

CABINET – 26 November 2025

Notice of Recommendations from the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 25 November 2025, for provision to Cabinet meeting of 26 November 2025.

Action required – for consideration by Cabinet and publication of a response within 2 months of 26 November 2025.

Permanent Exclusions and Suspensions (Children's Services O&S Committee agenda item 9).

Comment to Cabinet:

The committee agreed to make Cabinet aware that the Committee appreciates the detrimental impact of school exclusions, which were highlighted in the report, and recognises the work that is underway to address this. The committee agreed that through this work the council's primary focus is improved outcomes for the children of BCP but that this work will also likely bring budgetary savings such as:

- A reduction in exclusions and associated costs (e.g. transport, AP placements, tribunal processes)
- Improved outcomes for vulnerable pupils, reducing future demand on social care, youth justice, and post-16 support service
- A reduction in the need for unregistered and costly AP as more needs are met by schools

(Unanimous Decision)

Cabinet Agenda Item 12 - Home to School Transport

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to endorse the recommendation within the report to Cabinet, this being that Cabinet:

'Agree to tender an external provider to deliver a transformation project over three years with a total cost of £1.5 million funded by the flexible use of capital receipts to deliver service improvements and by the end of the project on-going savings in SEND school transport projected at £3 million (net of additional resource requirement)'

(Majority Decision)