

Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee

Thursday 9 September 2021

10.00 am Luttrell Room, County Hall,
Taunton, TA1 4DY



To: The Members of the Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families
Committee

Cllr L Redman (Chair), Cllr R Williams (Vice-Chair), Cllr M Dimery, Cllr James Hunt, Cllr B Revans,
Cllr L Vijeh, Cllr W Wallace and Cllr J Williams
The Revd T Osmond, R Hobbs and E Tipper – co-opted members

All Somerset County Council Members are invited to attend meetings of the Cabinet and
Scrutiny Committees.

Issued By Scott Wooldridge, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk and Monitoring Officer -
1 September 2021

For further information about the meeting, please contact Jamie Jackson on 01823 357628 or
07790 577336 or jajackson@somerset.gov.uk or Fiona Abbott on 01823 357337 or
fabbott@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution
under Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to
Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

This agenda and the attached reports and background papers are available on request prior to
the meeting in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different
languages. They can also be accessed via the council's website on
www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers



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AGENDA

Item Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee - 10.00 am Thursday 9 September 2021

**** Public Guidance notes contained in agenda annexe ****

1 **Apologies for Absence**

To receive Members' apologies

2 **Declarations of Interest**

Details of all Members' interests in District, Town and Parish Councils can be viewed on the Council Website at [County Councillors membership of Town, City, Parish or District Councils](#) and this will be displayed in the meeting room (Where relevant).

The Statutory Register of Member's Interests can be inspected via request to the Democratic Service Team.

3 **Minutes from the previous meeting held on 7 July 2021** (Pages 9 - 14)

The Committee is asked to confirm the minutes are accurate.

4 **Public Question Time**

The Chair will allow members of the public to ask a question or make a statement about any matter on the agenda for this meeting. **These questions may be taken during the meeting, when the relevant agenda item is considered, at the Chair's discretion.**

5 **Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee Work Programme**
(Pages 15 - 38)

To receive an update from the Governance Manager, Scrutiny and discuss any items for the forthcoming work programme. To assist the discussion, attached are:

- a) The Committee's work programme
- b) The Committee's Outcome Tracker
- c) The Cabinet's Forward Plan

Please use the following link to view the latest Cabinet Forward Plan of planned key decisions that have been published on the Council's website [Cabinet Forward Plan of Key Decisions](#)

Item Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee - 10.00 am Thursday 9 September 2021

6 **SCC Response to the Afghan Refugee Position**

Verbal update from Simon Clifford, Corporate Affairs Director and Brittney Strange, Health Promotion Manager – Resettlement.

Note: The Chair will be allowing 30 minutes for this agenda item to allow for discussion.

7 **Social Care - The Experience of Younger Children in Care**

To consider presentation from Jayne Shelbourne-Barrow, Strategic Manager CLA and Leaving Care – Presentation (to follow)

Note: The Chair will be allowing 1 hour for this agenda item to allow time for discussion.

8 **Task and Finish Group - update**

Oral update on the work of the Task & Finish Group, on the 'Continuity of Children's Services through Local Government Reorganisation'.

9 **Information Items circulated to the Scrutiny Committee since the last meeting**

- (a) Youth Offending Service - Update on HMIP Inspection – circulated on 1 September - Briefing paper from Lise Bird, Strategic Manager Prevention Services and Helen MacDonald, Service Manager, Operational Management and update on actions from the meeting held on 12 November 2020

If Committee members have any questions or comments on the information, please contact fabbott@somerset.gov.uk in the first instance.

10 **Any other urgent items of business**

The Chair may raise any items of urgent business.

Meetings of the Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of 2021 are as follows: -

- Monday 4 October 2021 @ 10am
- Monday 8 November @ 10 am
- Wednesday 1 December – now beginning @ 2 pm

The meetings will be held in The Luttrell Room, County Hall, Taunton.

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Guidance notes for the meeting

1. Council Public Meetings

The former regulations that enabled virtual committee meetings ended on 7 May 2021. Since then, all committee meetings need to return to face-to-face meetings. The requirement is for members of the committee and key supporting officers to attend in person, along with some provision for any public speakers. However due to the current COVID restrictions and social distancing measures only a small number of people can attend as meeting room capacities are limited. Provision will be made wherever possible for those who do not need to attend in person including the public and press who wish to view the meeting to be able to do so virtually.

Anybody attending the meeting in person will be asked to adhere to the current Government guidance and Council procedures in place to safely work during COVID 19. These include limiting numbers in a venue, maintaining social distancing, using hand sanitisers, wiping down areas that you have used, wearing face coverings when not sitting at a table (unless exempt from doing so) and following one-way signs in the venue/building. You will also be asked to sign in via the NHS Test and Trace app or to sign an attendance record and will be asked relevant questions before admittance to the meeting. Everyone attending the meeting will be asked to undertake a lateral flow test up to 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Please contact the Committee Administrator or Democratic Services on 01823 357628 or email democraticservices@somerset.gov.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

2. Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or the background papers for any item on the agenda should contact Democratic Services at democraticservices@somerset.gov.uk or telephone 01823 357628.

They can also be accessed via the council's website on www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers.

Printed agendas can also be viewed in reception at the Council offices at County Hall, Taunton TA1 4DY.

3. Members' Code of Conduct requirements

When considering the declaration of interests and their actions as a councillor, Members are reminded of the requirements of the Members' Code of Conduct and the underpinning Principles of Public Life: Honesty; Integrity; Selflessness; Objectivity; Accountability; Openness; Leadership. The Code of Conduct can be

viewed at: [Code of Conduct](#)

4. **Minutes of the Meeting**

Details of the issues discussed, and recommendations made at the meeting will be set out in the minutes, which the Committee will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting.

5. **Public Question Time**

If you wish to speak, please contact Democratic Services by 5pm 3 clear working days before the meeting. Email democraticservices@somerset.gov.uk or telephone 01823 357628.

Members of public wishing to speak or ask a question will need to attend in person or if unable can submit their question or statement in writing for an officer to read out.

In order to keep everyone safe, we respectfully request that all visitors to the building follow all aspects of the Covid-Secure guidance. Failure to do so may result in you being asked to leave the building for safety reasons.

After entering the Council building you may be taken to a waiting room before being taken to the meeting for the relevant agenda item to ask your question. After the agenda item has finished you will be asked to leave the meeting for other members of the public to attend to speak on other items.

A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been agreed. However, questions or statements about any matter on the agenda for this meeting may be taken at the time when each matter is considered.

At the Chair's invitation you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments about any matter on the Committee's agenda – providing you have given the required notice. You may also present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes in total (20 minutes for meetings other than County Council meetings).

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chair. You may not take a direct part in the debate. The Chair will decide when public participation is to finish.

If an item on the agenda is contentious, with many people wishing to attend the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

An issue will not be deferred just because you cannot be present for the meeting. Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted, to three minutes only.

In line with the council's procedural rules, if any member of the public interrupts a meeting the Chair will warn them accordingly.

If that person continues to interrupt or disrupt proceedings the Chair can ask the Democratic Services Officer to remove them as a participant from the meeting.

Provision will be made for anybody who wishes to listen in on the meeting only to follow the meeting online.

6. **Meeting Etiquette for participants**

- Only speak when invited to do so by the Chair.
- Mute your microphone when you are not talking.
- Switch off video if you are not speaking.
- Speak clearly (if you are not using video then please state your name)
- If you're referring to a specific page, mention the page number.
- Switch off your video and microphone after you have spoken.
- There is a facility in Microsoft Teams under the ellipsis button called turn on live captions which provides subtitles on the screen.

7. **Exclusion of Press & Public**

If when considering an item on the agenda, the Committee may consider it appropriate to pass a resolution under Section 100A (4) Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, as defined under the terms of the Act.

If there are members of the public and press listening to the open part of the meeting, then the Democratic Services Officer will, at the appropriate time, ask Participants to leave the meeting when any exempt or confidential information is about to be discussed.

8. **Recording of meetings**

The Council supports the principles of openness and transparency. It allows filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public - providing this is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the

public may use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings. No filming or recording may take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting. As a matter of courtesy to the public, anyone wishing to film or record proceedings is asked to provide reasonable notice to the Committee Administrator so that the relevant Chair can inform those present at the start of the meeting.

We would ask that, as far as possible, members of the public aren't filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

A copy of the Council's Recording of Meetings Protocol is available from the Committee Administrator for the meeting.

SCRUTINY FOR POLICIES, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee held in the Luttrell and Wyndham Rooms, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY, on Wednesday 7 July 2021 at 2.00 pm

Present: Cllr L Redman (Chair), Cllr R Williams (Vice Chair), Cllr James Hunt, Cllr T Munt (substitute for Cllr M Dimery), Cllr B Revans and Cllr W Wallace
The Revd T Osmond – co-opted member

Other Members present: Cllr C Lawrence, Cllr C Paul, Cllr M Chilcott, Cllr F Nicholson and Cllr P Clayton

Apologies for absence: Cllr M Dimery, Cllr L Vjeh and Cllr J Williams and R Hobbs and E Tipper – co-opted members

1 **Declarations of Interest** - Agenda Item 2

There were no new declarations of interest made at the meeting.

2 **Minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 3 March 2021** - Agenda Item 3

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 March 2021 were approved as a correct record.

3 **Minutes from the special meeting held on Tuesday 16 March 2021** - Agenda Item 4

The minutes of the special meeting held on Tuesday 16 March 2021 were approved as a correct record.

4 **Public Question Time** - Agenda Item 5

There were no questions submitted by members of the public.

5 **Scrutiny for Policies, Children and Families Committee Work Programme** - Agenda Item 6

The Committee considered and noted the Committee's current work programme and outcome tracker (which uses a traffic light system) and the Council's Forward Plan of proposed key decisions in forthcoming months including Cabinet meetings up to 15 December 2021.

The following matters were raised by the Committee and also highlighted items for inclusion in the work programme-

- September meeting – include an update on the work of the current Task & Finish Group.
- Cllr Rod Williams and Cllr B Revans asked that consideration be given for a report included in work programme on the extent of the impact of Covid on children and young people’s education in Somerset.
- Cllr Munt – CAMHS service delivery update – this request will be considered as an item for information at the earliest opportunity (for possible feedback at another time).
- The Chair also referred to discussions at the Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee held earlier on 7 July and to discussions at that meeting regarding children’s oral health and the CAMHS service. He advised the Committee that he has also asked the Scrutiny Manager to clarify responsibilities between the Adults and Health Committee and the Children & Families Scrutiny Committee.
- The notes from the informal meeting of the Committee held on 9 June have been circulated to the Committee and the outcomes will be added to the outcome tracker.

The Chair also welcomed the Revd Tobie Osmond, co-opted member, to his first formal meeting of the Committee. There are currently 2 parent governor vacancies on the Committee and the Chair also made a call out for people to fill school governor vacancies more generally. The co-opted members are linked to education items and have voting rights on education matters and are able to fully participate in meetings.

6 **6 months on - learning from the voice of children & young people in the later stages of the pandemic** - Agenda Item 7

The Committee received a PowerPoint presentation from the Council’s Participation & Partnership Manager, Fi Phur on learning from the voice of children and young people in the later stages of the pandemic and followed the presentation given at the meeting on 12 November 2020 on how the pandemic impacted on the delivery of the Children & Young People’s Plan (CYPP).

The purpose of the presentation at this meeting was to update on the development of the CYPP and to hear what young people have said directly about their experiences. Since the merger of the Childrens Trust and the Somerset Safeguarding Children Board to form the Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) the 4 priorities of the CYPP have moved to be part of the 8 priorities of the SSCP and the CYPP is reported quarterly through their governance. It is also accountable to the Independent Scrutineer.

As an overview and background, Ms Phur advised that at the beginning of the of pandemic most young people were able to access engagement

opportunities digitally much more readily. Forums that met physically once a month all day needed to change to more manageable bite size engagement and the outcome of that was much more frequent engagement with young people. Now, young people are wanting a more blended approach (so face to face and Zoom). There is anxiety around 'capacity' as the young people at exam periods felt huge catch up pressure. Some with SEND and some children looked after did not welcome digital meetings as much as other forums due to anxiety and lack of social contact. She explained that there have been 4 forums running during the pandemic with an 'ad hoc' offer as well.

The 4 priorities of the CYPP are - supported families; healthy lives; great education; positive activities and Ms Phur detailed the key issues highlighted and outlined the involvement of young people: -

Supported families - some examples mentioned were - 'Mind of My Own' app which was re-licensed after consultation with young users and young non-users; young people have been involved in delivery of training to social work students at Yeovil College in half term.

Healthy lives – some examples mentioned were - training for all GPs and pharmacist in Somerset being rolled out; SEND young people annual health checks, co-design materials for GP's; Somerset Big Tent; recommissioning of Kooth (on-line counselling app).

Great education – some examples mentioned were – an intern had been employed working with 15 schools and toolkit being launched over the summer; Youth Forum meets termly and have written to education leaders for changes re environment and climate change.

Positive activities - some examples mentioned were – young people from SiCC, SLCC, Youth parliament and the Youth Forum worked with Children Commissioners on the holiday and food activities project.

In conclusion, Ms Phur highlighted the following next steps - will be promoting the results of 'Make Your Mark' survey (themes are – concern about exploitation, county lines, homelessness, domestic abuse), using them in the consultation for the next CYPP 2022 – 2025; the summer sessions of Youth Forum will be focussed on themes of transport and bullying; training - summer festival is being planned with partners and agencies on upskilling SEND young people on their ability to participate; Somerset Children and Young People Survey (SCYPS) by Public Health launch March–May 2021 – the evaluation and data will provide strong evidence to the Written Statement of Action (WSOA) and the new CYPP.

Following the presentation, the Committee watched a short film made by the Care Councils (Sicc and SLCC) - *children in care and care leavers asks of the council as corporate parents*.

The Committee members listened to the presentation and asked several detailed questions, which were responded to by Ms Phur and covered issues such as – how bring lessons learnt from current CYPP into new Plan and benchmarking; reassessing performance measures used – to outcome based accountability system / framework; Supported Families will come under Early Help / Early Intervention approach; young people raising issue of safe education, rather than generally education; safeguarding training and input into resources / support from young people; how best to promote volunteering (Spark) and see how best to reference in the CYPP.

The Chair thanked Fi Phur for the detailed presentation and thanked members for their comments and summed up the discussion as follows: –

- heard about the development of the next CYPP and how it is being shaped and ensure lessons learnt and that young people are instrumental in this.
- good to hear about the health and wellbeing intern and about the work they are doing and asked if they could come to a future Scrutiny Committee meeting to update members about this work.
- noted the safeguarding animation and training to help the LA Designated Officer (LADO) and GP's.
- asked for some case studies to be provided which could be shared widely (*you said, we did* etc.).
- asked that further information on the 'Big Tent' and *Kooth* be circulated to the Committee.
- asked that a briefing note about summer activities and eligibility, be circulated to all members.

AGREED that the presentation be welcomed and the information provided be noted.

7 **School Exclusions** - Agenda Item 8

The Committee considered a report and received a PowerPoint presentation from the Council's Assistant Director, Inclusion, Dr Rob Hart who provided an update and progress on actions taken on the recommendations from the Committee's Task and Finish Group, next steps, and future priorities.

The presentation covered the following: –

- Somerset previously had historic high rates of exclusion from schools
- the Task and Finish Group reported in May 2020 with 10 recommendations which were endorsed by Cabinet in September 2020

- position over last year with fixed period exclusions (varied) and permanent exclusions and the impact of the pandemic – with changes in practice in schools, increase in elective home education at start of school year and also disruption to education and attendance
- the way forward – WSoA – there has been improved performance re completing EHC needs assessments; and referenced the inclusive schools strands, including - the school-led inclusion enquiry; area-based partnership working; strengthening SEND in schools; focused review of Early Help offer
- the way forward – will be a focus on - ‘engagement’ rather than ‘exclusion’; vulnerable learners – extending the role of virtual school; locality inclusion partnerships, with joined up approach to identifying and supporting vulnerable learners; accountability for funding & graduated response; working together creatively to find better solutions.

The Committee members listened to the presentation and asked several detailed questions, which were responded to by Dr Hart as follows: -

- The teams around school test and learn pilots, in Taunton and Cheddar – these will begin in September and will be reviewed with view to being rolled out further
- SEND networks, led by Special Schools and locality-based networks – try to align them.
- The focus on working together creatively to find better solutions – look at virtual school model and extend model to other children & local first panel model.
- Questions on timeliness and also quality of EHCPs, noting that this is an item on the agenda for the October meeting of the Committee.
- Questions about ‘off rolling’ and reference to the [Timpson Review of School Exclusion](#) (not yet implemented) and also training for teachers on dealing with challenging behaviour – mention also made of trauma informed practice.
- The pandemic has had a significant impact and there are a number of young people in need of support - how will the work detailed in the presentation be coordinated and would like more information about the ‘local first panel’.
- Requested that Dr Hart provide an update in 6 months-time on progress on actions taken on the recommendations from the Committee’s Task and Finish Group and the future work outlined in the presentation.

The Chair thanked Dr Hart for the detailed presentation and thanked members for their comments.

8 **Somerset County Council Business Plan - 2021-2023** - Agenda Item 9

The Committee considered a report and received a presentation from the Council's Corporate Affairs Director, Simon Clifford and from the Council's Corporate Planning and Performance Manager, James Hadley. The County Council Business Plan 2021 – 2023 details the strategic ambitions of the authority for the next 2 years.

During the debate, the Committee focussed on the ambitions of the draft Business Plan, set out in Appendix A and the sections which were most relevant to the Scrutiny Committee. The Committee also thanked officers for the time spent briefing Councillors on the Business Plan.

The Scrutiny Committee noted the 2021-23 Draft Business Plan, set out in Appendix A to the submitted report.

9 **Task and Finish Group - update** - Agenda Item 10

The Committee received and noted the update report on the work of the Task and Finish Group on the 'Continuity of Children's Services through Local Government Reorganisation'.

10 **Information Items circulated to the Scrutiny Committee since the last meeting** - Agenda Item 11

The Committee noted the following item which had been circulated for information since the last formal meeting: -

- (a) Children's oral health – briefing paper from the Council's Health Promotion Manager, E Hutt. This outlined how SCC are meeting their statutory responsibilities around oral health including the oral health improvement service, commissioned by SCC Public Health.

The Chair asked that any questions or comments on the paper should be raised with the report author.

11 **Any other urgent items of business** - Agenda Item 12

There were no other items of business.

(The meeting ended at 4.17 pm)
CHAIR

Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Programme 2021 – 2022

Committee meeting dates & agenda items	Lead Officer/Item lead
Informal meeting - 9 June 2021	
Homes for children in Somerset	Helen Price
Education performance data	Amelia Walker / Tony Johnson
7 July 2021	
6 months on – learning from the voice of children & young people in the later stages of the pandemic	Fi Phur
School Exclusions – progress on actions taken on recommendations from the Scrutiny Task & Finish Group	Rob Hart
SCC Business Plan 2021-2023	James Hadley
Task & Finish Group - update	Task & Finish Group
Information Items circulated to the Scrutiny Cttee since last meeting (a) Children’s Oral Health	E Hutt
9 September 2021 @ 10 am	
SCC Response to the Afghan Refugee Position - Verbal update	Simon Clifford Brittney Strange
Social Care – The Experience of younger children in care	Jayne Shelbourne-Barrow
Task and Finish Group - update	Task & Finish Group
Information Items circulated to the Scrutiny Cttee since last meeting (a) YOS – update on actions from 12 November 2020 meeting	Lise Bird / Helen McDonald
Monday 4 October 2021 @ 10 am	
EHCP – deep dive	Claire Merchant-Jones
Adults & Health Scrutiny Cttee - Workshop on ‘Neighbourhoods and Communities’ – moved to 6 October 2021 provisionally. Useful for Members of the C&F Scrutiny Committee to attend.	

(What impact does that have on Children in Somerset?)

Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Programme 2021 – 2022

Monday 8 November 2021 @ 10 am		
Trauma Informed Approach		
Scrutiny review update		Jamie Jackson
Children & Young People’s Plan		Fi Phur Caroline Dowson
Items for information		
(a) School Meal provision – Report (b) Progress on Actions Joint Workshop in October 2020 – Transition arrangements preparing for adulthood - Report to note. <i>Provisional Recommend attend the Adults & Health Scrutiny Cttee meeting on 3 November, if wish to raise any issues</i>		Julia Ridge
Wednesday 1 December 2021 @ 2 pm		

To be scheduled

- Family Safeguarding – mid 2021 -now later in year / early 2022
- Homes for Children – January 2022
- School Exclusions - January 2022
- Report on the extent of the impact of COVID on children & young people’s education in Somerset – raised at meeting on 7 July 2021 – November or December 2021 (prov)
- CAMHS service delivery – be item for information – raised at meeting on 7 July 2021 – will be scheduled before discussion by HWB

Suggested agenda items / for joint workshop with Adults & Health Scrutiny Committee: -

- Immunisations
- Adoption Medicals
- The impact on Children and Families of the next stage of migration/roll out of Universal Credit.

(What impact does that have on Children in Somerset?)

Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Programme 2021 – 2022

Items for further review before added to work plan

- Deep dive into tribunals and appeals relating to education (Cllr Munt to provide further information) raised at meeting on 27 January 2021

Note: Members of the Scrutiny Committee and all other Members of Somerset County Council are invited to contribute items for inclusion in the work programme. Please contact Democratic Services (01823) 359500 & democraticservices@somerset.gov.uk who will assist you in submitting your item.

Version as at 1 September 2021

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Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

Agenda items	owner	Agreed Outcome	RAG Status
24 January 2020			
Family Safeguarding	Claire Winter	<p>It was suggested and agreed that an update would be provided in 6 months.</p> <p>Update November 2020 <i>Due to the impact of Covid, the roll out of Family Safeguarding was postponed until October 2020. The impact of this model on social work practice and evidencing the improvements in children's lives will start to be seen in the first 9 to 12 months from implementation</i></p> <p>Update April 2021 <i>Update provided to the Cabinet meeting on 21 April 2021 circulated to the Scrutiny Cttee.</i></p>	<p>Pending Mid 2021</p> <p>Now later in year or early 2022 - pending report by York Consulting – to be scheduled</p>
9 July 2020			
Unitary update	Julian Wooster	<p>DCS and team to prepare an issues paper around preparing for transition.</p> <p>Update December 2020 – <i>terms of reference being developed, to be taken forward via Task and Finish group.</i></p> <p>Update January 2021 – <i>proposed terms of reference discussed</i></p> <p>Update 3 March 2021 – <i>membership confirmed at meeting</i></p> <p>Update 7 July 2021 – <i>update report received at meeting. Update to be on agenda for September meeting</i></p>	<p>Task and Finish Group work - on going</p>
7th October 2020 – joint workshop with Adults			
Transition arrangements – preparing for adulthood	Mel Lock / Julian Wooster	<p>Joint Adults & Health / Children & Families scrutiny workshop welcomed and from each of the workshops any actions arising would be articulated and tracked and feedback to the relevant Scrutiny Committee and added to future workplans.</p>	<p>Progress on actions to be circulated – November (provisionally) Cttee to be recommended to attend Adults & Health Cttee</p>

Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

12th November 2020			
Youth Offending Service – to consider the HMIP Day 1 presentation	Claire Winter / Kat Brooklyn	Presentation about the work of the YOS and about the forthcoming HMIP Inspection which is due to take place in 2021. Agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair would meet with officers to prepare a briefing note for future cttee meeting, on the following – speech and language service, County Lines (prevention), education attendance and outcomes.	Information item - September 2021 mtg
How has COVID-19 impacted on the delivery of the CYPP	Fiona Phur	Received report and presentation on how has COVID-19 impacted on the delivery of the CYPP. Chair asked for more details / information on <i>Kooth</i> Query raised about home educated young people and examinations – this being followed up. Agreed to provide an update on voice of young person , to March 2021 meeting (following the Youth Forum session)	7 July 2021 Completed
Scrutiny review	Jamie Jackson	Detailed update provided about the background to the review, recommendations agreed, and actions taken. Focused on Recommendations 5, 7, 10 and that target is to ensure that all recommendations have been fully embedded by March 2021. Update noted.	Update now to November 2021 mtg – to include update / progress on actions specific to this Cttee.
2nd December 2020			
Work programme	Rob Hart	Agreed that the recommendations from the Task & Finish Group on 'Exclusions' would be added to the outcome tracker. Noted that the Government has indicated may be revising the guidance.	7 July 2021 Completed

Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

WSoA	Julian Wooster	<p>The Director provided a detailed report which provided a further update about the Written Statement of Action (WSoA) which priorities the areas' work on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in the forthcoming 18 – 24 months. A copy of the signed-off WSoA had also been provided to the Committee.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the best way to add value and what it should focus its efforts on. Agreed: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To note that following the focused work on School Exclusions, a report on the timeliness and quality of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) will be considered at the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 27 January 2021. 2. That, in view of the significant challenges in Somerset, the SEND Improvement Board be encouraged to closely monitor the work joint working improvements needed between partners to support children with Autism and other associated neuro-development conditions. 3. That the following areas within the WSoA will be explored in more detail by the Scrutiny Committee: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leadership (Improvement Priority 2) ➤ ASD (Improvement Priority 5) (see recommendation 2 above) ➤ Inclusive Schools (Improvement Priority 6) ➤ Performance Monitoring 4. The Chair and Vice Chair will meet to discuss the scheduling of the areas of work and expectations in terms of reports for example. 	<p>Pending</p> <p>Scheduling to be determined</p> <p>Update January 2021 - EHCP deep dive to be moved to future agenda – October 2021 mtg</p> <p>Update July 2021 – presentation at informal meeting on educational performance data, outlined areas of focus, to be picked up in next 6 – 12 months</p>
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Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

27 January 2021			
Work programme		Agreed that a follow up to the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) workshop held on 22 January, looking at key areas of development in Somerset ACE be added to the Forward Plan for later in the year. Possibly joint with Adults & Health Scrutiny Cttee.	Trauma informed approach – November 2021 mtg
		Items for further review before adding to work plan: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is the LA working with tribunals and appeals relating to education and what lessons learning in relation to improving children’s access to app education (deep dive) • Experience of younger children in care 	Pending September 2021 mtg
	Julia Ridge	School Meals provision – referencing the Somerset climate emergency policies – raised Cllr Dimery	Paper for information to be provided. Pending.
Children’s Services Data Overview	Claire Winter	<p>The Committee received a presentation from the Council’s Deputy Director, Children Services Claire Winter, on Children’s Services data trends. The purpose of the presentation was for the Committee to consider children services data and partnership qualitative information to identify areas of possible concern and success in these strategic leadership of the Somerset Children’s Partnership; to explore potential hypothesis from the information provided about the effectiveness of specific aspects of that leadership in improving children’s lives; and to prioritise the hypothesis the committee would like to test through work integrated into the Forward Plan.</p> <p>The presentation was divided into 4 sections- Early help, Children in need of help and protection, Children looked after and Care leavers, with each section broken down into the following- background, data, what the data indicates and potential hypotheses, for further scrutiny by the Committee as part of its forward plan.</p>	Completed

Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

		<p>AGREED: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the presentation be noted and welcomed in helping to inform the future work of the Committee. 2. That further work is needed to consider what the data implies and to frame and articulate this future work. 3. That the Chair and Vice Chair will meet to discuss this further. 	Pending
Impact of COVID-19 on children and young people's mental health and wellbeing	Multi agency session	Briefing paper to be provided about Mental Health Support Teams (inc Education Mental Health Practitioners) in early summer 2021	
3 March 2021			
Overview of prevention work	Louise Palmer	<p>Ms Palmer was asked to share details of the Early Help Board meetings, so those members who are interested can dip into them, as observers. The Cttee noted that early help is delivered by many partners and it can happen at any time</p> <p>Ms Palmer to provide a briefing note on early help, to be shared with all members, to include an explanation about how early help relates to prevention particularly in the sense of being reactive rather than proactive (context).</p>	Pending
9 June 2021 – informal			

Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

<p>Homes for children in Somerset</p>	<p>Helen Price</p>	<p>Focus of this item was to discuss and comment and to feed into the decision-making process, ahead of the Cabinet meeting on 21 June 2021, that will see Somerset get back into the delivery of its own children’s homes. The new proposed service will offer the right intervention at the right time and tailored to meet the needs of this high need cohort of young people. The service would combine the resources of <u>children’s homes</u>, <u>high needs foster carers</u>, and a <u>therapeutic education service</u>. It will deliver a new blended care model and services that address the full range of needs of children and young people with complex multiple needs. These young people would be at risk or currently using high cost, sometimes distant placements.</p> <p>The Chair summed up the discussion as follows – views to be forwarded to Cabinet ahead of its meeting on 21 June: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including young people as much as possible is important, in both the commissioning and the operation • Positive comments were received about the learning / revising to develop our offer • Working with providers, in a partnership arrangement and along with joint commissioning with our main stakeholders - blending the provision to include – NHS, Police, CAMHS, for example, to make sure we have a good offer • Taking good practice from other authorities and developing it to fit Somerset, will help our young people • Asked for clarity around the number of young people we will be supporting in this • Consider if in future, if consider building homes so we can build the provision specifically from there • Supportive of the proposals, with the need to ensure clear targets and KPIs are set and importantly monitored to provide social benefit and value and to ensure establishing relationships to fit alongside these • That a more reflective name be agreed. 	<p>Completed</p>
		<p>Request feedback report in 6 months</p>	<p>To be scheduled – January 2022</p>

Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

Education Performance Data	Amelia Walker / Tony Johnson	<p>Detailed presentation on education and performance trends -to help inform future work of the Committee and how scrutiny can 'add value'.</p> <p>Interesting data on educational outcomes in parts if county to be looked at.</p> <p>The presentation was a great learning opportunity and need to find a way to offer up an opportunity to present the findings from the data and to find a way to hold to account for any achievements / benefits / improvements can make from that.</p>	Pending
7 July 2021			
Work programme		<p>Scrutiny Manager to clarify responsibilities between the Adults and Health Committee and the Children & Families Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>For further review: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the extent of the impact of Covid on children and young people's education in Somerset. • CAMHS service delivery update – this request will be considered as an item for information at the earliest opportunity (for possible feedback at another time). 	<p>Pending</p> <p>November or December 2021 meeting</p> <p>Will be circulate prior to discussion by HWB – this will be scheduled by the Board soon.</p>

Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

6 months on - learning from the voice of children & young people in the later stages of the pandemic	Fi Phur	<p>Received presentation and update on development of the CYPP 2022 – 2025 and to hear what young people have said directly about their experiences. This followed item on agenda of 12 November 2020 meeting.</p> <p>The Chair summed up the discussion as follows: –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • heard about the development of the next CYPP and how it is being shaped and ensure lessons learnt and that young people are instrumental in this. • good to hear about the health and wellbeing intern and about the work they are doing and asked if they could come to a future Scrutiny Committee meeting to update members about this work. • noted the safeguarding animation and training to help the LA Designated Officer (LADO) and GP's. • asked for some case studies to be provided which could be shared widely (<i>you said, we did</i> etc.). • asked that further information on the 'Big Tent' and <i>Kooth</i> be circulated to the Committee. • asked that a briefing note about summer activities and eligibility, be circulated to all members. 	<p>Completed</p> <p>New CYPP to be discussed at mtg in November 2021</p>
School Exclusions	Dr Rob Hart	<p>The Committee considered a report and received a PowerPoint presentation from the Council's Assistant Director, Inclusion, Dr Rob Hart who provided an update and progress on actions taken on the recommendations from the Committee's Task and Finish Group, next steps, and future priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the way forward – WSoA – there has been improved performance re completing EHC needs assessments; and referenced the inclusive schools strands, including - the school-led inclusion enquiry; area-based partnership working; strengthening SEND in schools; focussed review of Early Help offer • the way forward – will be a focus on - 'engagement' rather than 'exclusion'; vulnerable learners – extending the role of virtual school; locality inclusion partnerships, with joined up approach to identifying and supporting vulnerable learners; accountability for funding & graduated response; working together creatively to find better solutions. 	<p>Completed.</p>

Scrutiny for Policies Children & Families Committee Outcome Tracker

		The Committee asked for more information on the local first panel model and for an update in 6 months on progress actions taken on the recommendations from the Committee's Task and Finish Group and the future work outlined in the presentation	To be scheduled January 2022
SCC Business Plan 2021 - 2023	Simon Clifford	The Scrutiny Committee noted the 2021-23 Draft Business Plan, set out in Appendix A to the submitted report.	Completed
Information Items		Children's oral health – briefing paper from the Council's Health Promotion Manager, E Hutt. This outlined how SCC are meeting their statutory responsibilities around oral health including the oral health improvement service, commissioned by SCC Public Health.	Completed

The CYPP 2019-2022 had been produced following a multi-agency process, overseen by Somerset Children's Trust.

The CYPP had 4 priorities: **Supported Families; Healthy Lives; A Great Education; Positive Outcomes.**

2021 - 22 Municipal Year

Version as at 01.09.21

Completed	Action complete and will be removed from tracker for next meeting and retained on Master Tracker document.
Pending	Action on-going or plans in place to address.
Incomplete	No action currently in place with a minimum of 3 months since action agreed.

(Our focus is - What impact does that have on the Children in Somerset?)

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Somerset County Council Forward Plan of proposed Key Decisions

The County Council is required to set out details of planned key decisions at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken. This forward plan sets out key decisions to be taken at Cabinet meetings as well as individual key decisions to be taken by either the Leader, a Cabinet Member or an Officer. The very latest details can always be found on our website at:

<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=134&RD=0&FD=1&bcr=1>

Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 defines a key decision as an executive decision which is likely:

(a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or

(b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority.

The Council has decided that the relevant threshold at or above which the decision is significant will be £500,000 for capital / revenue expenditure or savings. Money delegated to schools as part of the Scheme of Financial Management of Schools exercise is exempt from these thresholds once it is delegated to the school.

Cabinet meetings are held in public at County Hall unless Cabinet resolve for all or part of the meeting to be held in private in order to consider exempt information/confidential business. The Forward Plan will show where this is intended. Agendas and reports for Cabinet meetings are also published on the Council's website at least five clear working days before the meeting date.

Individual key decisions that are shown in the plan as being proposed to be taken "not before" a date will be taken within a month of that date, with the requirement that a report setting out the proposed decision will be published on the Council's website at least five working days before the date of decision. Any representations received will be considered by the decision maker at the decision meeting.

In addition to key decisions, the forward plan shown below lists other business that is scheduled to be considered at a Cabinet meeting during the period of the Plan, which will also include reports for information. The monthly printed plan is updated on an ad hoc basis during each month. *Where possible the County Council will attempt to keep to the dates shown in the Plan. It is quite likely, however, that some items will need to be rescheduled and new items added as new circumstances come to light.* Please ensure therefore that you refer to the most up to date plan.

For general enquiries about the Forward Plan:

- You can view it on the County Council web site at <http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/mgListPlans.aspx?RPId=134&RD=0&FD=1&bcr=1>
- You can arrange to inspect it at County Hall (in Taunton).
- Alternatively, copies can be obtained from Scott Wooldridge or Michael Bryant in the Democratic Services Team by telephoning (01823) 357628 or 359500.

To view the Forward Plan on the website you will need a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader available free from www.adobe.com
Please note that it could take up to 2 minutes to download this PDF document depending on your Internet connection speed.

To make representations about proposed decisions:

Please contact the officer identified against the relevant decision in the Forward Plan to find out more information or about how your representations can be made and considered by the decision maker.

The Agenda and Papers for Cabinet meetings can be found on the County Council's website at:
<http://democracy.somerset.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=134&Year=0>

Weekly version of plan published on 2 August 2021

FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/21/04/07 First published: 5 May 2021	19 Aug 2021 Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure	Issue: Appointment of contractor for the delivery of the Chard Enterprise Park Decision:			Katriona Lovelock, Economic Development Officer Tel: 01823 359873
FP/21/07/03 First published: 26 January 2021	23 Aug 2021 Leader of the Council	Issue: Digital Innovation Centre – Delivery Agreement Award and European Regional Development Funding Decision:			Samantha Seddon, Service Manager-Economy
FP/21/07/04 First published: 20 July 2021	31 Aug 2021 Cabinet Member for Education and Public Health	Issue: Building works to facilitate the transition of school organisation in Crewkerne and Ilminster Decision:	Key Decision Crewkerne and Ilminster Tendering of Works v0.2		Mike Keal, Programme Manager - Schools and Early Years Tel: 01823356812
FP/21/05/13 First published: 1 June 2021	6 Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Disposal of a surplus asset in Ash Decision:	Key Decision regarding the Disposal of a Surplus Asset in Ash FINAL Appendix 1 - Land for Disposal		
FP/21/04/02 First published: 5 May 2021	Not before 8th Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Supplemental budget approval for Public Sector Decarbonisation Schemes Decision: Supplemental budget approval for Public Sector Decarbonisation Schemes	Officer Key Decision - Public Sector Decarbonisation Grant supplementary funding ISSUED		Oliver Woodhams, Head of Corporate Property Tel: 07977400667

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FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/21/08/03 First published:	Not before 11th Sep 2021 Leader of the Council	Issue: Governance for the delivery of the Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy Decision: For the Leader of Somerset County Council to agree and approve the proposed cross-authority governance for the delivery of the Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy			Jon Doyle, Service Manager
FP/21/08/02 First published:	Not before 13th Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Disposal of surplus asset at Nether Stowey Decision:			Charlie Field, Estates Manager, Corporate Property Tel: 01823355325
FP/21/08/04 First published:	13 Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Cabinet Member for Education and Public Health	Issue: West Somerset Opportunity Area - Year 5 Decision: To agree to SCC spending £869,700 granted to us by the Department of Education for Year 5 of the West Somerset Opportunity Area Programme			Julia Ridge, Strategic Manager - Early Years & Schools Commissioning Tel: 01823357633
FP/21/08/05 First published:	13 Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Electricity and Gas Professional buying organisation Decision:			Abigail Lamberti, Energy Manager, Corporate Property Tel: 01823355425

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FP/21/04/06 First published: 5 May 2021	15 Sep 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Corporate Property Asset Management Report Decision:			
FP/21/06/04 First published: 5 July 2021	15 Sep 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Month 4 Revenue Budget Monitoring report Decision:			Josephine Gibson
FP/21/06/13 First published: 5 July 2021	15 Sep 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Q1+1 Corporate Performance Report Decision:			Tony Johnson, Service Manager – Business Intelligence, Children's Services Tel: 01823359222
FP/21/05/02 First published: 5 May 2021	Not before 17th Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure	Issue: Decision to accept UK Community Renewal Funding Decision: This decision is required to accept UK Community Renewal Funding from the UK Government			Julie Wooler, Economic Development & Strategic Tourism Officer
FP/20/11/02 First published: 1 December 2020	Not before 17th Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure	Issue: Decision to extend the Somerset Social Enterprise Fund grant funding agreement with the Somerset Community Foundation Decision: To extend existing SSEF grant funding agreement with SCF			

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FP/21/08/06 First published:	17 Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Decision to Award the Contract for the Replacement Asset Management System Decision:			
FP/21/06/02 First published: 5 July 2021	Not before 24th Sep 2021 ECI Operations Director	Issue: Decision relating to the Fleet Maintenance Contract Decision:			Natasha Bates
FP/21/05/06 First published: 1 June 2021	24 Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Somerset Enabling Growth - Adoption of Charter and Associated Policy Documents Decision:			Mike O'Dowd-Jones, Strategic Commissioning Manager – Highways and Transport Tel: 01823 356238
FP/21/05/09 First published: 1 June 2021	Not before 24th Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Children and Families	Issue: Extension of Pathways for Independence (P2i) Contract Decision:			
FP/20/07/02 First published: 30 July 2020	Not before 30th Sep 2021 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Sale of land adjacent to Colliers Court, Frome Decision:			Charlie Field, Estates Manager, Corporate Property Tel: 01823355325
FP/21/07/07 First published: 2 August 2021	Not before 19th Oct 2021 Cabinet Member for Resources	Issue: Disposal of the Portway Centre, Wells Decision:			

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FP/21/04/09 First published: 5 May 2021	20 Oct 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Medium Term Financial Plan and Strategy - 2022/23 to 2024/25 Decision:			Josephine Gibson
FP/21/06/05 First published: 5 July 2021	20 Oct 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Month 5 Revenue Budget Monitoring report Decision:			Josephine Gibson
FP/21/06/12 First published: 5 July 2021	20 Oct 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Somerset's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Decision: As part of the National Bus Strategy: Bus Back Better, Local Transport Authorities are required to work in partnership with local bus operators to create a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) to be published by 31st October 2021. Cabinet are requested to approve the publication of the BSIP.			Mike O'Dowd-Jones, Strategic Commissioning Manager – Highways and Transport Tel: 01823 356238
FP/21/08/12 First published:	1 Nov 2021 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Extension of Parking Enforcement and Associated Services Contract provided by NSL Decision:			Steve Deakin, Parking Services Manager, Parking Services, Community and Traded Services Tel: 01823355137
FP/21/06/07 First published: 5 July 2021	15 Nov 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Qtr 2 (Month 6) Revenue Budget Monitoring report Decision:			Josephine Gibson

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FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/21/06/14 First published: 5 July 2021	15 Nov 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Q2 Corporate Performance Report Decision:			Tony Johnson, Service Manager – Business Intelligence, Children's Services Tel: 01823359222
FP/21/08/09 First published:	15 Nov 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Treasury Management Mid-Year Report Decision:			Alan Sanford, Principal Investment Officer Tel: 01823 359585
FP/21/05/03 First published: 6 May 2021	Not before 6th Dec 2021 Director of Commissioning and Lead Commissioner for Economic Community Infrastructure	Issue: Corporate Cleaning Contract Decision: To consider this report			Heidi Boyle Tel: 01823 355524
FP/21/06/08 First published: 5 July 2021	15 Dec 2021 Cabinet	Issue: Month 7 Revenue Budget Monitoring report Decision:			Josephine Gibson
FP/21/08/11 First published:	Not before 22nd Jan 2022 Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning and Community Infrastructure	Issue: Award of contract for the supply of library shelf-ready physical books for Adults and Children. Decision:			

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FP Refs	Decision Date/Maker	Details of the proposed decision	Documents and background papers to be available to decision maker	Does the decision contain any exempt information requiring it to be considered in private?	Contact Officer for any representations to be made ahead of the proposed decision
FP/21/08/10 First published:	Not before 31st Jan 2022 Cabinet	Issue: Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23 Decision:			Alan Sanford, Principal Investment Officer Tel: 01823 359585
FP/21/08/01 First published:	Not before 1st Feb 2022 Cabinet	Issue: Decision to award contracts - Community Equipment and Wheelchair services Decision:			
FP/21/07/05 First published: 2 August 2021	Not before 1st Apr 2022 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	Issue: Award of specialist traffic signals contract Decision:			John Kitchen, Traffic Control Engineer, Traffic Control, Traffic & Transport Development Tel: 01823358140

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