

Notice of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date: Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 6.00 pm

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

Membership:

Chair:

To be elected

Vice Chair:

To be elected

Cllr O Brown

Cllr S Bull

Cllr S Carr-Brown

Cllr P Cooper

Cllr D Farr

Cllr E Pankhurst

Cllr B Hitchcock

Cllr S Mackrow

Cllr D Martin

Cllr T Slade

Cllr O Walter

Parent Governor Co-opted Representatives

Matt Tuddenham and Jeremy Payne

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?Mid=6545>

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

8 June 2026

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app

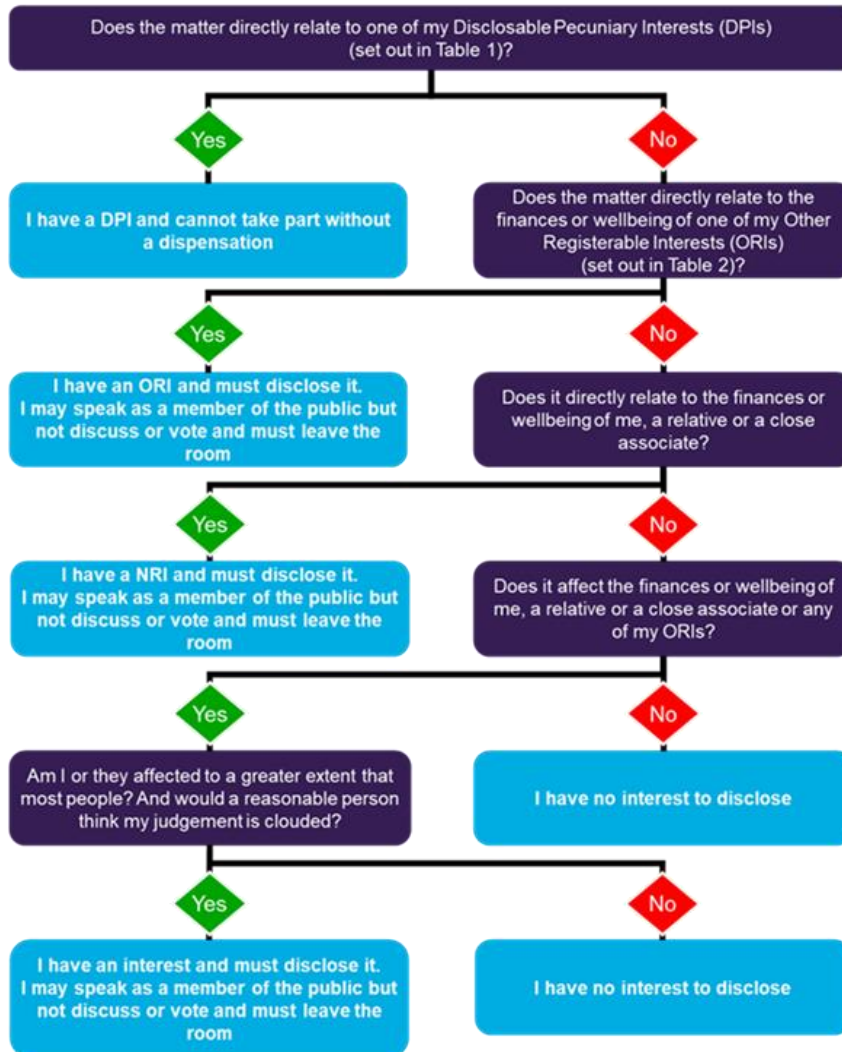


Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

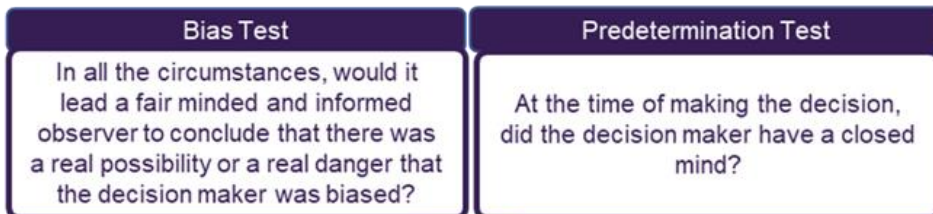
Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

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.



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. Election of Chair

To elect a Chair for the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

4. Election of Vice Chair

To elect a Vice Chair of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

5. 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.

6. Minutes

To confirm and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting held on 10 March 2026.

7 - 16

7. 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 midday on Wednesday 10 June (3 clear working days before the meeting).

The deadline for the submission of a statement is midday on Monday 15 June (the working day before the meeting).

The deadline for the submission of a petition is Monday 1 June (10 working days before the meeting).

8. Members of Youth Parliament Update

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

9. Recommendation Tracker

17 - 56

To note the latest updates to the recommendation tracker, including consideration of recommendations made by the Committee.

10. Work Plan

57 - 72

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

ITEMS CIRCULATED BETWEEN MEETINGS

11. Children's Services O&S Data Toolkit

73 - 88

12. Risk Management – Corporate Risk Register Update

89 - 176

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

13. Recruitment of a Co-opted Academy Parent Governor Representative

177 - 180

The Committee is asked to consider whether it wants to appoint a Co-opted Academy Parent Governor to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the process for the recruitment if agreed.

14. BCP Council's alignment with the National Youth Strategy

181 - 200

This report provides an overview of the current alignment of BCP Council against 'Youth Matters: The National Strategy'.

15. Youth Justice Plan 2026-2027

201 - 272

The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) places a statutory requirement on local authority youth offending teams to publish an annual Youth Justice Plan which must provide specified information about the local provision of youth justice services. This report summarises the Youth Justice Plan for 2026/27, with a copy of the Plan appended. The Youth Justice Plan needs to be approved by the full Council.

The Youth Justice Plan shows strong performance by the service. Achievements include diverting children from the justice system, avoiding the use of custody for children, and the quality of work to reduce the likelihood of reoffending and to repair the harm caused to victims.

Priorities for the year ahead are to respond to national and local reform programmes, enhancing 'Child First' practice, developing work with victims,

reducing the over-representation of some groups of children in the justice system, and making best use of available resources.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

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|---|------------------|
| <p>16. Children's Services Self-Assessment 2026</p> <p>The Children's Services Self-Assessment 2026 provides an evidence-based summary of progress since the 'Good' Ofsted ILACS judgement in December 2024. Local authorities produce self-assessments to evaluate service effectiveness, identify strengths and areas for improvement, and support transparent assurance, scrutiny and continuous improvement for children and families. It shows a service with stronger leadership, more embedded quality assurance and effective partnership working, resulting in more consistent practice and better oversight of performance, risk and impact.</p> <p>The report highlights improved timeliness, permanence planning, placement stability, educational outcomes for children in care and progress in SEND.</p> <p>It also identifies key pressures, including rising demand and complexity, high numbers of children in care and child protection plans, and ongoing sufficiency challenges.</p> <p>Priorities for 2026/27 are to deliver Families First and One Team One Approach, strengthen early help and local sufficiency, improve permanence and safety planning, and maintain a strong focus on children at risk of exploitation and older care leavers.</p> | <p>273 - 322</p> |
| <p>17. Best Start in Life Local Plan</p> <p>This report updates Cabinet on the development of BCP's Best Start in Life Local Plan, which delivers the Government's strategy for improving outcomes from pregnancy to age five and meets the requirement to publish a local plan by 31 March 2026. Key issues include achieving the Government-set Good Level of Development (GLD) targets (79.9% of children overall; 60.1% of children receiving Free School Meals) through whole system collaboration and establishing Best Start Family Hubs to provide integrated health, education and family support in areas of highest deprivation. Programme governance, project management, stakeholder engagement and a readiness survey are in place.</p> | <p>323 - 336</p> |
| <p>18. Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People Sufficiency Strategy Update (September 2024 – March 2026)</p> <p>This report provides an update on progress delivering BCP Council's Sufficiency Strategy for Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People covering September 2024 to March 2026.</p> <p>Progress has been made in strengthening local provision, improving provider relationships and embedding governance arrangements. Notable</p> | <p>337 - 410</p> |

improvements include significant growth in supported accommodation and residential capacity, increased numbers of children living locally, and stronger housing pathways for care experienced young people.

However, demand continues to exceed local capacity in key areas. Challenges remain in increasing foster care households, reducing reliance on residential care, and ensuring more children live closer to home.

The strategy remains on track overall, with a positive direction of travel. The next phase will focus on accelerating delivery, particularly in family-based care, residential demand reduction, and embedding quality assurance learning into service improvement.

19. Portfolio Holder Update

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

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.