

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

Overarching themes	Committee meeting dates / proposed agenda items	Lead Officer/Item Lead
16 January 2023 @ 1 pm		
	Scrutiny update on Ofsted Action Plan	Acting Assistant Director Community and Strategy, Paul Shallcross
	Return Home Interview process and progress	Lise Bird, Head of Service, Prevention
	Task and Finish Groups – update and reports (a) Sufficiency of external placements (b) Home to school transport	
Workshop	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) - Trauma Informed Somerset practice model and implementation	Vikki Hearn, Joint Commissioner, Children's and Health; Patsy Temple, Consultant in Public Health; Tim Cockerill, Principal Educational Psychologist; Tamsin Coles, Consultant Clinical Psychologist
<i>Cross cutting</i>	<i>Budget items – Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2023-24 workshop for all Scrutiny Committees, followed by a meeting of Place Scrutiny Committee - 1 February 2023</i>	Jason Vaughan, Director of Finance and Governance
6 March 2023 @ 1 pm		
SEND & Inclusion	Joint Local Area SEND revisit – outcomes, update and next steps; and brief update on SEND Green Paper	Assistant Director Inclusion Dr Rob Hart
Universal Education	Education for Life Strategy – views on final draft	Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker
Universal Education	Core Offer – update	Assistant Director Education Partnerships and Skills Amelia Walker
	Scrutiny Committee Task and Finish Group's: - (a) update and draft report 'sufficiency of external placements'; (b) update on 'Home to School Transport'.	
	Items for information:	

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

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	(a) Email sent regarding ' Government unveils reforms in children's social care ' – on 3 February 2023 (b) Overview of Ofsted annual conversation - slides circulated on 9 February 2023 (c) Academisation – update - information circulated		
Workshop - to be scheduled			
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
Possible workshop with Adults & Health Scrutiny			
	Self-harm / mental health issues		
	Transition arrangements – preparing for adulthood		

Items for 2023 – 2024

- Reforms in children's social care – proposed consultation response – May 2023
- Updated on Children's Transformation Programme - June 2023
- Update on Homes & Horizons – June 2023
- Progress update on Ofsted AP; 'Life story work' – June 2023
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) - **Trauma Informed Somerset** practice model and implementation – July 2023
- LA maintained schools core offer business case – October 2023
- Children missing out on education (numbers, who, reasons) – to be scheduled
- 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 (MTP) – 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 & democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk who will assist you in submitting your item.

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