



Your ref:

Our ref:

Enquiries to: Lesley Little

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Tel direct: 01670 622614

Date: Wednesday, 24 February 2021

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your attendance is requested at a virtual meeting of the **FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** to be held on **THURSDAY, 4 MARCH 2021 at 10.00 AM.**

**Please note this will be a “virtual meeting” that will be streamed live on our Youtube channel at [youtube.com/NorthumberlandTV](https://youtube.com/NorthumberlandTV)**

Yours faithfully

Daljit Lally  
Chief Executive

**To Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee members as follows:-**

**M Swinburn (Chair), K Stow (Vice-Chair), D Campbell, T Cessford, W Daley, S Dickinson, L Dunn, B Flux, J Lang, Lawrie and R Wallace**

**Cabinet Member invited to attend: Councillor G Renner-Thompson**

**Any member of the press or public may view the proceedings of this virtual meeting live on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/NorthumberlandTV>. Members of the press and public may tweet, blog etc during the live broadcast as they would be able to during a regular Committee meeting. However, the only participants in the virtual meeting will be the Councillors concerned and the officers advising the Committee.**



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## **AGENDA**

### **PART I**

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

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

#### **2. MINUTES**

(Pages 1  
- 6)

The Minutes of the Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee, held on Thursday 4 February 2021 as circulated, to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

#### **3. 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. NB Any member needing clarification must contact the monitoring officer by email at [monitoringofficer@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:monitoringofficer@northumberland.gov.uk). Please refer to the guidance on disclosures at the rear of this agenda letter.

#### **4. FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS**

(Pages 7  
- 8)

To note the latest Forward Plan of key decisions for March to June 2021. Any further changes made to the Forward Plan will be reported to the committee.

#### **5. ANNUAL REPORT FOR EDUCATION AND SKILLS SERVICE 2019/20**

(Pages 9  
- 36)

The annual report overview for Education and Skills Service is provided to committee members to review the education performance in Northumberland, as known, in 2019/20; present the work of the central Education and Skills team and review the impact of the work to support continued engagement in education throughout the Covid 19 global pandemic; review the digital annual report attached to this report. The Education and Skills Service leads a number of specialist areas and supports Early Years settings, all key phases of education, virtual school, special educational needs and provides training for young people age 16-19, adults and apprentices across eight campuses in Northumberland as well as training in the workplace and the underpinning infrastructures to support the work through the school organisation and resources and the performance team.

<b>6.</b>	<b>UPDATE OF SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN 2018-2021</b>	(Pages 37 - 134)
	The School Organisation Plan 2018-2021 for Northumberland Cabinet was approved for publication by Cabinet in June 2018. It was agreed that the plan would be subject to an update on an annual basis in order to include the latest data and information on schools relevant to school place planning. Families and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee are now asked to approve the final iteration of the current School Organisation Plan before a new version for 2021-2024 is produced in the summer term ready for Cabinet approval and subsequent publication in September 2021.	
<b>7.</b>	<b>SCHOOL CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE</b>	(Pages 135 - 150)
	To update the Family and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee on the progress and delivery of the School Capital Investment Programme.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>SCHOOLS EXCLUSIONS</b>	(Pages 151 - 172)
	The report provides an update on the number of permanent and fixed term exclusions within Northumberland schools and academies, and to provide an update on the actions taken to reduce the numbers in light of the recommendations of the FACS Task and Finish Group.	
<b>9.</b>	<b>CHILDREN WHO ARE ELECTIVELY HOME EDUCATED</b>	(Pages 173 - 178)
	The report provides information about the increase in the number of children who are electively home educated, and the multi-agency support that is in place for families.	
<b>10.</b>	<b>FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME AND MONITORING REPORT 2019/20.</b>	(Pages 179 - 192)
	Members are asked to review and note the Family and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme and Monitoring Report	
<b>11.</b>	<b>URGENT BUSINESS</b>	

**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.**