

Public Document Pack



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

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Thursday 18 January 2024

Notice of Meeting

Dear Member

Children's Scrutiny Panel

The **Children's Scrutiny Panel** will meet in the **Council Chamber - Town Hall, Huddersfield** at **10.30 am** on **Friday 26 January 2024**.

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 Paul Moore

Councillor Richard Smith

Councillor John Lawson

Councillor Ebrahim Dockrat

Councillor Eric Firth

Oliver Gibson (Co-Optee)

Agenda

Reports or Explanatory Notes Attached

Pages

1: Membership of the Panel

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

To note the change to the membership in that Councillor Eric Firth has replaced Cllr Anwar on the Panel.

2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1 - 10

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on the 22nd September 2023 and 1st December 2023.

3: Declaration of Interests

11 - 12

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.

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.

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.

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.

7: Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE Guidance) 13 - 18

The Panel will consider a report on Working Together to Safeguard Children advising that in December 2023, the Department for Education published new statutory guidance on multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children.

Contact: Tom Brailsford, Director of Children and Families
Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director

8: 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 30th November 2023.

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

9: 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 updates from Senior Officers in Children's Services.

Contact: Service Directors (Children's Services)

10: 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.

11: Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 2023/24

19 - 32

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: Helen Kilroy

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL

Friday 22nd September 2023

Present: Councillor Andrew Cooper (Chair)
Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Ebrahim Dockrat

In attendance: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director - Learning & Early Support
Vicky Metheringham, Service Director – Child Protection and Family Support
Kieran Lord, Service Director, Resources, Improvements & Partnership
Nina Barnes, Post 16 & Adult Learning Strategic Lead
Emma Brayford, Senior Kirklees Learning Partner
Narinder Kaur, Kirklees Learning Partner
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Viv Kendrick

Apologies: Councillor Ammar Anwar
Councillor Paul Moore
Oliver Gibson (Co-Optee)

1 Membership of the Panel

Apologies were received from Councillor Anwar, Councillor Moore and Oliver Gibson (co-optee).

The Panel noted the changes to the membership of the Children Scrutiny Panel and welcomed Cllr Lawson and Cllr Dockrat to the Panel.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28th July 2023 be approved as a correct record.

3 Declaration of 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 performance data for July 2023, which was provided by the Service Directors in Children's Services.

Kieran Lord, Service Director, Resources, Improvements & Partnerships explained that:

- There had been a progressive increase in the timeliness of initial child protection case data,
- There had been a reduction in the timeliness of initial health assessments,
- There had been an increase in foster care placements for children and young people looked after within family arrangements,
- There had been an increase in placements provided by independent foster carers,
- There had been a decrease in CAMHS and Neuro Developmental referrals, but an increase in timeliness of both areas.

In response to a question around caseloads slowly increasing and work practice of staff, their workloads and wellbeing, Vicky Metheringham advised that caseloads were being monitored closely. The Panel were informed that staff had an average caseload of 19.7, weekly oversight of caseloads for social workers was carried out which was analysed. Senior Managers were assured that social workers were able to see children frequently and that staff were appropriately supported and received case supervision. In terms of social workers feeling supported, a range of mechanisms had been introduced where managers were visible and were reaching out on a frequent basis. Vicky Metheringham further explained that a range of opportunities had been introduced to engage positively with social workers and to reward them for the things they were doing really well and to thank them for the steps they took, and resources were being utilised to support social workers with their emotional wellbeing and resilience on a frequent basis. A number of other mechanisms were in place to ensure managers were able to speak to practitioners.

In response to a question regarding in house provision, and what was done to keep social workers engaged within Kirklees, Vicky Metheringham advised that Kirklees did not use agency workers but there were some vacancies. The Panel was informed that very few vacancies resulted in social workers leaving Kirklees, vacancies were generally relating to promotions, or transfers to another part of the service. Kirklees valued the importance of having a structure which was consistent, and that engaged with social workers, was rewarding, and made them feel valued. Vicky Metheringham further explained that Kirklees took an approach to growing their own social workers and engaged with the front-line programme, this enabled the employment of a number of unqualified social workers who had access to front line social worker graduates and wanted to become a social worker. The Panel noted that 10 front line practitioners had moved into social work teams and 10 had been recruited onto the frontline programme. There were apprenticeship opportunities which were available to employees across Kirklees.

Children's Scrutiny Panel - 22 September 2023

In response to a question regarding the increase to section 47 referrals, Vicky Metheringham explained that when referrals were received where it was considered a child was at harm, a strategy meeting took place within 24 hours of the referral to consider the next steps. One step was the section 47 assessment, which included gathering additional information from a variety of agencies which needed to be completed within 5 working days of the assessment. The section 47 assessment would then be referred to the child protection conference. The Panel was informed that officers felt there were too many section 47 assessments happening unnecessarily and the service had looked at the reasons why, it was recognised there was some learning from the outcome.

Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director for Learning & Early Support, advised that a process was ongoing to look at last year's Outcomes Data which included exclusions and attendance. Cllr Elizabeth Reynolds advised that improving outcomes and building on challenges of Covid and the effect this had on children, that there was a real commitment from schools to get the best outcomes.

A question was asked by the Panel regarding young people attending university and the reduced numbers, and what the impact was on vocational courses. Nina Barnes advised that a number of post 16 institutions were revising their curriculum offer with a number of vocational qualifications due to finish this year, which meant there was the option of A levels or T levels only. Apprenticeships was another option but not in post 16 sixth forms. The Panel was informed that traditionally, 70%-80% of A level routes taken moved onto university places.

In response to a question regarding unauthorised absences and data that monitored the absences, Jo-Anne Sanders advised that robust monitoring was in place where a dashboard monitored attendance daily. Examples of the areas the dashboard showed were, vulnerable people, the curriculum year, or geographical areas of Kirklees. The Panel was informed that the previous academic year highlighted that the highest percentage for absence was illness, followed by unauthorised absence which included unauthorised holidays. The service worked closely with the school system and had a strong educating safeguarding offer. New attendance duties for the Local Authority had come into place in September 2023, once data had been gathered it would be shared with the Panel.

In response to a question regarding nursery provisions impacting on early years, where some schools fed into the system, Emma Brayford advised that data was available on how children progressed through the school system, and that officers wanted to look closer around the impact of mobility when children moved from early years settings into mainstream schools and the academy system.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted and that officers be thanked for their contributions.

8

Pre-decision Scrutiny - Cabinet decisions on the horizon

Kieran Lord advised the Panel that a paper was to be presented to Cabinet on the 26th September 2023, regarding consultation on the redesign of short breaks and respite facilities for children and young people and their families where their children

Children's Scrutiny Panel - 22 September 2023

had disabilities. Kieran Lord explained that Pre-decision scrutiny had not yet been sought due to this being a consultation exercise.

In response to a question regarding the young people that used the service, and what the impact of the decision would be, Kieran Lord advised that the request to Cabinet was to seek permission to consult. Officers hoped for a better integration of services that was in line with council's place based approach, with services that met the needs of children and young people and their families in a locality that was better to access and at a time that was convenient for them, whilst simultaneously looking to make efficiencies by way of integration of services.

RESOLVED: The Panel noted the items for pre-decision scrutiny and thanked the officers for their updates.

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

Councillor Cooper advised the Panel that Corporate Parenting Board last met on 12th September 2023. At the meeting an update was provided on how looked after children, who were for the first time going into their own homes and being part of the community, were supported to manage their own life and be part of the community.

There was also an update regarding children's residential homes and how they were inspected, along with the way that was measured.

Councillor Cooper advised the Panel that he had suggested a representative from Kinship Carers be a member of the Corporate Parenting Board.

RESOLVED: That the Panel noted the updates given regarding matters considered by the Corporate Parenting Board on 12th September.

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

The Panel considered the work programme and agenda plan for the 2023-24 municipal year.

Cllr Reynolds, Cabinet Member for Learning and Aspiration, raised some queries regarding items on the work programme.

RESOLVED: The Lead Member agreed to meet with the Cabinet Members for Learning and Aspiration and Children to discuss the work programme for 2023/24.

Contact Officer: Helen Kilroy

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL

Friday 1st December 2023

Present: Councillor Andrew Cooper (Chair)
Councillor Richard Smith
Councillor Ebrahim Dockrat

In attendance: Kieran Lord, Service Director
Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director
Martin Wood, Head of Public Protection
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje

Apologies: Councillor Ammar Anwar
Councillor John Lawson
Oliver Gibson (Co-Optee)

- 1 Membership of the Panel**
Apologies were received from Councillor Anwar, Councillor Lawson and Oliver Gibson (Co-optee).
- 2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
That the minutes of the meeting on the 22nd September 2023 be approved at the next Panel meeting on the 26th January 2024.
- 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 Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 2023/24**
The Panel considered the work programme and agenda plan for the 2023/24 municipal year.

RESOLVED

1. That the Work Programme and agenda plan for 2023/24 be noted.

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2. That a report on Post 16 Home to School Travel would be considered by the Panel in January 2024.

8 **Performance Data (Children's Services) - verbal update on highlights**

The Panel received a verbal update on the performance data for period ending September 2023, provided by Jo-Anne Sanders and Kieran Lord, Service Directors in Children's Services.

Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director for Learning and Early Support, highlighted the following key issues –

- Officers were focusing on school attendance and making improvements but it was acknowledged that some students found it harder than others to attend school and that schools and partners were working with pupils and parents to remove barriers by building trusting relationships and working together to put the right support in place
- Barriers to education was wide and complex and securing good attendance could not seen in isolation and effective plans for improvement would involve closer interaction with schools and settings and efforts on curriculum, behaviour, bullying; special educational needs and pastoral support and wellbeing of youngsters were really key;
- Effort across teaching and non-teaching in schools, trust bodies, workers in the Local Authority and partner agencies were all coming together to help unlock the barriers
- Attendance did impact on academic outcomes and nationally overall absence rate of pupils not achieving grade 9 to 4 was over twice as high as those achieving grades 9 to 5, 8.8% nationally compared to 3.7% and 90% of young offenders have been persistently absent
- Kirklees have been assigned an Independent Education Advisor from the Department for Education who would spend 5 days with the Learning Service and Schools looking at what could be done to improve attendance and the first visit took place in November where Kirklees data was shared and how the Service was being measured within Kirklees
- Feeding back to the DfE on children who were classed as persistently absent and how get a shared understanding around the more vulnerable groups; looking at trends in terms of illnesses and what could be done together with public health colleagues
- Engaging with children and families to instill good habits and routines from the start, working with the Council's youngest children as part of Families Together
- Take up for eligible 2 year olds of free early entitlement within early years settings was 80% as at September 2023, which was really positive and helped the Council to build strong relationships from the early stages which would have a positive impact on children's more formal schooling career
- In September 2023, absence in primary schools was 4% with an increase in October to 4.8%, secondary was 4.6% in September and an increase in October to 6.7%, the increase during September to October had been mirrored nationally and the half term holidays could often influence absences
- DfE were releasing fortnightly data showing school type and absence rates across the academic year – national figures showed 4.8% absence rates in state

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funded primary schools, 3.3% authorised absence, 1.5% unauthorised absence, state funded secondary schools was 3.8% and Kirklees 5.6%

- Children who were persistently absent was a safeguarding concern and a forensic look was being undertaken around attendance which involved other partners such as virtual school
- More stable picture on exclusions and suspensions, but this was being closely monitored and there were concerns for those with Special Needs and an Education Health and Care Plan
- A dialogue had commenced with Secondary and Primary Schools on attendance underpinned by the data, a further session was planned with Secondary Headteachers to share data, intelligence and good practice

The Panel noted a previous report which had been considered giving an update on early attainment outcomes and Jo-Anne Sanders advised that a further report would be brought back to the Panel in the new year prior to Cabinet, to celebrate the achievements of youngsters.

In response to a question asking why the absence figures had significantly increased from 2021 to 2022 both nationally and locally, Jo-Anne Sanders advised that as a result of the pandemic, the most vulnerable had to be educated at home and since then schools had to re-establish routines with young people and were working constructively with parents to establish expectations and routines in a supportive way, including the health and wellbeing of youngsters. The Panel was advised that the Department for Education had published information regarding the disruption to education that had been seen as a nation as a result of the pandemic. Jo-Anne Sanders further explained that strong relationships needed to be fostered between families and schools to improve attendance.

In response to a question from the panel asking what work would be undertaken across the school system to ensure that exclusions would continue to reduce throughout the year, Jo-Anne Sanders advised that focused conversations had taken place at the Education and Learning Partnership Board and that even though data looked more promising in terms of suspensions, further work would be carried out to assess what was being done differently and what was suitable in terms of provision, for example finding an alternative route to avoid exclusion. The Panel was informed that secondary and primary headteachers were focussed on sharing best practice and that there would be an opportunity to celebrate some of the successes and offer support to practitioners from outreach teams.

Kieran Lord, Service Director for Learning and Early Support, highlighted the following key issues –

- Increase in open social care cases to 2219, monthly average was 2365
- Rate of children in need was lower than statistical neighbours in England and lower than 12 month average so progress was being made
- Assurance was given that Caseloads were being looked at on a weekly basis by Managers and Senior Leaders to make sure the levels for individual social workers was safe and that we were getting the best outcomes for children
- Social Worker caseloads were currently reported at 19.2 which varied depending on the stage of career and factors such as multiple children within families

Children's Scrutiny Panel - 1 December 2023

- Contacts within one working day was currently at 70% and there was management oversight over all these children to ensure they were safe
- Small increase to 24% in re-referrals of children referred back into the service and audit assurance work had been undertaken to ensure that cases were closed if appropriate in the first instance
- Assessment performance was up to 71% and this time last year was 63% so positive trajectory
- Initial Child Protection Conference timeliness was at 91% at end of September and as of last week was at 100% due to a piece of work taking place across the directorates within social work teams and independent reviewing officers
- Number of children on Child Protection Plans had reduced to 495 and the service were capturing children correctly; seen a slight increase in children on plan for a second time but officers were confident that the visits to children were happening as quickly as they needed them
- Children looked after numbers had increased to 622 but had since reduced, this figure was highly variable and fluctuated dramatically depending on factors eg cases closed as reached 18 years old and multiple admissions, but the figure was far lower than our statistical and local neighbours, the service was trying to keep children with close family members and within environments close to home where possible before looking at other provision, eg foster carers, residential facilities
- Increasing residential options and recently re-opened a children's home; in December hoping to open another 4 bedroomed Children's Home which would give the opportunity to place children in homes closer to home rather than placing out of area.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to the new residential homes and where they located in areas close to where they were needed, Kieran Lord advised that he could not give postcodes or addresses in a public meeting in order to protect the identities of children, but Kirklees was a diverse area in terms of demographic and had a mix of children's homes in built up and rural areas, some were located closer to schools and transport routes and some were further away with space for children who required less contact with inner city life, options were available to match the child with the right setting.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to looked after children and how much it would cost to look after a child in Kirklees or place out of area, Kieran Lord advised that the cost of care placements across the country had been in the national news in recent weeks and that some of the independent placements had experienced a cost increase of over 30%. The Panel was informed that within Kirklees the Council was paying for a number of external placements at under £6800 per week. In Kirklees, the cost was more expensive and was having a significant demand on the budget and the Service continued to invest in services at the earliest opportunity in terms of education and support to keep families together. Kieran Lord advised that they were maximising options for internal foster carers and that there had been a change in their demographic. The service made sure that they matched foster carers with the needs of children and ensured that the offer to foster carers was attractive with the right rates of pay and packages of support. The Panel was informed that Kirklees sometimes had to look at unregulated placements

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in the absence of legally regulated placements and the cost of these varied from £10,000 to £16,000 per week.

In response to a question from the Panel relating to risks and vulnerabilities and concerns around exploitation, Kieran Lord advised that the Service had a responsibility for this area. The Service had tightened the process for referrals and engagement with schools and the way the police were recording incidents. The Panel was informed that the Service was getting more of an opportunity to get the information about children to ensure they received the right service at the right time.

In response to a question relating to any areas of concern that the Panel needed to be made aware of, Kieran Lord advised that the Children's Service and partners were acutely aware of areas of concern. The Panel was informed that Kirklees was the greatest contributor to the West Yorkshire portal where information was shared regarding particular areas of concern so that resources could be targeted as required, for example youth service and intervention. Kieran Lord advised that additional information was available on this if required by the Panel.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the verbal updates on performance data be noted and Service Directors be thanked for their contributions.
- 2) That a report be considered by the Panel early in 2024 on Attainment Outcomes.

9 Pre-decision scrutiny - Cabinet decisions on the horizon

No items of pre-decision scrutiny on Cabinet decisions were reported.

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

Councillor Kendrick advised that the last meeting of the Board was held on the 24th October 2023 and there had been issues around quoracy due to the numbers of Board Members joining the meeting online. The Panel was informed that on the 31st October 2023, Mark Redell came and talked about care leavers and the Corporate Parenting Board and advised on some key issues for the Board to address, one of which was to have future representation at the meetings from the police, health and decision makers as well as third sector and young people. Cllr Kendrick advised that it had been informally agreed to ascertain if Board Members could provide substitutes to ensure future meetings were quorate. The Panel was informed that feedback from Mark Redell would be given at a future meeting of the Board. Councillor Cooper advised that the next Board meeting would take place on Tuesday 5th December.

Kieran Lord advised that the Head of Service for Sufficiency, Joel Hanna, would be taking on responsibility for Corporate Parenting in Kirklees.

RESOLVED:

The Panel noted the updates from the Corporate Parenting Board and thanked the Cabinet Member and Officers for their contributions.

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KIRKLEES COUNCIL			
COUNCIL/CABINET/COMMITTEE MEETINGS ETC			
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS			
Childrens Scrutiny Panel			
Name of Councillor			
Item in which you have an interest	Type of interest (eg a disclosable pecuniary interest or an "Other Interest")	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]	Brief description of your interest

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.



Name of meeting: Children’s Scrutiny Panel

Date: 26th January 2024

Title of report: Update with regard to new published DfE Guidance – ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children - December 2023’

Purpose of report: This report outlines for Children’s Scrutiny Panel Members that in December 2023 the Department for Education published new Statutory guidance on multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children and outlines the summary of changes made.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £500k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards? Decisions having a particularly significant effect on a single ward may also be treated as if they were key decisions.	Not Applicable
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council’s Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision –No Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not Applicable
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance? Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Tom Brailsford 15/01/2024
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Viv Kendrick – Children’s Services Cllr Elizabeth Reynolds – Learning and Aspiration

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: N/A

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes – no individuals are referred to in this report. The information referred to is published on the DfE website.

1. Summary

In December 2023, the Department for Education published revised statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 - A guide to multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children'.

This update has been necessary to support some of the ambitions outlined in the government's new vision to transform children's social care that was published in February 2023, 'Stable homes built on love', and also to strengthen some aspects of multiagency partnership arrangements.

The full guidance can be accessed using the link below.

[Working together to safeguard children 2023: statutory guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/121212/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023_-_a_guide_to_multi-agency_working_to_help_protect_and_promote_the_welfare_of_children.pdf)

Alongside the full guidance the DfE published a summary of changes. These are detailed in appendix 1 attached.

The purpose of the report at Scrutiny is to make panel members aware of the changes.

2. Information required to take a decision

No decision is required, the report is for information, and a summary will be discussed at the Panel meeting which will indicate the opportunities the Council and its partners have to build on the strong practise that currently exists in the local area in considering the Guidance.

3. Officer recommendations and reasons

That the Children's Scrutiny Panel review the new Statutory Guidance.

4. Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

N/A

5. Contact officer

Tom Brailsford – Director for Children's Services, Civic Centre 1,
tom.brailsford@kirklees.gov.uk

6. Background Papers and History of Decisions

[Children's Social Care: Stable Homes, Built on Love consultation response \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/121212/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023_-_a_guide_to_multi-agency_working_to_help_protect_and_promote_the_welfare_of_children.pdf)

7. Service Director responsible

Vicky Metherringham – Service Director Child Protection and Family Support
Jo-Anne Sanders – Service Director Learning and Early Support
Kieran Lord – Service Director Resources, Improvement and Partnerships

Appendix 1

8. The DfE Summary of Changes – Published in December 2023



Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023: Summary of Changes

Chapter 1: A Shared Responsibility

A new chapter bringing together new and existing guidance to emphasise that successful outcomes for children depend on strong multi-agency partnership working across the whole system of help, support and protection including effective work from all agencies with parents, carers, and families. This includes principles for working with parents and carers to centre the importance of building positive, trusting, and co-operative relationships to deliver tailored support to families, and expectations for multi-agency working that apply to all individuals, agencies and organisations working with children and their families, across a range of roles and activities.

Chapter 2: Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements

Substantive changes to strengthen how local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements (local authorities, integrated care boards and the police) work to safeguard and protect children locally, including with relevant agencies.

Changes include clarifying the roles and responsibilities of safeguarding partners, distinguishing between Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) and Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs), introducing a partnership chair role, emphasising the role of education in safeguarding arrangements and strengthening accountability by clarifying expectations for information-sharing, independent scrutiny, funding, and reporting. Agencies are encouraged to consider the importance of voluntary, charity and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations within arrangements to improve oversight, engagement, and consistency. This chapter also highlights the importance of considering naming and engaging voluntary, charity, social enterprise organisations and sports clubs in published local arrangements if they are not already.

No statutory roles or functions have been removed from the guidance.

Chapter 3: Providing Help, Support and Protection

This revision has a renewed focus on how organisations and agencies provide help, safeguarding and protection for children and their families. There are three sections: Early help, Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and Child protection.

Early help strengthens the role of education and childcare settings in supporting children and keeping them safe, including information on a child's right to education and risk factors for practitioners to consider when identifying children and families who may benefit from early help. The approach to working with families has been strengthened throughout the guidance, outlining the role of family networks, including stronger guidance on the use of family group conferences to improve family network engagement in decision making and supporting children.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children clarifies a broader range of practitioners can be the lead practitioner for children and families receiving support and services under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, and the requirements on local authorities and their partners to agree and set out local governance arrangements. It clarifies the role of children's social care in supporting disabled children and their families, children at risk of, or experiencing, harm outside the home, children in mother and baby units (in prisons) and children at risk from people in prison and people supervised by the probation service.

Child protection introduces new national multi-agency child protection standards to set out actions, considerations and behaviours for improved child protection practice and outcomes for children. It clarifies the multi-agency response to all forms of abuse and exploitation from outside the home, consideration of children at risk of experiencing extra-familial harm in all children's social care assessments and includes resources to support practitioners understanding of the response to online harm.

Chapter 4: Organisational Responsibilities

Changes to the Prison and Probation sections highlights the mutual benefits of exchanging information with children's social care which strengthen and clarify processes and responsibilities for child safeguarding.

Chapter 5: Learning from Serious Child Safeguarding Incidents

Clarifies the expectation for keeping in touch with care leavers over the age of 21, and the non-mandatory reporting of care leaver deaths up to age 25 to improve learning and outcomes for this group of young people.

Chapter 6: Child Death Reviews

Factual changes only (covered below).

Factual Changes

Introduction

- Adds Domestic Abuse Act 2021 legislation and the National Framework statutory guidance to the list of guidance that supports a child-centred approach.
- Removes references to clinical commissioning groups and replaces with integrated care boards throughout guidance.

Chapter 1

- Updates to information sharing references to correct factual inaccuracies and reflect existing guidance.

Chapter 3

- Includes reference to young carers now recorded in school census, to reflect change in policy.
- Includes information on the pre-proceedings stage of the child protection process, to reflect existing guidance.

Chapter 4

- Clarifies roles and responsibilities of health practitioners with specific duties for child safeguarding.
- Updates to Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) section to reflect existing statutory MAPPA guidance.
- Updates to the armed services section to reflect MOD responsibilities/changes to internal structures and processes.
- Removes reference to secure colleges and referencing secure children's homes and secure schools.
- Removes references to Public Health England.

Chapter 5

- Clarifies the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel carry out thematic reviews, Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review process and signposting to panel guidance for clarity on serious safeguarding cases.
- Clarifies the process for submitting serious incidents notifications and the importance of accuracy to support data, reporting and learning.

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CHILDREN’S SCRUTINY PANEL – WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24

MEMBERS: Cllr Andrew Cooper, Cllr Eric Firth, Cllr John Lawson, Cllr Richard Smith, Cllr Paul Moore, Cllr Ebrahim Dockrat, Oliver Gibson (Co-Optee)

SUPPORT: Helen Kilroy, Assistant Democracy Manager

Agenda item/area of focus	Lead Officer	Areas of Scrutiny carried forward from 22-23	Comments
<p>Standard items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-decision scrutiny (decisions by Cabinet) • Performance Information (Children’s Service) – Informal meeting • Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Corporate Parenting Board • Ambition Board Minutes 	<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 & 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>Review of the Improvement Journey – ILACs Inspection</p>	<p>Tom Brailsford/Vicky Metheringham</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>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 agree what elements may be relevant to this work. The latest version of the Children’s Services Self Evaluation for January 2024 was shared with the Panel for information.</p> <p>The Chair of the Panel attended a Webinar on ILACS preparation.</p> <p>The Panel will consider the Front Door Health Check in July 2024.</p> <p>Informal Panel meeting on 26th January 2024 The Panel will consider a report on Working Together to Safeguard Children, advising that in December 2023, the Department for Education published new statutory guidance on multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children and the report will give a summary of the changes made.</p>	<p>Immediate and ongoing</p> <p>26.1.24</p>
<p>Review of Children’s Residential Homes and functions</p>	<p>Kieran Lord</p>	<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>Panel meeting on 26th March 2024 The Panel will consider a future report in relation to Ofsted Inspection outcomes for children's Residential Homes. A report giving an update on each individual home inspection outcome will be presented to a future Informal meeting of the panel which will include an explanation of the children's home inspection framework and its application. As the information within Ofsted reports regarding Children’s Residential Homes contains highly sensitive information which could potentially identify</p>	<p>26.3.24</p>

		individual homes, a thematic report giving an update on the key areas of strengths and areas for improvement across all homes will be presented to a public meeting of the Panel.	
Quality Assurance – impact of auditing the Children’s Service	Vicky Metherringham/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>Informal Panel meeting on 1st December 2023</p> <p>The Panel considered a Quarterly Overview report on Quality Assurance and the impact of auditing the Children’s Service. The report covered the 31 Learning Conversations and Practice Learning Days which had taken place during May, June, and July 2023. These conversations covered engagement with children, management oversight and supervision, partnership working, assessments and feedback from parents and carers. The Panel noted the report and agreed to receive a further update in March 2024 when the process had embedded.</p>	<p>In next 6 months</p> <p>1st December 2023</p>
<p>Educational and learning Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Kirklees Futures Learning Strategy 	Jo-Anne Sanders/Narinder Kaur/Paul Caladine/Emma Brayford	<p>The Panel will scrutinise/consider the following areas –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Future updates on how the Learning Service and Cabinet Members are scrutinising the educational outcomes; Longitudinal educational outcomes for the next 5 to 10 years, including 16+ and beyond. - 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; - To focus on the impact and effect of ethnicity, gender and socio-economic factors on educational outcomes; - Exclusions and attendance updates 	

		<p>Informal Panel meeting on 22 Sept 2023 Panel The Panel considered a report for information, giving an overview of the statutory outcomes achieved by learners in Kirklees during the academic year 2022-2023. The report covered outcomes at the end of the Foundation Stage, Phonics (Year 1), Key Stage 1 (Year 2), Key Stage 2 (Year 6), Key Stage 4 (GCSE) and Key Stage 5.</p> <p>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>Invite to the Our Kirklees Futures Learning Summit and Joint Headteacher Session on 27th June 2023 The Panel attended the Learning Summit on the 27th June 2023 at the John Smith’s Stadium. The Learning Summit focused on broad obsessions of Inclusion, Equity and Resilience and introduces the golden thread of Transition – moments of change across the education journey. This was in response to some of the shared challenge the Council faces across the education system. For the first time, the Learning Summit was 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>Panel meeting on 28th July 2023 The Panel agreed to consider a future report on Exclusions and Suspensions, following engagement with schools and settings this will include a plan to address challenges in this area. The panel would undertake a series of supported visits to schools to look at a range of good practice examples in this area, including inclusive approaches. The visits will be arranged to take place after the October 2023 half term. Visits will also be undertaken to the Education Learning Partnership Board and other</p>	<p>22.9.23 Panel</p> <p>27th June 2023</p> <p>28th July 2023</p>
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		<p>multi-agency meetings where the level of suspensions and exclusions are discussed and addressed.</p> <p>Visit to Education and Learning Partnership Board (ELPB) on 27th September 2023 The Chair of the Panel attended the Education Learning and Partnership Board (ELPB) on the 27th September 2023 as part of the Panel’s focus on exclusions and suspensions in Kirklees’ schools. The following key areas were considered –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exclusions and suspensions including data taken from 2022/23 - Support approach in place, including new DfE guidance published in May 22 <p>Visit to Early Years Conference on 12th October 2023 The Panel attended the Professional Development Conference for early years partners on the 12th 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 were two clear areas showcased at the event.</p>	<p>27th September 2023</p> <p>12th October 2023</p>
Sufficiency for Children’s Service (places/staffing resources)	Tom Brailsford and Service Directors	<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"> - Children’s Social Care (Social Workers) - Foster carers - Residential Homes staff - Over provision of primary places 	Within next 6 months

		<p>Panel meeting on 28th July 2023</p> <p>The Panel agreed to consider future data which would provide information relating to safeguarding training of frontline staff from the Housing Solutions Team Members who visit private homes and may become aware of safeguarding issues. Homes and Neighbourhoods have arranged with Children's Services (via Children's Services Duty and Advice) that they will deliver bespoke training on front door/children's safeguarding issues direct to Housing Solutions team members. The training session took place in October 2023 and more dates would be arranged to take place in the future to pick up any other team members who could not attend. In addition, all staff in the Housing Solutions Team have been asked to refresh the basic safeguarding MI pod case and some bespoke training has been arranged on children's safeguarding for all staff.</p> <p>Lead Member Briefing on 12th January 2024</p> <p>School place planning information will be shared with the Panel when the next iteration of this year's school place planning document is published.</p>	28 th July 2023
<p>Potential changes to Young People's Activity Team (YPAT) provision</p> <p>- Provides after school activities for C&YP with the most complex disabilities and needs</p>	Kieran Lord/ Sara Miles	Panel to agree on areas of scrutiny.	
<p>Partnership Arrangements</p>	Vicky Metherington/Jo-Anne Sanders/Kieran Lord	<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"> • Data collection 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership working • Is the voice of the young person being heard? (as below) • Good practice • Delivery of quality service 	
Voice of the Young Person	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.	
Special Educational Needs and High Needs (SEND)	Jo-Anne Sanders/Kieran Lord/Adrian Wisniewski	<p>The Panel will scrutinise the following areas –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in special school places by the rebuild of Joseph Norton Academy and Woodley School and College - SEND Transformation Plan - the role of the voluntary sector partnerships, third/private sector - New provision – schools and additional resources - Sufficiency of SEND, foster care and residential care – key challenges - High Needs block funding (quarterly reports – Jo Sanders to confirm dates) - Visits to PCAN drop-in sessions to engage with parents of children with SEND and get their views and experiences on accessing the services. - Post 16 Home to School Transport for SEND Young People <p>Informal meeting on 22nd September 2023 The Panel considered a verbal update 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>Informal Panel Meeting on 1st December 2023 The Panel considered a briefing note giving an update on Post 16 Home to School Travel outlining the current arrangements, future plans for</p>	<p>(ongoing)</p> <p>22nd September 2023</p> <p>1st December 2023</p>

		<p>proposed changes and next steps. The Panel agreed to consider a further update in January giving an update on the outcome of the consultation which was due to finish on the 31st December 2023. The Panel noted that following the consultation, responses would be taken into account on the final Statement and a decision made by Cabinet in March 2024.</p> <p>Visit to Education and Learning Partnership Board (ELPB) on 27th September 2023</p> <p>The Chair of the Panel attended the Education Learning and Partnership Board (ELPB) on the 27th September 2023 as part of the Panel's focus on SEND. The Board considered SEND data, SEND Transformation Plan and challenges. The ELPB also received an update on the Kirklees SEND Partnership WSoA whose meetings had been attended by representatives from the DfE, PCAN, Headteachers and health and care professionals.</p>	27 th September 2023
Special Guardianship Orders (SGO's)	Kieran Lord/Joel Hanna	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
Mental Health in Schools - Provision of service - Waiting lists	Kieran Lord/Stewart Horn	<p>The Panel will scrutinise the experience verses the provision of service and seek feedback from service users on their perception on using the service.</p> <p>The Panel will also consider the fluctuation in the waiting times and trends for children's emotional health and wellbeing.</p>	Review post xmas 23 and agree approach to scrutiny
Transition of young people to adults	Vicky Metheringham/Kieran Lord/Jo-Anne Sanders	<p>The Panel will scrutinise how well transitions are managed for young people with additional needs.</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>	

		<p>Lead Members Briefing on 12th January 2024</p> <p>An update was provided on the work the Children’s Service had been undertaking with Mark Riddell from the Department for Education on the Care Leaver’s provision. The Panel will receive an update on the Action Plan which has been drawn up at a future meeting – date to be confirmed</p>	
Emerging Risks	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>Informal Panel meeting on 26th January 2024</p> <p>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>Lead Member Briefings</p> <p>(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>			
Elective Home Education	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
Structure Review of multi-disciplinary teams	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)
School Improvement Offer	Jo-Anne Sanders	<p>The Lead Member will receive regular updates regarding the following areas:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education and Learning Board - Early Years Development Board 	

Kirklees Support Offer to Schools	Jo-Anne Sanders/Isabel Brittain	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.	
Redesign of short break, respite and support provision for disabled children, young people and their families	Kieran Lord/Tom Brailsford/Joel Hanna	The Chair received a briefing on the 15 th 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 results of the consultation and any subsequent proposals.	LM Briefing on 15.9.23 and Cabinet on 26.9.23

Children's Scrutiny Panel

Agenda Plan 2023/24

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p>6th June 2023</p> <p>Informal Meeting</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>28th July 2023</p> <p>Informal meeting 10am-11am</p> <p>Public meeting 11am-12.30 pm</p> <p>Hybrid meeting Meeting Rm 3, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline: 14.7.23</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Informal items:-</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;">Public Items:</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>22nd September 23</p> <p>1.30- 3.00pm Informal meeting</p> <p>3pm-4pm Public meeting</p> <p>Hybrid Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Informal items:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Corporate Risk Update</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Briefing note on Post 16 Home to School Travel</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>Meeting Rm 3, HTH</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>Public Items:</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>1st December 23</p> <p>1pm-2.30pm Informal meeting</p> <p>2.30 pm-3.30 pm Public meeting</p> <p>Hybrid Meeting</p> <p>Meeting Rm3, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline: 17.11.23</p>	<p>Informal items:</p> <p>Ambition Board Minutes (25.9.23)</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Quality Assurance – impact of auditing the Children’s Service</p> <p>Post 16 Home to School Travel</p> <p>Public Items:</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>V Metheringham/R Fordyce</p> <p>Martin Wood</p> <p>H Kilroy</p>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
	<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>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>Senior Officers/Cabinet Members</p> <p>Panel Members</p>
<p>26th January 24</p> <p>9.30-10.30am Informal meeting</p> <p>10.30am-12 noon Public meeting</p> <p>Hybrid Meeting</p> <p>Meeting Rm 3, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline: 12.1.24</p>	<p>Informal items:</p> <p>Corporate Risk Update – emerging risks</p> <p>Ambition Board Minutes (11.12.23)</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Minutes of Children’s Scrutiny Panel on 22.9.23 and 1.12.23 – to be approved</p> <p>Membership change – Cllr Eric Firth to replace Cllr Anwar</p> <p>DfE Guidance ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children – December 2023’ (presentation at Panel meeting)</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>Alice Carruthers</p> <p>W Harris to send</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>H Kilroy</p> <p>H Kilroy</p> <p>T Brailsford/J Sanders</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>

Date of Meeting	Issues for Consideration	Officer Contact
<p>26th March 2024</p> <p>10am-11am Informal meeting</p> <p>11am-12.30pm Public meeting</p> <p>Hybrid Meeting Meeting Rm 3, HTH</p> <p>Report deadline: 14.3.24</p>	<p>Informal items:</p> <p>Quality Assurance Quarterly Report</p> <p>Performance report</p> <p>Public Items:</p> <p>Attainment Outcomes</p> <p>Ofsted Inspection outcomes for Children's Residential Homes</p> <p>Update on Consultation process for Post 16 Home to School Transport</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>R Fordyce</p> <p>J Sanders/K Lord/V Metheringham to present</p> <p>E Brayford/J Sanders</p> <p>J Hanna/K Lord</p> <p>M Wood/K Westerby/ K Armitage</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>