

COMMITTEE AGENDA PLAN, TOPIC CHAMPIONS AND APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

To: **Children and Young People Committee**

Meeting Date: **29th July 2014**

From: **Democratic Services**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Forward Plan ref: **N/a** *Key decision:* **No**

Purpose:

- 1) To present the agenda plan for the Children and Young People Committee**
- 2) To agree the appointment of Topic Champions and groups**
- 3) To agree appointments to two additional outside bodies identified since the last meeting.**

Recommendation: **Members are invited to:**

- 1) Review the agenda plan and notify officers of any additional items they would like the Committee to consider**
- 2) Agree the appointment of Topic Champions and groups as set out in paragraph 2.2 of this report**
- 3) Agree appointments to:**
 - The new University Technical College in Cambridge**
 - The Joint Consultative Committee – Teachers****as set out in section 3 of this report.**

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1. AGENDA PLAN

- 1.1 The Committee's agenda plan is attached as Appendix 1. Members are invited to notify officers of any additional items they would like the Committee to consider. The timing of and approach to these items will need to take into account the resources available to support the Committee.

2. TOPIC CHAMPIONS AND GROUPS

- 2.1 The meeting of the Committee held on 3rd June 2014 agreed to ask Children and Young People Spokes to discuss the possible role and remit of Topic Champions and to report back to this meeting.
- 2.2 Spokes have identified five topics and have each agreed to lead on one of these, as set out below. Other Committee members have also been asked to express an interest in joining one of the groups. The aim is to identify small groups of members who could discuss relevant upcoming items with the Topic Champions and officers in advance of meetings, to help develop the Committee's shared knowledge. The approach is intended to be a-political. Responses received from Committee members to date are set out below.

Topic	Spokes lead	Other Committee members
1. Early years – provision of places and quality curriculum	Councillor Onasanya	Councillors Harty, Nethsingha and Wisson
2. Children's social care including safeguarding, provision for children taken into care (fostering and adoption) and provision for disabled children	Councillor D Brown	Councillors P Brown, Bywater (or 5) and Nethsingha
3. Provision of school places for the 5-16 age range, including commissioning, admissions and maintaining	Councillor Divine	Councillors Leeke and Yeulett

4. Quality of education, including standards achieved (absolutely and relative to similar shire counties), support for maintained schools, governance, Special Educational Needs and schools funding	Councillor Downes	Councillors Kenney and Rouse
5. Early help – preventative agenda, children’s centres, youth services, locality teams and cultural activities	Councillor van de Kerkhove	Councillor Bywater (or 2)

3. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

3.1 The meeting of the Committee held on 3rd June 2014 agreed a number of appointments to outside bodies relevant to its work. The Committee is asked to note the following updates to the discussions at that meeting:

- **Fostering Panel** – Councillor Wisson has agreed to serve on the Fostering Panel.
- **Cambridgeshire Schools Forum** – The meeting of the Forum held on 27th June 2014 considered the Committee’s enquiry of 3rd June 2014 as to whether it might be possible to appoint a fourth Councillor to the Forum. The Forum confirmed that it was content with the existing appointments and would defer any further consideration of changes to appointments until next Spring.

3.2 Since the last Committee meeting, two additional outside bodies have been identified, to which members are asked to agree appointments:

- **University Technical College, Cambridge** – Councillor Topping was appointed to the governing body of the new University Technical College in February 2014. The College will be opening in Robinson Way in September 2014 and will seek to be a centre of excellence in biomedical and environmental science and technology for 14- to 19-year-olds. Councillor Topping is keen to continue in his role and so the Committee is asked to confirm his ongoing appointment.
- **Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) Teachers** – The JCC Teachers provides an opportunity for trade unions and staff associations to discuss issues of mutual interest in relation to educational policy for Cambridgeshire with elected members. This normally excludes discussion of employment issues, for which separate arrangements are more appropriate. The Committee meets twice a year, in the autumn and spring terms.

The Committee's terms of reference, which are included in the Children, Families and Adults Trade Union Consultation Framework, currently assume eight elected members, including 'the Cabinet Member for Learning and the Opposition Lead Member'. In recent years there have in practice been six, the Cabinet Members for Children and Young People's Services and for Education and Learning, plus the four Opposition Spokes.

The Children and Young People Committee is asked to nominate members to the JCC Teachers. It is suggested that six members are nominated, the Committee's Chairman/woman and the five Spokes from the political groups, plus five substitutes for the Spokes. If the Children and Young People Committee agrees this, Human Resources will be asked to liaise with the JCC Teachers to update their terms of reference in the Consultation Framework.

Source Documents	Location
None	