

Agenda

Children and young people scrutiny committee

Date: **Thursday 20 May 2021**

Time: **2.00 pm**

Place: **Hereford Town Hall, St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2PJ**

Notes: Please note the time, date and venue of the meeting. The meeting will also be streamed live, accessible through the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCvcFn2WdOkwDrU_09wW5UQ,

For any further information please contact:

Matthew Evans, Democratic Services Officer

Tel: 01432 383690

Email: matthew.evans@herefordshire.gov.uk

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Agenda for the meeting of the Children and young people scrutiny committee

Membership

Chairperson **Councillor Carole Gandy**
Vice-Chairperson **Councillor Diana Toynbee**

Councillor Graham Andrews
Councillor Paul Andrews
Councillor Kath Hey
Councillor Phillip Howells
Councillor Mike Jones

Co-optees **Andy James** **Parent Governor Representative – SEND Sector**
Sam Pratley **Church Representative – Diocese of Hereford**

Agenda

	Pages
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive apologies for absence	
2. NAMED SUBSTITUTES To receive details of members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a member of the committee.	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive declarations of interest in respect of Schedule 1, Schedule 2 or Other Interests from members of the committee in respect of items on the agenda.	
4. MINUTES To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting on 30 April 2021.	9 - 12
5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC To receive any written questions from members of the public. <i>Deadline for receipt of questions is 5:00pm on Friday 14 May.</i> <i>Accepted questions and answers will be published as a supplement prior to the meeting. Please submit questions to:</i> councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk .	
6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL To receive any written questions from members of the council. <i>Deadline for receipt of questions is 5:00pm on Friday 14 May.</i> <i>Accepted questions and answers will be published as a supplement prior to the meeting. Please submit questions to:</i> councillorservices@herefordshire.gov.uk .	
7. UPDATE ON CHILDREN'S LEGAL TEAM - (REPORT TO FOLLOW) To receive an update report (<i>to follow</i>) on the co-ordination of the Children's Legal Team at Herefordshire Council and measures being implemented rapidly in response to the recent court judgement.	
8. WORK PROGRAMME REVIEW To review the attached work programme for 2021-22.	13 - 16
9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 1 June at 10.15 a.m.	

The Public's Rights to Information and Attendance at Meetings

In view of the continued prevalence of covid-19, we have introduced changes to our usual procedures for accessing public meetings. These will help to keep our councillors, staff and members of the public safe.

Please take time to read the latest guidance on the council website by following the link at www.herefordshire.gov.uk/meetings and support us in promoting a safe environment for everyone. If you have any queries please contact the Governance Support Team on 01432 260201 / 261699 or at governancesupportteam@herefordshire.gov.uk

We will review and update this guidance in line with Government advice and restrictions. Thank you very much for your help in keeping Herefordshire Council meetings a safe space.

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO: -

- Attend all Council, Cabinet, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings unless the business to be transacted would disclose 'confidential' or 'exempt' information.
- Inspect agenda and public reports at least five clear days before the date of the meeting.
- Inspect minutes of the Council and all Committees and Sub-Committees and written statements of decisions taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members for up to six years following a meeting.
- Inspect background papers used in the preparation of public reports for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting. (A list of the background papers to a report is given at the end of each report). A background paper is a document on which the officer has relied in writing the report and which otherwise is not available to the public.
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- Have access to a list specifying those powers on which the Council have delegated decision making to their officers identifying the officers concerned by title.
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- Access to this summary of your rights as members of the public to attend meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Sub-Committees and to inspect and copy documents.

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Public transport links

Hereford Town Hall is a few minutes walking distance from both bus stations located in the town centre of Hereford.

**The Seven Principles of Public Life
(Nolan Principles)**

1. Selflessness

Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.

2. Integrity

Holders of public office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships.

3. Objectivity

Holders of public office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

4. Accountability

Holders of public office are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

5. Openness

Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing.

6. Honesty

Holders of public office should be truthful.

7. Leadership

Holders of public office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs.

Minutes of the meeting of Children and young people scrutiny committee held at Virtual Meeting on Friday 30 April 2021 at 2.00 pm

Present: Councillor Carole Gandy (chairperson)
Councillor Diana Toynbee (vice-chairperson)

Councillors: Graham Andrews, Kath Hey and Phillip Howells

Co-optees: Sam Pratley

Officers: Interim Head of Legal Services, Interim Director Children's Services, Assistant Director Children's Safeguarding Quality and Improvement, Assistant Director Education Development and Skills, Children's Joint Commissioning Manager and Strategic Business Intelligence Manager.

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Paul Andrews, Mr Andy James and Councillor Mike Jones.

34. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

35. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting on 23 March were agreed as a correct record unanimously.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of 23 March 2021 are agreed as a correct and signed by the chairperson.

36. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from members of the public.

37. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

There were no questions from members of the Council.

38. WORK PROGRAMME REVIEW

The committee considered its work programme for 2021-22. The following principal points were raised during the discussion:

- The arrangement of an additional meeting of the scrutiny committee on 20 May 2021 at 2.00 p.m. to receive a report on the work of legal services with children's services;

- The improvement plan report would be removed from future meetings of the committee; it was understood that the detail from the report would continue to be received at performance challenge sessions. The improvement plan report would be replaced by more detailed reports into elements of children's services, e.g. looked after children.
- Additional meetings of the committee would be arranged to evaluate detailed information and data arising from the Improvement Board.
- An additional item needed to be added to the meeting date of 1 June to consider progress with the peer on peer abuse recommendations.
- In place of the improvement plan at the 1 June there would be a dedicated performance report around looked after children.
- At the meeting on 14 September the item around the impact of the pandemic would be clearly split into a mental health item and an item relating to the economic downturn and effect upon the opportunities available to young people. Before the meeting there would be a briefing note circulated on the kick start programme.
- The funding routes to schools and the governance around schools funding would be added to items to be allocated during the year.
- Early years intervention and prevention would be added to the business to allocate.
- An update on the progress of the savings proposal relating to foster carers should be added to the work programme together with the sufficiency strategy.

The work programme 2021/22 as amended by the changes outline above was proposed by Councillor Carole Gandy and seconded by Councillor Graham Andrews.

The work programme 2021/22, as amended, was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: That the committee agrees the 2021/22 work programme and meeting dates at appendix 1 and the additional meeting and business as outlined above.

The committee considered a scoping document for a task and finish group concerning paediatric therapies.

It was requested that a bullet point was added to the terms of reference of the group, in the scoping document, as follows: *To consider the impact of the merger of the local CCGs on the performance of paediatric therapy services.*

It was requested that bullet point 4 in the terms of reference and bullet point 3 in the key questions section of the scoping document were removed as they were felt to be implicit in the objectives to the task and finish group.

It was requested that the word *including* was removed from the section regarding reasons for the review to provide clarity over what services the review would concern. It should be replaced with the wording *the review will cover the following services.*

Councillor Kath Hey volunteered to act as chairperson for the task and finish group and it was agreed that the group should consist of five members. It was reported that Councillor Mike Jones and Councillor Diana Toynbee would be members of the group. Group Leaders would be consulted to nominate member to sit on the group.

The scoping document, as amended, the appointment of Councillor Hey as chairperson and appointment of Councillors M Jones and Toynbee as members of the task and finish group was proposed by Councillor Gandy and seconded by Councillor Howells.

The scoping document, as amended, the appointment of Councillor Hey as chairperson and appointment of Councillors M Jones and Toynbee as members of the task and finish group was put to the vote and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: That the committee approves the scoping document in appendix 2 for the paediatric therapies task and finish group, subject to the addition and changes agreed above, and agrees the appointments below:

Chairperson – Councillor Kath Hey

Membership – comprising five members including Councillors Mike Jones and Diana Toynbee.

The committee received updates on the outstanding resolutions attached as appendix 3 to the work programme report. During the course of the updates the committee requested that an update be added to the business to allocate in the work programme for an item on the autism nurture hubs.

The meeting ended at 4.26 pm

Chairperson

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

20 May 2021

Work Programme 2021/22

Meeting date: 20 May 2021 – 2.00 p.m.		Despatch: 12 May	
Item	Description	Report Author	Form of Scrutiny*
Update on Children's Legal Team	To receive an update report on the co-ordination of the Children's Legal Team at Herefordshire Council and measures being implemented rapidly in response to the recent court judgement.	Kate Charlton	Performance Review
Meeting date: 1 June 2021 – 10.15 a.m.		Despatch: 21 May	
Item	Description	Report Author	Form of Scrutiny*
Report of work of prevent and disrupt group to address child exploitation and the current risk of exploitation in Herefordshire. Child Exploitation summit, to include modern day slavery	To provide detail on the work of the prevent and disrupt group to address child exploitation in Herefordshire. To include detail of the current risk of exploitation to children in Herefordshire. To facilitate the child exploitation summit to include a focus on modern day slavery.	Cath Knowles	Performance Review
Looked after children	To receive a dedicated performance report concerning looked after children.	Hilary Brooks	Performance review
Peer on peer abuse recommendations	To receive an update report on progress with the recommendations from the peer on peer abuse review and those made by the scrutiny committee.	Ceri Morgan/Andy Gill	Performance review
Meeting date: 27 July 2021 – 10.15 p.m.		Despatch: 19 July	
Youth Justice Plan	To endorse the Youth Justice Plan 2021/22 for approval by full Council and consider whether there are any comments the committee would wish to make that would inform the production of the Plan for 2019/20.		Pre-decision call-in of Policy Framework item
Corporate Parenting Strategy – annual update /	To consider the annual update to the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2020-2023.	Andy Gill/Hilary Brooks	Performance Review

Leaving care and preparing for adulthood	To receive details of what services exist to prepare care leavers and unaccompanied child asylum seekers for adulthood.		
Adoption Service and Fostering Service annual reports	To receive the annual reports from the adoption and fostering services and consider the outcomes and recommendations. To make recommendations to the cabinet member on the operation of the services during 2020/21.	Hilary Brooks	Performance review
Children's Centre T&F scope	To consider a scoping document for a task and finish group concerning children's centres.		Policy review and development
Meeting date: 14 September 2021 – 10.15 a.m.		Despatch: 6 September	
Impact of pandemic on opportunities for school and care leavers	To provide a report concerning how the council is intending to address the impact on school and care leavers of the potential economic downturn and reduced employment opportunities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.	Ceri Morgan	Policy review and development / Performance review
Mental health	To provide a report concerning actions to address mental health problems arising from the pandemic and including a focus on pastoral support in schools and potential forms of funding from government.	Ceri Morgan/Public Health	
Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) annual report and LADO and IRO annual reports	To receive and scrutinise the HSCP annual reports and IRO and LADO annual reports.	Hilary Brooks/Andy Gill	Performance Review
Meeting date: 23 November 2021 – 10.15 a.m.		Despatch: 15 November	
Public Health – Dental Health and Childhood Obesity	To provide a report on the high-level action plan for improving oral health in Herefordshire and details of any progress against the recommendations in the oral health needs assessment. To provide an update on work of the council to address childhood obesity		Performance Review

	To provide detail regarding the Public Health England better start in life (BSIL) Programme.		
Meeting date: 11 January 2022 – 10.15 a.m.		Despatch: 3 January	
Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)	To seek the views of the committee on the draft medium term financial strategy (MTFS), the budget proposals for 2021-22 relating to Children and Families.	Andrew Lovegrove, Josie Rushgrove	Pre-decision call-in/Policy review and development
Meeting date: 22 March 2022 – 10.15 am.		Despatch: 14 March	
Work programme 2022/23	To agree the work programme and meeting dates for the 2021/22 administrative year.	Matt Evans	

Business to allocate

- Additional meetings of the committee to be arranged when updates on the Improvement Strategy are available.
- Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) – task and finish group – **Proposed**
- Funding routes to schools and governance around schools funding
- Early years intervention and prevention
- Progress report on savings proposals relating to foster carers and sufficiency strategy.

Briefing Notes:

Briefing note concerning the NEETs project			Briefing note – September 2021
Outcome of the audit of the reduction in child protection plans			Briefing note – Summer 2021
Elective Home Education and current trends			Briefing note – November 2021
Kick Start Programme			Briefing note – June/July 2021

* *Pre-decision call-in, Performance review, Policy review and development*

