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

County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

Date: 1 November 2024

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CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 11th November, 2024

A meeting of the Children's Scrutiny Committee is to be held on the above date at 10.30 am 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 Declarations of Interest

Members of the Council will declare any interests they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

The other registrable interests of Councillors of Devon County Council, arising from membership of City, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes: [A list of county councillors who are also district, borough, city, parish or town councillors.](#)

- 3 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2024 (previously circulated).

4 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

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

5 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

6 Responses of the Cabinet to Reports of the Committee

Verbal reports of the Cabinet Members.

7 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.

8 Children's Scrutiny Budget Monitoring Standing Overview Group (Pages 1 - 10)

Report of the Committee's Budget Monitoring Standing Overview Group (LDS/24/36).

9 In-year Budget Position

Report to follow.

10 Children's Social Care Performance Report (Pages 11 - 54)

Report of the Deputy Director and Head of Children's Health & Wellbeing (Interim) (CS/24/34).

11 School Organisation Process Overview (Pages 55 - 64)

Report of the Director of Children and Young People's Futures (CS/24/35).

12 Findings from the Ombudsman's Report into the Case of Mr C. (Pages 65 - 98)

Joint report of the Directors for Integrated Adult Social Care and Children and Young People's Futures (IASC/23/14).

13 Fostering Task Group

Report to follow.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

14 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.

- Youth Participation Annual Report 2023/2024 (18 September 2024)
- Sufficiency Strategies - examples from other Local Authorities (25 September 2024)
- Fairer Funding for Devon Schools - briefing paper to Devon MPs (25 September 2024)
- Reasons/Categories for Electively Home Educated children (21 October 2024)
- Committee Risk Register (22 October 2024)
- Recommendation from the Standards Committee of Monday 14 October 2024 relating to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman report into the case of Mr C (22 October 2024)
- Children's Home Guide for Councillors (29 October 2024)

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

None

Members are reminded that Part II Reports contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). They need to be disposed of carefully and should be returned to the Democratic Services Officer at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.

MEETINGS INFORMATION AND NOTES FOR VISITORS

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The nearest mainline railway stations are Exeter Central (5 minutes from the High Street), St David's and St Thomas. All have regular bus services to the High Street.

Visitors to County Hall are asked to report to Main Reception on arrival. If visitors have any specific requirements, please contact reception on 01392 382504 beforehand.

Membership of a Committee

For full details of the Membership of a Committee, please [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and click on the name of the Committee you wish to see.

Committee Terms of Reference

For the terms of reference for any Committee, please [visit the Committee page](#) on the website and click on the name of the Committee. Under purpose of Committee, the terms of reference will be listed. Terms of reference for all Committees are also detailed within Section 3b of [the Council's Constitution](#).

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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The proceedings of any meeting may be recorded and / or broadcasted live, apart from any confidential items which may need to be considered in the absence of the press and public. For more information [go to our webcasting pages](#)

Anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings may do so unless the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting or there is good reason not to do so, as directed by the Chair. Filming must be done as unobtrusively as possible without additional lighting; focusing only on those actively participating in the meeting and having regard to the wishes of others present who may not wish to be filmed. Anyone wishing to film proceedings is asked to advise the Chair or the Democratic Services Officer in attendance.

Members of the public may also use social media to report on proceedings.

Declarations of Interest for Members of the Council

It is to be noted that Members of the Council must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

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Induction Loop available

