

CHILDREN SUB-COMMITTEE

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Children Sub-Committee are to support the Council and its partners in ensuring:

- Children are ready for school;
- Young people are ready for work and adulthood
- Children and young people feel safe and are safe
- Vulnerable children thrive and reach their full potential
- Children and young people's views and voices are evidenced in and integral to all of the above objectives.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Children Sub-Committee will provide oversight, support and challenge to the activities of Wirral Council and its partners in relation to the following areas:

- Children's attainment in school, focusing in particular on the attainment of the most vulnerable children, evidenced by the gap in attainment narrowing;
- The quality and performance of educational provision overall in Wirral, as judged by Ofsted;
- The quality and effectiveness of pre-birth to five year old support and provision for children and parents, leading to children having the best start in life, evidenced by their readiness for school;
- The quality and effectiveness of specialist children social care and partner provision to support the most vulnerable children, leading to children being safe and achieving their full potential;
- Targeted early help effectively supports more children to thrive and live safely in their families and communities
- Monitoring Local Authority performance against its statutory duties

PROPOSED WORKING PRACTICES OF THE CHILDREN SUB-COMMITTEE

Sub Committee meetings	
Chair	The Chair and Vice-Chair will be appointed at the first meeting of the Sub-Committee in the municipal year
Membership	The membership of the Sub-Committee will be politically proportional. (On the current political balance, this translates into 4 Labour; 2 Conservative; 1 Liberal Democrat). In addition, the 4 statutory education co-optees will be members of the Sub-Committee.
Deputies	A maximum of 8 Elected Members per political group may be nominated to sit on the Sub-Committee as Deputies. The appointment of Deputies shall take effect upon the Group Leaders of each political group notifying the Head of Legal & Member Services of their deputy nominations.
Frequency	To meet a minimum of three times per year.
Work programme	The Sub-Committee will identify a work programme for the year, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task & Finish Groups • Standing Items • Specific Officer reports / presentations
Reporting Requirements	The minutes of the Sub-Committee meetings will be reported to the next available Policy & Performance Committee.
Communication & Transparency	Meetings will be held in public with agendas being published prior to the meeting and formal minutes being produced. Therefore, support from Committee services will be required