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To: The Chair and Members of the Children's
Scrutiny Committee

County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

Date: 10 January 2024

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CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 18th January, 2024

A meeting of the Children's Scrutiny Committee is to be held on the above date at 2.15pm at Committee Suite, County Hall, Exeter to consider the following matters.

Donna Manson
Chief Executive

A G E N D A

PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE

1 Apologies

2 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2023 (previously circulated).

3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

4 Public Participation

Members of the public may make representations/presentations on any substantive matter listed in the published agenda for this meeting, as set out hereunder, relating to a specific matter or an examination of services or facilities provided or to be provided.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION OR REVIEW

5 Responses of the Cabinet to Reports of the Committee

Verbal reports of the Cabinet Members.

6 Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

In accordance with previous practice, Scrutiny Committees are requested to review the list of forthcoming business and determine which items are to be included in the [Work Programme](#).

The Committee may also wish to review the content of the [Cabinet Forward Plan](#) and the Children's Services [Risk Register](#) to see if there are any specific items therein it might wish to explore further.

7 Children's Services Improvement Plan & Social Care Performance (Pages 1 - 14)

Report of the Deputy Director and Head of Children's Health and Wellbeing (Interim) (CS/24/04), attached.

8 Education Annual Report Autumn 2023 (Pages 15 - 64)

Annual report attached.

9 Children's Standing Overview Group (Pages 65 - 68)

Report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services on the Children's Standing Overview Group of 26 September 2023 (LDS/23/19), attached.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

10 Children's Scrutiny Visits: Autumn Term School Visits (Pages 69 - 76)

Report of the Director of Legal and Democratic Services (LDS/24/4), attached.

11 Information Previously Circulated

Below is a list of information previously circulated for Members, since the last meeting, relating to topical developments which have been or are currently being considered by this Scrutiny Committee.

- [SEND Task Group recommendations update from Councillor Lois Samuel](#) (13th November 2023)
- Councillor Andrew Leadbetter's letter to Gillian Keegan MP, Secretary of State for Education, regarding Elective Home Education (15th November 2023) and the Response from Baroness Barran, Minister for the School System and Student Finance, (5th December 2023)
- Improvement Partnership Board - agenda and reports for meetings on 5th December 2023 (28th November 2023) and 10th January 2024 (2nd January 2024).

- Written Responses from Children's Scrutiny Committee on 14th November 2023 (4th December 2023)
- 2022/23 Annual Report for the Child Protection Conference Service (5th December 2023)
- Written Response - Trends relating to children apprehensive to start school post pandemic (8th December 2023)
- Response from Department for Education regarding the Committee's letter to the Secretary of State for Education on fair funding for Devon Schools and SEND (12th December 2023)
- Committee Risk Register (10th January 2024)

PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None

MEETINGS INFORMATION AND NOTES FOR VISITORS

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Committee Terms of Reference

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Access to Information

Any person wishing to inspect any minutes, reports or background papers relating to an item on the agenda should contact the Clerk of the Meeting. To find this, [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and find the Committee. Under contact information (at the bottom of the page) the Clerk's name and contact details will be present. All [agenda, reports and minutes of any Committee are published on the Website](#)

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Declarations of Interest for Members of the Council

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