



Work Programme

This document has been classified as: **Official**

Sean Allen (Democracy Support Officer)

Tel: 0191 424 7544

**Children Safeguarding and Young People Scrutiny
Committee –10 June 2026**

Report to Children Safeguarding and Young People Committee

Cabinet Portfolio/Lead Member: N/A

Report of Director of Legal and Governance

Subject: Work Programme for the Committee 2026/2027

Date: 10 June 2026

Wards affected: All

Council ambitions: The report will set out the future items for Children Safeguarding and Young People Scrutiny committee meetings, potentially relating to all five council ambitions.

Does the report and any appendices contain information which has been identified as confidential or exempt?

- No, this report does not contain information identified as confidential or exempt.

For Executive Decisions only:

Is the decision a Key Decision? Yes / No

Is it included in the Forward Plan? Yes / No

If not in the Forward Plan is the report: General Exception Rule / Special Urgency Rule

Relevant Scrutiny Chair: Cllr S Tooley

Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny? Yes / No

(If the decision is anything other than any executive decision made by the Cabinet or a Key Decision made by an officer under delegated powers, call-in is not applicable. This should be explained in the report).

Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the Committee's currently scheduled activities for the 2026/2027 Municipal Year in a clear and structured format for the information of Members.
- 1.2 To give Members an opportunity to amend or insert new activities to be considered at future meetings of the Committee.

Background Information

- 2.1 At the start of each Municipal Year, Members are invited to agree an initial work programme for the Children Safeguarding and Young People Scrutiny Committee for the year ahead.
- 2.2 It is important to note that the work programme is not a rigid document but rather it will form the basis of the Committee's work for the next 12 months and can be amended or supplemented by Members at each meeting. This allows flexibility to reflect emerging priorities.
- 2.3 The Chair will also, on occasion, be asked to approve the inclusion of any additional topics that might arise between meetings.
- 2.4 The Terms of Reference of the Children Safeguarding and Young People Scrutiny Committee are as follows:
 - a) Children Social Services, Social Care and Safeguarding policy and effectiveness of all council services, and of wider partnerships, in ensuring children and young people are safe and receive the help they need, when they need it.
 - b) Scrutinise a range of information to assess and evaluate the performance of safeguarding services for Children and Young People to assurance themselves of (a) above.
 - c) Family Support
 - d) Fostering and Adoption
 - e) Services for Young People

Main issues and Options to be Considered

- 3.1 The report seeks suggestions for items for future consideration by the Committee, in line with the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

Implications

Financial and Resources

- 4.1 There are no known financial or resource implications arising from this report at this time.

Legal and Governance

- 5.1 Overview and Scrutiny Committees were established as part of the Local Government Act 2000 to scrutinise decisions made by the executive. The current legislative provisions for Overview and Scrutiny Committees are contained in the Localism Act 2011.

Risk

- 6.1 As this report is presented for information and not for any direct decision-making, there are no direct risks attached to it.
- 6.2 Members of the Committee should scrutinize a range of items in line with the terms of reference, in order to assure themselves that children and young people in the Borough are safe and receiving the help they need. If Members do not scrutinize appropriate items, there is a risk that adequate assurance may not be provided to Members.

Equality and Diversity and Community

- 7.1 There are no equality, diversity or community implications arising from this report.

Environmental and Sustainability

8.1 There are no environmental or sustainability implications from this report.

Council Ambitions, Policies, Strategies and Plans

9.1 The Children Safeguarding and Young People Scrutiny Committee should consider a work programme which supports the Council in fulfilling its Vision and the Council's Strategy and Ambitions for South Tyneside, challenging performance and influencing, particularly with regards to corporate issues and cross cutting themes and the Council's continuous development against the Vision and Strategy, and to review that programme regularly.

Consultation and Engagement

10.1 Children Safeguarding and Young People Scrutiny Committee where appropriate will engage with external partners to facilitate scrutiny work.

Recommendations

11.1 Members are invited to review the issues identified and make any amendments or additions deemed necessary for the work programme for 2026/27.

Reasons for Recommendations

12.1 To ensure the Committee has a focused and relevant work programme for 2026/27

List of Appendices

Where reports include appendices, the report author should list them here. If there are no appendices, state "None".

The following is a list of the background papers (excluding exempt papers) relied upon in the preparation of the above report:

Background Paper	File Ref:	File Location

Work Programme 2025/26

Children Safeguarding and Young People Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
10 June 2026	Scrutiny Framework in South Tyneside	Presentation	Jonathan Lunness
	Children and Family Service Overview	Presentation	Chris Ring
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
21 July 2026			
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
22 September 2026			

Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
10 November 2026			
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
6 January 2027			
Date of Meeting	Focus Area	Methodology (commission, workshops, focus groups, visits etc)	Lead Member/ Responsible Officer
17 February 2027			

To be scheduled: