

Agenda

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**Wednesday, 25 September 2019, 10.00 am
County Hall, Worcester**

All County Councillors are invited to attend and participate

This document can be provided in alternative formats such as Large Print, an audio recording or Braille; it can also be emailed as a Microsoft Word attachment. Please contact Democratic Services on telephone number 01905 844963 or by emailing democraticservices@worcestershire.gov.uk

DISCLOSING INTERESTS

There are now 2 types of interests:
'Disclosable pecuniary interests' and **'other disclosable interests'**

WHAT IS A 'DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST' (DPI)?

- Any **employment**, office, trade or vocation carried on for profit or gain
- **Sponsorship** by a 3rd party of your member or election expenses
- Any **contract** for goods, services or works between the Council and you, a firm where you are a partner/director, or company in which you hold shares
- Interests in **land** in Worcestershire (including licence to occupy for a month or longer)
- **Shares** etc (with either a total nominal value above £25,000 or 1% of the total issued share capital) in companies with a place of business or land in Worcestershire.

NB Your DPIs include the interests of your **spouse/partner** as well as you

WHAT MUST I DO WITH A DPI?

- **Register** it within 28 days and
- **Declare** it where you have a DPI in a matter at a particular meeting
 - you must **not participate** and you **must withdraw**.

NB It is a criminal offence to participate in matters in which you have a DPI

WHAT ABOUT 'OTHER DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS'?

- No need to register them but
- You must **declare** them at a particular meeting where:
You/your family/person or body with whom you are associated have a **pecuniary interest** in or **close connection** with the matter under discussion.

WHAT ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OF ANOTHER AUTHORITY OR PUBLIC BODY?

You will not normally even need to declare this as an interest. The only exception is where the conflict of interest is so significant it is seen as likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

DO I HAVE TO WITHDRAW IF I HAVE A DISCLOSABLE INTEREST WHICH ISN'T A DPI?

Not normally. You must withdraw only if it:

- affects your **pecuniary interests** OR relates to a **planning or regulatory** matter
- **AND** it is seen as likely to **prejudice your judgement** of the public interest.

DON'T FORGET

- If you have a disclosable interest at a meeting you must **disclose both its existence and nature** – 'as noted/recorded' is insufficient
- **Declarations must relate to specific business** on the agenda
 - General scattergun declarations are not needed and achieve little
- Breaches of most of the **DPI provisions** are now **criminal offences** which may be referred to the police which can on conviction by a court lead to fines up to £5,000 and disqualification up to 5 years
- Formal **dispensation** in respect of interests can be sought in appropriate cases.

**Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Wednesday, 25 September 2019, 10.00 am, County Hall,
Worcester**

Membership

Councillors:

Mrs F M Oborski (Chairman), Mrs J A Potter (Vice Chairman), Ms P Agar, Mr T Baker-Price, Mr B Clayton, Ms R L Dent, Mr P M McDonald, Mr S J Mackay, Ms T L Onslow and Mr J H Smith

Co-opted Church Representatives (for education matters)

Bryan Allbut (Church of England)

Parent Governor Representatives (for education matters)

Vacancy

Agenda

Item No	Subject	Page No
1	Apologies and Welcome	
2	Declaration of Interest and of any Party Whip	
3	Public Participation Members of the public wishing to take part should notify the Head of Legal and Democratic Services in writing or by e-mail indicating the nature and content of their proposed participation no later than 9.00am on the working day before the meeting (in this case 24 September 2019). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/e-mail address below.	
4	Update on the Assessment Pathway for Children and Young People who may have Autism	To follow
5	Future Provision of Overnight Unit-Based Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities	1 - 2
6	Work Programme 2019/20	3 - 8

Agenda produced and published by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester WR5 2NP. To obtain further information or hard copies of this agenda, please contact Alyson Grice 01905 844962/Samantha Morris 01905 844963 email: scrutiny@worcestershires.gov.uk

All the above reports and supporting information can be accessed via the Council's website [here](#)

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CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 25 SEPTEMBER 2019

FUTURE PROVISION OF OVERNIGHT UNIT-BASED SHORT BREAKS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Summary

1. The Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families and the Director (Designate) Education and Early Help have been invited to the meeting to update the Panel in relation to the future provision of overnight unit-based short breaks for children with disabilities ahead of the discussion at Cabinet on 26 September 2019.

Background

2. Members will be aware of the consultation on proposals for the re-design of overnight unit-based short breaks for children with disabilities undertaken in January and February 2018, the Scrutiny Task Group Report on the same subject, and the subsequent report to Cabinet on 12 July 2018 where a number of recommendations from the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families were agreed.
3. The following is a reminder of key dates in the process so far:
 - 14 December 2017 – Cabinet agrees consultation with parents, carers, professionals and wider stakeholders on a number of proposals to re-design the provision of overnight unit-based short breaks
 - 8 January – 19 February 2018 –consultation including on-line survey, meetings with families, unit drop-ins, letters to parent carers and publication of FAQs on website
 - 8 March 2018 – Cabinet Member with Responsibility meeting with families
 - 26 April 2018 – presentation of Scrutiny Task Group Report to Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board
 - 12 July 2018 – report to Cabinet by the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families
 - 8 August 2018 – discussion at Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel in the light of decisions taken at 12 July Cabinet
 - 27 and 29 September 2018– Cabinet Member with Responsibility and Scrutiny Task Group Members attend co-design events with parent carers, professionals and providers

6 June 2019 – discussion at Cabinet on the results of co-design activity and authorisation agreed for the Director of CFC to carry out a consultation on the proposed changes

Next steps

4. A report detailing the outcome of the consultation on the proposed future delivery model of short breaks provision and making recommendations on the final delivery model will be discussed at Cabinet on 26 September 2019.

Purpose of the Meeting

5. The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel is asked to:

- Consider the information in the 26 September Cabinet report;
- Determine whether it would wish to carry out any further scrutiny; and
- Agree whether it would wish to make any comments to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families.

Supporting Information

- Appendix 1 – Cabinet report 26 September 2019 (to follow)

Contact Point

Alyson Grice/Samantha Morris, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, (01905 844962/844963)
Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and minutes of the Cabinet on 14 December 2017, 12 July 2018, 6 June 2019
Agenda and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board on 30 January 2018, 26 April 2018

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 25 SEPTEMBER 2019

WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

Summary

1. From time to time the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel will review its work programme and consider which issues should be investigated as a priority.

Background

2. Worcestershire County Council has a rolling annual Work Programme for Overview and Scrutiny. The 2019/20 Work Programme has been developed by taking into account issues still to be completed from 2018/19, the views of Overview and Scrutiny Panel Members and the findings of the budget scrutiny process.
3. Suggested issues have been prioritised using scrutiny feasibility criteria in order to ensure that topics are selected subjectively and the 'added value' of a review is considered right from the beginning.
4. The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel is responsible for scrutiny of:
 - Children's Social Care and Families
 - Public Health relating to Families
 - Education and Skills
5. The current Work Programme was agreed by Council on 12 September 2019.

Dates of Future Meetings

- 21 October 2019 at 2pm
- 13 November 2019 at 10am
- 23 January 2020 at 2pm
- 19 March 2020 2pm
- 28 May 2020 at 10am
- 17 July 2020 at 10am
- 4 September 2020 at 10am
- 13 November at 10am

Purpose of the Meeting

6. The Panel is asked to consider the 2019/20 Work Programme and agree whether it would wish to make any amendments. The Panel will wish to retain the flexibility to take into account any urgent issues which may arise.

Supporting Information

- Appendix 1 – Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme 2019/20

Contact Points

Specific Contact Points for this Report

Samantha Morris/Alyson Grice, Overview and Scrutiny Officers, Tel: 01905 844963/844962

Email: scrutiny@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and minutes of Council on 12 September 2019 – available on the Council website [here](#)
- Agenda and Minutes of OSPB on 24 July 2019 - available on the Council website [here](#)

2019/20 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME: Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel

The main focus of the Panel's work will be the follow up from the Ofsted Safeguarding Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services, which took place in June 2019 and Worcestershire Children First (WCF) which is the Wholly-Owned Council Company set up to deliver and improve children's social care on behalf of the Council from 1 October 2019.

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
25 September 2019	Overnight Unit-based Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities – ongoing Scrutiny	8 August 2018 4 June 2019	An in-depth Scrutiny was also carried out and reported to the OSPB on 26 April 2018. The results of consultation are going to Cabinet on 26 September 2019
25 September 2019	Update on the Assessment Pathway for Children and Young People who may have Autism – business case		Referred from OSPB 25 May 2019
21 October 2019	Development of Edge of Care Services	11 January 2019	Suggested during the Budget discussion January 2019
21 October 2019	Optimising the Use of Children's Centre Buildings in the Context of Effective Prevention Services for Children and Young People	7 February 2018 14 September 2018	Going to Cabinet 24 October 2019
13 November 2019	School Organisation Plan (2019-24)	N/A Plan was circulated to the Panel February 2019	The Plan was agreed by Cabinet on 13 December 2018 and will be refreshed in December 2019

13 November 2019	SEND Improvement Plan	6 March 2019	Following Ofsted Monitoring visits in July and October
13 November 2019	Budget Scrutiny	16 November 2018 14 January 2018	
13 November 2019	Performance Monitoring Quarter 2 (June-Sept)	11 September 2019	
January 2020	Budget Scrutiny		
February/March 2020	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring Quarter 3 (October – December)		
June/July 2020	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring Quarter 4 (January - March)		
Possible Future Items			
November 2019 TBC	Educational Outcomes for children and young people educated in Worcestershire schools for 2019	7 February 2018	
TBC	New Model of Delivery for Medical Education Provision		
TBC	Ofsted ILACS Inspection – Monitoring Visit Feedback/ update on Service Improvement Plan	11 September 2019	Ofsted report published 29 July 2019

TBC	Update on the Children's Social Care Service Improvement Plan – Ofsted Monitoring Visit Feedback	14 August 2017 24 October 2017 22 March 2018 16 May 2018 14 September 2018 16 November 2018 6 March 2019 11 September 2019	See above: Outcomes of Ofsted ILACS inspection
September 2020	Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report	13 September 2017 14 September 2018 11 September 2019	
TBC	Update on Worcestershire Children First	23 November 2017 25 January 2018 22 March 2018 16 November 2018 29 January 2019 17 July 2019 11 September 2019	
TBC	Sufficiency work including private residential provision used by the council (as suggested by CD) To include placements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • types of placements in Worcestershire • emergency placements • costs • availability 	11 January 2019	Suggested by the Director of Children, Families and Communities during the Performance Monitoring discussion To be considered early 2020

TBC	Commissioning a 0-19 Prevention and Early Intervention Service for Children and Young People	11 January 2019 10 May 2019	Update on progress when commissioning process is complete
TBC	Children who are educated 'otherwise' (including elective home education and alternative provision)	10 May 2019	Update on progress in due course/scrutiny task group to be set up Autumn 2019
TBC	School Attainment at KS2 2019	9 October 2018 7 February 2018 17 July 2019	Progress actions from 9 October 2018 meeting with Schools 2019 validated data to be shared with the Panel when available
Standing Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance and In-year Budget Monitoring • Quality Assurance • Safeguarding • Budget Scrutiny Process 	TBC	
Scrutiny Champions	Safeguarding – Cllr Tom Baker-Price Education – Cllr Fran Oborski Looked After Children - Cllr Jane Potter Finance/budget – Cllr Pat Agar		