

# Children and Families Committee

## Agenda

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**Date:** Monday, 12th February, 2024  
**Time:** 2.00 pm  
**Venue:** Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,  
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

It should be noted that Part 1 items of Cheshire East Council decision making and Overview and Scrutiny meetings are audio recorded and the recordings will be uploaded to the Council's website

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To note any apologies for absence from Members.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other registerable interests, and non-registerable interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 31 January 2024.

*To follow.*

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For requests for further information

**Contact:** Josie Lloyd

**Tel:** 01270 686466

**E-Mail:** [josie.lloyd@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:josie.lloyd@cheshireeast.gov.uk) with any apologies

4. **Public Speaking/Open Session**

In accordance with paragraph 2.24 of the Council's Committee Procedure Rules and Appendix on Public Speaking, set out in the [Constitution](#), a total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to put questions to the committee on any matter relating to this agenda. Each member of the public will be allowed up to two minutes each to speak, and the Chair will have discretion to vary this where they consider it appropriate.

Members of the public wishing to speak are required to provide notice of this at least three clear working days in advance of the meeting.

5. **Schools Funding Formula and Early Years Funding Formula 2024/25** (Pages 5 - 36)

To consider a report seeking approval of the planned use of the different elements of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2024/25 in terms of schools, high needs, early years and central blocks. To include specific approval of the schools funding formula and early years funding formula.

6. **Paediatric Speech, Language and Communication Therapy Support** (Pages 37 - 48)

To consider a report on the commissioning of the paediatric speech, language and communication therapy services.

7. **Future Options for the School Catering Service** (Pages 49 - 68)

To consider a report on the options appraisal for school catering.

8. **Consultation on Changes to the School Transport Policies for Children and Young People** (Pages 69 - 88)

To consider a report on plans to transform school travel support.

9. **Sufficiency Strategy 2024-2027** (Pages 89 - 132)

To note the 2024-27 sufficiency strategy for children's social care.

10. **Local Authority Costs and Timescales in Support of a School Converting to an Academy** (Pages 133 - 146)

To note communication that was shared with schools in Cheshire East regarding the timescales and costs for the Council's involvement in the academy conversion of a school.

11. **Academisation Forward Plan** (Pages 147 - 152)

To receive an update on the forward plan for academisation.

12. **Work Programme** (Pages 153 - 154)

To consider the work programme and determine any required amendments.

**Membership:** Councillors L Anderson (Vice-Chair), R Bailey, M Beanland, S Bennett-Wake, C Bulman (Chair), D Clark, E Gilman, G Hayes, R Kain, B Posnett, J Saunders, G Smith and L Smith