# AT A MEETING of the Children and Young People Select Committee of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the castle, Winchester on Thursday 28th July 2022

## Chairman: p Councillor Neville Penman

p Councillor Juliet Henderson	a Councillor Zoe Huggins
a Councillor Prad Bains	p Councillor Gavin James
a Councillor Jackie Branson	a Councillor Lesley Meenaghan
p Councillor Ann Briggs	p Councillor Arun Mummalaneni
p Councillor Steven Broomfield	a Councillor Jackie Porter
p Councillor Tim Davies	p Councillor Jacky Tustain
a Councillor Christopher Donnelly	p Councillor Malcolm Wade
p Councillor David Drew	·

### Co-opted members

p Robert Sanders, Church of England Schools Representative a Gemma Rainger, Parent Governor Representative for Primary Schools a Kate Watson, Parent Governor Representative for Special Schools

#### 53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Branson, Donnelly, Huggins & Meenaghan. Councillor Pankhurst was in attendance as the Conservative Group Deputy. Councillor Burgess sent apologies as the second Conservative Group Deputy.

Apologies were also received from Councillor Porter, with Councillor Irish in attendance as the Liberal Democrat Group Deputy, and from Councillor Bains, with Councillor Tree in attendance as the Independent Group Deputy.

Also present was Councillor Chadd, Executive Lead Member for Children's Services, Councillor Hayre, Assistant to the Executive Lead Member and Councillor Glen, Chairman of the Policy & Resources Select Committee.

#### 54. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Personal interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

No declarations were made.

#### 55. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

It was noted that an update on the Home to School Transport Policy Public Consultation Outcomes item had been requested after a year, and that the work programme had been updated to reflect that.

#### 56. **DEPUTATIONS**

The Committee did not receive any deputations.

#### 57. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman did not make any announcements to the meeting.

# 58. HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY PUBLIC CONSULTATION OUTCOMES - CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO EXERCISE CALL-IN POWERS

The Select Committee received a report from the Monitoring Officer (item 6 in the minute book), which asked the committee to consider whether or not it should exercise its powers under Section 9F of Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000, referred to in the County Council's Constitution as 'Call-in'.

Members of the committee who supported the request for the committee to exercise the above powers provided their reasons for doing so. These centred around their views on the effect of the decision on Hampshire families experiencing vulnerabilities and the education of their young people.

In a presentation by officers, the committee heard that the department had a statutory duty to ensure that the needs of each child was considered when planning transport, and all cases would therefore be assessed against a number of criteria. Additionally, it was noted that the policy would be introduced incrementally to allow for these assessments to be completed and it was not expected that the changes would affect any but a small percentage of young people.

During debate it was established that the savings projected were an estimate based on the methodology shared in the report, but that efficiencies were the purpose of the changes, as demonstrated by other authorities which had already made similar alterations. It was also noted that an appeals process was in place, if families felt that a decision was not in line with the policy.

The Executive Lead Member for Children's Services thanked members of the committee for the interesting discussion on the policy.

Following this, each recommendation was proposed and voted on with the following outcome:

a)

In Favour 5 In Against 8

b)

In Favour 8 In Against 5

### **RESOLVED**

That Members of the Children and Young People Select Committee agreed that they should not recommend that the Executive Lead Member for Children Services re-considers their decisions as set out in the Decision Record attached at Appendix 1.

Chairman, Children and Young People Select Committee