

**AGENDA for a meeting of the CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Hertford on  
WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH 2002 at 10.30 a.m.**

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**MEMBER MEETINGS (FOR MEMBERS ONLY)**

Conservative	13 March 2002	10.30am	Committee Room B [not C]
Labour/Liberal Democrat	18 March 2002	10.00am	Room 156
Conservative	20 March 2002	9.30am	Committee Room B
Labour	20 March 2002	9.15am	Room 106
Liberal Democrat	20 March 2002	9.30am	Room 111

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE - 22, QUORUM - 6**

County Councillors (16)

T I Ambrose, D E Billing, R S Clements, A D Dodd, B C Engel, A K Gray, F Guest,  
D W Hills, T G M Kent (Chairman), L R Kercher, B J Lamb, M H O'Neill, D A A Peek,  
S Quilty, R H Smith (Vice-Chairman), J Taunton

Representative Members

**Voting (6)**

Parent Representatives (4)

P Cherry	North area
M W Thompson	South area
C Broadhurst	East area
T Douris	West area

Church Representatives (2)

J Reynolds	Education Board of the Diocese of St Albans
M Stothard	Archdiocese of Westminster Schools Commission

## **Non-voting (9)**

### Teacher Representatives (6)

C Brooks	Secondary Headteacher's Association
P Brooks	National Association of Governors and Managers
I Gibson	National Association of School Masters/ Union of Women Teachers
J Hayes	National Union of Teachers
G Rowlands	Association of Teachers and Lecturers
S Springett	National Association of Headteachers

### Co-opted members from the Health and Voluntary Sectors (3)

J Linskill	North Herts and Stevenage NHS Trust
L Wallace	Chair of Hertfordshire Association for Young People (HAYP)
C Whittle	Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire MENCAP

## **AGENDA**

### **AUDIO SYSTEM**

The Council Chamber has an audio system to assist those with hearing impairment. Anyone who wishes to use this should contact main (front) reception.

### **PART 1 (PUBLIC) AGENDA**

Meetings of the Committee are open to the public (this includes the press) and attendance is welcomed. However, there may be occasions when the public are excluded from the meeting for particular items of business. Any such items are taken at the end of the meeting and are listed under "Part II ('closed') business".

### **MINUTES [SC.8]**

To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23 January 2002 (previously circulated).

### **PUBLIC PETITIONS [SC.11]**

Any member of the public, (who is a resident in Hertfordshire or is on the electoral register for Hertfordshire) may present a petition to the Committee. An authorised representative of any Hertfordshire parish or town council subscribing to a parish charter approved by the County Council may also present a petition to the Committee in relation to matters within that parish. The subject of the petition must be appropriate for the Committee and must be signed by at least 100 residents or business ratepayers of Hertfordshire.

Notification of intent to present a petition must be given in writing to the County Secretary, (County Hall, Hertford, SG13 8DE) at least **fourteen clear days** before the meeting where an item relating to the subject matter of the petition does not appear on the agenda for the meeting and at least **three clear days** before where the item is the subject of a report.

If you have any queries about the procedure please contact Julia Harries, on telephone no. (01992) 555563.

- (i) A petition will be presented regarding the admissions rules for junior schools - admission rules for junior schools should give a high priority to children coming from an associated infant school.

Petition (i) relates to Item 1 of the Agenda and will be taken immediately before consideration of that item of business.

- (ii) A petition will be presented on behalf of Parents for Sandringham School regarding the priority area in St Albans - Sandringham School should not be transferred to the Harpenden educational area and should remain as a St. Albans school.

Petition (ii) relates to Item 2 of the Agenda and will be taken immediately before consideration of that item of business.

#### **QUESTIONS [SC.9(4)]**

Members are able to question the Executive Member(s) on matters which are not the subject of reports on the agenda. A member who wishes to ask a question shall give written notice of it to the County Secretary at least **three clear working days** before the meeting, stating to whom the question is to be put. Written copies of the questions and answers shall be available at the meeting. Questions shall be answered orally at the meeting in the order in which notice has been received. The member asking the question may ask one supplementary question. The person responding may choose to answer such a supplementary question, or promise a written reply within seven days. The period of time allocated for questions shall not exceed **ten minutes**. Any questions remaining after that period has elapsed shall be answered in writing within seven days. The Chairman may, however, accept questions without notice if satisfied they are urgent. Such questions shall not count towards the allocated time limit of ten minutes and shall be answered orally at the meeting or in writing within seven days.

Questions relating to matters on the agenda shall be asked when that matter is discussed and may be addressed to the Chairman or to an officer, who may answer orally or may undertake to provide a written reply within seven days.

The following question had been received at the time of agenda despatch:

1. **Paul Goggins** will ask the Executive Member, Robert Gordon, the following question:

*‘Will the Executive Member please explain why so many children with emotional and behavioural difficulties are being placed at Chessbrook Education Support Centre when there are so many unfilled places at nearby EBD Units? Is he aware of the inordinate stress this is inflicting on the ESC?’*

All reports are reports of the Director of Children, Schools and Families unless stated otherwise.

**The following reports are attached to this agenda: -**

[The Executive Member for these items is Robert Gordon]

### **POLICY FRAMEWORK ISSUES**

1. **STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON ADMISSION RULES FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED NURSERY, INFANT JUNIOR AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS** *to follow*
2. **REVIEW OF ADMISSIONS RULES FOR COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOLS 2003/04** *to follow*

### **ONGOING SCRUTINY ITEMS**

3. **SCRUTINY OF SERVICES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES**
4. **CASUAL ADMISSIONS** *to follow*

### **POSSIBLE NEW SCRUTINY ITEMS**

5. **PROSECUTION OF PARENTS**  
Requested by Ivor Ambrose
6. **ACTIONS SUPPORTING TARGETS IN THE CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN** *to follow*  
Requested by David Billing
7. **THE SCHOOL PLACES PLANNING PROCESS** *to follow*  
Requested by David Billing
8. **REVIEW OF HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT** *to follow*  
Requested by Tanis Kent

**9. NORTON SECONDARY SCHOOL, LETCHWORTH**  
Requested by Tanis Kent

*to follow*

Local Members: Nigel Agar, Keith Emsall, Lorna Kercher

**ITEM FOR REPORT TO THE COUNCIL [SC.7(2)]**

At a committee meeting the Leader of the Opposition or a spokesman nominated by that Leader may require one identified item to be reported from that meeting to the Council.

**PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA**

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There are no items of Part II (Confidential) business on this agenda but if items are notified the Chairman will move: -

"That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) ... of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act."

**Please note that full papers have been despatched to Committee members only. All other members have been sent the front sheets of each report.**

**If you require a copy of any of the reports mentioned above or require further information about this agenda please contact Julia Harries, Committee Services, County Secretary's Department, on telephone no. (01992) 555563 or fax. 01992 555518**