

## 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	Is the report for decision or scrutiny?
<b>15 September 2025 – Twilight meeting – 5.30pm</b>								
CF/02/25-26	First Financial Review of 2025/26	To scrutinise and comment on the First 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	Decision/Scrutiny
CF/22/25-26	Improvement plan progress	To update committee on progress against the improvement plan to address the findings from the Ofsted inspection of local authority children's services (ILACS) in February and March 2024, and to ensure committee can scrutinise impact on outcomes for children and young people.  To update committee on the findings of the second Ofsted monitoring visit.	Interim Children's Services Improvement Director	No	No	No	No	Scrutiny
CF/18/25-26	Annual Youth Justice Plan	To endorse the annual youth justice plan	Director of Family Help and Children's Social Care	No	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
CF/27/25-26	Outcome of consultation on Domestic Abuse Strategy and plan to secure required provision	To update Committee on the outcome of the consultation on the draft Domestic Abuse Strategy (see also papers for June 2025 Committee) and how key recommendations will be implemented from Autumn 2025 onwards.	Director of Family Help and Children's Social Care	Yes	Yes	TBC	TBC	Scrutiny
CF/28/25-26	Update from the Families First Task and Finish Group	To provide an update from the Families First Task and Finish Group: Regarding 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. How this links to the Families First Partnership approach and the requirement	Executive Director Children's Services	No	No	No	TBC	Scrutiny

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		to implement the reforms and be up and running by 31st March 2026. How the Task and Finish Group has contributed towards the development of the Families First Partnership plans.						
CF/29/25-26	Basford East, Shavington – New primary school.	To progress with the new school at Basford East	Director for Education, Strong Start and Integration	TBC	TBC	TBC	Yes, in part	Decision
<b>10 November 2025</b>								
CF/03/25-26	Second Financial Review of 2025/26	To scrutinise and comment on the Second 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	Decision/Scrutiny
CF/04/25-26	Medium Term Financial Strategy Consultation 2026/27-2029/30	To provide feedback in relation to their financial responsibilities as identified within the Constitution and linked to the budget alignment approved by the Finance Sub-Committee in March 2025	Executive Director of Resources, Section 151 Officer	No	No	Yes	No	Decision/Scrutiny
CF/20/25-26	Cheshire East Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report	To update the committee on the Cheshire East Safeguarding Children Partnership's activity over the past year.	Interim Children's Services Improvement Director	TBC	TBC	No	TBC	Scrutiny
CF/23/25-26	Improvement Plan Progress	To update committee on progress against the improvement plan to address the findings from the Ofsted inspection of local authority children's services (ILACS) in February and March 2024, and to ensure committee can scrutinise impact on outcomes for children and young people.	Interim Children's Services Improvement Director	No	No	No	No	Scrutiny
<b>19 January 2026</b>								
CF/05/25-26	Third Financial Review 2025/26	To scrutinise and comment on the Third Financial Review and Performance position of 2024/25, and (if necessary) approve Supplementary Estimates and Virements.	Executive Director of Resources, Section 151 Officer	No	No	Yes	No	Scrutiny

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CF/06/25-26	Medium Term Financial Strategy Consultation 2026/27 to 2029/30 Provisional Settlement	To provide feedback in relation to their financial responsibilities as identified within the Constitution and linked to the budget alignment approved by the Finance Sub-Committee in March 2025.	Executive Director of Resources, Section 151 Officer	No	No	Yes	No	Scrutiny and Decision
CF/24/25-26	Improvement Plan Progress	To update committee on progress against the improvement plan to address the findings from the Ofsted inspection of local authority children's services (ILACS) in February and March 2024, and to ensure committee can scrutinise impact on outcomes for children and young people  To update committee on the findings of the third Ofsted monitoring visit	Interim Children's Services Improvement Director	No	No	No	No	Scrutiny
<b>16 February 2026</b>								
<b>13 April 2026</b>								
CF/07/25-26	Service Budgets 2026/27	To set out the allocation of approved budgets for 2025/26 for services under the Committee's remit, as determined by Finance Sub Committee	Executive Director of Resources, Section 151 Officer	No	No	Yes	No	Scrutiny

### 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	TBC	April 2025	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. The Council provides transport for approximately 4000 students to educational establishments in the borough and beyond. The MTFS provides an increase in budget (FY2025-26) of £1.5 million with further growth expected in future years. Transport services

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			make up 17% of the overall children's revenue budget. 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.
Children's Wellbeing Bill – Implications	TBC	May 2025	<p>The objectives of this project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• To understand how this links to the Families First Partnership approach and the requirement to implement the reforms and be up and running by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.</li> <li>• To contribute towards the development of the Families First Partnership plans.</li> </ul>
Review of Special Guardianship Orders (SGO's)	TBC	TBC	TBC

### 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](#)