

# Overview & Scrutiny

## Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission London Borough of Hackney

All Members of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Commission are requested to attend the meeting of the Commission to be held as follows.

**Date: Monday 12th July 2021 at 7.00pm**

**Venue: Council Chamber, Hackney Town Hall,  
Mare Street, London. E8 1EA**

The press and public are welcome to join this meeting remotely via the live link below:

<https://youtu.be/ubaly8vHPrU>

If you would like to attend in person you will need to give notice (to the clerk) and note the Covid-19 guidance provided below.

Clerk: Martin Bradford, Overview & Scrutiny Officer  
0208 356 3315/0775 9090040  
martin.bradford@hackney.gov.uk

**Ian Williams**  
Acting Chief Executive, London Borough of Hackney

<b>Council Members:</b>	<b>Cllr Sophie Conway</b>	<b>Cllr Margaret Gordon</b>
	<b>(Chair)</b>	<b>(Vice Chair)</b>
	<b>Cllr Humaira Garasia</b>	<b>Cllr Katie Hanson</b>
	<b>Cllr Anna Lynch</b>	<b>Cllr James Peters</b>
	<b>Cllr Caroline Selman</b>	<b>Cllr Anya Sizer</b>
	<b>Cllr Lynne Troughton</b>	<b>Cllr Sara Young</b>

**VACANT**      1 Labour  
                    1 Opposition

**Co-opted  
Members:**      Richard Brown, Justine McDonald, Shabnum Hassan,  
                         Steven Olalere, Jo Macleod, Salmah Kansara, Ernell  
                         Watson and Michael Lobenstein.

**Publication  
Date**            2nd July 2021

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## Agenda

	<b>Welcome and Introduction (19.00)</b>
1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>
2.	<b>Urgent Items / Order of Business</b>
3.	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>
4.	<b>Commissioning Independent SEND Provision (19.10)</b> At its meeting on May 11th 2021, the Commission received a report on SEND performance and financial recovery plan. In response to local concerns about independent SEND provision, it was agreed that a further follow-up report would be provided to allow the Commission to explore: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The nature of independent SEND provision and how such services are commissioned;</li><li>- The type of contracts issued to independent provision and how these are monitored and reviewed;</li><li>- The cost of independent SEND provision.</li></ul> Joe Wilson, Head of SEND Fran Cox, Head of High Needs and School Places Annie Gammon, Director of Education
5.	<b>Children &amp; Families Budget Monitoring (19.55)</b> Budget monitoring is a key element of the scrutiny function and the Commission monitors in-year spending on services for children and young people across respective Directorates.  The Children and Families Service budget outturn for the year to March 2021 is presented for review.  Naeem Ahmed, Director of Finance Children, Education, Adults, Health & Integration Diane Benjamin, Director of Children's Social Care
6.	<b>Action Plan in response to Ofsted Inspection (20.25)</b> Ofsted inspected the Children and Families Services in Hackney in November of 2019 where children's social care was adjudged to 'require improvement'.  Six areas were identified by Ofsted to need improvement: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The quality of information-sharing by partners and the quality of decision-making within strategy discussions.</li></ol>

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2. The assessment of the impact for children of living in neglectful environments to inform authoritative and child-centred practice.
3. The quality of assessment and planning for children subject to private fostering arrangements.
4. The timeliness and effectiveness of pre-proceedings work, including the quality of contingency planning.
5. The welfare of children who are missing education or who are home educated is safeguarded.
6. The effectiveness of management oversight by leaders and managers at all levels, including the effectiveness of oversight from child protection conference chairs.

In response to the inspection, the Children & Families Service drew up a Children's Social Care Action plan which was submitted to Ofsted for approval in March 2020. The Commission scrutinised progress against this action plan in November 2020.

Two reports are submitted as part of the ongoing scrutiny of the improvements required by the Ofsted inspection:

1. An update on the Children's Social Care Action Plan
2. Proposals to review the Unit Model of Social Work in Hackney

Diane Benjamin, Director of Children Social Care  
 Lisa Aldridge, Head of Safeguarding & Learning  
 Huw Bevan, Head of Family Intervention & Support Service

<b>7.</b>	<p><b>CYP Work Programme 2021/22 (21.10)</b>          To receive and update on the Commission's work programme.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the last meeting (21.20)</b>          To note and agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 14th June 2021.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Any other business (21.20)</b></p>
	<p><b>Meeting Close 21.20</b></p>

## Access and Information

### Covid 19 - Public Guidance for attendance

This guidance is intended to support members of the public who wish to attend meetings of the Council do so in a Covid-safe way.

## Introduction

All of the Council's buildings have been adapted to ensure that, so far as possible, they are a Covid-safe environment. However it is also important that individuals are taking appropriate action based on their personal circumstances and needs.

Attending a meeting can also increase the risk to yourself and others. You must think whether it is essential for you to attend. You should consider:

- Whether you can watch the meeting online - all Council meetings are being live-streamed.
- Whether you have specific health-related concerns that would put you at risk.

You can use the guidance below to assist you. You can also contact [governanceservices@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:governanceservices@hackney.gov.uk) if there are any specific questions you have after reading it.

## Public Attendance

The Town Hall is not presently open to the general public, and there is limited capacity within the meeting rooms. However, the High Court has ruled that where meetings are required to be 'open to the public' or 'held in public' then members of the public are entitled to have access by way of physical attendance at the meeting.

The Council will ensure that access by the public is in line with any Covid-19 restrictions that may be in force from time to time and also in line with public health advice.

Those members of the public who wish to observe a meeting are still encouraged to make use of the live-stream facility in the first instance. You can find the link on the agenda front sheet.

Members of the public who would ordinarily attend a meeting to ask a question, make a deputation or present a petition will be able to attend if they wish. They may also let the relevant committee support officer know that they would like the Chair of the meeting to ask the question, make the deputation or present the petition on their behalf (in line with current Constitutional arrangements).

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In the case of the Planning Sub-Committee, those wishing to make representations at the meeting should attend in person where possible.

**Regardless of why you want to attend a meeting, you will need to advise the relevant committee support officer of your intention in advance of the meeting date in order to support track and trace. You can find contact details for the committee support officer on the agenda front page.**

The committee support officer will be able to confirm whether the proposed attendance can be accommodated with the room capacities that exist to ensure that the meeting is covid-secure.

**As there will be a maximum capacity in each meeting room, priority will be given to those who are attending to participate in a meeting rather than observe.**

Members of the public who are attending a meeting for a specific purpose, rather than general observation, are encouraged to leave the meeting at the end of the item for which they are present. This is particularly important in the case of the Planning Sub-Committee, as it may have a number of items on the agenda involving public representation.

## Before attending the meeting

Please review the information below as this is important in minimising the risk for everyone.

**If you are experiencing covid symptoms, you should follow government guidance. Under no circumstances should you attend a meeting if you are experiencing covid symptoms.**

Anyone experiencing symptoms of Coronavirus is eligible to book a swab test to find out if they have the virus. You can register for a test after checking your symptoms [through the NHS website](#). If you do not have access to the internet, or have difficulty with the digital portals, you are able to call the 119 service to book a test.

If you are an essential worker and you are experiencing Coronavirus symptoms, you can apply for priority testing through GOV.UK by following the [guidance for essential workers](#). You can also get tested through this route if you have symptoms of coronavirus and live with an essential worker.

Availability of home testing in the case of people with symptoms is limited, so please use testing centres where you can.

**Even if you are not experiencing covid symptoms, you are requested to take an asymptomatic test (lateral flow test) in the 24 hours before attending the meeting.**

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You can take a test by visiting a lateral flow test centre; [ordering a lateral flow kit to be sent to your home](#); or picking up a kit from designated collection points. You can find details of the rapid testing sites in Hackney [here](#). You can find your nearest collection point [here](#).

You must not attend a lateral flow test site if you have Coronavirus symptoms; rather you must book a test appointment at your nearest walk-through or drive-through centre.

Lateral flow tests take around 30 minutes to deliver a result, so please factor the time it will take to administer the test and then wait for the result when deciding when to take the test.

If your lateral flow test returns a positive result then you must follow Government guidance; self-isolate and make arrangements for a PCR test. Under no circumstances should you attend the meeting.

## Attending the Town Hall for meetings

To make our buildings Covid-safe, it is very important that you observe the rules and guidance on social distancing, one-way systems, hand washing, and the wearing of masks (unless you are exempt from doing so). You must follow all the signage and measures that have been put in place. They are there to keep you and others safe.

To minimise risk, we ask that you arrive at the Town Hall no more than ten minutes before the meeting is scheduled to commence. You will be invited into the meeting room five minutes before the meeting starts.

You should enter the Town Hall via the front entrance. You will be required to sign in and have your temperature checked as you enter the building. Security will direct you to the Council Chamber or Committee Room as appropriate.

Seats will be allocated, and you must remain in the seat that has been allocated to you.

It is recommended that you bring a bottle of water with you.

If you are attending the meeting for a specific item on the agenda then we ask that you leave the meeting and the building once that item has been concluded.

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## Getting to the Town Hall

For a map of how to find the Town Hall, please visit the council's website <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/contact-us.htm> or contact the Overview and Scrutiny Officer using the details provided on the front cover of this agenda.

## Accessibility

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall.

Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

## Further Information about the Commission

If you would like any more information about the Scrutiny Commission, including the membership details, meeting dates and previous reviews, please visit the website or use this QR Code (accessible via phone or tablet 'app') <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/individual-scrutiny-commissions-health-in-hackney.htm>



## Public Involvement and Recording

Scrutiny meetings are held in public, rather than being public meetings. This means that whilst residents and press are welcome to attend, they can only ask questions at the discretion of the Chair. For further information relating to public access to information, please see Part 4 of the council's constitution, available at <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/l-gm-constitution.htm> or by contacting Governance Services (020 8356 3503)

### Rights of Press and Public to Report on Meetings

Where a meeting of the Council and its committees are open to the public, the press and public are welcome to report on meetings of the Council and its committees, through any audio, visual or written methods and may use digital and social media providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting and providing that the person reporting or providing the commentary is present at the meeting.

Those wishing to film, photograph or audio record a meeting are asked to notify the Council's Monitoring Officer by noon on the day of the meeting, if

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possible, or any time prior to the start of the meeting or notify the Chair at the start of the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer, or the Chair of the meeting, may designate a set area from which all recording must take place at a meeting.

The Council will endeavour to provide reasonable space and seating to view, hear and record the meeting. If those intending to record a meeting require any other reasonable facilities, notice should be given to the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and will only be provided if practicable to do so.

The Chair shall have discretion to regulate the behaviour of all those present recording a meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting. Anyone acting in a disruptive manner may be required by the Chair to cease recording or may be excluded from the meeting. Disruptive behaviour may include: moving from any designated recording area; causing excessive noise; intrusive lighting; interrupting the meeting; or filming members of the public who have asked not to be filmed.

All those visually recording a meeting are requested to only focus on recording councillors, officers and the public who are directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will ask any members of the public present if they have objections to being visually recorded. Those visually recording a meeting are asked to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed or photographed. Failure by someone recording a meeting to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing them to cease recording or in their exclusion from the meeting.

If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then in order to consider confidential or exempt information, all recording must cease and all recording equipment must be removed from the meeting room. The press and public are not permitted to use any means which might enable them to see or hear the proceedings whilst they are excluded from a meeting and confidential or exempt information is under consideration.

Providing oral commentary during a meeting is not permitted.