' which has at its core the objective of narrowing achievement gaps and promoting greater social mobility.

A key policy has been the introduction of the Pupil Premium (currently worth £58m in Kent), with the expectation that this funding will be used effectively to raise attainment for pupils who are eligible for free school meals and thereby close achievement gaps between these pupils and their peers. The Pupil Premium has promised much but so far in has delivered relatively little improvement in Kent and nationally. CYPE is focussing on this challenge and the Vulnerable Learners Strategy is our vehicle to move this agenda forward in Kent in a more significant and joined up way.

How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?

It will support:

- The continuing focus on improving outcomes for vulnerable learners, particularly pupils with SEN, Children in Care and children's eligible for Free School Meals.
- It will enable us to determine the extent of the gaps, assess where progress is being made, and why, where additional focus is needed and what will make the difference. This data analysis will be longitudinal and enable an assessment against comparable neighbours.

- A focus by schools and other public agencies supporting schools, on vulnerable learners to ensure more effective, targeted support and investment for intervention programmes, including Education Endowment Foundation projects that reduce the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers, more rapidly.
- The relentless ambition of all senior educational leaders in Kent to ensure good progress and high expectations for vulnerable learners to achieve better outcomes in narrowing the attainment gap at pace.
- The identification and dissemination of good practice in schools and strategies that are having some impact in narrowing achievement gaps and promoting greater social mobility.
- The growing body of knowledge of 'What Works' in diminishing the differences between disadvantaged pupils and their peers.

How will this review add value to the County Council and residents of Kent?

Education is the greatest opportunity young people have to achieve life-long benefits. At present these benefits are greater for some and far too limited for others, often through no fault of their own.

Improving outcomes for vulnerable learners has been a priority for a number of national bodies and government departments. Sutton Trust research reveals the current state of low social mobility in the UK and the disproportionate representation of the most affluent in our universities and professions. The economic cost of this inequity to the country, and the impact on the life choices of young people, is considerable unless change occurs.

KCC, as champion and advocate for children, young people and families, aims to ensure there is a high quality range of support, and opportunities, to enable vulnerable learners to become confident individuals, effective communicators, successful and responsive citizens, to remain healthy and to achieve the educational and life outcomes which they deserve.

The Vulnerable Learners Strategy brings together in one document all the actions we are taking in partnership with schools to improve outcomes for vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.

This Select Committee Review will add weight and focus to inform the Strategy moving forward.

Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe? If yes, please give details:

Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Corporate Director:-

Portfolio Holder's Signature:-



Corporate Director's Signature:-pp Patrick Leeson

Contact Officer:- Patrick Leeson	Date:- 25 August 2017
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Notes

Note 1 - Possible reasons for the review

1. Key public issue, identified by
 - Member contact with constituents/member surgeries
 - Contact with key representative bodies/forums
 - Media coverage – Public interest issue covered in local media
 - Focus groups/citizens panels
2. Issue highlighted via previous reviews
3. Issue recommended to another body e.g. Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee, a Cabinet Committee, Directorate or an external body.
4. Poor performing service i.e.:-
 - High level of complaints/dissatisfaction with service
 - Performance standards poor/below target – (evidence from PI's or benchmarking)
 - Identified through external review/inspection (OFSTED/Audit etc)
 - Budgetary overspends
5. Key reports or new evidence published
6. County Council priority
7. Central Government priority/New Government guidance or legislation published

Note 2 - Possible reasons why a review should not be added to the work programme.

1. Issue being examined by
 - Cabinet
 - Scrutiny
 - Officer Group
 - another internal body
 - an external body
2. It has been the subject of a topic review by other Councils from which details of best practice can be obtained.
3. New legislation or guidance expected.

4. **NB:** Before suggesting that a review should not be included in the work programme the following should be considered:-

Could consideration of this issue 'add value' without causing unnecessary duplication, for instance by:

- i) Looking at this issue in conjunction with another group,
- ii) Through appropriate timing of the topic review,
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