



Northumberland County Council

Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Lesley Little

Email: lesley.little@northumberland.gov.uk

Tel direct: (01670) 622614

Date: 27 June 2018

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held in **COMMITTEE ROOM 1, COUNTY HALL, MORPETH, NE61 2EF**, on **THURSDAY 5 JULY 2018 AT 10.00 AM**.

Yours faithfully,

Daljit Lally
Chief Executive

To: Members of the Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillors: Renner-Thompson G (Chair), Campbell D, Cessford T, Horncastle C, Lang J, Nisbet K, Richards ME, Stewart G, Stow K, Wallace R

Co-opted Members: Hodgson A, Lennox D, Warner J, Lyst R, Payne S, Sanderson J, Woolhouse R

Cabinet Members:

Councillor W Daley - Deputy Leader & Children's Services



Daljit Lally, Chief Executive
County Hall, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EF
T: 0345 600 6400
www.northumberland.gov.uk



AGENDA

It is expected that the matters included in this part of the agenda will be dealt with in public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Unless already entered in the Council's Register of Members' interests, members are required to disclose any personal interest (which includes any disclosable pecuniary interest) they may have in any of the items included on the agenda for the meeting in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council on 4 July 2012, and are reminded that if they have any personal interests of a prejudicial nature (as defined under paragraph 17 of the Code Conduct) they must not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must leave the room.

N.B. Any member needing clarification must contact the Legal Services Manager, Liam Henry on Tel: 01670 623324. Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this Agenda letter.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on Thursday 7 June 2018, as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

To note the latest Forward Plan of key decisions for July to October 2018. Any further changes made to the Forward Plan will be reported to the committee. (Forward Plan enclosed as **Appendix A.**)

REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED BY CABINET

5. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

5.1 Outcomes of Statutory Consultation on Proposals for Education in the West of Northumberland

The report to be presented to Cabinet on 10 July 2018 (attached as **Appendix B**) provides an analysis of the representations received during the four week statutory consultation period from interested parties relating to the proposals to close Bellingham Middle School and Sports College with effect from 31 August 2019 and to extend the age ranges of Kielder, Bellingham, Otterburn, Greenhaugh and West Woodburn First

Schools with effect from 1 September 2019. The report requests Cabinet to consider the outcomes of the consultation and approve the implementation of the statutory proposals, with a modification to the proposal for West Woodburn First School. In addition Cabinet are requested to consider and approve the non-statutory proposal to extend the age range of Wark Church of England First School with effect from 1 September 2019 as it is linked to the other proposals.

Cabinet is also asked to consider the outline business case for the provision of enhanced buildings for the Hadrian Learning Trust in Hexham, which was requested by the Trust at their meeting of 8 May 2018, and approve the allocation of funding for the project from the Medium Term Plan.

Comments made by this Committee will be reported to Cabinet for consideration when determining the report.

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for this item is Councillor W Daley.

5.2 Proposed closure of Netherton Northside First School

The report to be presented to Cabinet on 10 July 2018 (attached as **Appendix C**) outlines the results of the statutory consultation process undertaken by the Council in relation to the proposed closure of Netherton Northside First School with effect from 31 August 2018. This consultation has come about as a result of a request of the Governing Body of Netherton Northside due to the significant drop in the number of pupils attending the school and its impact. Cabinet are asked to decide whether or not to approve the closure of the school as requested by the Governing Body.

Comments made by this Committee will be reported to Cabinet for their consideration when determining the report.

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for this item is Councillor W Daley.

5.3 Elective Home Education

The report to be presented to Cabinet on 10 July 2018 (attached as **Appendix D**) informs the Cabinet and the community about elective home education, the rise in parents choosing to home educate in Northumberland since September 2016 and the actions taken by officers to ensure children are well educated and safeguarded.

Comments made by this Committee will be reported to Cabinet for their consideration when determining the report..

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for this item is Councillor W Daley.

REPORTS TO BE CONSIDERED BY SCRUTINY

6. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

6.1 Supporting Families in Poverty

The Poverty Lead has been in post since August 29th 2017. The purpose of this report is to share the development thus far of the poverty strategy for Northumberland, which aims to support the Council in its broad aim to be a Council that works for everyone. (Report attached as **Appendix E.**)

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for this item is Councillor W Daley.

6.2 Safeguarding Benchmarking Trends - Annual Report 2017-18

The report (attached as **Appendix F**) informs members of how Northumberland is likely to compare with other areas in 2017/18 based on provisional data in the field of children in need and child protection.

The Cabinet Member requested to attend for this item is Councillor W Daley.

7. THEMED SCRUTINY

To discuss possible topics for future themed scrutiny and the way in which this is undertaken.

8. REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER

Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme and Monitoring Report 2018/19.

Members are asked to consider the Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme and Monitoring Report. (Work Programme attached as **Appendix G .**)

INFORMATION REPORT

The following report is for information only and can be accessed through Northumberland County Council's Website. If a member of the Committee would like further explanation of the report, or has questions they wish to put to the relevant Policy Board Member, he/she should contact Democratic Services Section in order that appropriate arrangements can be made.

9. POLICY DIGEST

This report gives details of the latest policy briefings, government announcements and ministerial speeches which may be of interest to members.

NB Reports have not been reproduced/circulated. They can be accessed through the service finder element of County Council's web site at www.northumberland.gov.uk.

101. URGENT BUSINESS (IF ANY)

To consider such other business as, in the opinion of the Chairman, should, by reason of special circumstances, be considered as a matter of urgency.

IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST AT THIS MEETING, PLEASE:

- Declare it and give details of its nature before the matter is discussed or as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- Complete this sheet and pass it to the Democratic Services Officer.

Name (please print):
Meeting:
Date:
Item to which your interest relates:
Nature of Registerable Personal Interest i.e either disclosable pecuniary interest (as defined by Annex 2 to Code of Conduct or other interest (as defined by Annex 3 to Code of Conduct) (please give details):
Nature of Non-registerable Personal Interest (please give details):
Are you intending to withdraw from the meeting?

1. Registerable Personal Interests – You may have a Registerable Personal Interest if the issue being discussed in the meeting:

- a) relates to any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (as defined by Annex 1 to the Code of Conduct); or
- b) any other interest (as defined by Annex 2 to the Code of Conduct)

The following interests are Disclosable Pecuniary Interests if they are an interest of either you or your spouse or civil partner:

(1) Employment, Office, Companies, Profession or vocation; (2) Sponsorship; (3) Contracts with the Council; (4) Land in the County; (5) Licences in the County; (6) Corporate Tenancies with the Council; or (7) Securities - interests in Companies trading with the Council.

The following are other Registerable Personal Interests:

(1) any body of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management) to which you are appointed or nominated by the Council; (2) any body which (i) exercises functions of a public nature or (ii) has charitable purposes or (iii) one of whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management); or (3) any person from whom you have received within the previous three years a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of more than £50 which is attributable to your position as an elected or co-opted member of the Council.

2. Non-registerable personal interests - You may have a non-registerable personal interest when you attend a meeting of the Council or Cabinet, or one of their committees or sub-committees, and you are, or ought reasonably to be, aware that a decision in relation to an item of business which is to be transacted might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well being or financial position, or the well being or financial position of a person described below to a greater extent than most inhabitants of the area affected by the decision.

The persons referred to above are: (a) a member of your family; (b) any person with whom you have a close association; or (c) in relation to persons described in (a) and (b), their employer, any firm in which they are a partner, or company of which they are a director or shareholder.

3. Non-participation in Council Business

When you attend a meeting of the Council or Cabinet, or one of their committees or sub-committees, and you are aware that the criteria set out below are satisfied in relation to any matter to be considered, or being considered at that meeting, you must : (a) Declare that fact to the meeting; (b) Not participate (or further participate) in any discussion of the matter at the meeting; (c) Not participate in any vote (or further vote) taken on the matter at the meeting; and (d) Leave the room whilst the matter is being discussed.

The criteria for the purposes of the above paragraph are that: (a) You have a registerable or non-registerable personal interest in the matter which is such that a member of the public knowing the relevant facts would reasonably think it so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest; **and either** (b) the matter will affect the financial position of yourself or one of the persons or bodies referred to above or in any of your register entries; **or** (c) the matter concerns a request for any permission, licence, consent or registration sought by yourself or any of the persons referred to above or in any of your register entries.

This guidance is not a complete statement of the rules on declaration of interests which are contained in the Members' Code of Conduct. If in any doubt, please consult the Monitoring Officer or relevant Democratic Services Officer before the meeting.