

Scrutiny Committee – Children and Families

Glossary of Terms

Item	Explanation
A	
ACE's	Adverse Childhood Experiences – trauma informed work – trauma informed Somerset
APP	The accelerated progress plan following the Ofsted and CQC Joint Local Area SEND Inspection
B	
BANES	Bath and North East Somerset Council – a neighbouring unitary Council
C	
Call in	the right to delay the implementation of a decision which has been made (but has not yet been implemented) by allowing a Committee to consider the decision.
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services - a specialist mental health service for children and young people aged 0 – 18 (up to 19 for young people with additional needs), who may be experiencing a range of mental health problems.
CAFCASS	Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service – representing children in family court cases in England – independently advise the family courts about what is safe for children and their best interests About Cafcass - Cafcass - Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service
CEG	Children's Executive Group, which supports the work of the SEND Improvement Board (SIB). It consists of senior leaders and will also meet monthly and act as the enabling function, providing direction and initial support and challenge to the Priority Leads and ensuring that the appropriate resources are in place to secure delivery of improvements. They also act as the first line of support for the resolution of professional differences between partners. The CEG will escalate any concerns, decision making or unresolved professional differences to the SIB.
CiN	Children in Need
CLA	<p>Children Looked After - Under the Children Act 1989, a child is legally defined as 'looked after' by a local authority if he or she:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is provided with accommodation for a continuous period for more than 24 hours; • Is subject to a care order; or • Is subject to a placement order. <p>A child looked after ceases to be looked after when he or she turns 18 years old. On reaching their 18th birthday, the status of the child changes from being looked after to being a young adult eligible</p>

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	for help and assistance from the local authority. Such help and assistance is usually provided in accordance with the various aftercare provisions of the Children Act. You will notice that in some cases children looked after are sometimes referred to as 'looked after children' (LAC). In Somerset the preferred term is 'children looked after'.
CPB	Corporate Parent Board
CQC	Care Quality Commission, a statutory body responsible for analysing the quality and performance of health trusts.
CSC	Children's Social Care
CSW	Consultant Social Worker
CWD	Children with Disability
CYP	Children and Young People
CYPP	Somerset Children & Young People's Plan 2022 – 24 Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership – “the plan provides a link between what children and young people have asked us to do and partners' strategic priorities” – The vision is that “Somerset's children and young people grow up in a child friendly county that supports them to be happy, healthy and prepared for adulthood ”.
D	
DCS	Director of Children's Services
E	
EDT	Emergency Duty Team
EHCP	Education, Health & Care Plans
ELSAs	Emotional Literacy Support Assistants
Elected member	Locally elected, sometimes known as 'Councillor'
EHA	Early Help Assessment
EHE	Electively Home Educated
EI	Early Intervention
EMHPs	Education Mental Health Practitioners – in Mental Health Support Teams.
Executive	A group of elected councillors who each look after a particular portfolio
Executive member	An elected member who holds responsibility for a particular portfolio / lead member

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F	
FIS	Family Intervention Service
Full Council	Meets throughout the year it is a meeting of all elected members, to debate and agree suggested policies and strategies of the council.
G	
getset	'getset' (always spelt in lower case) is part of Children's Services and is made up of children's centres, youth service and troubled families services
H	
Homes and Horizons	Homes and Horizons is a unique and innovative ten-year partnership between Somerset Council, Homes2inspire (part of the Shaw Trust) and NHS Somerset to provide up to ten high quality family homes, 20 high needs foster carers and therapeutic education services across Somerset – leading our most complex and vulnerable young people to achieve better education results, improved mental health and wellbeing, and increased life chances.
I	
ICPC	Initial child protection conference – Following a 'strategy discussion', this may lead to a decision that there are no concerns, to a voluntary child in need plan, or to some form of statutory intervention often through an ICPC. If a child protection conference is required, this is usually within 15 days of the strategy discussion meeting.
ICS / ICB	Somerset Integrated Care System - Integrated Care Board
IRO	Independent Reviewing Officer - IROs don't directly look after children in care; their role is to monitor how the local authority treats these children and make sure every child gets heard in terms of their views and wishes in decisions and plans about their care. Every looked after child has to have a named IRO.
J	
K	
L	

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Item	Explanation
LADO	Local Authority Designated Officer - The LADO provides advice and guidance to organisations dealing with allegations, to liaise with the police and other agencies, and to monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process.
Leaving Care	Support after leaving social care - Young people between the ages of 16 and 21 who are in, or were in, the care of Somerset County Council on or after their 16th birthday, are entitled to some sort of support, advice or guidance.
LGA	Local Government Association - The LGA are a politically-led, cross-party organisation that works on behalf of councils to ensure local government has a strong, credible voice with national government. They aim to influence and set the political agenda on the issues that matter to councils so they are able to deliver local solutions to national problems.
M	
MASH	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub - MASHs are mechanisms for triage of child protection referrals that signposts them to the appropriate intervention.
MHST	Mental Health Support Team
MISPERS	Missing Return Interview Service
N	
NFA	National Fostering Agency – The NFA is committed to improving children and young people’s lives and outcomes through child fostering every day. They provide services to foster carers and local authorities.
NFA	No further action – When referrals are received by Somerset Direct but after an initial assessment they are closed as they do not require any further work.
NQSW	Newly Qualified Social Worker
O	
Ofsted	The Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills – inspect services providing education and skills for learners of all ages and inspect and regulate services that care for children and young people.
OSC	Overview and Scrutiny Committee – or ‘Scrutiny’ – see below
P	
PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner – An elected individual who offers direction for the police service.

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Item	Explanation
PFSA	Parent Family Support Advisor – Parent and Family Support Advisors offer support and guidance to parents and families on various issues such as:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parenting concerns • Family issues • School attendance • Behaviour problems • Drugs and alcohol • Housing
<u>Philomena Protocol</u>	Operated in 38 police areas – with growing evidence base indicating positive impacts on missing episodes
PMEx	Prevention of Missing and Exploitation Team – formed June 2022 (a sub team within the Family Intervention Service (FIS))
PROMISEworks	a local charity offering mentoring services to disadvantages children across the county <u>PROMISEworks</u>
P2i	Pathways to Independence – P2i is an innovative partnership project between Somerset County Council, the 5 district councils and a consortium of housing providers. The P2i service offers support for homeless and vulnerable young people aged between 16 to 24.
Q	
QA	Annual thematic dip review and developing data dashboard
R	
Referral	A referral is defined by the Department for Education as a ‘request for services’. This is in respect of a case where Children’s Social Care has not previously known the child, or where the case was previously open but is now closed.
RHIs	Return Home Interviews
Route1 advocacy	Provide advice and support to children and young people <u>Route1 advocacy (somerset.gov.uk)</u>
RSC	Regional Schools Commissioner - the National Schools Commissioner and RSC work with schools to ensure they are supported to improve and to address underperformance.

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Item	Explanation
S	
SC	Somerset Council – a unitary local authority
Scrutiny	<p>The scrutiny function is delivered by five Scrutiny Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults and Health • Children and Families • Climate and Place • Communities • Corporate and Resources <p>each Committee comprises of Elected Members that are not on the Executive. Scrutiny does not make decisions but seeks to influence decision - makers.</p> <p>The membership of the Children and Families Committee includes 2 co-opted church representatives, 2 co-opted parent governor representatives, 2 school governor representatives and 1 representative from the Schools Forum. These co-opted members have voting rights on education matters.</p>
Section 17	Children’s Social Care has a responsibility to ‘children in need’ under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989. That is children whose development would be significantly impaired if services are not provided. This includes children who have a long lasting and substantial disability which limits their ability to carry out the tasks of daily living.
Section 47	The second area of Children’s Social Care responsibility is ‘child protection’ – CSC must make enquiries under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 to determine whether a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm. The Children Act 1989 introduced the concept of significant harm as the threshold that justifies compulsory intervention in family life in the best interests of children.
SEND	Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities
Senior Leadership Team	Somerset Council Senior Leadership Team - These officers individually take both key and non-key decisions in relation to their areas of responsibility (as delegated to them by Executive Members). Two SLT Officers can take a decision jointly if the issue crosses both their areas of responsibility
SIB	SEND Improvement Board – remain in place until the APP is signed off.
SiCC	Somerset in Care Council – This is a committee that is made up of Children looked after who we regular consult with.



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statistical neighbours	Somerset's statistical neighbours for Children's Services are the following - Devon, Suffolk, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Cornwall, Dorset, Norfolk, Gloucestershire, East Sussex, Wiltshire.
SSCP	Somerset Safeguarding Children Partnership - The safeguarding responsibility is shared between the 3 statutory partners – SCC, Avon & Somerset Constabulary and the local Somerset NHS - have a statutory duty to co-ordinate how agencies work together to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children and young people in Somerset and to ensure the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements.
SSE Governance Services	Provides advice, support and training on behalf of Somerset Council SSE Governance Services Support Services for Education
SSIN	Somerset SEND Improvement Network
Strategy Discussion	When a Section 47 enquiry is undertaken this will involve liaison with police and other agencies and will include a 'strategy discussion', often through a meeting, to decide and plan the actions needed
T	
TAC / TAF	Team Around Child or Team around the Family - The Team Around the Child (TAC) or Team around the Family (TAF) is a model of multi-agency service provision. The TAC brings together a range of different practitioners from across the children and young workforce to support an individual child or young person and their family. The members of the TAC develop and deliver a package of solution-focused support to meet the needs identified through the common assessment framework (CAF).
The Executive	The Leader and Executive members who are responsible for policies, plans and strategies
Transitions	The transition from children to adult service.
TYS	Targeted Youth Support - TYS Work with young people aged 13-19 years old, where drug and alcohol problems are beginning to affect their lives. TYS deliver tier 2 drug and alcohol use interventions for young people
U	
UC	Universal Credit - is a payment to help with people's living costs. It's paid monthly, replacing a number of other benefits and tax credits Universal Credit: What Universal Credit is - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
V	
Vesting Day	When the new Somerset Council came into being on 1 April 2023
VCSE	Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (sector)

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Item	Explanation
VRU	Somerset Violence Reduction Unit, overseen by the Safer Somerset Partnership
W X Y Z	
WSoA	Following the Ofsted / CQC Inspection of SEND services for children and young people, the Somerset Local Area Joint Written Statement of Action was published in December 2020. The 2 year programme of activity within the WSoA has ended following the revisit in November 2022.

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For further information please contact democraticservicesteam@somerset.gov.uk