



## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**Monday, 10 February 2025**

**10.00 am**

**Luttrell Room - County Hall, Taunton TA1 4DY**

### **SUPPLEMENT TO THE AGENDA**

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

We are now able to enclose the following information which was unavailable when the agenda was published:

Agenda Item 5      Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Programme  
(Pages 3 - 8)

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](#)

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## Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Plan 2024 - 2025

Page 3

Committee meeting dates / proposed agenda items	Lead Officer/Item Lead
<p><b>Items proposed 2024/25</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mtg on 15.05.24 - suggestion by Cllr John Hunt - staffing in CSC – to be reviewed</li> <li>• <del>Mtg on 15.05.24 - suggestion by Cllr Carswell – training to drivers / school transport drivers – include in Task &amp; Finish group work – will be referenced in presentation on Home to school transport at August mtg</del></li> <li>• Mtg on 15.05.24 – update on DBS checks – to be scheduled</li> <li>• Mtg on 15.05.24 – info on those who experience homelessness; update on care experience as protected characteristic – to be scheduled</li> <li>• <del>Mtg on 15.05.24 – JTAI inspection report – August mtg</del></li> <li>• <del>Mtg on 15.05.24 – JTAI action plan – September mtg</del></li> <li>• <del>Mtg on 26.06.24 – data sharing – now included as part of Transform Family View item – October mtg</del></li> <li>• <del>Mtg on 26.0.24 – circulate briefing note on decision-making process / procedure for academisation (schools) – August</del></li> <li>• <del>Mtg on 26.06.24 – Transformation Board deep dive – CLA to be shared with Committee – September mtg</del></li> <li>• Mtg on 18.09.24 – DSG DMP – to be scheduled – February mtg provisionally</li> <li>• <del>Mtg on 18.09.24 – Transform Family View – October mtg</del></li> <li>• Regional Director (Schools) – February mtg</li> <li>• Presentation on Careers annual report – to be scheduled</li> <li>• Mtg on 21.10.24 – LGSCO complaints directed to Somerset – March mtg</li> <li>• Mtg on 21.10.24 – Sufficiency Strategy – December mtg</li> <li>• Mtg on 21.10.24 – supported internships – to be scheduled</li> <li>• Mtg on 21.10.24 – DoE – strategically – to be scheduled</li> <li>• Mtg on 21.10.24 – role LCN's / City / Town / Parish Councils in provision of youth support – to be scheduled</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Wednesday 26 June 2024 @ 10 am</b></p>	
Children's Services Transformation Plan (deep dive)	Claire Winter, Executive Director of Children, Families and Education, and colleagues
Education, Health & Care Plan and annual reviews – progress update As background, link to <a href="#">report</a> and <a href="#">presentation</a> from meeting in December 2023)	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education
Children's Services Budget Monitoring	Christian Evans, Head of Business Partnering and colleagues
Items for Information: (a) The <a href="#">SENDIAS Annual Report</a> – circulated on 11 June 2024	

Agenda Item 5

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

## Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Plan 2024 - 2025

Committee meeting dates / proposed agenda items	Lead Officer/Item Lead
<b>Wednesday 7 August 2024 @ 09.30 am</b>	
Children's Services - Budget Monitoring update – Month 3	Christian Evans Head of Business Partnering and colleagues
Equality Due Regard requirement for Scrutiny	Tom Rutland
Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) of Somerset – serious youth violence <a href="#">JTAI report</a> – key issues arising and action plan (headline activity).	Claire Winter, Executive Director, Chief Insp Rebecca Wells-Cole, Shelagh Meldrum, ICB
Home to school transport	Phi Curd, Head of Education Places and John Perrett, Service Manager
Items for Information: (a) <a href="#">Suicide Prevention Strategy for Somerset Consultation</a> - circulated on 25 July (b) 2024 KS2 headline data – circulated on 25 July (c) Briefing note on academisation / decision making process and procedure – circulated on 31 July (d) Information about the Regional Adoption Agency Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 25 July which considered the <a href="#">Adopt South West Annual Report 2023/24</a> – circulated on 30 July	
<b>Wednesday 18 September @ 10 am</b>	
Children's Services - Budget Monitoring update – Month 4	Jo Currie, Service Manager, Siobhan Cleverley, Service Manager
JTAI - action plan	Claire Winter, Executive Director, Shelagh Meldrum, ICB and Lisa Simpson, Police
Transformation Board deep dive - CLA	Jayne Shelbourn-Barrow, Service Director Children & Families
Regional Adoption Agency Joint Scrutiny Group – Report of meeting held 25 July 2024 and Current Terms of Reference	Claire Winter, Executive Director
External placements – update on recommendations made by the Task and Finish Group Standing Panel for Education Standards - brief update	Claire Winter, Executive Director, Amelia Walker, Service Director Education and Cllr Evie Potts-Jones
Items for information: (a) 2023 KS4 and KS2 outcomes / performance for each MAT – circulated on 8 August 2024 (b) <a href="#">Somerset Council Engagement and Participation AR for 2023-2024</a> – circulated on 12 August 2024	
<b>21 October 2024 @ 10 am</b>	
Children's Services - Budget Monitoring update – Month 5	Christian Evans

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## Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Plan 2024 - 2025

Committee meeting dates / proposed agenda items	Lead Officer/Item Lead
	Head of Business Partnering and colleagues
Funding and provision for children with additional needs - <a href="#">consultation</a>	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education
SWAP Audit on EHCP Improvement Action Plan and Audit Report	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education
Transform Family View	Richard Selwyn, Service Director Commissioning & Performance
Items for information: (a) Corporate Parenting Board Annual Report – circulated on 19 September 2024 (b) Funding and provision for children with additional needs - <a href="#">consultation</a> – circulated on 26 September 2024 (c) <a href="#">Somerset Children &amp; Young People's Plan</a> – circulated on 10 October 2024	
<b>9 December 2024 @ 10 am</b>	
Children's Services – Budget Monitoring update – Month 6	Christian Evans, Head of Business Partnering and colleagues
Sufficiency Strategy	Phil Curd, Head of Education Places
Children & Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2024 – 2030	Fiona Phur, Service Manager
Items for Information:	
<b>10 February 2025 @ 10 am</b>	
Children's Services – Budget Monitoring update	Christian Evans, Head of Business Partnering and colleagues
Final Children, Families and Education Budget for MTFP 2025-26	Christian Evans, Head of Business Partnering and colleagues, Claire Winter, Executive Director
JTAI - update	Claire Winter, Executive Director, Shelagh Meldrum, ICB and Lisa Simpson, Police
DSG Deficit Management Plan	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education
Wellbeing and Schools Bill	Claire Winter, Executive Director

## Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Plan 2024 - 2025

Committee meeting dates / proposed agenda items	Lead Officer/Item Lead
Reviewing Education Systems Governance	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education
Somerset Schools' Assessment and Attainment Results	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education
<b>31 March 2025 @ 10 am</b>	
Children's Services – Budget Monitoring update	Christian Evans, Head of Business Partnering and colleagues
Funding and provision for children with additional needs - update	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education
Youth Justice Plan	Jayne Shelbourn-Barrow, Service Director – Children & Families
Post 16 Travel Policy 2025/26	Phil Curd, Strategic Manager – Head of Education Places
LGSCO complaints directed to Somerset	Amelia Walker, Service Director Education

Page 6

### Current membership 2024/2025:-

Chair: Councillor Leigh Redman (L) Vice-Chair: Councillor Evie Potts-Jones (LD)  
 Councillors, ~~Jason Baker (LD)~~, Simon Carswell (LD), Peter Clayton (C), Andy Hadley (C), Alistair Hendry (C), Pauline Ham (LD), John Hunt (Ind), Marcus Kravis (LD), Martin Lovell (LD), Frances Nicholson (C), Jeny Snell (LD), Vacancy, plus Ruth Hobbs, School Governor Rep, (voting on education matters) The Revd Tobie Osmond, Church of England Diocesan Rep, (voting on education matters) ~~Jo Simons, Schools Forum Rep, (voting on education matters)~~ Mary Cox, Roman Catholic Diocesan Rep (voting on education matters) appointed 23.09.24  
 Swavek Nowakiewicz, Schools Forum Rep (voting on education matters) appointed 21.11.24  
 ### School Governor rep (voting on education matters) appointed ###

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

## Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families Work Plan 2024 - 2025

### Revised meeting dates for 2024/25

all meetings at Deane House except where indicated:

- **Wednesday 7 August @ 09.30 am**
- **Wednesday 18 September @ 10 am (Sedgemoor Room, Bridgwater).**
- **Monday 21 October @ 10 am**
- **Monday 9 December @ 10 am**
- **Monday 10 February @ 10am (Luttrell Room, County Hall, Taunton)**
- **Monday 31 March @ 10am**
- **Monday 19 May @ 10am**

**Note:** Members of the Scrutiny Committee and all other Members of Somerset Council are invited to contribute items for inclusion in the work programme. Please contact Democratic Services (01823) 357628 & [democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk) who will assist you in submitting your item.

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