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**Sefton Council**



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Town Hall  
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To:

The Chair and Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding)

Date: 3 November 2022

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

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Dear Councillor,

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SAFEGUARDING) - MONDAY 7TH NOVEMBER, 2022**

I refer to the agenda for the above meeting and now enclose the following items which were unavailable when the agenda was published.

**Agenda No.**

**Item**

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>9.</b>  | <b>Cabinet Member Reports</b> (Pages 3 - 4)<br><br>Appendix B – Update Report of the Cabinet Member – Education |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>Work Programme Key Decision Forward Plan</b> (Pages 5 - 6)<br>Revised/additional recommendations attached.   |

Yours sincerely,

D. Johnson

Chief Executive

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<b>CABINET MEMBER UPDATE</b>		
<b>Overview and Scrutiny (Children's Services and Safeguarding)</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Period of Report</b>
Diane Roscoe	Education	October 2022

### **Education Excellence**

The EE strategy has now been approved. We are meeting next month with headteacher representatives and LA officers to develop the implementation plan which will sit under the strategy and link to EE, School Improvement Groups (SIGs) and school development plans.

### **Schools**

We have had several inspections this half term but as yet have not had the full reports. All inspections have gone well and there have been no surprises in what we anticipate the outcomes to be.

### **Academisation**

We have received praise from DfE, CEOs of Trusts and headteachers about the work we are doing to support our maintained schools, particularly primary schools. We have met with several CEOs on an individual basis to understand their vision for their trust as well as any plans for working with schools in Sefton. This has been very beneficial both for the LA and for the CEOs.

### **Exams and Tests**

Please see separate paper. A full analysis will be provided for the next meeting.

### **Attendance**

Attendance is improving across all phases and in many cases is now at pre pandemic levels. All schools now have a point of contact to discuss any attendance issues. We are one of ten authorities that have an attendance adviser to support us from DfE. This is really positive and will be helpful as we implement the new legislation.

We are supporting schools with early help (EH) when there are issues with attendance. The draft code of conduct for penalty notices is out for consultation. If a child is persistently absent the lead professional is contacted (social worker/EH worker) to ensure attendance is highlighted in the multi-agency plan.

We are recruiting officers within the attendance team to fulfil the statutory duties which came into force on the 1st September 2022.

### **SEND**

Sadly, Heather Loveridge has left due to family reasons. Chris Kiernan has now joined EE to provide support for SEND. Chris Lee is coordinating our preparation for both the SEND inspection and the Delivering Better Value. We have started on the self evaluation and considering the plan to support both areas.

# Agenda Item 9

## APPENDIX B

We are currently recruiting both interim and permanent SEND case officers and hope to have a full compliment of staff within the next month. We are recruiting a case officer with post 16 experience as well as a post that will link SEND (CWD) with the social work aspects. This will provide a more coherent provision for children and their families.

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
(CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SAFEGUARDING)  
7 NOVEMBER 2022**

**WORK PROGRAMME / KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN**

**5. INFORMAL BRIEFING SESSIONS 2022/23 – REVISED RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 An informal briefing session on the Leeds Family Values model has now been arranged for Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 4.00 -5.00 p.m. on Microsoft Teams and invitations for the remote briefing have been forwarded to all Committee Members.

**5.2 The Committee is requested to note the progress of informal briefing sessions for Committee Members to be held during 2022/23 and the arrangements made to hold an informal briefing session on the Leeds Family Values.**

**6. SITE VISIT – MAGDALEN HOUSE, BOOTLE – REVISED RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 A site visit for Members of the Committee to meet with Children's Services Teams at Magdalen House, Bootle, has now been arranged for Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. and invitations for the visit have been forwarded to all Committee Members.

**6.2 The Committee is requested to note the arrangements made to hold a site visit for Committee Members to meet with Children's Services Teams at Magdalen House, Bootle.**

**7. PRE-SCRUTINY OF ITEMS IN THE KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN – PUBLICATION OF LATEST FORWARD PLAN**

7.1 Since the agenda for the meeting on 7 November 2022 was published, the latest Key Decision Forward Plan has been published, covering the period 1 December 2022 – 31 March 2023.

7.2 The latest Forward Plan published on 31 October 2022 contains no key decisions that fall under the remit of the Committee, on this occasion.

**7.3 The Committee is requested to note that there are no items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan that fall under the remit of the Committee, on this occasion.**

# Agenda Item 10

## **ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATION**

### **10. ARCHDIOCESE REPRESENTATIVE**

- 10.1 The Committee has an Archdiocesan Representative that sits on the Committee.
- 10.2 The Democratic Services Team within the Council has been advised that the current Representative has retired and that a replacement Representative has now been identified from the Archdiocese. Further details will be provided at the Committee meeting.
- 10.3 The Committee is requested to formally approve the nomination received for a new Archdiocese Representative to sit on the Committee and to thank the retiring Archdiocese Representative for their service on the Committee.**