

Children and Families Committee Work Programme 2025 - 26

Report Reference	Title	Purpose of Report	Lead Officer	Consultation	Equality Impact Assessment	Part of Budget and Policy Framework	Exempt Item	Comments
16 February 2026								
CF/05/25-26	Third Financial Review 2025/26	To note and comment on the Third Financial Review and Performance position of 2025/26, including progress on policy proposals and material variances from the MTFS and (if necessary) approve Supplementary Estimates and Virements.	Executive Director of Resources, Section 151 Officer	No	No	Yes	No	Scrutiny
CF/33/25-26	Schools Funding Formula and Early Years Funding Formula 2026/27	This report will provide committee with an update on the Dedicated School Grant (DSG) for 2026/27 and request approval for the allocation of each sub block making up the DSG. It will request approval of the schools funding formula and early years funding formula following recommendations from the Schools Forum. It will also request approval to provide delegated authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services to use the funds in accordance with the relevant guidance and proposed funding formula methods.	Executive Director Children's Services	Yes	No	TBC	No	Decision
CF/46/25-26	New Primary school at Basford East, near Weston, Crewe - Update for members on the recent public consultation.	Report to Note - As detailed in the 15th September committee report, an update to be provided for members on the recent public consultation for the new Primary school at Basford East, near Weston, Crewe	Director for Education, Strong Start and Integration	Yes	Yes	No	No	Scrutiny

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	Reconnect Programme	Business case for the approval of the Reconnect Programme in Cheshire East for cared for children.	Director of Commissioning, Quality Assurance and Partnerships	No	Yes	Yes	TBC	Decision
13 April 2026								
CF/07/25-26	Service Budgets 2026/27	To set out the allocation of budgets for 2026/27, for all Committees, following Council's approval of the Medium Term Financial Strategy in February 2024, as determined by Finance Sub-Committee.	Executive Director of Resources, Section 151 Officer	No	No	Yes	No	Scrutiny
CF/45/25-26	Home to School Transport Task & Finish Group Scrutiny Report	To update committee on the findings from the Home to School Transport Task & Finish Group.	Executive Director of Children's Services	No	No	No	No	Decision

Task and Finish Groups

Group	Membership	Established	Purpose
Review of Home to School Transport - This is a cross-directorate Task & Finish Group with Highways & Transport Committee	C & F - Cllrs M Beanland, L Crane, E Gilman, B Puddicombe H & T -	April 2025	<p>This project will enable members of both Highways & Transport Committee and Children & Families Committee to jointly scrutinise the Councils' arrangements for provision of Home-to-School Transport, including SEND.</p> <p>The Council provides transport for approximately 4000 students to educational establishments in the borough and beyond.</p> <p>The MTFS provides an increase in budget (FY2025-26) of £1.5 million with further growth expected in future years. Transport services make up 17% of the overall children's revenue budget.</p> <p>There have been recent planned changes to the council's policies, procedures and procurement arrangements for home-to-school transport and members are interested to understand the effectiveness of these and what else can be done to ensure services provide value-for-money.</p>

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Families First Programme	Cllrs L Crane, S Bennett-Wake, E Gilman, G Hayes, G Smith, Cllr J Saunders	May 2025	<p>The objectives of this project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To understand the rationale and evidence base for place-based locality working and locality proposals for multi-disciplinary and multi-agency working for children and families in Cheshire East. • To understand how this links to the Families First Partnership approach and the requirement to implement the reforms and be up and running by 31st March 2026. • To contribute towards the development of the Families First Partnership plans.
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Briefing Reports/Reports for noting

Title	Purpose of Report	Lead Officer	Expected Circulation Date via the Members Hub

Note: These reports will be circulated outside of committee meetings - [Library folder - Reports for Noting - Reports for Noting | Cheshire East Council](#)