

Notice of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: Tuesday, 27 January 2026 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

Jeremy Payne and Matt Tuddenham

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.bcp council.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=6374>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Sinead O'Callaghan on 01202 096660 or email sinead.o callaghan@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.bcp council.gov.uk

AIDAN DUNN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

19 January 2026

DEBATE
NOT HATE



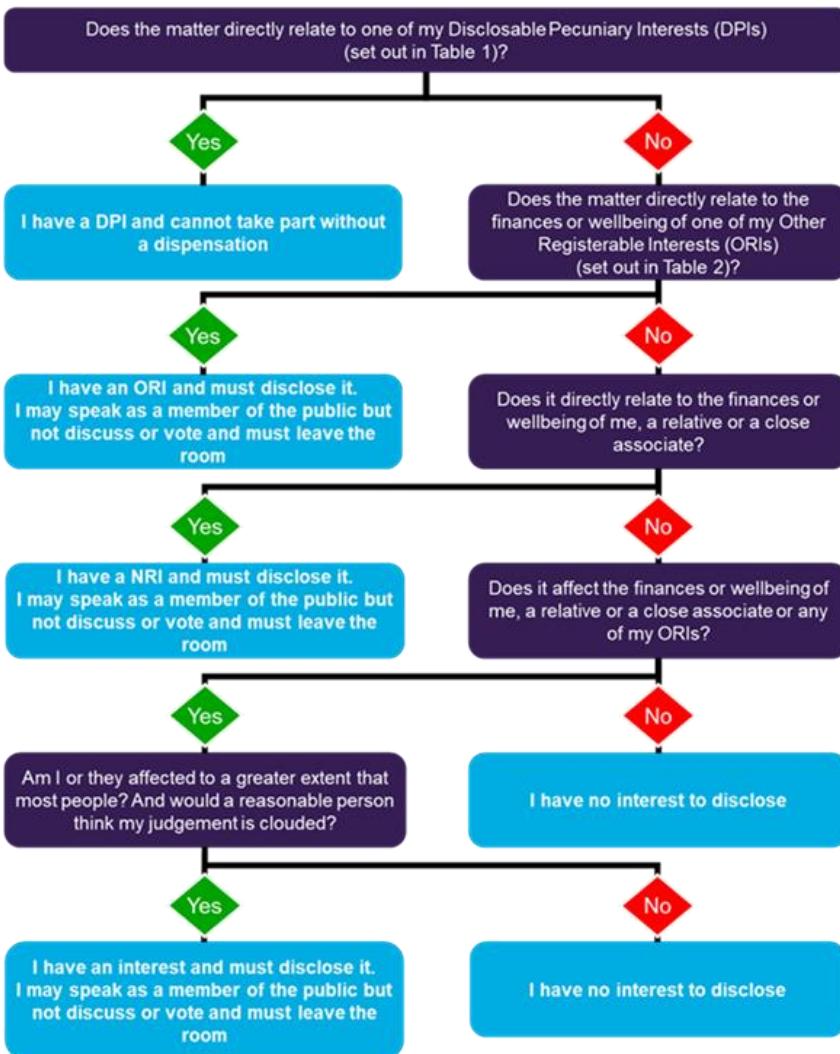
Available online and
on the Mod.gov app



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 - 20

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 25 November 2025.

5. Recommendation Tracker

21 - 56

To note the latest updates to the recommendation tracker.

6. 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.bcp council.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.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

7. **Housing for Care Experienced Young People Update**

57 - 86

This report updates the Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on arrangements to support Care Experienced Young People (CEYP) as they move toward independent living. It responds to the committee's recommendation in June 2025; that the Committee seeks assurance that the new Joint Housing protocol has been successfully agreed and is working effectively to ensure our Care Experienced Young People are seeing an improved service and are in receipt of timely advice and safe housing that suits their individual needs and hopes for the future.

It evidences the effectiveness of the Joint Housing Protocol review in improving partnership working, reducing homelessness, and ensuring priority access to housing options such as Staying Put, Supported Lodgings, Specialist Supported Housing, and independent accommodation.

Governance has been strengthened through the BCP Youth Homelessness Board, embedding strategic oversight and accountability. Young people's voices have shaped improvements to housing information, pathway clarity, and pre- and post-move support, while specialist and supported housing commissioning continues to provide tailored assistance for those with higher needs.

Support for planning independence is integrated across pathways, with recommissioned services to be focused upon enhancing life skills and resilience. Despite progress, challenges remain due to local housing market pressures and affordability, requiring continued learning from reviews and lived experience alongside implementation of the forthcoming Children's Wellbeing and Skills Bill to secure positive outcomes for CEYP.

8. **Invest to Save Budgets in the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)**

87 - 100

This report responds to the Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee's second set of KLOEs on High Needs Block (HNB) "invest-to-save" activity. It distinguishes: (i) initiatives funded from HNB (which impact the in-year position unless offset by savings) and (ii) initiatives funded from the General Fund or external grants (which do not worsen the HNB position but can drive service improvement and future cost avoidance). It summarises delivery to date (including sufficiency expansion and early-years interventions), the emerging impact, the approach to measuring cost avoidance, and the new initiatives now in development.

9. **Family Hubs Working Group final report**

101 - 106

The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee commissioned a Family Hubs Working Group to better understand and review progress of the implementation of Family Hubs in BCP.

The purpose of this report is to inform the committee of the output of the working group, including suggested recommendations.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10. Children's Services Capital Strategy Report 2026-2029	107 - 122
<p>This report sets out the Education and Skills Capital Programme for the period 2026/27– 2028/29. The report summarises available capital funding totalling £34.9 million and provides an indicative programme of investment of £33.5 million set against key budget headings aligned to improvement priorities across the service. The planned expenditure of available capital is set out in this report and shows a balanced budget.</p>	
11. School Admissions Arrangements 2027/28	123 - 152
<p>BCP Council is responsible for administering admission arrangements for its community and voluntary controlled schools. There is a legal requirement to determine the arrangements annually as described in the School Admissions Code 2021 and associated legislation.</p> <p>The local authority must also formulate and publish a scheme to coordinate the admission arrangements for all publicly funded schools within their area for the 2027/28 academic year.</p> <p>A public consultation on the proposed 2027/28 admission arrangements was held on from 10 November 2025 until 22 December 2026. The proposed change is a reduction to the Published Admission Number at Burton CE Primary School to reflect the broader trend of fewer families seeking school places in the area due to falling birth rates.</p> <p>It is recommended that the arrangements are determined by council members.</p>	
12. Corporate Performance Report - Q2	153 - 186
<p>BCP Council adopted 'A shared vision for Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole 2024-28' in May 2024.</p> <p>The shared vision is the corporate strategy which sets out the council's vision, priorities and ambitions as well as the principles which underpin the way the council works as it develops and delivers its services.</p> <p>Incorporated in the vision is a set of measures of progress for achieving the vision, priorities and ambitions.</p> <p>This is the performance monitoring report for Quarter Two 25-26, presenting an update on the progress measures.</p> <p>The council's delivery against its priorities and ambitions can also be monitored through the performance dashboard which is available on the council's website providing up-to-date real time information on the progress measures.</p>	
13. Portfolio Holder Update	
<p>To receive a verbal update from the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People.</p>	
14. Work Plan	187 - 196

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

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.