

**Somerset Council – Summary of Outcomes - Scrutiny Committee - Childrens and Families on Wednesday, 12 July 2023**

| Agenda Item No                             | Topic  | Decision   |
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| <b>Part A – Items considered in public</b> |  |  |
| <b>A3</b>                                  | <b>Minutes from the Previous Meeting held on 4 May 2023</b>      | Resolved that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee - Childrens and Families held on 4 May 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.  |
| <b>A4</b>                                  | <b>Public Question Time</b>                                      | <p>Submissions / request to speak had been received from the following members of the public and the information provided had been circulated as a supplementary agenda pack.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms E Elliott – read out by S Mathivet.</li> <li>2. Ms H Washbourne</li> <li>3. Mrs V Pearson</li> </ol> <p>The responses will be circulated in an addendum document with the minutes from the meeting.</p>   |
| <b>A5</b>                                  | <b>Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Programme</b> | <p>The Committee received and noted the current work programme and outcome tracker and the Executive’s Forward Plan.</p> <p>The Chair highlighted the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In view of the work plan, the need for some additional meetings to be scheduled and it is proposed that an additional meeting is arranged in October – details to be circulated.</li> <li>• Members of the Committee will be invited to attend the Scrutiny Committee –</li> </ul> |

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|                |  | Communities meeting on 9 August for the following agenda item –<br>Recommissioning of the 16+ housing / supported accommodation.   |
| <b>A6</b>      | <b>22/23 Budget outturn position and 23/24 Emerging issues</b> | <p>Presentation received providing an overview of the budget outturn position for 2022/23 and issues around the 2023/24 budget.</p> <p>There will be budget sessions for all members from September – there will be a session on the DSG which will be useful to attend.</p> <p>Concern on budget position and the future issues which were highlighted.</p> <p>Detail around SEND provision and sufficiency to be shared.</p>               |
| <b>A7</b>      | <b>Academisation Finance Policy and Procedure</b>              | <p>Received <a href="#">report</a> and presentation at meeting – highlighting why changes are being proposed. The Council is seeking to move to a more transparent methodology for planning academisation. Paper is due to be considered by the Executive on 2 August 2023.</p> <p>The Committee had no negative comments on the report – do need to update the totals set out in the Table in Appendix 1 (Schools by phase and status).</p> |
| <b>A8</b>      | <b>Update on Homes &amp; Horizons Partnership</b>              | <p>The Committee received a <a href="#">presentation</a> on the homes and horizons strategic partnership.</p> <p>The Committee congratulated all the team on the national award for the Children’s home partnership.</p>   |

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|                |  | <p>Supported officers in the discussions with the DfE to allow the good work to continue.</p> <p>Would like to hear about <i>outcomes</i> for young people – i.e. the impact having on their lives, noting the role of the Corporate Parent Board.</p>   |
| <b>A9</b>      | <b>Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing in Somerset</b>        | <p>The Committee received a detailed <a href="#">presentation</a>, which included an update on the Trauma Informed Somerset practice model and implementation.</p> <p>The Committee asked for details on the regional summit in the autumn and noted the position re the recruitment of coordinator and the system wide trauma informed training offer.</p>  |
| <b>A10</b>     | <b>Somerset Youth Justice Partnership Board Plan 2023 - 2024</b> | <p>The Committee received report and <a href="#">presentation</a> on the Somerset Youth Justice Partnership Board Plan 2023 – 2024.</p> <p>The format of the Plan is determined by the YJB – which the Committee found somewhat confusing – this comment will be reported back.</p> <p>The Committee noted and accepted the report. The Plan was submitted to the National YJB on 30 June and needs to be signed off by Full Council (retrospectively) in accordance with Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (England) Functions and Responsibilities Regulations 2000.</p> |

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| <b>A11</b>            | <b>Home to School Transport Task and Finish Group - interim update</b> | <p>The Committee received an update from the Executive member, Cllr Tessa Munt.</p> <p>The Transport Review has been completed by Edge Public Solutions, with a report provided to officers in May. Richard Hall has met with the Task and Finish Group to discuss the report findings and recommendations. David Carter (Service Director Infrastructure and Transport) and the Service Director Inclusion are scheduled to discuss the review recommendations at the Council’s Transition, Transformation and Change Board on 18 July with a view to seeking approval to establishing a transformation programme to address the review recommendations over a two-to-three-year period.</p> <p>The Committee noted the update. Due to the imperative for change (delivering required savings and protection of the service from risk of failure), the Committee asked for the report to be shared with members at the earliest opportunity and for the Executive member to report back to the next meeting.</p> |
| <b>A12</b>            | <b>Items for Information - Standing Item</b>                           | <p>The Committee noted the following items for information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Centre of Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) publication – Scrutiny of Children’s Services – a short guide – circulated on 9 May 2023</li> <li>(b) Homes and Horizons Partnership – circulated on 15 May 2023</li> <li>(c) Progress update on Ofsted Action Plan – circulated on 10 July 2023</li> <li>(d) Children’s Services – current structure chart – circulated on 28 June 2023</li> </ul>   |

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