



# Haverling

L O N D O N B O R O U G H

## CHILDREN & LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm

Tuesday  
21 January 2014

Town Hall, Main Road,  
Romford

Members 14: Quorum 6

### **COUNCILLORS:**

Sandra Binion (Chairman)  
Gillian Ford (Vice-Chair)  
Wendy Brice-Thompson

Nic Dodin  
Robby Misir  
Pat Murray

Frederick Thompson  
Melvin Wallace  
Keith Wells

### **CO-OPTED MEMBERS:**

#### **Statutory Members representing the Churches**

Phillip Grundy, Church of  
England  
Jack How, Roman Catholic  
Church

#### **Statutory Members representing parent governors**

Julie Lamb, Special Schools  
Anne Ling, Primary Schools  
Garry Dennis, Secondary  
Schools

Non-voting members representing local teacher unions and professional associations:  
Margaret Cameron, NAHT;  
Keith Passingham, NASUWT;  
Ian Rusha (NUT)

**For information about the meeting please contact:**

**Wendy Gough  
01708 432441**

**[wendy.gough@haverling.gov.uk](mailto:wendy.gough@haverling.gov.uk)**

## **What is Overview & Scrutiny?**

Each local authority is required by law to establish an overview and scrutiny function to support and scrutinise the Council's executive arrangements. Each overview and scrutiny committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

They have a number of key roles:

1. Providing a critical friend challenge to policy and decision makers.
2. Driving improvement in public services.
3. Holding key local partners to account.
4. Enabling the voice and concerns of the public.

The committees consider issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners to develop an understanding of proposals, policy and practices. They can then develop recommendations that they believe will improve performance, or as a response to public consultations.

Committees will often establish Topic Groups to examine specific areas in much greater detail. These groups consist of a number of Members and the review period can last for anything from a few weeks to a year or more to allow the Members to comprehensively examine an issue through interviewing expert witnesses, conducting research and site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Committee that created it and it will often suggest recommendations to the executive.

## **Terms of Reference**

The areas scrutinised by the Committee are:

- School Improvement (BSF)
- Pupil and Student Services (including the Youth Service)
- Children's Social Services
- Safeguarding
- Adult Education
- 14-19 Diploma
- Scrutiny of relevant aspects of the LAA
- Councillor Calls for Action
- Social Inclusion

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

(if any) - receive.

### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Members are invited to declare any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting. Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

### **3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman will announce details of the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

### **4 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 18)**

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 14 and 19 November 2013 and 5 December 2013 and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

### **5 INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW CHAIR OF THE LOCAL CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING BOARD**

The Committee will meet Brian Boxall, the new Chair of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board.

### **6 REVIEW OF ATTENDANCE DATA FOR SCHOOLS/ ACADEMIES FOR THE SCHOOL YEARS 2009-10 TO 2012-13 (AUTUMN AND SPRING TERMS ONLY) AND THE WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY TO SUPPORT ATTENDANCE IN MAINTAINED SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING. (Pages 19 - 28)**

### **7 SELF EVALUATION OF THE EDUCATION QUALITY ASSURANCE FUNCTION**

The Committee will receive a verbal update

### **8 EARLY YEARS ASSISTANCE**

The Committee will receive a presentation from the Service Manager

**9 OFSTED ACTION PLAN** (Pages 29 - 36)

**10 COUNCIL'S CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT MODEL**

Members are asked to note that the Executive decision concerning the 'award of the frozen food and groceries contract' is now due for review by the Committee and to decide if they would like an update on this area at the Committee's next meeting.

**11 COMMITTEE WORK PLAN** (Pages 37 - 38)

The Committee is asked to note the updated Work Plan

**12 FUTURE AGENDAS**

Committee Members are invited to indicate to the Chairman, items within this Committee's terms of reference they would like to see discussed at a future meeting. Note: it is not considered appropriate for issues relating to individuals to be discussed under this provision.

**13 URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any other item in respect of which the Chairman is of the opinion, by reason of special circumstances which shall be specified in the minutes, that the item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

**Andy Beesley**  
**Committee Administration &**  
**Member Support Manager**