

Appendix 1 – Suggested Scrutiny Topics for 2025/2026

Ref	Suggested Scrutiny Investigation Topic	Source	Council Plan 2024-2027, Ambition and Aim
1	<p><u>Use of Trauma Informed Response in Schools</u></p> <p>(No further details provided).</p>	Councillor	<p>A successful and ambitious town - <i>Improve attainment in education and skills.</i></p> <p>A healthy Place -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Improve life chances of our residents by responding to health inequalities.</i> - <i>Promote inclusivity for all.</i>
2	<p><u>Voice of Children and Young People</u></p> <p><i>“How do we include the voice of children and young people across directorates?”</i></p>	Councillor	<p>A successful and ambitious town - <i>Improve attainment in education and skills.</i></p> <p>A healthy Place -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Improve life chances of our residents by responding to health inequalities.</i> - <i>Promote inclusivity for all.</i>
3	<p><u>Support for Young Parents</u></p> <p><i>“Support for Young Parents should be a topic because there isn’t any at all. Without this there’s an increase risk of DV, suicide, crimes, less kids going into the system and many more. I am making a PowerPoint regarding this which includes statistics and stories and many more which I’d be happy to present.”</i></p> <p>(N.B no details of role or organisation provided).</p>	Public	<p>A successful and ambitious town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Improve attainment in education and skills.</i> <p>A healthy Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Promote inclusivity for all.</i> <p>Safe and resilient communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Promote new ideas and community initiatives.</i> - <i>Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.</i>

4	<p><u>Child Exploitation</u></p> <p><i>"I would like to put the topic of child exploitation of children in the area particularly by gangs of men. Is there any evidence to suggest that this as being taken place in the Middlesbrough area?"</i></p>	Public	<p>Safe and resilient communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote new ideas and community initiatives. - Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.
5	<p><u>Children and Child Exploitation</u></p> <p><i>"Are we taking Harm Outside The Home seriously?"</i></p>	Councillor	<p>Safe and resilient communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote new ideas and community initiatives. - Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.
6	<p><u>Fostering</u></p> <p><i>"Fostering and how we increase and retain foster carers. In particular, how we grow foster carers across different demographics. With pressures on children's social care and its budgets, its important we recruit and retain our foster parent cohort."</i></p>	Councillor	<p>A healthy Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve life chances of our residents by responding to health inequalities. - Promote inclusivity for all. <p>Delivering best value - Set a balanced revenue budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan to restore financial resilience and sustainability.</p>
7	<p><u>Vulnerable Children and Young People</u></p> <p><i>"How are we working together across Children's Services to support CYP who are vulnerable?"</i></p>	Officer	<p>A successful and ambitious town - Improve attainment in education and skills.</p> <p>A healthy Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote inclusivity for all. - Reduce poverty. <p>Safe and resilient communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote new ideas and community initiatives. - Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

8	<p><u>Children and Young People who do not wish to Engage in Education</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YP NEET 2. High Needs Funding and the significant pressures locally and nationally 	Officer	<p>A successful and ambitious town - <i>Improve attainment in education and skills.</i></p> <p>A healthy Place - <i>Promote inclusivity for all. Reduce poverty.</i></p>
9	<p><u>Transition to Adult Services</u></p> <p><i>“Determining if the processes and support in place for preparing for adulthood (transitions) assists families and carers and supports the Council priorities”.</i></p>	Officer	<p>A healthy Place - <i>Promote inclusivity for all.</i></p>
10	<p><u>Out of Area Specialist Provision</u></p> <p>To look at the numbers of children and young people accessing specialist provision outside of the area; how services are accessed and the type of support provided.</p>	Councillor	<p>A healthy Place - <i>Promote inclusivity for all.</i></p>