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11 June 2019

Children and Young People's Services Select Committee

A meeting of the committee will be held at **10.30 am** on **Wednesday, 19 June 2019** at **County Hall, Chichester**.

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Director of Law and Assurance

Items on this agenda will be available to view live via the Internet at this address:

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Agenda

- 10.30 am 1. **Declarations of Interests**
- Members and officers must declare any pecuniary or personal interest in any business on the agenda. They should also make declarations at any stage such an interest becomes apparent during the meeting. Consideration should be given to leaving the meeting if the nature of the interest warrants it. If in doubt please contact Democratic Services before the meeting.
- 10.30 am 2. **Minutes of the last meeting of the Committee** (Pages 5 - 14)
- The Committee is asked to agree the minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2019 (cream paper).
- 10.30 am 3. **Urgent Matters**
- Items not on the agenda which the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency by reason of special circumstances, including cases where the Committee needs to be informed of budgetary or performance issues affecting matters within its terms of reference, which have emerged since the publication of the agenda.
- 10.35 am 4. **Forward Plan of Key Decisions** (Pages 15 - 20)
- Extract from the Forward Plan dated 3 June 2019.

An extract from any Forward Plan published between the date of despatch of the agenda and the date of the meeting will be tabled at the meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider whether it wishes to enquire into any of the forthcoming decisions within its portfolio.

10.45 am 5. **Ofsted Inspection of Children's Social Care: Implications for Scrutiny**

The Committee is asked to reflect upon the findings of the Ofsted Inspection that "oversight, scrutiny and challenge from corporate leaders, including the children's select committee and the corporate parenting panel, have not been sufficiently rigorous" and to identify any specific changes required to ensure a more robust approach to the scrutiny of Children's Social Care going forward.

11.30 am 6. **Children First Practice Improvement Plan (To Follow)**

Report by the Executive Director of People, Director of Children and Services, and Director of Law and Assurance.

The County Council's Children's Services were the subject of an inspection by Ofsted in late February/early March 2019. The report detailing the inspection outcome was published on 8 May 2019 with the inspectors finding the overall effectiveness of Children's Services to be 'inadequate'.

In response, an Improvement Plan is being developed to address the findings of the report and set out how the County Council will implement the necessary measures to deliver improvement within Children's Services.

The Committee is asked to note the process for the production and delivery of the Children First Practice Improvement Plan, the progress to date and the further actions in hand, and to consider how it proposes to discharge its scrutiny function in relation to the delivery of the Plan.

12.00 pm 7. **Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (Pages 21 - 42)**

Report by the Independent Chair of the West Sussex Safeguarding Children's Board (WSSCB).

Following legislative reform, a new local safeguarding arrangement for West Sussex will replace the existing WSSCB. This partnership will be driven by 3 partners; health, police and the local authority, with West Sussex County Council (WSCC) no longer being the lead safeguarding agency. This bespoke local arrangement will respond to local need which collectively engages with children, young people and their families.

The Committee is asked to note the changes to multi-agency arrangements to safeguard children in local authority areas, and to comment on whether further scrutiny of the new arrangements is required.

12.45 pm 8. **Business Planning Group Appointments**

The Committee is asked to appoint five members to the Business Planning Group (BPG), including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, one other conservative member, and two minority members.

The previous members of the BPG were Mr Cloake (Chairman), Mr High (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Mullins, Mrs Hall and Ms Lord. Mrs Mullins is no longer on the Committee.

12.50 pm 9. **Possible Items for Future Scrutiny**

Members to mention any items which they believe to be of relevance to the business of the Select Committee, and suitable for scrutiny, e.g. raised with them by constituents arising from central government initiatives etc.

If any member puts forward such an item, the Committee's role at this meeting is just to assess, briefly, whether to refer the matter to its Business Planning Group (BPG) to consider in detail.

12.50 pm 10. **Requests for Call-In**

The Children and Young People's Services Business Planning Group (BPG) received a request to call-in the proposed decision by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People concerning the Relinquishment of the Beechfield Secure Unit (CYP01 (19/20)– decision published on 22 May 2019. The BPG declined the request.

12.50 pm 11. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 11 September 2019 at 10.30 am at County Hall, Chichester.

Any member wishing to place an item on the agenda for the meeting must notify the Director of Law and Assurance by 30 August 2019.

To all members of the Children and Young People's Services Select Committee

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