



Walsall Council

Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee

29 January 2024 at 18.00

**Meeting Venue: Conference Room 2 at the Council House, Lichfield Street,
Walsall**

[Livestream Link](#)

Membership:

Councillor A. Hicken (Chair)
Councillor T. Jukes (Vice-Chair)
Councillor A. Garcha
Councillor L. Harrison
Councillor C. Horton
Councillor N. Latham
Councillor S. Nasreen
Councillor L. Rattigan
Councillor C. Statham
Councillor J. Whitehouse
Vacancy

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor S. Elson – Children's Services

Quorum:

Four Members

Democratic Services, The Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW
Contact name: Nikki Gough Telephone: 01922 654767 Email: nikki.gough@walsall.gov.uk
[Walsall Council Website](#)

**If you are disabled and require help to and from the meeting room,
please contact the person above**

The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012
Specified pecuniary interests

The pecuniary interests which are specified for the purposes of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 are the interests specified in the second column of the following:

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Regulations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority:</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to a member's knowledge):</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority;</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:</p> <p>(a) that body (to a member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either:</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)

Access to information: Exempt information

Part 1

Descriptions of exempt information: England

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
 - (a) to give any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
8. Information being disclosed during a meeting of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel when considering flood risk management functions which:
 - (a) Constitutes a trades secret;
 - (b) Its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the risk management authority);
 - (c) It was obtained by a risk management authority from any other person and its disclosure to the public by the risk management authority would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that other person.

Part 1 – Public Session

1. Apologies

2. Substitutions

To receive notice of any substitutions for a Member of the Committee for the duration of the meeting.

3. Minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2023.

(Enclosed – Pages 1 to 6)

4. Declarations of Interest

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended):

To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda.

6. Update on Draft Revenue Budget 2024/25 – 2027/28

To inform the Committee of the changes to the draft revenue budget 2024/25 – 2027/28 from what was previously reported to the Committee on 2 November 2023.

(Enclosed - Page 7 to 11)

7. Private Fostering

To provide an update to Scrutiny Board in respect of Private Fostering.

(Enclosed - Page 12 to 24)

8. Early Help Young Carers Service

To provide an updated overview of Walsall Young Carers.

(Enclosed - Page 25 to 33)

9. Recommendation Tracker

To review progress with recommendations from previous meetings.

(Enclosed – Page 34)

10. Areas of Focus 2023/24

To review the Committee Work Programme and the Forward Plans for Walsall Council and the Black Country Executive Committee

(Enclosed – Pages 35 to 46)

11. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be 29 January 2024.