

# **Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee**

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**Special Meeting to be held on  
Monday 25 March 2019 at 2.00 pm**

**To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone  
Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

## **Membership**

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Councillors Mick Rooney (Chair), Cliff Woodcraft (Deputy Chair), Andy Bainbridge, Simon Clement-Jones, Tony Downing, Francyne Johnson, Mohammad Maroof, Abtisam Mohamed, Bob Pullin, Colin Ross, Ian Saunders, Alison Teal, Sophie Wilson and Steve Wilson

## **Education Non-Council Members**

Gillian Foster, Alison Warner, Sam Evans, Peter Naldrett, Vacancy and Vacancy

## **Healthwatch Sheffield**

Alice Riddell (Observer)

## **Substitute Members**

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

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## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING**

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The Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, policy development and monitoring of service performance and other general issues relating to learning and attainment and the care of children and young people within the Children's Services area of Council activity. It also scrutinises as appropriate the various local Health Services functions, with particular reference to those relating to the care of children.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at [www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk). You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked \* on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Deborah Fellowes, Policy and Improvement Officer on 0114 27 35065 or [email.deborah.glen@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:email.deborah.glen@sheffield.gov.uk)

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## **FACILITIES**

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There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

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**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILY SUPPORT SCRUTINY AND POLICY  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA  
25 MARCH 2019**

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**Order of Business**

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- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**  
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 1 - 4)  
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Public Questions and Petitions**  
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 6. The Council's Response to Ofsted on the Recent Inspection of the SEND Service** (Pages 5 - 8)  
Presentation to be given at the meeting.  
(The report entitled "Scrutiny Report Sheffield SEND Inspection February 2019" which was submitted to the meeting of this Scrutiny Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 is attached for background information)
- 7. Date of Next Meeting**  
The next meeting of the Committee will be held on a date to be arranged

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## ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

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If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)** relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- 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. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

\*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- 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.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Audit and Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email [gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk).

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## Report to CYP&FS Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019

**Report of:** Dawn Walton, Director of Strategic Commissioning and Inclusion Services

**Subject:** Special Educational Needs in Sheffield

**Author of Report:** Tim Armstrong, Head of SEN  
Joel Hardwick, Head of Commissioning; Inclusion and School Services

**Summary:**

The scrutiny committee has requested a report on the outcome of the Local Area SEND inspection

**Type of item:** The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	<b>x</b>
Other	

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

The Committee is asked to consider the recent Local Area SEND Inspection outcome and the planned response by the local area, led by the Local Authority and CCG and provide views, comments and recommendations on the proposed response

**Background Papers:**

Sheffield City Council LA SEND Final Inspection Letter

**Category of Report:** OPEN

## **Local Area SEND Inspection Outcome**

### **1. Introduction**

As part of the national framework for inspecting local areas, Sheffield was inspected between 12 and 16 November 2018. The inspection is of the entire local area, including of practice across frontline Education, Health and Care provision to meet needs of those with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND). It is the responsibility of the Local Authority and CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) to progress and lead the inspection and response but the inspection considered how everyone in Sheffield is identifying and meeting SEND needs. The inspection was completed by Ofsted and the CQC (Care Quality Commission).

This report provides an outline of the inspection process and next steps, presenting the report to scrutiny for discussion.

### **2. Sheffield Local Area SEND Inspection outcome**

The inspectors held 20 focus groups and visited 12 settings (11 education settings plus Ryegate respite provision). They met with parents and with young people. Parents were also able to contribute directly to the inspectors and participate in a webinar.

The inspectors provide a written report which can be viewed online and is appended to this report. The report was published 25 January 2019.

The inspection identified that the local area has not implemented national reforms consistently or swiftly enough - meaning that children and young people with SEND and their families have widely different experiences of how their needs are identified and met.

Whilst the inspectors identified that frontline professionals in education, health and care work hard to make a positive difference to children and young people with SEND, they recognised that too many children and young people do not have their needs assessed accurately or in a timely way. The findings by the inspectors confirmed issues that had been identified locally and plans are already being progressed to make further improvements.

Unlike other inspections, a judgement is not provided, however, where inspectors find areas of significant weakness, they can require the local area to complete a written statement of action (WSOA). The WSOA must be submitted to Ofsted within 70 working days of the publication of the report, no later than

30 April 2019. This must be agreed by the inspectors as being suitable. The local area is supported by the Department for Education and NHS England in completing this. Inspectors will return to complete a monitoring visit within 18 months of the publication of the WSOA. Around 45% of Local Areas inspected to date have been required to produce a WSOA.

Inspectors have required the Sheffield local area to produce a WSOA to tackle the following areas of significant weakness:

- The lack of a co-produced, coherent vision and strategy for SEND in Sheffield.
- Communication, clarity and consistency in the relationship between the local area leaders, parents, carers, children and young people.
- Poor strategic oversight of SEND arrangements by the CCG. This results in unacceptable waiting times for access to specialist equipment and appropriate pre- and post-diagnosis support and children and young people's needs not being met.
- Weakness in commissioning arrangements to remove variability and improve consistency in meeting the education, health and care needs of children and young people aged 0 to 25 with SEND.
- The quality and timeliness of education, health and care (EHC) plans.
- Inconsistencies in identifying, assessing and meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND in mainstream primary and secondary schools.
- Weaknesses in securing effective multi-agency transition arrangements for children and young people with SEND.

Work has already begun on identifying and defining the actions that will be included in the WSOA and the local area's response. This will focus on intended impact and outcomes. This work will be completed jointly between the LA and CCG. Young people and parent representatives will be included in the process as well as other key partners to ensure that the voice of the child is central to the planned improvements. A lead has been identified for each of the 7 areas from across the LA and CCG and the full response will be coordinated by the LA.

The WSOA will be monitored by the Inclusion Improvement Board, who hold accountability for SEND and improvements. The board reports to the Children's Health and Wellbeing transformation board. The board has representation from all key partners invited, including the Parent Carer Forum. Information about the WSOA must be published on both LA and CCG websites.

Whilst the outcome of the inspection is disappointing, it is a fair reflection on support for children with SEND in the Sheffield local area at this time. The inspection recognised the progress being made across the city and did identify

a number of strengths, particularly in regards to emerging work and good practice, but reflected the lack of consistency within the city in embedding these improvements. The Local Authority and CCG with partners, recognise that there is much work to do in order to ensure consistent outcomes for some of our most vulnerable children and young people against a backdrop of increased financial pressure and a lack of embedded consistent practice across Sheffield provision. All are committed to work in partnership, including with young people and their families, to meet the challenges we face.

### **3 What does this mean for the people of Sheffield?**

The Sheffield Local Area SEND Inspection will support the drive to improve the identification of children and young people with SEND, how we will meet their needs and how we will improve outcomes for those young people, particularly as they move towards adult life.

In order to achieve improved practice all partners need to engage further with the SEND reforms and prioritise support for those with SEND from the earliest possible point through investment, clear planning and effective support.

### **4. Recommendation**

The committee is asked to consider the report and note the ongoing work to drive improvement in this area. The committee are asked to provide views on the response to the inspection and how best to engage with councillors and their constituents