

## AGENDA

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**Meeting:** Children's Services Select Committee  
**Place:** Council Chambers, County Hall, Trowbridge  
**Date:** Thursday 25 November 2010  
**Time:** 10.30 am

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Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Sharon Smith, of Democratic and Members' Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line (01225) 718378 or email [sharonl.smith@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:sharonl.smith@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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### Membership:

Cllr Paul Darby	Cllr Jon Hubbard
Cllr Andrew Davis	Cllr Jacqui Lay (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Peter Davis	Cllr Bill Moss
Cllr Mary Douglas	Cllr Helen Osborn
Cllr Peter Fuller	Cllr Pip Ridout
Cllr Mark Griffiths	Cllr Carole Soden (Chairman)
Cllr Russell Hawker	

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### Substitutes:

Cllr Ernie Clark	Cllr Nick Fogg
Cllr Peter Colmer	Cllr Tom James MBE
Cllr Christine Crisp	Cllr Howard Marshall
Cllr Christopher Devine	Cllr William Roberts
Cllr Peggy Dow	

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### Non-Elected Voting Members:

Rev. Alice Kemp	Parent Governor Representative (SEN)
Mr Neil Owen	Parent Governor Representative (Secondary)
Mrs Rosheen Ryan	Parent Governor Representative (Primary)
Dr Mike Thompson	Roman Catholic Church Diocesan Representative

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### Non-Elected Non-Voting Members:

Mrs Di Dale	Further Education Representative
Chris Dark	Secondary Schools Headteacher Representative
Mrs Judith Finney	Primary School Headteachers Representative
John Hawkins	School Teacher Representative
Chris King	Children & Young People's Representative

## **PART I**

### **Items to be considered while the meeting is opened to the public**

1) **Apologies and substitutions**

To receive apologies for absence.

2) **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

To confirm and sign the minutes of the Children's Services Select Committee held on 23 September 2010 (copy attached).

3) **Declarations of Interests**

To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.

4) **Chairman's Announcements**

5) **Public Participation**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public.

If you would like to make a statement at this meeting on any item on this agenda, please register to do so at least 10 minutes prior to the meeting. Up to 3 speakers are permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes each on any agenda item. The Chairman will, however, exercise her discretion in order to ensure that members of the public have the opportunity to contribute.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question should give written notice (including details of any question) to the officer named above by 12.00 noon on 23 November 2010.

6) **Coalition Changes - update report** *(Pages 1 - 8)*

In June, Members requested that a standing item be included on the work programme to receive updates on the Coalition Government's proposals for children's services and education. A report giving the latest position is attached.

Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director for the Department of Children and Education, will attend to answer Members' questions.

7) **Update on Implementation Of Wiltshire's Strategy to Improve the Emotional Well-Being and Mental Health of Children & Young People**

*(Pages 9 - 28)*

A report from the Service Director for Commissioning and Performance – DCE, on progress to implement Wiltshire's Commissioning Strategy to improve the emotional well-being and mental health of children and young people.

The Committee last received an update on this issue in July 2009, when organisations were bidding to become Wiltshire's provider of specialist child & adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) (Tiers 3 and 4). The successful bidder were Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust (OBMH), who took over providing the service on 1 April 2010.

8) **Review of Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision - Update on Implementation** *(Pages 29 - 32)*

In July 2010, Members undertook a rapid scrutiny exercise looking at the Review of SEN Provision consultation process and results. The Rapid Scrutiny Group made a number of recommendations that were later endorsed by the Committee, mostly in relation to how future Council consultations could be improved.

The Group also had concerns regarding the transition of some young people from Specialist Learning Centres to mainstream schools as a result of the SEN Review proposals. It therefore requested that the Committee received an update on how the individual plans for those young people affected are being progressed. A report is attached.

Trevor Daniels, Head of SEN, will attend to answer Members' questions.

9) **Special Schools and Post-16 Special Educational Needs (SEN) Task Group** *(Pages 33 - 36)*

In January 2010, the Committee considered proposals for service development with respect to SEN provision in specialist learning centres (now referred to as 'resources bases'), SEN support services and SEN provision in mainstream primary schools. These were later approved by Cabinet in July and will be confirmed in December.

The Committee agreed that a decision would be made in the Autumn regarding the establishment of a task group to look specifically at special schools and post-16 SEN provision. A report from the Senior Scrutiny Officer is attached proposing terms of reference and a timescale for the review.

10) **Task Group update** *(Pages 37 - 38)*

**Major Contracts Task Group**

Membership: Cllr Bill Moss (Chairman)

Cllr Carole Soden  
Cllr Jon Hubbard  
Cllr Peter Colmer  
Cllr Jacqui Lay

The Major Contracts Task Group met on the 14 October to review the Sodexo School Catering contract. Members noted the satisfactory levels of performance but were concerned at the decreasing number of schools within the contract. This contract expired in March 2010 and the Corporate Procurement Unit are currently investigating a way forward. The Task Group will meet again (prior to Cabinet consideration) once a decision has been made regarding a preferred approach.

The Task Group has also met to review the performance of Quarriers who provide residential placements for looked after children (LAC). A number of concerns have arisen from this, which the Task Group are pursuing and a further meeting is to be organised for January 2011. As much of this is subject to confidentiality, members of the Task Group would be happy to take questions outside of the meeting.

The Task Group will meet again on 16 December 2010 to review the White Horse Education Partnership, which provides facilities management services to the Wootton Bassett, Abbeyfield and Malmesbury Schools. To aid this review, members of the Task Group will be visiting all three sites on 29 November.

#### Placements for Looked After Children Task Group (LAC)

Membership: Cllr Jon Hubbard (Chairman)  
Cllr Peter Colmer  
Cllr Andrew Davis  
Rev Alice Kemp  
Cllr Bill Moss  
Cllr Helen Osborn

The Task Group held their third meeting on 4 November.

Members considered the Family & Parenting Support Commissioning Strategy, which was due for approval by Cabinet on 16 November. In September, the Committee had asked to receive the Strategy at its next meeting, but taking it to the Task Group instead allowed Scrutiny consideration prior to final Cabinet approval. A full note of the Task Group's discussions and conclusions from this item is therefore attached.

The Task Group also received a briefing on Educational Support for LAC, requesting a breakdown of LAC's educational attainment by category of care setting; and a protocol between various departments and agencies clarifying roles and responsibilities regarding homeless young people. Members requested that a briefing note be drafted for Councillors summarising the content of the protocol.

The Task Group chairman and the Senior Scrutiny Officer will be meeting shortly to discuss the Task Group's future work, which will include a visit to the Adoption Team at Newbury House, Trowbridge to learn about the adoption process.

#### Further Education in the Salisbury Area Task Group

Membership (TBC) : Cllr Mary Douglas  
Cllr Jon Hubbard  
Cllr Bill Moss  
Cllr Pip Ridout  
Cllr Jacqui Lay  
Dr Mike Thompson

The commencement of this task group was delayed due to issues around membership and potential conflicts of interest. However, the Group's initial scoping meeting is now scheduled for 2 December in Salisbury.

#### Rapid Scrutiny Exercise: Green Paper – Children & Young People with SEN and Disabilities

Membership (TBC): Cllr Paul Darby  
Cllr Jon Hubbard  
Mrs Alice Kemp  
Cllr Jacqui Lay  
Cllr Helen Osborn  
Cllr Carole Soden

In September, the Committee agreed to undertake a rapid scrutiny exercise to respond to the Government's Green Paper on Children & Young People with SEN and Disabilities. The Green Paper is yet to be released.

11) **Forward Work Programme** *(Pages 39 - 42)*

A copy of the Committee's Forward Work Programme and Terms of Reference are attached for consideration.

12) **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Children's Services Select Committee is scheduled for **10.30am, 27 January 2010**, Council Chamber, County Hall, Trowbridge.

13) **Urgent Items**

Any other items of business which the Chairman agrees to consider as a matter of urgency.