



Overview & Scrutiny



MEETING: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SAFEGUARDING)

DATE: Tuesday 26th September, 2023

TIME: 6.30 pm

VENUE: Birkdale Room - Southport Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1DA

Member

Councillor
Councillor Hardman (Chair)
Councillor Carlin (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Danny Burns
Councillor Carragher
Councillor Evans
Councillor Howard
Councillor Christopher Page
Councillor Prendergast
Councillor Richards
Councillor Spring
Maurice Byrne, Healthwatch
Mrs Sandra Cain, Independent
Advisory Member
Karen Christie, Healthwatch
Stuart Harrison, Diocese
Joan McCarthy, Archdiocese
Cheryl Swainbank, PGR

Substitute

Councillor
Councillor Harvey
Councillor Tweed
Councillor Myers
Councillor Corcoran
Councillor Lloyd-Johnson
Councillor Hart
Councillor John Joseph Kelly
Councillor Brough
Councillor McGinnity
Councillor John Kelly

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Debbie Campbell/Laura Bootland
Democratic Services Manager/Senior Democratic
Services Officer

Telephone: 0151 934 2254/0151 934 2078
E-mail: debbie.campbell@sefton.gov.uk
laura.bootland@sefton.gov.uk

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

We endeavour to provide a reasonable number of full agendas, including reports at the meeting. If you wish to ensure that you have a copy to refer to at the meeting, please can you print off your own copy of the agenda pack prior to the meeting.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested at a meeting where a disclosable pecuniary interest or personal interest arises, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests, to declare any interests that relate to an item on the agenda.

Where a Member discloses a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, he/she must withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest, except where he/she is permitted to remain as a result of a grant of a dispensation.

Where a Member discloses a personal interest he/she must seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or staff member representing the Monitoring Officer to determine whether the Member should withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest or whether the Member can remain in the meeting or remain in the meeting and vote on the relevant decision.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(Pages 5 - 14)

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2023

4. Petition - The Voice of the Families

A petition from The Voice of the Families has been submitted containing 35 signatures. The petition states:

The Voice of the Families are petitioning Sefton's Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to ask for our representative to speak at committee regarding:

We believe that the Scrutiny Committee lacks depth in terms of lived experience. The panel does not have enough understanding of the day-to-day reality of children with learning difficulties and those children in care and those adopted. Hence when the panel receive the data, they bring their own imagined and subjective viewpoints. We wish for the Scrutiny Committee to be increased by a further three independent people who have lived experience, especially those in the crucial Early Years, Primary and Teen years.

A representative of The Voice of the Families will be allowed

to address the Scrutiny Committee on the content of the petition for a period of 5 minutes.

- 5. Cabinet Member Reports** (Pages 15 - 30)

Report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer.
- 6. Report for Information on Vaping Amongst Young People** (Pages 31 - 56)

Report of the Director of Public Health
- 7. Domestic Abuse Update** (Pages 57 - 106)

Report of the Assistant Director of People (Communities)
- 8. Children's Social Care Overview of Practice** (Pages 107 - 146)

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education
- 9. Children's Services Improvement Programme** (Pages 147 - 170)

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education
- 10. Executive/Scrutiny Protocol** (Pages 171 - 188)

Report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer
- 11. Work Programme Key Decision Forward Plan** (Pages 189 - 204)

Report of the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer