



Notice of Meeting of

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Monday, 21 October 2024 at 10.00 am

**John Meikle Room, The Deane House,
Belvedere Road, Taunton TA1 1HE**

To: The members of the Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families

Chair: Councillor Leigh Redman
Vice-chair: Councillor Evie Potts-Jones

Councillor Jason Baker	Councillor Simon Carswell
Councillor Peter Clayton	Councillor Andy Hadley
Councillor Pauline Ham	Councillor Alistair Hendry
Councillor John Hunt	Councillor Marcus Kravis
Councillor Martin Lovell	Councillor Frances Nicholson
Councillor Jeny Snell	Mary Cox – co-opted member
Ruth Hobbs – co-opted member	Rev'd Tobie Osmond – co-opted member

For further information about the meeting, including how to join the meeting virtually, please contact Democratic Services on (01823) 357628 or email: democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk.

All members of the public are welcome to attend our meetings and ask questions or make a statement **by giving advance notice** in writing or by e-mail to the Monitoring Officer at email: democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk by **5pm on Tuesday, 15 October 2024**.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A: Access to Information.

The meeting will be webcast and an audio recording made.
Issued by (the Proper Officer) on Friday, 11 October 2024

AGENDA

Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families - 10.00 am Monday, 21 October 2024

Public Guidance Notes contained in Agenda Annexe (Pages 5 - 6)

Information about the Scrutiny Committee - Children & Families (Pages 7 - 8)

Details on how to join the meeting online (Pages 9 - 10)

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of Interest

To receive and note any declarations of interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The other registrable interests of Councillors of Somerset Council, arising from membership of City, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes: [City, Town & Parish Twin Hatters - Somerset Councillors 2023](#))

3 Minutes from the Meeting held on Wednesday 18 September 2024 (Pages 11 - 16)

To approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on Wednesday 18 September 2024.

4 Public Question Time

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue.

We are now live webcasting most of our committee meetings and you are welcome to view and listen to the discussion. The link to each webcast will be available on the meeting webpage, please see details under 'click here to join online meeting'.

5 Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Programme (Pages 17 - 26)

To receive an update from the Service Manager, Governance Scrutiny. To assist the discussion, the following documents are attached:-

- (a) The Committee's work programme
- (b) The Committee's outcome tracker

Please use the following links to view the latest Somerset Council Forward Plans and Executive Forward Plan of planned key decisions that have been published on the Council's website:

[Somerset Council Forward Plans](#)
[Somerset Council Executive Forward Plan](#)

6 Children's Services - Budget Monitoring update - Month 5 (Pages 27 - 36)

To consider PowerPoint presentation.

Note – the Chair will allow 30 minutes for this agenda item.

7 Funding and provision for children with additional needs - feedback on consultation (Pages 37 - 54)

To consider PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the [consultation](#) - there will be verbal feedback at the meeting on the responses received.

Note – the Chair will allow 50 minutes for this agenda item.

8 SWAP Audit on Education Health and Care Plan Payments (Pages 55 - 70)

To consider PowerPoint presentation.

A copy of the audit report on the EHCP finance review (payments system) is attached for information.

Note – the Chair will allow 30 minutes for this agenda item.

9 Transform Family View (Pages 71 - 86)

To consider PowerPoint presentation – there will also be a short demonstration at the meeting.

Note – the Chair will allow 20 minutes for this agenda item.

10 Items for Information - Standing Item

This is a standing agenda item and will provide details of information sent to Committee members in between meetings, that cover the Committee's policy areas.

- (a) Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report – circulated on 19 September 2024
- (b) Funding and provision for children with additional needs - [consultation](#) – circulated on 26 September 2024
- (c) [Somerset Children & Young People's Plan](#) – circulated on 10 October 2024

If Committee members have any questions or comments on the information, please contact the Committee Administrator on democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk in the first instance and before the date of the meeting.