



Notice of Meeting of

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Monday, 31 March 2025 at 10.00 am

Luttrell Room - County Hall, Taunton TA1 4DY

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

Chair: Councillor Leigh Redman

Vice-chair: Councillor Evie Potts-Jones

Councillor Simon Carswell

Councillor Andy Hadley

Councillor Alistair Hendry

Councillor Marcus Kravis

Councillor O'Donnell

Councillor Jeny Snell

Ruth Hobbs

S Nowakiewicz

Councillor Peter Clayton

Councillor Pauline Ham

Councillor John Hunt

Councillor Martin Lovell

Councillor Frances Nicholson

Mary Cox

The Revd Tobie Osmond

For further information about the meeting, including how to join the meeting virtually, please contact Democratic Services: democratic@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: democratic@somerset.gov.uk by **5pm on Tuesday, 25 March 2025**.

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 Friday, 21 March 2025

AGENDA

Scrutiny Committee - Children and Families - 10.00 am Monday, 31 March 2025

Public Guidance Notes contained in Agenda Annexe (Pages 5 - 6)

Information about the Scrutiny Committee - Children & Families (Pages 7 - 8)

Details on how to join the meeting online (Pages 9 - 10)

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 from the Previous Meeting (Pages 11 - 18)

To approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

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 19 - 32)

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 Children's Services – Budget Monitoring update Month 10 (Pages 33 - 46)

To receive a presentation on month 10 budget monitoring.

7 Final Children, Families and Education Budget for MTFP 2025-26

To receive an update on the final budget for Children, Families and Education, as a continuation of the previous agenda item.

8 Funding and provision for children with additional needs. (Verbal Report)

To receive a verbal update explaining the context for item deferring.

9 Deficit Management Plan

To receive an update on the Deficit Management Plan.

10 Youth Justice Plan

To receive a presentation.

11 Post 16 Travel Policy (Pages 47 - 80)

To receive a report and update on the Post 16 Travel Policy.

12 LGSCO Complaints directed to Somerset Council

13 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.

[insert brief details of items circulated]

If Committee members have any questions or comments on the information, please contact the Committee Administrator on democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk in the first instance and before the date of the meeting.