

Terms of Reference

People Overview & Scrutiny Task & Finish Group – Childhood Obesity

Purpose:

The proposed purpose of the Task and Finish group is to gain a better understanding of the issues that impact on children being able to achieve and sustain a healthy weight in Thurrock and the work being undertaken to tackle the problem of childhood obesity.

The outcome of the Task & Finish Group will be to provide a report on the summary themes and recommend further action to the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Membership:

- 3 elected members - 1 Conservative, 2 Labour
- 1 co-opted members – Thurrock Coalition.

Due to a change in the membership of the Committee following the September 2024 Full Council meeting, the Independent member originally nominated to sit on the Task & Finish Group withdrew.

Chair:

The Chair was appointed by the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 July 2024 (Councillor Elizabeth Rigby).

The Vice-Chair was elected by the membership of the Task & Finish Group at its first meeting (Cllr Tony Fish). The appointments will last until the work of the Task & Finish Group is complete.

Duration:

The Task and Finish Group was agreed at the meeting of People Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 July 2024 and will have 10 weeks to complete their work. Because of the holiday period during August, it is proposed the Task and Finish Group will begin in September and have finished their work by 11 November 2024. A final report will be presented to People Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January 2025.

Meeting Schedule:

The Task & Finish Group will meet as and when required, in line with the key dates proposed in the below table. The first meeting will look at the overview of the group and come up with scope of themes to be discussed.

Activities:

The Task & Finish Group will undertake all but not exclusively the following activities:

- Meet with officers and stakeholders;
- Visit weight management services;
- Meet with and listen to children's and young people's views.

These meetings and activities can be held during the day / evening.

Decision-Making:

The Working Group has no executive power, and all findings and recommendations will be referred directly to the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee. A copy of the report and any scrutiny recommendations will be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board who will determine any actions required.

Timeline:

As outlined within the below table.

Date	Action	Response
September	Meet with officers in the council to discuss how the 'Health in All Policies approach to place-shaping' document is being used to help address the wider determinants impacts on childhood obesity.	
September	Meet with and hear the views of stakeholders in childhood obesity such as early years providers, schools, community, and the voluntary sector. Arrangements will also be made for members to hear the views of children and young people themselves.	
September / October	Meet with and question representatives from maternity and health visiting services in Thurrock on their work with pregnant women to manage the problem of excess weight during pregnancy and ensure the best possible outcomes for women and their babies.	
October	Meet with and hear the views of stakeholders such as early years providers, schools, community, and voluntary sector. Meet with	

	children and young people e.g. Youth Council	
October	Visit to current weight management programmes being delivered in Thurrock.	
November	T&F Group members to meet and approve the final report	

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