

# Public Document Pack



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Thursday 14 September 2023

## Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

### Children's Scrutiny Panel

The **Children's Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the **Meeting Room 3 - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **3.00 pm** on **Friday 22 September 2023**.

This meeting will be webcast live and will be available to view via the Council's website.

The items which will be discussed are described in the agenda and there are reports attached which give more details.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Muscroft".

**Julie Muscroft**

**Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning**

Kirklees Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair/Clerk of their intentions prior to the meeting.

## **The Children's Scrutiny Panel members are:-**

### **Member**

Councillor Andrew Cooper (Chair)

Councillor Ammar Anwar

Councillor Paul Moore

Councillor Richard Smith

Councillor John Lawson

Councillor Ebrahim Dockrat

Oliver Gibson (Co-Optee)

# Agenda

## Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

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**Pages**

**1: Membership of the Panel**

To receive apologies for absence from those Members who are unable to attend the meeting.

To note changes to the membership of the Panel for the 2023/24 municipal year and to formally note that Cllr Ebrahim Dockrat has replaced Cllr Elizabeth Reynolds and Cllr John Lawson joins the Panel.

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**2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1 - 6

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

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**3: Declaration of Interests**

7 - 8

Members will be asked to say if there are any items on the Agenda in which they have any disclosable pecuniary interests or any other interests, which may prevent them from participating in any discussion of the items or participating in any vote upon the items.

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**4: Admission of the Public**

Most agenda items take place in public. This only changes where there is a need to consider exempt information, as contained at Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. You will be informed at this point which items are to be recommended for exclusion and to be resolved by the Committee.

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**5: Deputations/Petitions**

The Panel will receive any petitions and/or deputations from members of the public. A deputation is where up to five people can attend the meeting and make a presentation on some particular issue of concern. A member of the public can also submit a petition

at the meeting relating to a matter on which the body has powers and responsibilities.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10, Members of the Public must submit a deputation in writing, at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting and shall subsequently be notified if the deputation shall be heard. A maximum of four deputations shall be heard at any one meeting.

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## **6: Public Question Time**

To receive any public questions.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11, the period for the asking and answering of public questions shall not exceed 15 minutes.

Any questions must be submitted in writing at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting.

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## **7: Performance Data (Children's Services) - verbal update on highlights**

The Panel will consider a verbal update on the performance highlights from the latest Children's Services data report covering period ending 31 July 2023.

Contact: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director  
Vicky Metherringham, Service Director  
Kieran Lord, Service Director

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## **8: Pre-decision Scrutiny - Cabinet decisions on the horizon**

The Panel will consider any potential areas of pre-decision scrutiny in accordance with any cabinet decisions relating to children and young people which are on the horizon and receive update from Senior Officers in Children's Services.

Contact: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director  
Kieran Lord, Service Director  
Vicky Metherringham, Service Director

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**9: Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board**

Panel Members who attend the Corporate Parenting Board, will feedback on key areas of focus considered by the Board, which will be of interest to the Panel.

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**10: Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 2023/24**

9 - 22

The Panel will consider the proposed areas of focus and activity for the 2023/24 municipal year and discuss the method and means to be used to continue the Panel's work going forward.

Contact: Helen Kilroy, Assistant Democracy Manager

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Contact Officer: Nicola Sylvester

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL

**Friday 28th July 2023**

Present: Councillor Andrew Cooper (Chair)  
Councillor Paul Moore

In attendance: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director - Learning & Early Support  
Vicky Metheringham, Service Director – Child Protection and Family Support  
Anna Gledhill, Head of Children’s Improvement, Partnership & Voice  
Councillor Carole Pattison  
Councillor Viv Kendrick

Apologies: Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds  
Councillor Richard Smith  
Councillor Ammar Anwar  
Oliver Gibson (Co-Optee)

**1 Membership of the Committee**

Apologies were received from Councillor Reynolds, Councillor Smith, Councillor Anwar, and Oliver Gibson (Co-optee).

**2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 be approved as a correct record.

**3 Interests**

No Interests were declared.

**4 Admission of the Public**

All items were considered in public session.

**5 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations or petitions were received.

**6 Public Question Time**

No questions were received from members of the public.

### 7 Performance Data (Children's Services) - verbal update on highlights

The Panel received a verbal update on the performance data for May 2023, which was provided by the Service Directors in Children's Services.

Vicky Metheringham, Service Director for Child Protection and Family Support explained that:

- There had been an ongoing reduction in the number of contacts through the front door and that re-referral numbers had reduced with an understanding of the reason for re-referrals,
- The timeliness of initial child protection case conferences had risen to the highest it had been throughout the year, resulting in children subject to a repeat child protection plan reducing,
- The number of children going missing had declined with the number of children entering care remaining stable, ensuring that children and young people who did not need to be looked after lived with family members in Special Guardianship Order arrangements,
- Social Workers continued to see children in care frequently, and 98% of their reviews were held on time,
- 98% of care leavers had a pathway plan, with 92% of them being in suitable accommodation,
- Caseloads for workers had increased, there was work in the team taking place to improve the number of assessments that needed to be completed on time,
- The number of children on a Child Protection Plan had risen in Kirklees, this was lower than neighbouring Local Authorities and across England,
- 90% of children who were looked after were seen on time, work was ongoing to ensure that health checks were completed in time, particular dental checks.

Anna Gledhill, Head of Children's Improvement, Partnership and Voice advised that Ofsted judgements for some of the residential children's homes had declined. This had been impacted by sufficiency and a national capacity crisis that developed throughout the pandemic. As a result, identifying and securing safe living environments for children and teenagers had been increasingly challenging. Children's homes had identified that risk management needs for children in the homes had grown significantly, with the issues in the homes being related to demands in staffing skills.

In response to a question regarding recruitment and retention of staff in Children's Services, Vicky Metheringham advised that recruiting and retaining social workers was a national issue. Due to social worker posts being vacant, in March 2023 it was agreed that the service could recruit agency social workers, however, these posts were not successfully filled. Through government reforms there had been a national agreement that the use of agency workers would not be a possibility anymore, and there was a consultation around the parameters of agency workers. Kirklees was clear that they would not breach the memorandum of understanding which was an agreement with Local Authorities and the Yorkshire & Humber region on how much agency workers were paid. Caseloads were higher for some social workers than the service would like them to be. A weekly case load meeting took place with Head of



## Children's Scrutiny Panel - 28 July 2023

Services considering the workload of all teams and the cases allocated to them. Directors and Managers were doing everything they could to ensure that staff felt supported and that their work was recognised.

In response to a question around the contact source information in the data, it was noted that there was a very low number of contacts from the housing department. Housing staff would go into homes on a regular basis where concerns would arise, a question was asked what training those staff had received in relation to safeguarding. Vicky Metheringham advised that the service had a very close relationship with housing colleagues through the front door, and that housing colleagues did understand what their responsibilities were with regards to safeguarding. The Panel was informed that it was an area for the service to look at to assure themselves that safeguarding concerns were recognised and referred into the front door. Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director - Learning & Early Support advised that through the children's safeguarding partnerships, safeguarding training was reviewed across all partner agencies, which any colleague across the council would be involved with. Jo-Anne Sanders confirmed that the service would approach the partnership to ensure that there was take up of the training sessions and would bring back data to the Panel on the take up of training from front line housing staff, and systematically, what was done to record concerns around safeguarding.

Jo-Anne Sanders advised that it had come to the end of the academic year and that a report on the educational outcomes would be provided for the panel to consider in the September meeting. Jo-Anne Sanders acknowledged the work of the Virtual School for children that were looked after and explained that the team undertook personal educational planning and had 100% compliance. The team had worked hard with colleagues in children social care, the looked after children's team, to ensure there was robust planning, and looked after children's education was secure. One challenge was suspensions and exclusions across the district within different groups. There was an increase in suspensions which was a key theme in our Kirklees Futures, Our Learning Strategy, and it was agreed with the educational learning partnership board that it would be a key priority from September 2023. It was noted that far too many suspensions took place, particularly in Secondary Schools. The Panel noted that there was good partnership working with schools on how suspensions and exclusions could be reduced.

Jo-Anne Sanders explained that the number of Health and Care Plans were stabilising, although quite high, Kirklees had a higher than national average number of youngsters with special educational needs, which provided an opportunity for youngsters to be supported in the right place to receive their education. The Panel noted that there was a sufficiency challenge with the re-build of two specialist schools, and that there were 5 new additionally resourced provisions opening in September.

During discussion the panel agreed to arrange supported visits to schools to look at a range of practices regarding exclusions and the good work that was being undertaken.

## Children's Scrutiny Panel - 28 July 2023

### RESOLVED:

- 1) That the report be noted and that officers be thanked for their contributions.
- 2) That a report be provided at a future meeting on the sufficiency of Children's residential homes,
- 3) That the panel arrange supported visits to children's residential homes,
- 4) That a report be provided at a future meeting providing data on the take up of training from front line housing staff, and systematically, what was done to record concerns around safeguarding.
- 5) That the panel arrange supported visits to schools to look at a range of practices regarding exclusions.

### 8 Cabinet Priorities for Children's Services

The Panel received an update on the Cabinet priorities for Children's Services from Councillor Viv Kendrick, Portfolio Holder for Children and Councillor Carole Pattison, Portfolio Holder for Learning, Aspiration and Communities.

Councillor Kendrick advised that her cabinet priorities were:

- To achieve a good outcome from the Inspection of Local area Children's Services reflecting improved outcomes for our children, young people and families - In 2016 the inspection received an outcome of inadequate rating, over the years, a number of inspections and reviews had taken place with a range of hard work to improve the quality of service. There was a real desire to do the best for all children with reduced resources and increased demand. A good outcome for the inspection was a goal, but the real desire was to continue improving services to support Kirklees children and families.
- Providing high quality, stable, loving homes for our children and young people locally - A key priority was to do the best for children and young people in Kirklees and to have early help and support for families which enabled them to stay together where possible. There was a shortage of foster carers within Kirklees. Foster carers within the authority were provided with a good offer of support, along with a robust training package. It was noted that Kirklees were unable to compete with what independent fostering agencies paid, and therefore end up with higher charges. The service worked to support children by placing them with other family members where possible, where they could not remain with their birth parents. It was far better for children to remain with family members under a special guardianship order than it was being taken into care.
- Ensuring our children and young people and families with additional needs were supported as early as possible and were provided with a new financial support system to meet their needs in their learning environment – Early help was key in supporting families with children and young people with additional needs, and to continue that support when needed through the child and young person's development. Education in local places was important, two new special schools were being built to replace two within the authority. One was to provide better accommodation and greater capacity for children with autism, and the other was to increase the capacity for young people with social, emotional, and mental health needs. Additional places were being

## Children's Scrutiny Panel - 28 July 2023

added at mainstream schools, supported by special school, so that children could be educated locally. A new financial system was being developed to assist schools in providing the best educational environment for the children.

Councillor Pattison advised that her cabinet priorities were:

- Ensuring the number of school places matched need and that schools were supported to meet changing needs – The demand for school places in some sectors was reducing, in others sectors it was increasing. Changing needs referred to the increasing numbers of children been seen with special educational needs and a need for special education as a result. The biggest priority was finding places for children with special educational needs, both in the long and short term. Schools were facing challenges due to numbers on role falling, especially in primary schools, this was providing problems in terms of accommodation and staff which was costly and causing financial problems. In some secondary schools, there were bulge years going through their schools that required extra provisions and staff on a temporary basis. Adapting to change resulted in financial pressures, but it was a legal responsibility for the Local Authority to find school places for every child.
- Reviewing Our Kirklees Futures, Our Learning Strategy, and its delivery over the next 5 years –Launched in 2001, the vision and obsession of Our Kirklees Futures, Our Learning Strategy had not changed, but the ability to achieve the vision had changed. A review of the learning strategy was required to ensure delivery was on track for 2030. A vision was that by 2030, no child would be excluded from school, and that they would be achieving the best education that was available to them. There was an action plan behind the vision, the national picture was that exclusions had risen, partly to the pandemic and home learning, and partly to the structure in people's lives.
- Working with women and local organisations and understanding their lived experiences to drive culture change and ensure services respond appropriately – one of the key priorities for the Mayor of West Yorkshire was violence against women and girls, which was also a Cabinet priority. It had become apparent that it was not about tackling the violence but was quite often about culture. Kirklees was looking at introducing a pledge with partners across the partnership board to take action regarding the culture within their organisations, ensuring appropriate responses were received.

### **RESOLVED:**

- 1) That the Cabinet priorities be noted, and Members be thanked for their contributions.
- 2) That a report be provided at a future meeting giving an update on Exclusions and Suspensions.

## Children's Scrutiny Panel - 28 July 2023

### 9 **Pre-decision Scrutiny - Cabinet decisions on the horizon**

Councillor Kendrick advised the Panel that Post 16 Home to School Transport for Special Educational Needs young people was an area of focus.

Councillor Pattison explained that an agreed scheme of support had been agreed for Improvement to Schools, which would commence in September 2023, a report would be provided for the Panel to consider in 2024.

Jo-Anne Sanders explained that a report on Youngsters Outcomes, which would include A levels and GCSE's results would be available for the Panel to consider in the September meeting. Jo-Anne Sanders also explained that a report for decision by cabinet regarding the SEND Transformation plan and sufficiency regarding alternative provision would be available for the Panel to consider at a future meeting.

**RESOLVED:** The Panel noted the items for pre-decision scrutiny and thanked the Cabinet Members and officers for their updates and the opportunity to comment on the reports prior to the decisions being taken by Cabinet.

### 10 **Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board**

Councillor Cooper advised that no feedback was available from the Corporate Parenting Board held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The next Corporate Parenting Board was scheduled to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and Panel members would feedback to the next Panel meeting on any key areas of focus.

**RESOLVED:** The panel noted that Panel Members would feedback on the key areas of focus from the Corporate Parenting Board meeting due to place on 12<sup>th</sup> September at the next panel meeting.

### 11 **Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 2023/24**

The Panel considered the work programme for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Councillor Cooper requested that Post 16 Home to School Transport for special educational needs young people be added to the work programme for 2023/24

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) The Panel noted the Work Programme and agenda plan for 2023/24,
- 2) That Post 16 Home to School transport for Special Educational Needs young people be added to the 2023/24 work programme.

<b>KIRKLEES COUNCIL</b>			
<b>COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC</b>			
<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>			
Childrens Scrutiny Panel			
<b>Name of Councillor</b>			
<b>Item in which you have an interest</b>	<b>Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")</b>	<b>Does the nature of the interest require you to withdraw from the meeting while the item in which you have an interest is under consideration? [Y/N]</b>	<b>Brief description of your interest</b>

Signed: ..... Dated: .....

## NOTES

### Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your disclosable pecuniary interests under the new national rules. Any reference to spouse or civil partner includes any person with whom you are living as husband or wife, or as if they were your civil partner.

Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner, undertakes.

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses.

Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority -

- under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
- which has not been fully discharged.

Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) - the landlord is your council or authority; and the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

- (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and  
(b) either -

the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or  
if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

## CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

**MEMBERS:** Cllr Andrew Cooper, Cllr Ammar Anwar, Cllr Elizabeth Reynolds, Cllr Richard Smith, Cllr Paul Moore, Oliver Gibson (Co-Optee)

**SUPPORT:** Helen Kilroy, Assistant Democracy Manager and Nicola Sylvester, Democracy Officer

Agenda item/area of focus	Lead Officer	Areas of Scrutiny carried forward from 21-22	Comments
<p><b>Standard items</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-decision scrutiny (decisions by Cabinet)</li>   <li>• Performance Information (Children's Service) – Informal meeting</li>   <li>• Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board</li>   <li>• Ambition Board Minutes</li> </ul>	<p>Cabinet Members/Senior Officers (Children's Service)</p> <p>Presented by Service Directors (produced by Lucy Tiffany)</p> <p>Panel Members who attend Corporate Parenting Board</p> <p>Senior Officers and Cabinet Members</p>	<p>Panel will check at each meeting with Cabinet Members and Senior Officers from Children's Service if there are any potential areas of pre-decision scrutiny they need to consider at future meetings.</p> <p>The Panel will continue to monitor the performance of the Learning Early Support Service and Child Protection &amp; Family Support (written report in informal session and verbal update on key issues in public meeting). Panel will be asked for questions prior to the Panel meeting so that these can be shared with Senior Officers and Cabinet Members in advance of the Informal meeting.</p> <p>Members of the Panel who attend the Corporate Parenting Board will feedback on key issues to the Scrutiny Panel as appropriate.</p> <p>The Panel will receive for information the minutes from the Ambition Board meetings which are held quarterly.</p>	<p>Every meeting</p> <p>Every meeting</p> <p>Every meeting</p> <p>Quarterly</p>
<p><b>Review of the Improvement Journey – ILACs Inspection</b></p>	<p>Tom Brailsford/Vicky Metherringham</p>	<p>The Panel will continue to review the Improvement Journey of Children's Service and receive regular updates of the ILACs Inspection and the outcome when it has been undertaken.</p>	<p>Immediate and ongoing (no inspection until</p>

		<p>The ILACS Self Evaluation May 2023 and Self Evaluation Summary was circulated to the Panel for consideration in June 2023. The Panel will consider the ILACS Self Evaluation (SEF) and the Strengths and Weaknesses Questionnaires (SDQs) and agree what elements may be relevant to this work.</p> <p>The Chair of the Panel attended a Webinar on ILACS preparation.</p>	Sept 23 at earliest)
<b>Review of Children’s Residential Homes and functions</b>	Kieran Lord	<p>The Panel will review the Children’s Residential Homes and functions and officers will update the Panel on visits to the Homes as appropriate.</p> <p>The Panel will consider a future report on the Sufficiency of Children’s residential homes in Kirklees and undertake some supported visits to a number of Children’s residential homes after the September Panel meeting – to be arranged.</p>	<p>Within next 12 months</p> <p>2</p>
<b>Quality Assurance – impact of auditing the Children’s Service</b>	Vicky Metheringham/Robert Fordyce/Service Directors in Children’s	<p>The Panel will consider the Quality Assurance impact of auditing the Children’s Service, what difference it was making to children’s lives.</p> <p><b>Informal Panel meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023</b></p> <p>The Panel will consider a Quarterly Overview report on Quality Assurance and the impact of auditing the Children’s Service.</p>	<p>In next 6 months</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> December 2023</p>



<p><b>Educational and learning Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Our Kirklees Futures Learning Strategy</b></li> </ul>	<p>Jo-Anne Sanders/Narinder Kaur/Paul Caladine/Emma Brayford</p>	<p>The Panel will scrutinise/consider the following areas –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That the Panel are given the opportunity to contribute to the restructuring and reshaping of the Education and Learning Partnership Board;</li> <li>- future updates on how the Learning Service and Cabinet Members are scrutinising the educational outcomes;</li> <li>- longitudinal educational outcomes for the next 5 to 10 years, including 16+ and beyond.</li> <li>- That the Panel be invited to be involved in the development of the Transformation Plan going forward and that officers build into the action plan how the Panel might scrutinise the inspection outcomes;</li> <li>- To focus on the impact and effect of ethnicity, gender and socio-economic factors on educational outcomes;</li> <li>- Exclusions and attendance updates</li> </ul> <p><b>Informal Panel meeting on 22 Sept 2023 Panel</b></p> <p>The Panel will consider an update giving the headlines of KS1, KS2 and GCSE and A Level Outcomes which will include an early synopsis of how well achieved overall, an analysis will be available later in the Autumn Term. The Panel have been informed that a report for decision by cabinet regarding the SEND Transformation plan and sufficiency regarding alternative provision would be available for them to consider at a future meeting.</p> <p><b>Invite to the Our Kirklees Futures Learning Summit and Joint Headteacher Session on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023</b></p> <p>The Panel have been invited to attend the Learning Summit on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at the John Smith’s Stadium. The Learning Summit will focus on broad obsessions of Inclusion, Equity and Resilience and introduces the golden thread of Transition – moments of change across the education</p>	<p>22.9.23 Panel</p> <p>27<sup>th</sup> June 2023</p>
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		<p>journey. This is in response to some of the shared challenge we face across the education system. For the first time, the Learning Summit will be followed by a joint session of Primary, Secondary, Special and AP Headteachers, allowing all sectors to work together to meet our shared challenges.</p> <p><b>Panel meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b>  The Panel agreed to consider a future report on Exclusions and Suspensions and would undertake a series of supported visits to schools to look at a range of practices regarding exclusions and the good work being undertaken. This will include visits to those schools which currently have a high number of exclusions. The visits will be arranged to take place after the October 2023 half term. A plan of action will be provided for the Panel to consider in undertaking its scrutiny of this area, which will include providing data to a future meeting on exclusions and undertaking a range of visits to the ELPB (Partnership Board), Multi-agency panel and schools.</p> <p><b>Visit to Education and Learning Partnership Board (ELPB) on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>  The Panel have been invited to attend the Education Learning and Partnership Board (ELPB) on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 as part of the Panel’s focus on exclusions and suspensions in Kirklees’ schools.</p> <p><b>Visit to Professional Development Conference on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>  The Panel will be invited to attend the Professional Development Conference for early years partners on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to see some of the work being undertaken with the wider schools system to secure positive outcomes for Kirklees Children and Young People. Work force development and prioritising the early years will be two clear areas showcased at the event.</p>	
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<p><b>Sufficiency for Children’s Service (places/staffing resources)</b></p>	<p>Tom Brailsford and Service Directors</p>	<p>The Panel will consider future updates on vacancies and staff shortages within the Children’s Service and the approaches being taken by the service to bring professionals back into the workforce, eg retention packages. The Panel will also monitor this during visits to the Social Care Teams.</p> <p>Areas to be looked at by Panel (suggested by Service Directors) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children’s Social Care (Social Workers)</li> <li>- Foster carers</li> <li>- Residential Homes staff</li> <li>- Over provision of primary places</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b></p> <p>The Panel agreed to consider future data which would provide information relating to safeguarding training of frontline staff from the Housing Team who visit private homes and may become aware of safeguarding issues.</p>	<p>Within next 6 months</p>
<p><b>Potential changes to Young People’s Activity Team (YPAT) provision</b></p> <p>- Provides after school activities for C&amp;YP with the most complex disabilities and needs</p>	<p>Kieran Lord/ Sara Miles</p>	<p>The Panel will visit the new premises at the Children’s Place Nursery, Netherfield Road, Ravensthorpe when fully operational – add to visits list</p> <p>Panel to advise on areas of scrutiny.</p>	
<p><b>Partnership Arrangements</b></p>	<p>Vicky Metherington/Jo-Anne Sanders/Kieran Lord</p>	<p>The Panel will continue to scrutinise partnerships and boards during the 2023/24 municipal year, for example, Corporate Parenting Board and Health and Wellbeing Board, visits to internal teams and partners and the Panel can look at how data was collected and used to improve outcomes. The Panel can be represented at meetings, events and visits to internal teams and external providers and agree to focus on the following areas:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection</li> <li>• Partnership working</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the voice of the young person being heard? (as below)</li> <li>• Good practice</li> <li>• Delivery of quality service</li> </ul>	
<b>Voice of the Young Person</b>	Tom Brailsford/Service Directors (Children's Service)	The Panel will keep a watching brief on all areas of scrutiny by the Panel and explore whether the voice of the child was being heard, whether they are empowered to speak up and ensure that lessons have and are being learned.	
<b>Special Educational Needs and High Needs (SEND)</b>	Jo-Anne Sanders/Kieran Lord/Adrian Wisniewski	<p>The Panel will scrutinise the following areas –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in special school places by the rebuild of Joseph Norton Academy and Woodley School and College</li> <li>- SEND Transformation Plan</li> <li>- the role of the voluntary sector partnerships</li> <li>- New provision – schools and additional resources</li> <li>- Sufficiency of SEND, foster care and residential care – key challenges</li> <li>- High Needs block funding (quarterly reports – Jo Sanders to confirm dates)</li> <li>- Visits to PCAN drop-in sessions to engage with parents of children with SEND and get their views and experiences on accessing the services.</li> <li>- Post 16 Home to School Transport for SEND Young People</li> </ul> <p><b>Informal meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023</b> The Panel agreed to consider a briefing note regarding Post 16 Home to School Transport to include costs, action plans to address and manage the current challenges and a position statement.</p>	<p>(ongoing)</p> <p>(within 6 months)</p> <p>(within 6 months)</p> <p>(ongoing)</p> <p>22<sup>nd</sup> Sept 23</p>
<b>Special Guardianship Orders (SGO's)</b>	Vicky Metheringham/Kieran Lord/Jo-Anne Sanders	The Panel will scrutinise the support given to Special Guardianship Orders, not just financial but also to check they are getting the support they need.	Within next 6 months
<b>Mental Health in Schools - Provision of service</b>	Kieran Lord/Stewart Horn	The Panel will scrutinise the experience verses the provision of service and seek feedback from service users on their perception on using the service.	Review post xmas 23 and agree

- <b>Waiting lists</b>		The Panel will also consider the fluctuation in the waiting times and trends for children’s emotional health and wellbeing.	approach to scrutiny
<b>Transition of young people to adults</b>	Vicky Metheringham/Kieran Lord/Jo-Anne Sanders	<p>The Panel will scrutinise the transition of young people to adults and check if the service is being managed well; receive information regarding the service offer (including C&amp;K Careers) and how support is given to a child when they turn 18.</p> <p>The Panel will be invited to attend the Children’s Access to Service Panel (CASP) which is attended by partners from health, education and assists young people to develop relationships with Adult Social Care.</p> <p>The Panel will also consider the voice of the family as well as the child in this work.</p>	
<b>Emerging Risks</b>	Martin Dearnley/Alice Carruthers	<p>Prior to each meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee the latest version of the Corporate Risk Matrix, Heat Map and the list of Emerging Risks will be shared with the Scrutiny Lead Members for each Panel so that they can discuss in their Informal meetings and each Panel will discuss risks relevant to their areas of focus.</p> <p><b>Informal Panel meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023</b> The Panel will consider emerging risks for the areas of focus on the Work Programme for 23/24 and any new risks that the Panel are not aware of.</p>	
<p><b>Lead Member Briefings</b> (Bi-monthly LM Briefings with Cabinet Members for Learning and Children’s; and Strategic Director/Service Directors in Children’s Services during 23/24) – Actions from these meetings will be included within the Panel’s Work Programme where appropriate</p>			

<b>Elective Home Education</b>	Jo-Anne Sanders	The Lead Member will keep a watching brief on any issues relating to Elective Home Education and consider updates regarding the overview of statistical neighbours.	Within next 12 months
<b>Structure Review of multi-disciplinary teams</b>	Vicky Metheringham	The Lead Member will receive updates on the structure review of multi-disciplinary teams where services are being brought together.	Sept 24 (23/24 municipal year)
<b>School Improvement Offer</b>	Jo-Anne Sanders	The Lead Member will receive regular updates regarding the following areas:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education and Learning Board</li> <li>- Early Years Development Board</li> </ul>	
<b>Kirklees Support Offer to Schools</b>	Jo-Anne Sanders/Dean Langton	The Lead Member will receive updates on the issues around budget management for schools, what role the local authority is taking in supporting schools and are multi academy schools included in this work.	
<b>Redesign of short break, respite and support provision for disabled children, young people and their families</b>	Kieran Lord/Tom Brailsford/Joel Hanna	The Chair received a briefing on the 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 to update that a report will be considered by Cabinet on the 26th September 2023 asking for the consultation process to start on the Redesign of short break, respite and support provision for disabled children, young people and their families. No decisions will be taken at this stage until consultation has taken place , as part of this consultation the Children’s Scrutiny Panel will be given the opportunity to have a view on the consultation and any subsequent proposals.	LM Briefing on 6.9.23 and Cabinet on 26.9.23



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## Children's Scrutiny Panel

### Agenda Plan 2023/24

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p><b>6th June 2023</b></p> <p><b>Informal Meeting</b></p>	<p>(with Panel, Officers and Cabinet Members)</p> <p>To consider potential areas of focus for the Panel during 2023/24 municipal year which will include the Council's key priorities for the children's service.</p>	<p>Helen Kilroy</p>
<p><b>28<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b></p> <p><b>Informal meeting 10am-11am</b></p> <p><b>Public meeting 11am-12.30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Hybrid meeting Meeting Rm 3, HTH</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 14.7.23</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Informal items:-</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ambition Board Minutes (13.3.23)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Performance slides</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pre-decision Scrutiny – Cabinet decisions on the horizon</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cabinet Priorities – verbal update</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 23/24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">W Harris to provide</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Senior Officers/Cabinet Members</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Panel Members</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cllrs Kendrick/Pattison</p> <p style="text-align: center;">H Kilroy</p>
<p><b>22<sup>nd</sup> September 23</b></p> <p><b>1.30- 3.00pm Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>3pm-4pm Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Hybrid Meeting</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Informal items:-</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Emerging Risks</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Briefing note on Post 16 Home to School Transport</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Alice Carruthers</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jo Sanders/Katherine Armitage/Martin Wood</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p><b>Meeting Rm 3, HTH</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 8.9.23</p>	<p>Performance report</p> <p>Headlines of KS1, KS2 and GCSE and A Level Outcomes (to include an early synopsis of achievement overall)</p> <p><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Performance highlights (verbal)</p> <p>Pre-decision Scrutiny – Cabinet decisions on the horizon</p> <p>Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board</p> <p>Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 23/24</p>	<p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>J Sanders/ Narinder Kaur/Paul Caladine/Emma Brayford</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>Senior Officers/Cabinet Members</p> <p>Panel Members</p> <p>H Kilroy</p>
<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> December 23</b></p> <p><b>1pm-2pm Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>2pm-3.30 pm Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Hybrid Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Meeting Rm3, HTH</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 17.11.23</p>	<p><b>Informal items:</b></p> <p>Ambition Board Minutes (25.9.23)</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Quality Assurance – impact of auditing the Children’s Service (Quarterly Report)</p> <p><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Performance highlights</p> <p>Pre-decision Scrutiny – Cabinet decisions on the horizon</p>	<p>W Harris to send</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>V Metheringham/R Fordyce</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>Senior Officers/Cabinet Members</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
	<p>Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board</p> <p>Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 23/24</p>	<p>Panel Members</p> <p>H Kilroy</p>
<p><b>26<sup>th</sup> January 24</b></p> <p><b>9.30-10.30am</b> <b>Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>10.30am-12 noon</b> <b>Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Hybrid Meeting</b> <b>Meeting Rm 3, HTH</b></p> <p>Report deadline: 12.1.24</p>	<p><b>Informal items:</b></p> <p>Ambition Board Minutes (11.12.23)</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Performance Highlights</p> <p>Pre-decision Scrutiny – Cabinet decisions on the horizon</p> <p>Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board</p> <p>Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 23/24</p>	<p>W Harris to send</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>Senior Officers/Cabinet Members</p> <p>Panel Members</p> <p>H Kilroy</p>
<p><b>26<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b></p> <p><b>10am-11am</b> <b>Informal meeting</b></p> <p><b>11am-12.30pm</b> <b>Public meeting</b></p> <p><b>Hybrid Meeting</b> <b>Meeting Rm 3, HTH</b></p>	<p><b>Informal items:</b></p> <p>Performance report</p> <p><b>Public Items:</b></p> <p>Performance Highlights</p> <p>Pre-decision Scrutiny – Cabinet decisions on the horizon</p>	<p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>Senior Officers/Cabinet Members</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
Report deadline: 14.3.24	<p data-bbox="528 188 1624 260">Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board</p> <p data-bbox="757 300 1395 339">Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 23/24</p>	<p data-bbox="1821 188 2047 220">Panel Members</p> <p data-bbox="1877 300 1991 339">H Kilroy</p>