

Scrutiny for Policies Children and Families Committee Work Plan 2022 - 2023

Overarching themes	Committee meeting dates / proposed agenda items	Lead Officer/Item Lead
7 November @ 1 pm		
Work plan	Proposals for creation of 2 Task and Finish Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sufficiency of external placements - Home to school transport 	
Training item	Progress on Ofsted Action Plan - presentation	Acting Director Children's Services Claire Winter, Strategic Manager, Paul Shallcross
Universal Education Pre Executive scrutiny	LA Maintained Schools – core offer / traded offer - overview	Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker
Universal Education	2022 Key Stage assessment results – national data	Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker
Forward look	Scrutiny at Somerset Council – to inform the recommendations going to Full Council in February 2023	Service Manager, Jamie Jackson
Items for Information – Standing Item	Items for Information: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Briefing on Wyvern Nurseries – Implementation Update – circulated on 27 October 2022 b) SEND, Data and Commissioning FAQ's - key points from SEND, data and Commissioning workshop on 28 September 2022 – circulated on 11 October 2022 Consultation on SEND Strategy 2023/26 (closes 23 Dec 22) c) Member Development Panel information – circulated on 31 October 2022 d) Education and Inclusion Services redesign / restructure - follow up update – circulated on 28 October 2022 	Early Years Lead, Alison Jeffrey Programme Lead (Health), P Watts Acting Director Children's Services Claire Winter Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker
12 December @ 1 pm		
Universal Education	Education Strategy for Somerset – progress update	Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker
Universal Education	LA Maintained Schools – core offer / traded offer – Business Case	Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker

The focus for the Committee is – what impact does this have on the children in Somerset?

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Social Care and commissioning	Somerset Connect and links to the Frome LCN development	Assistant Director Commissioning Richard Selwyn, Strategic Manager, Vikki Hearn and Strategic Manager Public Health, Patsy Temple
	Task and Finish Groups – verbal update (a) Sufficiency of external placements (b) Home to school transport	
Items for Information – Standing Item	Items for Information: (a) 2022 key Stage assessment results – correspondence sent to the Leader Somerset County Council on 14 November and Response received on 15 November; (b) Somerset Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report 2021 – 22 - circulated on 15 November (c) Peninsula Fostering Framework Agreement - Decision taken on 16 November 2022 – circulated on 21 November	
16 January 2023 @ 1 pm		
	Scrutiny update on Ofsted Action Plan	Acting Director Children’s Services Claire Winter and Acting Assistant Director Community and Strategy, Paul Shallcross
	Return Home Interviews	Strategic Manager, Prevention Services, Lise Bird
	Task and Finish Groups – update and reports (c) Sufficiency of external placements (d) Home to school transport	
Universal Education	Detailed 2022 key stage assessment results	Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker
Cross cutting	Budget items – Medium Term Financial Planning (MTFP)	

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	2023-24 Combined Scrutiny Meeting on 1 February 2023		
Joint meeting with Adults & Health Scrutiny – date to be confirmed			
	Draft Integrated Care Strategy		Maria Heard
Workshops - to be scheduled			
	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) - Trauma Informed Somerset practice model		multi agency practitioners, schools (vision and direction)
Universal Education	The disadvantage gap - what we know and options to address, to include health impact of inequalities in education		Public Health, SEND, social workers, case studies, wider health organisations, FSM and pupil premium data
6 March 2023 @ 1 pm			
SEND & Inclusion	Response to SEND Green Paper – and policy proposals		Assistant Director Inclusion Dr Rob Hart
	Children missing out on education (numbers, who, reasons)		
Universal Education	Provisional – Academisation – progress update		Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker

Items to be scheduled / recommendations for Scrutiny Forward Plan
Evaluation of the West Somerset Opportunity Area – to be scheduled

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Universal Education

- Pupil place planning
- Disadvantage gap
- Academisation
- LA maintained capacity and support

SEND and Inclusion

- Attendance
- Written Statement of Action
- Response to SEND & Alternative Provision Green paper
- SEND Strategy

Social Care and Commissioning

- Family safeguarding
- Early Help
- Placement sufficiency
- Strategic partnership
- The Care Review

Cross-cutting items:

- Long-term financial planning that improves outcomes for children (MTP)
- Involving young people and the community in scrutiny
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing (with health partners)
- Medium Term Financial Plan (MFTP) – Children & Families Budgets

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 Fiona Abbott, Democratic Services (01823) 357628 & democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk who will assist you in submitting your item.

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