

AGENDA

Membership of the Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Councillors:

Anne Cheale (Chair) Ian Harrison (Vice Chair)

Marion Canavon, John Everett, Diana Hale and Lynn Worrall

Substitutes:

Charles Curtis, Peter Harris, Roisin Hewitt, Danny Nicklen, Diane Revell, and Pauline Tolson

Additional Member/s:

Position Vacant	(Parent Governor Representative)
Mrs E Woods	(Parent Governor Representative)
Rev D Rollins	(Church of England Representative)
Mrs P Wilson	(Roman Catholic Church Representative)

Meeting: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19 November 2009

Time: 7:00 pm

Venue: Committee Room 1, Civic Offices

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members must declare any **personal or prejudicial interests** they have in a matter on the agenda. They should declare the interest at the appropriate point on the agenda at the start of the meeting or as soon as it becomes apparent that they have an interest.

- The existence and nature of all interests must be declared at every meeting where there will be business of the authority being discussed that relates to or affects that interest. Even if the interest is shown in the Register of Interests, it must be declared at meetings where matters affecting that interest are discussed.
- If it is a **personal interest** the Member can participate in the debate and vote. If it is a **prejudicial interest** the Member must then leave the room unless they wish to make representations. The member can only speak if a member of the public would be permitted to do so. The member must leave the room as soon as they have spoken.
- Members should give sufficient detail to identify the interest. For example: "this application relates to land which borders property owned by a friend of mine";
- The nature of interests will be recorded. For example: "Councillor X declared a personal interest in item 3 which relates to land that borders his friend's house."
- **Exemptions** from prejudicial interests include: Housing (unless the particular tenancy/lease is affected); school meals; school transport; children in full-time school; parent governorship (unless it relates to the particular school); statutory sick pay; Members' allowances; Members' indemnities; setting the Council Tax precept (unless in rent arrears); and ceremonial honours.
- **Family** includes a partner (someone you are married to, your civil partner, or someone you live with in a similar capacity), a parent, a parent-in-law, a son or daughter, a stepson or stepdaughter, the child of a partner, a brother or sister, a brother or sister of your partner, a grandparent, a grandchild, an uncle or aunt, a nephew or niece, and the partners of any of these people.
- **Close association** includes friend, colleague, business associate, and social contacts that can be friendly or unfriendly.
- If in doubt, Members are strongly advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or a representative of the Monitoring Officer well in advance of the meeting.

Overview and scrutiny and joint committees

- Members have a prejudicial interest in any business before an overview and scrutiny committee (or a sub-committee of such a committee) where that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Cabinet or another of the Council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and, at the time the decision was made or action was taken, they were a Member of the Cabinet, committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee.
- Where Members have a prejudicial interest in any business of the Council, they may attend a meeting of the overview and scrutiny committee or of a sub-committee of such a committee, but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose.
- Members are also not permitted to take part in the scrutiny of decisions taken by committees of which they are Members (other than to answer questions or give evidence).

-----tear off here-----

*DECLARATION OF PERSONAL/PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Meeting: _____

Date: _____

Agenda Item No(s): _____

Nature of interest: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

(Print) _____

* Please delete as appropriate

Meeting: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 19 November 2009
Time: 7:00 pm
Venue: Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Grays

A G E N D A

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 22 October 2009 (pages 3 - 6).**
- 3. To receive additional items that the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.**
- 4. Declaration of interests**
 - a) Members are reminded that they should declare any personal or prejudicial interests as appropriate and in accordance with the adopted Model Code of Conduct.
 - b) Members are also reminded to declare any whipping inspired by Political Parties as set out in Part 2.5, Section 17.2 of the Constitution.

You have a **personal interest** in any business of your authority where it relates to or is likely to affect:

- a) an interest that you must **register** – including any gifts and hospitality over £25;
- b) an interest that is not on your register but where the well-being or financial position of you, members of your family or people with whom you have a close association, is likely to be affected by the business of your authority more than it would affect the majority of inhabitants of the ward affected by the decision or inhabitants of the Authority's area (in all other cases).

Your personal interest will also be a **prejudicial interest** in a matter if all of the following conditions are met:

- a) the matter does not fall within an **exempt** category
- b) the matter affects your **financial interests** or relates to a **licensing or regulatory matter**; and
- c) a member of the public, who knows the relevant facts, would **reasonably think your personal interest is so significant** that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest

Please refer to the guidance given on declaring interests, detailed on the inside cover. A full, detailed explanation is available in the Standards Board for England Code of Conduct (Guide for Members) May 2007.

5 Update On Revised School Improvement Strategy

The report is attached at Item 5. (pages 7 - 12)

6. Update On The Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) And Pupil Support Service (PSS)

The report is attached at Item 6. (pages 13 - 26)

7. Fostering Report Outlining Process and Performance

The report is attached at Item 7. (pages 27 - 34)

8. Adoption Report Outlining Process and Performance

The report is attached at Item 8. (pages 35 - 42)

9. Work Programme

The report is attached at Item 9. (pages 43 - 49)

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
(i) Scheduled Meeting Dates for Municipal year 2009 30 June, 23 July, 29 September, 22 October, 19 November, 17 December 2010 28 January, 25 February, 25 March, 19 April
(ii) Quorum Three elected Members
(iii) Queries regarding this Agenda Matthew Boulter, Democratic Services - telephone (01375) 652082 or email mboulter@thurrock.gov.uk
(iv) Changes to Membership, substitutions or apologies Matthew Boulter, Democratic Services - telephone (01375) 652082 or email mboulter@thurrock.gov.uk

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