

## AGENDA

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**Meeting:** Children's Services Select Committee  
**Place:** Council Chamber, County Hall, Trowbridge  
**Date:** Thursday 17 March 2011  
**Time:** **10.30 am**  
**(Briefing for all Members - 9.30am):** Schools with significant numbers of services children.

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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)

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225) 713114/713115.

This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.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	Clifton Diocese Roman Catholic Church Representative

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### Non-Elected Non-Voting Members:

Mrs Di Dale	Further Education Representative
Mr 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

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## PART I

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

1) **Apologies and substitutions**

2) **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (*Pages 1 - 14*)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the Children's Services Select Committee meeting held on 13 January 2011.

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.

#### Statements

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. Please contact the officer named above for any further clarification.

#### Questions

To receive any questions from members of the public or members of the Council received in accordance with the constitution. Those wishing to ask questions are required to give notice of any such questions in writing to the officer named above (acting on behalf of the Director of Resources) no later than **5pm on Thursday 10 March 2011**. Please contact the officer named on the first page of this agenda for further advice. Questions may be asked without notice if the Chairman decides that the matter is urgent.

Details of any questions received will be circulated to Committee members prior to the meeting and made available at the meeting and on the Council's website.

6) **Coalition Changes – DCE update** (*Pages 15 - 18*)

Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director for DCE, will present the update attached on the Coalition Government's proposals for children's services and education.

7) **Budget & Performance monitoring**

Following the disbandment of the Budget & Performance Task Group, responsibility for scrutiny of departmental budgets and performance passed to the relevant Select Committees.

Hard copies of the budget monitoring papers for Cabinet's March meeting will follow to all members on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

No performance reports will be received by Cabinet in March. However, hard copies of the performance report considered by Cabinet in February have been sent to all members.

Where possible, members are asked to forward any specific questions regarding the current DCE budget or performance position to the Senior Scrutiny Officer in advance of the meeting.

8) **Transition Planning - update** (*Pages 19 - 22*)

An update on progress in relation to ensuring effective transition from children's to adult's services is attached.

The Committee last received a report on Transitions in March 2010. The focus at the time was to develop a plan to implement the Multi Agency Transition Protocol over the next 3 years.

Transitions falls within the scope of an on-going review of services for disabled children and adults (see page 75 of the Council Business Plan 2011-15), which is being led by the Corporate Director for Community Services. This systems thinking review forms part of a corporate plan to achieve savings of £21.3 million over the next four years. An update on this project is included within the report.

Julia Cramp, Service Director for Joint Commissioning, will attend to answer members' questions.

9) **Scrutiny of the Business Plan 2011 – 2015** (*Pages 23 - 36*)

The Business Plan 2011-15 was formally adopted at Council on 22 February having been approved by Cabinet the previous week. The 4 year Plan sets out how the Council intends to meet the challenges of reduced resources, legislative change and demographic impact whilst achieving the its goals. The Financial Plan 2011-15, also approved by Council, forms an appendix the Business Plan **(all members should have received copies of these documents – please bring your copy to the meeting for reference).**

The report attached identifies the content within the Business & Financial Plans that falls within the Committee's remit and seeks to determine an appropriate approach for future activity, as requested by the Overview and Scrutiny Management and Co-ordination Liaison Board.

Members are asked to agree the list of themes/topics set out in the table within the report and discuss how to address these within the Committee's forward work programme.

10) **Placements for Looked After Children (LAC) Task Group** (*Pages 37 - 46*)

The report attached provides a recap of the work done by the Task Group since it was established and proposes its future direction and terms of reference.

The Placements for Looked After Children (LAC) Task Group was established in March 2010 to scrutinise the draft Placements for Looked After Children (LAC) Commissioning Strategy and has since considered a large amount of information under the broad umbrella of Placements for Looked After Children. It is now appropriate to recap on the work done by the Task Group thus far and to agree its future direction. This is particularly timely as the new Business Plan 2011-15 lists the Family Placement Service as a key priority for the Council.

11) **Task Group update** (*Pages 47 - 48*)

An update on the activity of the Committee's various task groups is attached.

12) **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 9 June 2011.

13) **Urgent Items**

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

## PART II

**Items during whose consideration it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed**

NONE