

Notice of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date: Monday, 15 September 2025 at 6.00 pm

Venue: HMS Phoebe, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY

Membership:

Chairman:

Cllr S Carr-Brown

Vice Chairman:

Cllr S Bull

Cllr O Brown
Cllr P Cooper
Cllr D Farr

Cllr E Harman
Cllr B Hitchcock
Cllr S Mackrow

Cllr D Martin
Cllr T Slade
Cllr O Walters

Parent Governor Co-opted Representatives

Peter Martin

Diocesan Co-Opted Representatives

Mark Saxby

Youth Parliament Representatives

Ryan Cornish and Elliot Prentice

All Members of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee are summoned to attend this meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to view the live stream of this meeting at the following link:

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Mld=6093>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Democratic Services on 01202 096660 or email democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office by email at press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk or tel: 01202 118686

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk

AIDAN DUNN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

5 September 2025

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app

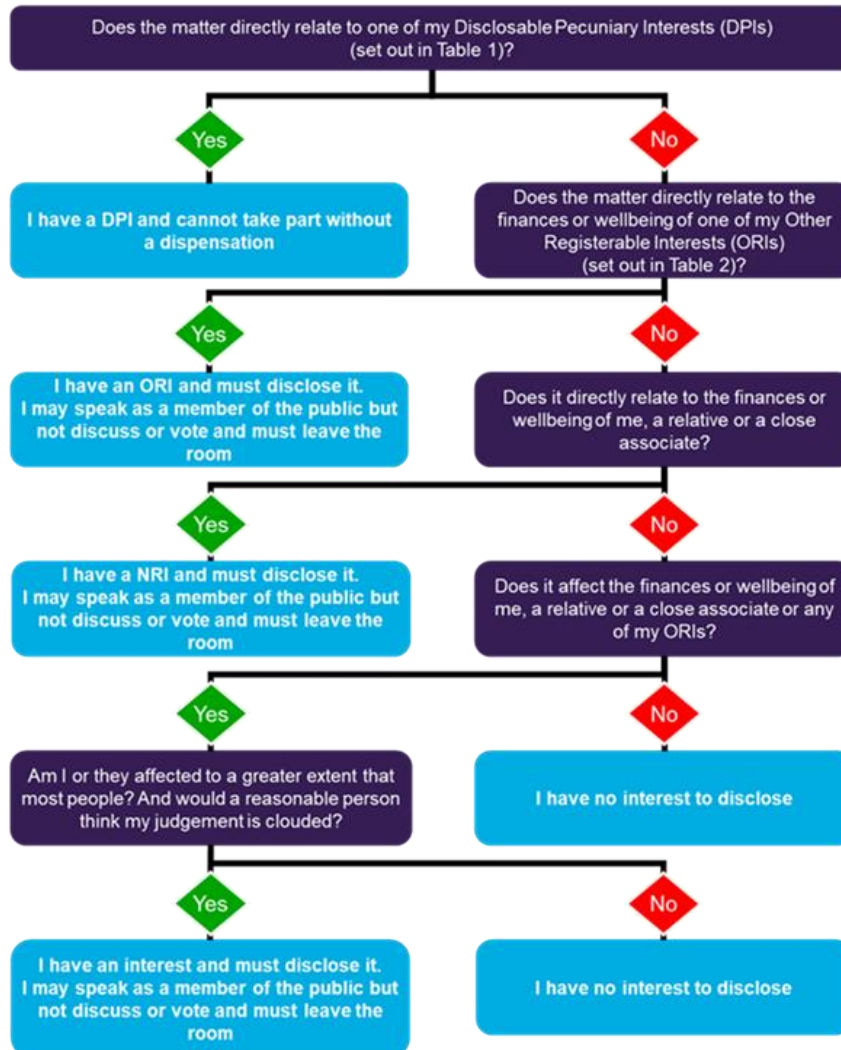


Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?

Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence from Councillors.

2. Substitute Members

To receive information on any changes in the membership of the Committee.

Note – When a member of a Committee is unable to attend a meeting of a Committee or Sub-Committee, the relevant Political Group Leader (or their nominated representative) may, by notice to the Monitoring Officer (or their nominated representative) prior to the meeting, appoint a substitute member from within the same Political Group. The contact details on the front of this agenda should be used for notifications.

3. Declarations of Interests

Councillors are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance.

Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

4. Minutes

7 - 14

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 10 June 2025.

a) Action Sheet

15 - 20

To consider any outstanding actions.

5. Public Issues

To receive any public questions, statements or petitions submitted in accordance with the Constitution. Further information on the requirements for submitting these is available to view at the following link:-

<https://democracy.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/documents/s2305/Public%20Items%20-%20Meeting%20Procedure%20Rules.pdf>

The deadline for the submission of public questions is 3 clear working days before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a statement is midday the working day before the meeting.

The deadline for the submission of a petition is 10 working days before the meeting.

6. Members of Youth Parliament Update

To receive a verbal update from the Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs).

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

7. Children and Young Peoples (CYP) Mental Health (MH) Transformation update	21 - 26
<p>The CYP Mental Health Transformation Programme ("Your Mind Your Say") has progressed into the Mobilisation and Implementation phase following full business case approval and Phase 1 funding. Built around the THRIVE Framework, the programme represents a strategic, co-produced model for delivering integrated mental health support across NHS Dorset, Local Authorities, VCSE partners, and schools.</p> <p>Key priorities include mobilising early help and crisis response teams, expanding community (VCSE) access, Governance has been identified to ensure oversight and alignment with BCP's Early Help Strategy and the Families First Pathfinder.</p> <p>Funding has been approved, with future investment prioritised for MHST expansion. A Population Health Management dashboard will support outcome tracking and equity monitoring.</p> <p>CYP and family voices remain central, with feedback mechanisms embedded throughout. Interdependencies such as the Neurodevelopmental Review and Tier 3.5 services are acknowledged but remain outside the programme's direct scope. Crisis alternatives are under review, with youth worker pilots informing future service design.</p> <p>This transformation marks a significant shift in how mental health services are commissioned and delivered for children and young people in BCP.</p>	
8. SEND Improvement Update	27 - 80
<p>The Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Improvement programme of work has made significant progress over the past 6 months, including stabilising the workforce, improving plan quality, and continuing to implement the SEND Sufficiency Strategy. However, challenges remain in maintaining assessment timeliness and managing the growing demand for support at a statutory level. Key focus areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment process and timeliness including AI solutions• Resolving disagreements including Tribunals• Complaints /Improved communication with our families• Addressing the high use of Education Other Than At School (EOTAS) and Alternative Provision (AP)• Improving Co-Production across the system	
9. Alternative Provision Improvement Plan	81 - 92
<p>This report provides an update on the Local Authority's work to improve the quality, consistency, and oversight of Alternative Provision (AP) for children and young people who are unable to access mainstream education.</p> <p>In response to national policy direction and local priorities, the Council is</p>	

developing a three-tier model of AP that promotes early intervention, targeted support, and specialist provision. The model is designed to reduce exclusions, improve outcomes, and ensure that AP is used as a short-term, purposeful intervention rather than a long-term destination.

The report outlines the rationale for change, the options considered, and the preferred approach. It also sets out the implications of the proposed model in relation to sustainability, public health, legal compliance, workforce development, and commissioning. The report is presented for information only and provides an overview of progress to date and the next steps in implementation.

Items for Information

10. **BCP Safeguarding Children Partnership Yearly Report 24/25**

93 - 138

This report for the period April 2024-March 2025 sets out that since the dissolution of the 'Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership', the new BCP Safeguarding Children Partnership has focussed on implementing new arrangements to fulfil the statutory responsibilities of the three statutory safeguarding partners who have joint responsibility and accountability for the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in the BCP geographical area. The three statutory safeguarding partners are BCP Council, NHS Dorset ICB and Dorset Police. Within this period of significant change, partners have maintained a focus on safeguarding children and through the new arrangements have gained insights on the effectiveness of how well partners work together to safeguard local children and young people, and areas to be developed. Full details of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements can be seen [here](#).

The report provides an account of:

- What we have done as part of our local arrangements, including any child safeguarding practice review
- Impact of learning from local and national reviews
- How we have applied independent scrutiny to review and challenge our safeguarding practice
- How education partners are engaged with
- Future improvements that can be made as to the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements.

This report will be submitted to the [Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel](#) by 30 September 2025 and will be published on the BCP Safeguarding Children Partnership website.

11. **Children's Services Compliments and Complaints Annual Report 2024-25**

139 - 172

To provide an update on the compliments, complaints and representations

made to BCP Council about Children's Services during 2024-25.

12. Portfolio Holder Update

To receive a verbal update from the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People.

13. Work Plan

The Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee is asked to consider and identify work priorities for publication in a Work Plan.

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No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.