



**Service Director – Legal, Governance and  
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Wednesday 11 March 2026

## **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 **Thursday 19 March 2026**.

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 "S Lawton".

**Samantha Lawton**

**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 Itrat Ali (Chair)

Councillor Aafaq Butt

Councillor Tanisha Bramwell

Councillor Hannah McKerchar

Councillor Ashleigh Robinson

Councillor Richard Smith

# 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.

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**2: Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

1 - 10

To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026.

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**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.

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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: Progress of the Ofsted Improvement Plan**

13 - 20

The Panel will consider a report on the Progress of the Ofsted Improvement Plan.

Contact: Vicky Metherringham, Service Director

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**7: The Re-design of the Leaving Care Service**

21 - 28

The Panel will consider a report on the Re-design of the Leaving Care Service.

Contact: Vicky Metherringham, Service Director

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**8: Verbal Update on the SEND White Paper: Every Child Achieving and Thriving**

The Panel will receive a verbal update on the published SEND White Paper - Every Child Achieving and Thriving ([Every child achieving and thriving \(HTML version\) - GOV.UK](#)).

Contact: Tom Brailsford, Director for Children and Families

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**9: 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 31st January 2026.

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

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## **10: 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)

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## **11: Feedback from Panel Members on issues considered by Kirklees Parenting Board**

Panel Members who attend the Kirklees Parenting Board, will feed back on key areas of focus considered by the Board on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026, which will be of interest to the Panel.

Contact: Jo-Anne Sanders, Service Director  
Vicky Metheringham, Service Director

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## **12: Work Programme and Agenda Plan for 2025/26**

29 - 58

The Panel will discuss progress of the work programme and agenda plan for the 2025/26 municipal year.

Panel dates for the 2026/27 municipal year will be arranged and approved by Council Annual General Meeting in May 2026.

Contact: Helen Kilroy, Assistant Democracy Manager

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