

## AGENDA

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**Meeting:** Children's Select Committee  
**Place:** Council Chamber - Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham, SN15 1ER  
**Date:** Tuesday 1 October 2013  
**Time:** **10.30 am**

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Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Roger Bishton, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 713035 or email [roger.bishton@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:roger.bishton@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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### **Pre-meeting information briefing**

There will be a briefing session starting at 9.30am, immediately before the meeting. Its focus will be on **Schools and the Local Authority** and will cover:

- What role the LA now has in schools
  - What degree of influence the LA can exert and how it does so
  - What services the LA provides for schools
  - The governance arrangements of different school designations
  - The role of school governors and how they are supported to undertake it
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### **Membership:**

Cllr Pat Aves	Cllr Jacqui Lay (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Mary Champion	Cllr Bill Moss
Cllr Mary Douglas	Cllr Helen Osborn
Cllr Sue Evans	Cllr Sheila Parker
Cllr Jon Hubbard (Chairman)	Cllr Ricky Rogers
Cllr Chris Hurst	Cllr Philip Whalley
Cllr Simon Jacobs	

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### **Substitutes:**

Cllr Desna Allen	Cllr Dennis Drewett
Cllr Chuck Berry	Cllr Russell Hawker
Cllr Nick Blakemore	Cllr David Jenkins
Cllr Terry Chivers	Cllr Dr Helena McKeown
Cllr Christine Crisp	Cllr Jeff Osborn
Cllr Andrew Davis	Cllr John Walsh
Cllr Stewart Dobson	

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**Non-Elected Voting Members:**

Rev Alice Kemp	Parent Governor Representative (SEN)
Dr Mike Thompson	Clifton Diocesan RC Representative

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**Non-Elected Non-Voting Members:**

Sarah Busby	Secondary Schools Headteacher Representative
Mrs Di Dale	Further Education Representative
Mr John Hawkins	School Teacher Representative
Kaylum House	Children & Young People's Representative

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## **PART I**

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

1 **Apologies**

2 **Minutes of the Previous Meetings** *(Pages 1 - 16)*

To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 6 June and 5 July 2013. (copies attached)

3 **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of disclosable 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 no later than **5pm on Tuesday 24 September 2013**. 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 **Developing the Forward Work Programme** *(Pages 17 - 24)*

A report from the Chairman and Vice-Chairman is attached reporting on outcomes of the meeting with the relevant Executive members and directors held on 15 August. This was to discuss the Council's priorities for children's services and the potential future work priorities of this Committee.

The report proposes some key Committee work priorities for this Council for discussion, prior to referral to the O&S Management Committee for endorsement. It also suggests some new ways of working in regards to Committee meetings.

Members are asked to consider the proposals within the report and make further suggestions as appropriate, including how each topic might be approached. Members are also asked to support further discussions between the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with Cabinet members, portfolio-holders and service directors to develop the forward work programme further, with a report coming to the Committee's next meeting.

7 **Executive Response to the Final Report of the Special Schools and Post-16 SEN Task Group - Part 2** *(Pages 25 - 28)*

A report from the Cabinet Member for Children's Services presenting the Executive response to the final report of the Special Schools Post-16 SEN Task Group – part 2 is attached.

The Task Group was established by Children's Services Select Committee in September 2010. The Committee received the Task Group's initial final report in July 2012 and the executive response was received in September 2012. The Committee then asked the Task Group to reconvene to undertake further work, consider the executive responses in detail, and to receive the various pieces of further information that had been offered. The Task Group's Final Report – part 2 was endorsed by the Select Committee on 6 June 2013 and referred to the executive for response.

8 **Review of Short Break Provision for Children and Young People with SEN/LLDD** *(Pages 29 - 48)*

A report is attached summarising the joint review between the Council and NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group on overnight short breaks for disabled Children and Young People in Wiltshire.

Following the review, the proposal is to change the service model including the closure of Hillcote (the NHS-run unit) from April 2014 and reinvest the money saved in more family based care and early intervention support services for families of disabled children. This proposal is out for consultation until 23 October and the final decision on the potential closure of Hillcote will be taken at the NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body meeting in November.

In June the Special Schools and Post-16 SEN Task Group made the following recommendations relating to Short Break Provision for Children and Young People in its Final Report – part 2 and the Executive responses to these recommendations are included in the attached report:

2. If there were to be any reconfiguration of short break provision in Wiltshire, any savings identified should be retained for services for children and young people with SEN/LLDD and

their families;

3. If a reconfiguration of Wiltshire's short break provision was proposed, the Committee receives data showing the proposed capacity of the new model, demonstrating that it could meet the demand for short breaks across Wiltshire and not equate to a reduction in the current provision;
4. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services provides a response to the figures included under paragraph 16 showing that a large proportion of the overnight short break days available in Wiltshire are used by a small number of service users;

The Joint Director for Commissioning and Performance will attend to answer members' questions.

The Committee is asked to provide feedback on the proposal to change the model of delivery of short breaks in Wiltshire.

9 **Support for Gifted and Talented Pupils** (Pages 49 - 58)

A report from Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director, is attached providing an overview of the support provided by the Council and by schools for pupils identified as gifted and talented. Several members highlighted this topic as a potential work priority for the Committee.

Clive Angus, Teaching and Learning Coordinator, will attend to answer members' questions.

10 **Update on the Provision of Education for Excluded Pupils** (Pages 59 - 66)

A report from Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director, providing an update on the Power To Innovate (PTI) project in Wiltshire is attached, as requested by the Children's Select Committee in November 2012. The Committee also requested figures showing the improved pupil attendance at Education Other Than At School (EOTAS) provision.

The Committee received a report proposing the closure of the Young People's Support Service (YPSS) in November 2011. The service had been placed in Special Measures in May 2011 and was subsequently closed in August 2011. In its place, Wiltshire used the Department for Education's (DfE) Power to Innovate (PTI) to delegate the responsibility for educating permanently excluded students to secondary schools, who receive the devolved funding.

Christine Whitfield, EOTAS Co-ordinator, will attend to answer Members' questions.

11 **Task Group update** (Pages 67 - 68)

A report from the Senior Scrutiny officer is attached providing an update on Task Group activity since the Committee's last meeting.

12 **Coalition Changes - Update from Department for Education** (Pages 69 - 74)

A report by Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director, on developments relating to children's services arising from the Coalition Government is attached.

The Committee is asked to consider the report and agree further action as appropriate.

13 **Urgent Items**

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

14 **Date of Next Meeting**

To note that the next meeting of the Select Committee is due to be held on Tuesday 3 December 2013 at the Council's Offices at Monkton Park, Chippenham, starting at 10.30am.

**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