

AGENDA

Meeting: CHILDRENS' SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Place: County Hall, Trowbridge
Committee Room: Committee Room 5
Date: 22 February 2006
Time: 10.30 am

Please direct any enquiries on this agenda to Karen Linaker, Scrutiny Support Officer, Corporate & Library Services Department, County Hall, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 713056 or e-mail karenlinaker@wiltshire.gov.uk

Briefing Arrangements: 22nd February at 9.30am (Scrutiny Office)

Membership:

Councillors

Mr A Davis	Mr J Noeken
Mr T Deane	Mr S Oldrieve
Dr J English	Mr R Rogers
Mrs M Groom	Mrs P Rugg
Mr M Hewson (Vice-Chairman)	Mrs C Soden (Chairman)
Mrs G Hill	Mr C Winchcombe
Mr C Newbury	

Non-Elected Voting

Ms R MacDonald:	Parent Governor (Primary)
Mrs E Leonard:	Parent Governor (Special Needs)
Ms J Miller:	Parent Governor (Secondary)
Mr W Snow:	Church of England Representative
Dr M Thompson:	Catholic Diocese Representative

PART I

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

1. **Apologies**
2. **Chairman's Announcements**
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30th November 2005 (copy attached).
4. **Members' Interests** To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.
5. **Public Participation** The County Council welcomes contributions from members of the public and has agreed to set aside 15 minutes at the beginning of meetings for questions or statements. Members of the public wishing to ask a question or make a statement should give written notice (including details of any question or statement) to the officer named above **by 12.00 Noon on Friday 17th February 2006.**
6. **Member Requests** None.

Agenda Items For Discussion

7. **Progress on the Integration of Children's Services in Wiltshire**

To receive a report from the Director of the Department for Children & Education, as a progress update on the development of integrated children's services in Wiltshire (report enclosed).
8. **School Funding Task Group – Update on Implementation of Recommendations**

To receive an update on progress in implementing the recommendations of the Schools' Finance Scrutiny Task Group report (report enclosed).
9. **Special Educational Needs – Strategy Monitoring Board**

To receive an update report from the Special Educational Needs Strategy Monitoring Board (report enclosed).
10. **Gender Gap**

To receive a report from the Assistant Director (School Branch) on progress in bridging the gender gap in Wiltshire and an update on the recommendations from the Rose Review (report to follow).

11. Holding the Executive to Public Account

- (i) The following items are listed in the Cabinet's latest rolling Forward Plan for February 2006 to May 2006 which relate to Children's Services:

Children's Centres – To report on the capital expenditure required to deliver the project should the Government cease funding after 2008, along with the ongoing implications for the revenue budget, together with an update on the last 6 Children Centre locations. (Cabinet – 24th February 2006)

Schools Building Maintenance Backlog – To seek the views of Members on the current building maintenance backlog position on the schools' estate (Cabinet - 24th February 2006)

Children & Young People's Plan for 2006/07 – To seek Cabinet and Council approval for the major priorities of the Interim Children's Trust Board for 2006-2007 that have been widely consulted on since autumn 2005. (Cabinet – 24th February 2006)

Admissions Arrangements – To evaluate the current arrangements in relation to schools admissions (Cabinet – 17th March 2006)

East Tytherton Maud Heath Primary School – To sell the property to the parish council or similar community organisation (Cabinet – 21st April 2006)

Youth Justice Plan 2006/07 – To recommend approval the Youth Justice Plan for 2006/07 (Cabinet – 21st April 2006)

- (ii) The minutes of Cabinet are available on the Council's website and circulated to all members.

(NB. These are required to be published normally within 2 working days of the meeting. This Committee, through its Chairman or 3 Members of the Committee, has the power to call in (i.e. delay implementation) of a decision in exceptional circumstances should it have concerns. The Constitution sets out the procedure to be followed should this happen.

This Committee may also wish to review a decision of the Executive retrospectively, for example, to satisfy itself that the decision has been properly implemented or has achieved the aims that were intended.

Any Member of the Committee or any 5 Members of the Council can also request an item on the agenda of the Committee – using the appropriate form.)

Again, should Members wish to raise specific issues it would be helpful to have advance notice so that further information can be sought.

12. **Work Programme**

Attached is a copy of the latest work programme, for the Committee to note.

13. **Urgent Items**

Any other items of business which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered as a matter of urgency. Urgent items of a confidential nature may be considered under Part II of this agenda.

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

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

14. **Scrutiny Task Groups Update** Attached is an update report informing members of the progress made so far by the School Catering Scrutiny Task Group and the Contracted Out Children's Placements Scrutiny Task Group.