

Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and Foreign Travel by Officers

10:30	Tuesday, 16 December 2014	Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex
--------------	--------------------------------------	---

Please note: This Committee will commence at the time shown above, or on the rise of the Cabinet meeting to be held that morning, whichever is the later.

Quorum: 3

Membership:

M Danvers
D Finch (Chairman)
M Mackrory
D Madden
S Walsh

For information about the meeting please ask for:

Judith Dignum, Committee Services Manager

Telephone: 033301 34579

Email: Judith.dignum@essex.gov.uk



Essex County Council

Essex County Council and Committees Information

All Council and Committee Meetings are held in public unless the business is exempt in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972.

Most meetings are held at County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. A map and directions to County Hall can be found at the following address on the Council's website:
<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Your-Council/Local-Government-Essex/Pages/Visit-County-Hall.aspx>

There is ramped access to the building for wheelchair users and people with mobility disabilities.

The Council Chamber and Committee Rooms are accessible by lift and are located on the first and second floors of County Hall.

If you have a need for documents in the following formats, large print, Braille, on disk or in alternative languages and easy read please contact the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place. If you have specific access requirements such as access to induction loops, a signer, level access or information in Braille please inform the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place. For any further information contact the Committee Officer.

Induction loop facilities are available in most Meeting Rooms. Specialist head sets are available from Duke Street and E Block Receptions.

The agenda is also available on the Essex County Council website, www.essex.gov.uk. From the Home Page, click on 'Your Council', then on 'Meetings and Agendas'. Finally, select the relevant committee from the calendar of meetings.

Please note that an audio recording may be made of the meeting – at the start of the meeting the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded.

Part 1

(During consideration of these items the meeting is likely to be open to the press and public)

		Pages
1	Apologies for Absence	
2	Minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2014	7 - 10
3	Declarations of Interest To note any declarations of interest to be made by Members	
4	Report of Action Taken Since Last Meeting - National Children and Adult Services Conference	11 - 12
5	National Children and Adult Services Conference: Feedback Report	13 - 22

6 Dates of Future Meetings

To agree that meetings of the Committee beyond May 2015 will be held on the following dates:

2015

Tuesday 23 June
Tuesday 21 July
Tuesday 22 September
Tuesday 20 October
Thursday 19 November
Tuesday 15 December

2016

Tuesday 19 January
Tuesday 16 February
Tuesday 22 March
Tuesday 19 April
Tuesday 17 May

All meetings will commence at 10.30am or on the rising of the Cabinet meeting to be held on the same day, whichever is the later.

Members are reminded that meetings for the remainder of the current Municipal Year have been scheduled on the following dates, again at 10.30am or on the rising of the Cabinet meeting to be held on the same day, whichever is the later:

Tuesdays 27 January, 17 February, 24 March, 21 April and 19 May 2015.

7 Date of Next Meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Committee will take place on Tuesday 27 January 2015 at 10.30am or on the rising of the Cabinet meeting to be held that same morning, whichever is the later.

8 Urgent Business

To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, Members are asked to decide whether, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

9

Urgent Exempt Business

To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and foreign travel by Officers held at County Hall, Chelmsford, at 11.10am on 21 October 2014

Present:

Councillor

David	Finch	Chairman
Michael	Danvers	
Theresa	Higgins	(substitute for Councillor Mike Mackrory)
Dick	Madden	
Simon	Walsh	

Councillors Eddie Johnson (Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Small Schemes Delivery) and John Jowers were also in attendance.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mike Mackrory, for whom Councillor Theresa Higgins substituted.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

Upon the motion of the Chairman, duly seconded, it was

Resolved

That Councillor Dick Madden be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the current Municipal Year.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Referring to minute 9 (Member and Officer attendance at the Local Government Association Annual Conference), and as requested at that meeting, the Chairman provided feedback following his attendance at the Local Government Association Conference in July, which he had found to be a valuable event.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Member Attendance at the ADEPT Conference

The Committee considered report FTC/08/14 by the Secretary to the Committee detailing an application for Members to attend the CCN

Conference in Marlow, Buckinghamshire from 16-18 November 2014 at an estimated total cost of £4,606.30.

In considering the application, Members noted the value to the Council of attendance at the Conference, particularly in terms of the opportunity to meet with senior leaders at other county councils and with senior government ministers.

Resolved:

That the attendance of Councillors David Finch, Leader of the Council, Kevin Bentley, Deputy Leader, Dick Madden, Cabinet Member for Families and Children, Mike Mackrory, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, and Julie Young, Leader of the Labour Group at the CNN Conference in Marlow, Buckinghamshire from 16-18 November 2014 at an estimated total cost of £4,606.30 be approved.

6. Member Attendance at Opening Event for Fort Duffel and Floodcom Final Conference

The Committee considered report FTC/09/14 by the Secretary to the Committee detailing an application for Sonia Davidson-Grant (currently acting Interim Executive Director for Place Commissioning) to attend the MARSS First Public Workshop to be held at Regent GMBH, Mertesdore, Germany on 6 October 2014 at an estimated cost of £450.

In response to a question from Councillor Mrs Higgins, Members noted that although Sonia Davidson-Grant was expected to attend the Workshop, an alternative nominee would be sought if required.

Resolved:

That the attendance of Sonia Davidson-Grant (acting Interim Executive Director for Place Commissioning), or alternative nominee, at the MARSS First Public Workshop to be held at Regent GMBH, Mertesdore, Germany on 6 October 2014 be approved.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The Committee noted that the next meeting would take place on **Thursday** 20 November 2014 at 10.30 or on the rising of the Cabinet meeting to be held that same morning, whichever was the later.

Secretary's note: this meeting was subsequently cancelled.

The meeting closed at 11:20.

Chairman

16 December 2014

Report to Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and Foreign Travel by Officers	FTC/17/14
Date of meeting: 16 December 2014	
Report of action taken since last meeting – Attendance at the National Children and Adult Services Conference	
Report by: Committee Services Manager	
Enquiries to: Judith Dignum, 03330 134579 / Judith.dignum@essex.gov.uk	

1. Purpose of the Report

To confirm action taken since the Committee's last meeting regarding Member and Officer attendance at the National Children and Adult Services Conference in Manchester between 29 and 31 October.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the arrangements for officer attendance at the National Children and Adult Services Conference in Manchester from 29 - 31 October be noted.
- 2.2 That the agreement between the Leader of the Council and the Executive Director, People Commissioning for combined Member and Officer attendance at the Conference in future years to be limited to a maximum of six be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1 Members may recall that, towards the end of October they were consulted by email on an application for a number of Members and Officers to attend the National Children and Adult Services Conference, due to take place in Manchester between 29 and 31 October.
- 3.2 Subsequently, it came to light that Member attendance at the Conference had already been considered by the Committee at its meeting on 24 June, when approval had been given for the attendance of Councillors D Madden, A Brown, R Gadsby and A Naylor.
- 3.3 Although the Committee's approval is not required with regard to officer attendance, this would normally have been reported as part of the Members' application, to allow the Committee to have the full picture in terms of Council

representation at the event. Unfortunately this had been overlooked on this occasion.

- 3.4 Although in this circumstance, there was no need for any further approval by the Committee, some concern was expressed about the level of proposed officer attendance. In response, Dave Hill, Executive Director, People Commissioning, advised that there were particular circumstances this year, in that ECC had bid for and had been accepted to deliver, a major presentation about the improvement journey and Ofsted outcome in the Children's service. This had led to the need for additional officer attendance. It was noted that three of the officers concerned would attend for the day only, thereby incurring no hotel accommodation costs.
- 3.5 Members are asked to note that, although it is important for ECC to have a presence at this key policy event, for future years, the Leader of the Council has agreed with Dave Hill that attendance will be limited to a combined total of no more than six officers and members. This position will be reflected in next year's application to the Committee.
- 3.6 In addition, the application form to the Committee is also being updated to clarify the need for officer attendance details to be included when approval for Member attendance is sought.
- 3.7 A report providing feedback following attendance at the Conference appears as the next item of business on this agenda.

Report to Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and Foreign Travel by Officers	FTC/18/14
Date of meeting: 16 December 2014	
Attendance at the National Children and Adult Services Conference - Feedback	
Report by: Councillor Dick Madden, Cabinet Member for Adults and Children in conjunction with: Councillor Anne Brown, Cabinet Member for Communities and Healthy Living Councillor Rikki Gadsby, Deputy to the Cabinet Member for Communities and Health Living Councillor Anne Naylor	
Enquiries to: Louise Crew, Cabinet Support Officer Telephone: 033301 38879 / email: louise.crew@essex.gov.uk	

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To provide feedback from Members and Officers following their attendance at the National Children and Adult Services Conference in October, as requested by the Committee when it approved the application in June of this year.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That the report be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. On 24 June, the Committee approved the attendance of four councillors at the National Children and Adult Services due to take place in Manchester from 29 – 31 October. The arrangements for officer attendance were also subsequently noted (see report at item 4 on the agenda for this meeting). As a condition of approval, the Committee requested that a feedback report be submitted to a future meeting, to include any learning points and suggestions as to how these could be taken forward in Essex.
- 3.2. The delegates who attended the Conference were:

Members

Councillors Dick Madden, Anne Brown, Rikki Gadsby and Ann Naylor

Officers

Dave Hill, Sheila Norris, Helen Lincoln, James Bullion, Nick Presmeg, Barbara Herts

- 3.3. This report is based on input from all delegates.

4. The Conference

- 4.1. The Conference consisted of daily plenary, sub-plenary, and innovation sessions. These plenary sessions consisted of Government Ministers and Opposition Party Spokespersons giving speeches and then answering questions regarding the topics of Children's Services, Adults Operations, and Health Services. An example of this was Jeremy Hunt MP and Eric Pickles MP who spoke on health and community engagement. A copy of the Conference Schedule at a Glance is attached as an appendix to this report.
- 4.2. An example of a sub-plenary session was entitled 'A Guide to Getting Ready for the Implementation of the Care Act 2015-16', and also 'Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation'.
- 4.3. Councillor Madden is proud to state that an example of an innovation session was a presentation by Essex County Council entitled 'Relationship based social work practice – Delivering change and driving improvement for children and families at lower cost'. Another example was 'How to integrate health and social care'.
- 4.4. In more detail, Councillor Madden can confirm he attended a session regarding Improvement through Ofsted Inspection, which was presented by the Deputy Director of Ofsted, Debbie Jones, who made delegates aware of up to date intelligence on Ofsted Inspections throughout England and Wales, and proposals to widen Ofsted Children's Services Inspections into more of a multi-agency inspection.
- 4.5. Councillor Madden commented that, interestingly, Children's Services who had been either assessed as inadequate or requiring improvement were vocal in criticism of Ofsted's New Inspection Framework, however, Councillor Madden recognised and spoke openly in support of Ofsted, stating irrespective of outcomes, nationally Children's Services must have an inspection framework and requested that the Deputy Director emphasised to Sir Michael Wilshire, Chief Inspector of Ofsted, that the progress of multi-agency inspections be accelerated and not wait a further 12 months.
- 4.6. Councillor Madden also attended a presentation by Greater Manchester Police and the National Policing College on 'Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation'. It is fair to say that Councillor Madden did not learn anything new in relation to this but he did note that there was no open discussion of the fact that all convicted CSE cases in England and Wales to date, other than one, involved perpetrators being young Asian men. He is unclear as to the reasons for this.

- 4.7. At the end of the first day Members attended a Conservative Party Group meeting where opportunity was given for all Members to debate national policy matters, in particular health.
- 4.8. On the second day of the conference, Councillor Madden attended a presentation by the organisation Wave Trust, which is exploring a preventative approach to creating a large scale reduction in levels of child abuse, neglect and domestic abuse.
- 4.9. He considered that this was, in effect, a sales package to health and local authorities on an academic theory in reducing levels of reported abuse etc. In his view, the sample presented was very small and statistically not of a level that would warrant support from local authorities.
- 4.10. Later on the same day, probably the best received of all presentations throughout the conference was a workshop presented by Essex County Council Children's Social Care regarding the improvement journey of Essex Children's Services over the last 3 years.
- 4.11. Many delegates could not get into the presentation due to popularity and unfortunately had to be turned away. The presentation given by Helen Lincoln and supported by her officers was very open and honest about the Council's journey and most certainly well received by local authorities throughout England and Wales who were represented in the hall.
- 4.12. All Members attended a joint speech as indicated above by Jeremy Hunt MP, Secretary of State for Health and Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Planning.
- 4.13. Later in the afternoon Councillor Madden attended a debate on Political Leadership in Challenging Times which, though it had some interest, the main thrust of the debate was around devolution of powers from central government to local government. The debate continues!
- 4.14. On the evening of the second day, Members went to a dinner arranged by the LGA which gave them the opportunity to meet other local authorities. They shared a table with representatives from Norfolk, Hertfordshire and Sandwell, West Midlands. To summarise the evening dialogue has commenced regarding Children's Services sharing information with all three authorities.
- 4.15. On the final day of the conference Councillor Madden attended a breakfast meeting with representatives of charities who provide management of Children's Centres in Essex.
- 4.16. In addition, all Members attended the speech of Edward Timpson MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families, who spoke about fostering and adoption, and a national innovation fund he had launched at the previous conference a year ago. Following the presentation, Councillor

Madden along with other lead Members for Children's Services met privately with Mr Timpson.

4.17. Councillor Ann Naylor concentrated on the sessions listed below, which included the Better Care Fund (BCF), and she was impressed by the Royal College of GPs and College of Social Work - House of Care Model and a session on Integrated Care and the BCF.

- Dame Kate Barker presented her Commission - a New Settlement for Social Care & Health.
- The Better Care Technology Session included a presentation from the London Borough of Havering, which would be worth a visit.
- Nicky Morgan was impressive in her new role as Education Minister.

4.18. Councillor Naylor commented that it was a great pleasure to attend and support Helen Lincoln and her team who gave an excellent interactive presentation on the ECC Methodology for Children's Services.

4.19. Councillor Anne Brown, dealing in particular with the Adults portfolio, has listed below matters she identified and will bring back to Essex.

- Deprivation of Liberty needs joint approach quickly
- There is a greater need for good Peer Reviews between local authorities
- Care staff deficiencies were flagged and there will be a 29% shortfall in numbers by 2020
- Better support for Care Homes was flagged up as a way to stop Acute Admissions

4.20. Councillor Brown also noted the following points made during sessions she attended:

David Pearson, Association of Directors of Adult Services (ADASS) President said

Need open book accounting with providers
In Scotland there was a 53% take up by Carers
Need for an End of Life Strategy

Kathy Roberts, talked about carers and providers

Need Advocacy service
Should understand Care Act – how do they get information?
Information sharing should be at local level

Claire Swinston talking about the Care Act

Doesn't agree that finding is OK for 2016/17
Expect deferred payments to be lower than thought

Self-funder payment information coming in later- response in December
Main material on line in December

Andrea Sutcliffe from CQC - 90% of Care Homes give variable care

Wednesday 29 October 2014

08.30	Registration and exhibition opening	
10.15 – 11.15	Plenary 1 – Official Opening ADASS President – David Pearson ADCS President – Alan Wood LGA Chair – Cllr David Sparks OBE	Auditorium
11.20 – 12.20	Sub Plenary Sessions x 3 – see page 23 Improvement through Inspection – Ofsted Effective services for people in mental health crisis - DoH A guide to getting ready for implementation of the Care Act 2015-16 – DoH	Charter 1 Exchange 8/9/10 Auditorium
12.30 – 13.15	Innovation Sessions x 6 – see pages 24 to 26	
13.15 – 14.15	Lunch	
14.15 – 15.15	Sub-Plenary Sessions x 3 – see page 27 Transitions – DoH Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation Integrated Care and the Better Care Fund – DoH	Charter 1 Auditorium Exchange 8/9/10
15.15 – 15.45	Refreshments	Exhibition
15.45 – 16.45	Plenary 2 – Andy Burnham and Tristram Hunt	Auditorium
16.45 17.45	Party Group Meetings Conservative Labour Liberal Democrat Independent ADASS	Auditorium Charter 1 Charter 2 Charter 3 Exchange 8/9/10
17.45 – 18.45	Civic Reception hosted by Manchester City Council	Exhibition
17.45 – 19.15	Evening Fringe meetings ADASS Associates meeting Alzheimer's – see page 28 Regional Chairs / Deputy Directors LGA Member Networking Session	Exchange 1 Exchange 2/3 Exchange 11 Charter 4

Thursday 30 October 2014

08.00 – 09.00	Breakfast meetings ADCS/ADASS Joint Policy Committee meeting (Closed) ADASS Personalisation Network (Closed) Department of Health – CAMHS Taskforce - see page 30 FutureGov – see page 30	Exchange 1 Charter 8 Exchange 2/3 Exchange 11
09.00 – 10.00	Policy Sessions x 6 – see pages 31 to 33	
10.00 – 10.30	Refreshments	Exhibition
10.35 – 11.35	Sub-Plenary x 3 - pages 34/35 Social Work Reform: progress, opportunities, challenges - DoH Commissioning for better outcomes - ADASS The Future of Education – LGA and ADCS	Charter 1 Auditorium Exchange 8/9/10
11.40 – 12.40	Innovation Sessions x 6 – see pages 36 to 39	
12.40 – 13.45	Lunch	Exhibition
13.45 – 14.45	*Plenary 3 –Joint Speech by Jeremy Hunt MP – Secretary of State for Health and Eric Pickles MP - Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government Chair: David Pearson (with Cllr Izzi Seccombe).	Auditorium (Overflow relay in Charter 4 and Exhibition)
14.45 – 15.15	Refreshments	Exhibition
15.15 – 16.00	*Plenary 4 – Nicky Morgan MP, Secretary of State for Education Chair: Alan Wood (with Cllr David Simmonds)	Auditorium (Overflow relay in Charter 4 and Exhibition)
16.00 – 17.00	Policy Sessions x 6 – see pages 40 to 42	
17.00 – 18.00	ADCS Meeting (Closed)	Charter 1
17.00 – 17.45	LGA Meeting with Lead Adult Members and Norman Lamb (Closed)	Charter 3
17.30 – 18.30	SCIE (Page 43) Safeguarding meeting (Closed) National Housing Federation (Page 43/44)	Exchange 11 Exchange 2/3 Central 8
17.00 – 18.30	Drinks Reception	Exhibition
19.00	Guardian Quiz	Artisan, Avenue North
19.00	LGA Councillors Dinner	Trafford Room, Midland Hotel

FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 2014

08.00 – 09.00	Department of Health – Care Act Advisory Surgery – see page 46	Exchange 2/3
09.00 – 10.00	Policy Sessions x 6 – see pages 47 to 49	
	FP1 Transforming transition – how to use the Children and Families Bill and the Care Bill to increase outcomes for young people and make better use of resources – Learning from the SEN pathfinders – Manchester City Council	Charter 2
	FP2 Learning from LGA Peer Challenges - LGA	Exchange 11
	FP3 Improving the mental health of looked after children – designing a system that improves wellbeing – NSPCC	Charter 4
	FP4 Early Years: 0 – 5 public health transfer and tackling disadvantage	Exchange 8/9/10
	FP5 A place I call home: beyond the scandal of Winterbourne View – DoH	Charter 3
	FP6 Implementing the Dilnot reforms to Adult Social care funding – DoH	Charter 1
10.00 – 10.30	Refreshments	Exhibition
10.30 – 11.30	Sub-Plenary Sessions x 2 – see page 50 CQC Ofsted	Exchange 8/9/10 Charter 1
11.35	Plenary 5 – Edward Timpson MP Chair: Alan Wood (with Cllr David Simmonds)	Auditorium
12.00	Break	
12.00	LGA Closed session for lead members with Edward Timpson	Charter 3
12.10	Plenary 6 – Norman Lamb MP Chair: Ray James (with Cllr Katie Hall)	Auditorium
12.45	Close and Lunch	

