

## AGENDA

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**Meeting:** Children's Select Committee  
**Place:** Committee Room A - Council Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham  
**Date:** Thursday 29 November 2012  
**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.

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### Membership:

Cllr Paul Darby	Cllr Jon Hubbard
Cllr Andrew Davis	Cllr David Jenkins
Cllr Peter Davis	Cllr Jacqui Lay (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Mary Douglas	Cllr Bill Moss
Cllr Peter Fuller	Cllr Sheila Parker
Cllr Mark Griffiths	Cllr Carole Soden (Chairman)
Cllr Russell Hawker	

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### Substitutes:

Cllr Christopher Devine	Cllr John Knight
Cllr Peggy Dow	Cllr Helen Osborn
Cllr Nick Fogg	Cllr Jeff Osborn
Cllr Mollie Groom	Cllr William Roberts
Cllr Tom James MBE	

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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 Diocesan RC Representative

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### Non-Elected Non-Voting Members:

Mrs Di Dale	Further Education Representative
Mrs Judith Finney	Primary School Headteacher 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 Meeting** *(Pages 1 - 8)*

To approve and sign the minutes of the Children's Select Committee held on 27 September 2012.

3 **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary 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 Thursday 22 November 2012**. 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 **The Future Development of the Young People's Support Service (YPSS)**  
*(Pages 9 - 22)*

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 former Children's Services select Committee at its meeting in March 2012.

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.

Also attached is statistical information showing both temporary and permanent exclusions in primary and secondary schools for the school year 2011 – 2012.

Mark Brotherton, Head of Targeted School and Learner Support, will attend to answer members' questions.

7 **Adoption Agency Annual Report 2011-12** *(Pages 23 - 76)*

A report from Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director, in advance of the Adoption Agency Annual Report 2011-12 which will be considered by Cabinet on 22 January 2013, is attached.

It is a requirement that the Executive receives a report on the local authority's adoption agency to satisfy themselves that it is effective and is achieving good outcomes for children and/or service users. A preliminary report is provided for the Select Committee and members are invited to submit any comments or recommendations to Cabinet as appropriate.

In March 2012 Ofsted carried out an inspection of Wiltshire Council Safeguarding and Looked After Children's services. The subsequent report highlighted areas where the adoption service was found to be inadequate as well as areas where the service is both adequate and outstanding.

In May 2012 the Government published revised local authority Adoption Scorecards, and Wiltshire's performance in 2008/11 was below the national average for the number of days between a child first coming into care and moving in with their adoptive parent. This was received by the Select Committee.

In May 2012 the Council took part in a pilot for a diagnostic assessment developed to support local authorities to explore how delays in the adoption process can be minimised. Following this, an Adoptions Improvement Plan was put in place, and is now monitored by the Safeguarding Improvement Board which was set up to ensure improvements were made following the Ofsted inspection.

8 **Coalition Changes - Update September to November 2012** *(Pages 77 - 82)*

A report from 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.

9 **Task Group Update** (Pages 83 - 86)

Members are asked to note the updates on the following task group activity attached:

- Safeguarding Children and Young People Task Group
- Special Schools & Post-16 SEN Task Group
- Major Contracts Task Group

10 **Forward Work Programme** (Pages 87 - 88)

The Committee is asked to note the attached draft Forward Work Programme.

11 **Urgent Items**

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

12 **Date of Next Meeting**

To note that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 31 January 2013, starting at 10.30am, at the Council's Offices, Monkton Park, Chippenham.

**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