

Children and Young People Committee Decision Statement

Meeting: Tuesday 26 November 2024
Published: Thursday 28 November 2024

Each decision set out below will come into force, and may then be implemented on the expiry of three full working days after the publication of the decision statement and may then be implemented, unless subject to a decision review request [see note on decision review below].

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies for absence were received Councillor Maria King (substituted by Councillor Piers Coutts) and Dr Andy Stone.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes – 8 October 2024 and minutes action log

The minutes of the meeting on 10 September 2024 were approved as an accurate record. The minutes action log was noted.

3. Petitions and public questions

There was one petition and one public question.

4. Corporate Parenting Strategy 2023-28

It was resolved unanimously:

to defer the agreement of the updated corporate parenting strategy 2023-2028 to the next meeting of the Committee.

5. Alconbury Weald Secondary School

It was resolved :

- a) To approve the Council entering an Engineering and Construction Contract with the contractor for the construction of Alconbury Weald Secondary School in April 2025 on the condition that the contract value continues to stay within the project budget.
- b) ~~To approve that following the completion of a Department for Education's (DfE) risk assessment for sprinklers in schools that sprinklers should not be installed.~~
- c) To note the cost of, and approve, the installation of a three-ply roofing system rather than the single-ply roofing system which is included in the DfE's standard specification.
- d) To note the risks associated with the successful delivery of this project.

6. Draft Children, Education and Families Strategic Workforce Development Plan 2024-2029

It was resolved to:

agree the proposed Draft Children, Education and Families Strategic Workforce Development Plan, 2024-2029.

7. Safety Valve Programme Update

It was resolved to:

- a) note the updates provided on the Safety Valve Programme.
- b) note that the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and High Needs Block funding issues facing the Council are a national issue affecting the majority of Local Authorities. The council's position is that Special Educational Needs (SEND) remains an area of Education policy in urgent need of reform.
- c) note the scope of work underway to meet the terms of the Safety Valve agreement by reshaping our offer of support to children and young people with additional needs by identifying and meeting need earlier so that more children and young people can thrive in mainstream schools, where appropriate.

8. Finance Monitoring Report – October 2024

It was resolved to note the report.

9. Children and Young People Committee agenda plan, training plan, committee appointments and Local Authority school governor appointments

It was resolved to:

- a) **note the Agenda Plan and Training plan.**

Notes:

- (a) Statements in **bold type** indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting.
- (b) Requests for review of a decision can be made as indicated below:-
 - (i) At least nine members of the Strategy, Resources and Performance Committee to initiate a review of a decision taken by a Policy and Service Committee.
 - (ii) The request must be submitted in writing to the Monitoring Officer or Chief Executive before the expiry of three full working days from the date on which the decision notice was published.

For more information contact:

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