

Agenda

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday, 4 June 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

Tuesday, 4 June 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 R W Banks, Ms R L Dent, Mr P M McDonald, Mr S J Mackay and Ms T L Onslow

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 3 June). Enquiries can be made through the telephone number/e-mail address below.	
4	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting	To follow
5	Future Provision of Overnight Unit-Based Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities	1 - 2
6	Work Programme 2018/19	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@worcestershire.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 4 JUNE 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 Assistant Director for Early Help and Commissioning 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 6 June 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 between 8 January and 19 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

Next steps

4. A report updating Cabinet on the provision of short breaks and outlining proposals for a future delivery model will be discussed at Cabinet on 6 June 2019.

Purpose of the Meeting

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

- Consider the information in the 6 June 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 6 June 2019 (to follow)
- Appendix 2 – Presentation to update Panel on latest developments (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
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 4 JUNE 2019

WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

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 2018/19 Work Programme has been developed by taking into account issues still to be completed from 2017/18, 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 Work Programme was agreed by Council on 8 November 2018.

Refresh of the Scrutiny Work Programme 2019/20

6. Plans are now being made to refresh the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2019/20. Throughout May and June, Members and other stakeholders will be invited to suggest topics for future scrutiny. Following July Panel meetings, informal sessions will be held where Panel Members will be asked to prioritise these suggestions.
7. The Overview and Scrutiny Performance Board will receive feedback on the Panels' discussions and agree the final scrutiny work programme at its July meeting. Council will be asked to agree the Work Programme in September.

Dates of Future Meetings

- 17 July 2019
- 25 September 2019
- 13 November 2019

Purpose of the Meeting

8. The Panel may like to consider the 2018/19 Work Programme and consider 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 2018/19

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 8 November 2018 – available on the Council website [here](#)
- Agenda and Minutes of OSPB on 26 September 2018 - available on the Council website [here](#)

2018/19 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME: Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel

The main focus of the Panel's work is to follow up the Ofsted report and the implementation of the Service Improvement Plan, and Worcester Children First (WCF) the Alternative Delivery Model.

Updates on the Service Improvement Plan and Ofsted monitoring visits to include consideration of the workload of social workers (including travel time and key workers) and considering comparative figures in relation to performance of agency staff, recruitment and retention and caseloads.

Date of Meeting	Issue for Scrutiny	Date of Last Report	Notes/Follow-up Action
4 June 2019	Overnight Unit-based Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities – ongoing Scrutiny	8 August 2018	An in-depth Scrutiny was also carried out and reported to the OSPB on 26 April 2018
17 July 2019	School Attainment at KS2	9 October 2018 7 February 2018	Progress actions from 9 October 2018 meeting with Schools
17 July 2019	Educational Outcomes for children and young people educated in Worcestershire schools for 2018	7 February 2018	
17 July 2019	Update on Worcestershire Children First	23 November 2017 25 January 2018 22 March 2018 16 November 2018 29 January 2019	

17 July 2019	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring Quarter 4 2019 (January – March)	6 March 2019	
11 September 2019	Review the service delivery contract for Worcester Children First	23 November 2017 25 January 2018 22 March 2018 16 November 2018 29 January 2019 17 July 2019	
11 September 2019	Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report	13 September 2017 14 September 2018	
11 September 2019	Performance and In-Year Budget Monitoring Quarter 1 (April-June)		
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 and January 2020	Budget Scrutiny	16 November 2018 14 January 2018	
13 November 2019	Performance Monitoring Quarter 2 (June-Sept)		
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			
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	To be scheduled once date of next Ofsted visit is known. This will be a full inspection and likely to take place spring 2019.
TBC	Update on the Joint Local Area SEND Written Statement of Action/ Improvement Plan	16 May 2018 8 August 2018 6 March 2019	
TBC	Children's centres	7 February 2018 14 September 2018	
TBC	Development of Edge of Care Services	11 January 2019	Suggested during the Budget discussion
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 	11 January 2019	Suggested by the Director of Children, Families and Communities during the Performance Monitoring discussion

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs • availability 		
TBC – when commissioning process is complete	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
TBC	Medical Education Team		To come to Scrutiny Panel ahead of discussion at Cabinet (deferred from June 2019 Cabinet)
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 Bob Banks		