

Supplement to the agenda for

Children and young people scrutiny committee

Monday 4 February 2019

2.00 pm

**The Council Chamber - The Shire Hall, St. Peter's Square,
Hereford, HR1 2HX**

| | Pages |
|---|--------------|
| 5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC | 3 - 4 |
| 6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL | 5 - 6 |

Supplement – schedule of questions received for meeting of children and young people scrutiny committee – 4 February 2019

Agenda item no. 5 - Question from members of the public

| Question Number | Questioner | Question | Question to |
|---|----------------------|---|---|
| PQ 1 | Dr Whalley, Hereford | What assurance can the Scrutiny committee provide that there will be regular monitoring of the impact of changes proposed in response to recent court judgements which takes account of feedback from employees and the public as to their effectiveness? | Chairperson of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee |
| <p>Response:</p> <p>The Children’s and Young People Scrutiny Committee has been asked to conduct a task and finish group to understand the judgements of the high court and how they are being addressed. Subject to the committee confirming the draft terms of reference, which appear elsewhere on the agenda today, the task and finish group will explore what new measures are in place to ensure that adoption processes and placement orders are appropriately and consistently applied. It will also examine how the wider corporate culture change is positively influencing working practices within children’s services. It is a function of the executive to ensure that performance and culture change within children’s services is reviewed and managed, and cabinet considers reports quarterly regarding performance. In addition a performance challenge session is scheduled monthly, focusing on performance of the children and families directorate, which is attended by the chairpersons and vice chairpersons of the scrutiny committees and the group leaders. However, the children and young people’s scrutiny committee has indicated its intent to review the effectiveness of the actions being taken and make reports or recommendations to the executive to support continued improvement.</p> | | | |

Supplement – schedule of questions received for meeting of children and young people scrutiny committee – 4 February 2019

Agenda item no. 6 - Question from members of the Council

| Question Number | Questioner | Question | Question to |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| MQ 1 | Councillor NE Shaw, Bromyard Bringsty | The alternative budget seems eager to fritter away crucial funds on good causes, £70k to CAHMS, an NHS organisation and £50k to “local arts organisations” for work with disadvantaged youth, amongst many others. All worthy, but no attempt is made to consider what outputs/outcomes are required. Can the Chairman consider the suitability of allocating money in this arbitrary way, given recent and ongoing departmental savings requirements affecting the delivery of services that Herefordshire Council has a statutory responsibility for, and for which we are judged by OFSTED? | Chairperson of Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee |
| <p>Response:</p> <p>Thank you for your question. The committee will be scrutinising the evidence and rationale for the proposed alternative budget and will ensure that this issue is explored during the debate.</p> | | | |

