

DRAFT MINUTES

# DRAFT MINUTES

Meeting ID	8369
Committee	Education, Children and Families Policy Committee
Date	27/09/2022
Attendees	<p>Councillor Dawn Dale (Co-Chair)</p> <p>Councillor Mick Rooney (Co-Chair)</p> <p>Councillor Brian Holmshaw (Deputy Chair)</p> <p>Councillor Colin Ross (Group Spokesperson)</p> <p>Councillor Marieanne Elliot (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Peter Garbutt (Committee Member)</p> <p>Councillor Mary Lea (Committee Member)</p> <p>Councillor Anne Murphy (Committee Member)</p> <p>Councillor Gail Smith (Committee Member)</p> <p>Councillor Ann Whitaker (Committee Member)</p> <p>Councillor Victoria Bowden (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Tim Huggan (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Abdul Khayum (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Abtisam Mohamed (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Kevin Oxley (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Maroof Raouf (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Safiya Saeed (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Councillor Paul Turpin (Substitute Member)</p> <p>Press, Public and Trade Unions (Notify)</p> <p>Eductaion, Children and Families Policy Committee (Open and Exempt Reports) (Monitor(Part2 Access))</p>

Item ID	28694		
Item Title	Apologies for Absence		
Summary	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>2.1</td> <td>Apologies were received from Councillor Gail Smith.</td> </tr> </table>	2.1	Apologies were received from Councillor Gail Smith.
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Item ID	28695				
Item Title	Exclusion of Press and Public				
Summary	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>3.1</td> <td>The Chair stated that item 8, Budget Proposals 2023/24 would be moved to item 14 as it was a restricted item, and therefore this section of the meeting would be closed to the press and public.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.2</td> <td>It was agreed that the public, press and attendees be excluded from the meeting before</td> </tr> </table>	3.1	The Chair stated that item 8, Budget Proposals 2023/24 would be moved to item 14 as it was a restricted item, and therefore this section of the meeting would be closed to the press and public.	3.2	It was agreed that the public, press and attendees be excluded from the meeting before
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	<p>further discussion takes place on Item 8, Appendix 1 on the grounds that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, if those persons were present, there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information as described in paragraph 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended</p>
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Item ID	28696				
Item Title	Declarations of Interest				
Summary	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>4.1</td> <td>Councillor Ann Murphy stated that she was a consultant Social Worker and a rest-bite Foster Carer.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.2</td> <td>Councillor Colin Ross stated he was a member of the Education Advisory Board.</td> </tr> </table>	4.1	Councillor Ann Murphy stated that she was a consultant Social Worker and a rest-bite Foster Carer.	4.2	Councillor Colin Ross stated he was a member of the Education Advisory Board.
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Item ID	28697		
Item Title	Minutes of Previous Meeting		
Summary	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>5.1</td> <td>The minutes of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 were approved as an accurate record.</td> </tr> </table>	5.1	The minutes of the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee meeting held on the 8 <sup>th</sup> of June 2022 were approved as an accurate record.
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Item ID	28698		
Item Title	Public Questions and Petitions		
Summary	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>6.1</td> <td>No public questions or petitions were received.</td> </tr> </table>	6.1	No public questions or petitions were received.
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Item ID	28699				
Item Title	Work Programme				
Summary	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>7.1</td> <td>Sarah Bennett outlined the purpose of the Work Programme and highlighted changes to the work programme, detailed at the beginning of the document. She asked that the Committee consider whether any further items should be added.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7.2</td> <td><b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the</td> </tr> </table>	7.1	Sarah Bennett outlined the purpose of the Work Programme and highlighted changes to the work programme, detailed at the beginning of the document. She asked that the Committee consider whether any further items should be added.	7.2	<b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the
7.1	Sarah Bennett outlined the purpose of the Work Programme and highlighted changes to the work programme, detailed at the beginning of the document. She asked that the Committee consider whether any further items should be added.				
7.2	<b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the				

	Committee’s work programme, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed, including the additions and amendments identified in Part 1 of the report.
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Item ID	28702
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Item Title	Budget Proposals 2023/24
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Summary	8.1	The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children’s Services. It set out the budget pressures and risks facing the services which fell under the Education, Children and Families committee area, and began to develop a budget action plan to mitigate these as far as possible. It provided recommendations for approval which would allow the service to contribute to Sheffield City Council’s budget pressure. The introduction to the report was provided in open session. When Appendix 1 was discussed the Policy Committee the meeting was closed to the public, press and attendees, as outlined in item 3 – Exclusion of Press and Public.
	8.2	<p><b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the financial pressures 2023/24 detailed within this report.</li> <li>• Acknowledge the recommendation approved at the Strategy and Resources Committee on 5 July 2022 that “Policy Committees will be asked to develop savings / additional income options that cover their own pressures – in effect cash standstill” and to “require Policy Committees to report at their meetings in September on how they can balance their budgets.”</li> <li>• Note, as this Committee's initial response to the Strategy and Resources Committee's request, the set of budget proposals set out in this report and in appendix 1.</li> <li>• Note that Officers will now work with Members to consult with relevant</li> </ul>

		<p>stakeholders (including with partners, trades unions and in respect of equalities and climate change) on the proposals in this report so as to inform final budget proposals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note that Officers will work to develop any necessary detailed implementation plans for the proposals in this report so that the proposals, if ultimately approved, can be implemented as planned before or during the 2023/24 financial year.</li> </ul> <p>Ask to receive a further report in November that will set out the final budget for this Committee following consultation and any adjustments requested by the Strategy and Resources Committee.</p>
	<p>8.3</p>	<p><b>Reasons for Decision</b></p> <p>The recommendations put forward in this paper and appendix 1 are recommended for approval on the basis that they : -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are consistent with our agreed approach to demand management, sufficiency, and meeting our obligations to provide quality statutory services which meet the needs of the child or young person</li> <li>• Are consistent with our vision/strategy to provide services and opportunities which support each child and young person within Sheffield to meet their potential.</li> <li>• Support the ongoing improvement of Education, Children and Family services in Sheffield</li> <li>• Are guided by an evidence base, benchmarking and/ or trend data which identifies areas of spend where disinvestment, subject to individual review, can most likely be made without detriment</li> </ul> <p>Enable the Council to continue to meet its legal duties.</p>
	<p>8.4</p> <p>8.4.1</p>	<p><b>Alternatives Considered and Rejected</b></p> <p>Do nothing - By undertaking none of the proposed actions, we would be unable to contribute to delivering a balanced budget.</p>

	8.1	The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children’s Services. It set out the budget pressures and risks facing the services which fell under the Education, Children and Families committee area, and began to develop a budget action plan to mitigate these as far as possible. It provided recommendations for approval which would allow the service to contribute to Sheffield City Council’s budget pressure. The introduction to the report was provided in open session. When Appendix 1 was discussed the Policy Committee the meeting was closed to the public, press and attendees, as outlined in item 3 – Exclusion of Press and Public.

Item ID	28701	
Item Title	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report - Month 4	
Summary	9.1	Ryan Keyworth, Director of Finance and Commercial Services gave an overview of this report. He stated the 2022/23 pay award was a contributing factor in the overspend.
	9.2	Councillor Dale stated that there would be a future agenda item on Social Work recruitment. She suggested that a working group around this could be formed. She asked that a report on the rate of sickness be included in this.

Item ID	28703	
Item Title	Special Free School Bid to support Special Educational Needs and Disability Sufficiency	
Summary	10.1	The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Commissioning Manager seeking approval to submit a joint bid with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, for a new special free school in Sheffield, ahead of the deadline on 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022.
		This school would provide additional special school places for children and young people with needs relating to autism spectrum condition and communication/interaction.

	To highlight the wider special educational needs and disability sufficiency position, ahead of a further report at a following committee date on this topic.
10.2	<b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee: -
	(a) Approval of joint bid with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council for new 200 place (100 places for Sheffield) primary-secondary special free school in Sheffield
	(b) If a joint bid falls through ahead of the deadline on the 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022, a Sheffield only bid is submitted instead
	(c) The committee endorses the principle of funding any abnormal site costs as a result of a successful bid from the High Needs Capital Allocation
	(d) Further report on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities sufficiency to be presented at later committee
10.3	<b>Reasons for Decision</b>
	The recommended option will deliver the following outcomes:-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It is proposed that the joint bid is submitted as a new school will help meet forecast demand. A joint bid maximises chances of success. Through the special free school opportunity, the school can be delivered at a lower capital cost than it would be if reliant on Sheffield funds only</li> <li>- Intended outcomes include increased availability of special school places, reduced inequalities and reduced reliance on high-cost independent placements.</li> </ul> <p>It is also proposed that a further special educational needs and disability sufficiency report is presented at a following committee meeting.</p>

10.4	<b>Alternatives Considered and Rejected</b>
10.4.1	<b>Option One: No Bid</b>
	Not submitting a bid was considered, however this was discounted due to the level of need that is forecast, the limited existing space that is available, and the opportunity to secure additional capital funding.
10.4.2	<b>Option Two: Sheffield Only Bid</b>
	A Sheffield only bid was considered, this would have the benefit of a higher number of places. However, this would also increase costs for the Local Authority. The chances of success of a Sheffield only bid would also appear to be significantly lower than a joint bid with Barnsley.
	Therefore, whilst submitting a joint bid is a risk itself, as this has not been done before, it would appear to be a risk worth taking to increase chances of success.  If a joint bid falls through ahead of the deadline on the 21 <sup>st</sup> October, it is proposed that Sheffield only bid is submitted instead.
10.4.3	<b>Option Three: Post-16 Bid</b>
	A bid for a special free school to provide post 16 places was considered. However, this was bid was not developed as concerns were identified in relation to whether it would be successful.
	Concerns included whether the Education Skills Funding Agency would support the bid, as they typically support use and development of relationships with existing post 16 providers, rather than development of new providers.  It is also less clear where the school would fit into Sheffield's post 16 landscape, and more work is needed locally to improve this position. This links to the Accelerator Progress Plan following the local area re-inspection for special educational needs and disabilities in February

	2022.
	Further development of post 16 will be part of the wider sufficiency plan, presented to committee at a later date.

Item ID	28704	
Item Title	Medical Needs Policy	
Summary	11.1	The Committee considered a report of the Director of Children's Services which presented a policy statement to ensure a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs.
	11.2	<b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the Education, Children and Families Committee:-
		(a) approves the proposed policy statement
	11.3	<b>Reasons for Decision</b>
		It is a requirement for the local authority to have a policy statement in place. By approving the statement, the local authority will meet this statutory duty.
	11.4	<b>Alternatives Considered and Rejected</b>
		The Local Authority is required to have a policy statement that is compliant with statutory guidance. The policy articulates practice in place for the local authority to meet its statutory duties.

Item ID	28705	
Item Title	Adoption Service Annual reports	
Summary	12.1	The Committee considered a report of the Interim Director of Children and Families which provided an update of adoption in South Yorkshire 2021/2022.
	12.2	<b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the Education, Children and Families Policy



	Committee notes the Director's report.
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Item ID	28706	
Item Title	Fostering Service Annual Reports	
Summary	13.1	The Committee considered a report of the Interim Director of Children and Families which provided an update of fostering in South Yorkshire 2021/2022.
	13.2	<b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee notes the Director's report.

Item ID	28707	
Item Title	SEND Acceleration Plan	
Summary	14.1	The Committee considered a report of the Director of Education and Skills on progress made to improve transitions into adulthood for children and young people, through the Multi Agency SEND Progress Plan and Project Group.
	14.2	<b>RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:</b> That the Education, Children and Families Policy Committee notes the Director's report.