



Notice of Meeting of

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Tuesday, 12 December 2023 at 10.00 am

**Council Chamber, Council Offices, Brympton
Way, Yeovil BA20 2HT**

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

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

Councillor Suria Aujla	Councillor Jason Baker
Councillor Simon Carswell	Councillor Peter Clayton
Councillor Caroline Ellis	Councillor Andy Hadley
Councillor John Hunt	Councillor Jenny Kenton
Councillor Martin Lovell	Councillor Frances Nicholson
Councillor Jeny Snell	Ruth Hobbs – co-opted
The Revd Tobie Osmond – co-opted	Eileen Tipper – co-opted
Joanne Simons – co-opted	

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: democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk by **5pm on Wednesday, 6 December 2023.**

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 Monday, 4 December 2023

AGENDA

Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families

10.00 am Tuesday, 12 December 2023

Public Guidance Notes contained in Agenda Annexe (Pages 7 - 8)

Information about the Committee (Pages 9 - 10)

Click here to join the meeting online; Location Map (Pages 11 - 14)

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 of the Meeting held on 15 November 2023 (Pages 15 - 22)

To approve the Minutes from the meeting held on Wednesday 15 November 2023.

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 23 - 36)

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 2023/24 Children's Services - Budget Monitoring (Pages 37 - 58)

To consider PowerPoint presentation.

As background to this agenda item, the Committee may find it helpful to refer back to the member briefing on the Dedicated Schools Grant, given in September. The link to the recording can be found in the Member Resources Site on SharePoint.

Note – the Chair will allow 45 minutes for this agenda item.

7 Education, Health and Care Assessment and Plan 2022-2023 - Progress update (Pages 59 - 68)

To consider Report and PowerPoint presentation.

Note – The Chair will allow 45 minutes for this agenda item.

8 Connect Somerset (Pages 69 - 82)

To consider presentation.

A copy of the Blueprint for Connect Somerset is also attached.

Note – The Chair will allow 40 minutes for this agenda item.

9 Children's Services Transformation Priorities 2023 - 2026 (Pages 83 - 84)

The Children's Services Transformation Priorities 2023 – 2026 are attached.

The Chair to seek volunteers for the areas to allow individual meetings with officers to gain a better understanding of a topic of interest.

Note – the Chair will allow 15 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.

No items have been circulated since the last meeting.