

CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2025 AT 6.30 PM
COMMITTEE ROOM 2, TOWN HALL, JUDD STREET, LONDON WC1H 9JE

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MEMBERS

Councillor Lotis Bautista (Chair) (L)
Councillors Matt Cooper (L), Julian Fulbrook (L), Jenny Headlam-Wells (L), Patricia Leman (L), Sylvia McNamara (L), Tom Simon (LD) and Nanouche Umeadi (L)
Co-opted Members Camden Youth Council representative, Margaret Harvey, Sarah Jafri and Dr Rachel Wrangham

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillors Linda Chung (LD), Tommy Gale (L), Samata Khatoon (L), Izzy Lenga (L), Jenny Mulholland (L), Nazma Rahman (L) and James Slater (L)

L = Labour, LD = Liberal Democrat, C = Conservative

Issued on: Friday, 14 February 2025

CAMDEN TOWN HALL FIRE/EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, leave the building quickly and calmly by the nearest available exit. Do not stop to collect personal belongings. Fire exit doors are clearly marked and lead via the staircases to Judd Street or Euston Road.

Do not use the lifts. If you are a wheelchair user or have a mobility problem which prevents you from using the staircases, please proceed to the lift lobby area where you will be evacuated from the building.

Do not wait immediately outside the building – proceed to Bidborough Street (outside the Openreach building) and await further instructions.

MEETINGS IN CAMDEN

Agendas for public meetings are available in advance on the Council's website at www.camden.gov.uk. If you are interested in a particular item being considered at a meeting and you wish to speak (called making a deputation), please write to the Committee Officer listed on the front of the agenda. The deadline for deputation requests for this meeting is **5pm on Thursday, 20 February 2025**. If your deputation request is accepted, the option to make your deputation remotely via Microsoft Teams will be available.

The Council is allowed to discuss some items in private, although this does not happen often – any such items will be discussed at the end of the meeting and you will be asked to leave at this point. Any members of the public joining the meeting remotely will also be asked to leave.

Members of the public have a right to film, record or photograph public meetings for reporting purposes. This does not apply to any of the Council's meetings which are private or not open to the public. Laws on public order offences and defamation still apply, and you should exercise your rights with responsibility. Please respect the views of others when reporting from a meeting. You may be asked to stop filming, photographing or recording a meeting if the Chair feels that the activity is disrupting the meeting.

This meeting will be webcast and can be watched live or viewed for twelve months afterwards at www.camden.gov.uk/webcast. If you are attending a meeting but do not wish to appear on the webcast you are advised to sit in the public gallery.

If you have any views or questions about meetings at Camden Council please call Committee Services on 020 7974 1915.

Gender inclusive minutes: Camden seeks to write the minutes of its committees in a way that does not misgender individuals. If you are contributing to the meeting and you wish to let us know what your pronouns are, please contact the Committee Officer named on the front of this agenda. Otherwise, we will use job titles, full names or neutral terminology. We will not assume gender.

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting will be broadcast live by the Council via www.camden.gov.uk/webcast. The whole of the meeting will be filmed and recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items, and the footage will be on the Internet for at least a year. A copy of it will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy.

If you make a representation to the meeting you will be deemed by the Council to have consented to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

The Council is obliged by law to allow members of the public to take their own recordings and images of this remote meeting. The Council will only seek to prevent this should it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

The Council has a privacy notice and further details that you can see at www.camden.gov.uk/privacy. We also have a privacy notice that explains our use of webcasting data that you can see at www.camden.gov.uk/data-protection-privacy-and-cookies#webcasting

If you have any queries regarding webcasting or the recording of meetings by the public, please contact the webcasting co-ordinator on 020 7974 5653.

CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

24 FEBRUARY 2025

THERE ARE NO PRIVATE REPORTS

AGENDA

Wards

- 1. APOLOGIES**

- 2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF STATUTORY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, COMPULSORY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND VOLUNTARY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA**

- 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)**

Broadcast of the meeting

The Chair to announce the following: 'In addition to the rights by law that the public and press have to record this meeting, I would like to remind everyone that this meeting is being broadcast live by the Council to the Internet and can be viewed on our website for twelve months after the meeting. After that time, webcasts are archived and can be made available upon request.

If you have asked to address the meeting, you are deemed to be consenting to having your contributions recorded and broadcast, including video when switched on, and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes'.

Any Other Announcements

- 4. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)**

Requests to speak at the Committee on a matter within its terms of reference must be made in writing to the clerk named on the front of this agenda by 5pm two working days before the meeting.

- 5. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT**

- 6. MINUTES**
- To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 14 January 2025. (Pages 9 - 20)
- 7. UPDATE OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR BEST START FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES** All Wards
- Report of the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families. (Pages 21 - 24)
- This report provides the Committee with an update relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families.
- 8. UPDATE OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS, YOUNG PEOPLE & CULTURE** All Wards
- Report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Jobs, Young People and Culture. (Pages 25 - 28)
- This report provides the Committee with an update relating to the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Jobs, Young People and Culture.
- 9. SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT & STANDARDS REPORT 2023-24** All Wards
- Report of the Chief Executive Officer, Camden Learning. (Pages 29 - 104)
- This report provides the committee with an overview and analysis of Camden school performance. It contains an analysis of overall published school outcomes from the academic year 2023-24 in Early Years, the Year 1 Phonics check, Key Stage (KS) 2, KS4 and KS5 alongside other key performance indicators including Ofsted inspection outcomes, attendance, and suspensions data. Three-year trends alongside ranking against local and national averages are given where known. Due to the impact of the pandemic on assessment, the three-year trends cover 2019, 2023 and 2024, so they are more comparable. In 2023 Ofqual confirmed a return to pre-pandemic grading with an allowance for disruption so that overall results would be similar to those of 2019. There are no KS1 to KS2 progress scores this year or next due to the cancellation of statutory testing in 2020. KS1 assessments are no longer statutory so not represented in this report. Data at Key Stage 4 and 5 is still provisional, and final data will not be available until late February 2025 however significant changes are not anticipated.

10. CAMDEN'S SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) STRATEGY YEAR 2 PROGRESS REPORT **All Wards**

(Pages 105 - 152)

Report of the Director of Education Commissioning and Inclusion.

Camden's Local Area SEND Strategy was published in November 2022. As part of the delivery of this strategy we publish annual progress reports outlining the work that we have done to deliver the commitments in the strategy. The attached report provides detail of the work that has taken place during 2024.

During the last year, we have made significant progress in the delivery of the ambitions of the strategy, including increased investment in a number of areas. This is the second year of delivery of our five-year strategy and the scale of the ambition of the reform we are undertaking means that there is still considerable work to do. We will also be publishing our implementation plan setting out planned activity up to 2027, the end of the strategy period.

11. CABINET MEMBER FOR BEST START FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' RESPONSE ON THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CHILDREN SEND PROVISION IN CAMDEN **All Wards**

(Pages 153 - 170)

Report of the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families.

In October 2024, the Children, Schools and Families Scrutiny Committee was presented with the final report of the SEND Provision Scrutiny Panel, which investigated the effectiveness of provision for meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND in Camden. The Scrutiny Panel was made up of elected members and co-opted members from the Committee. The Committee requested that the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families prepare a response to the Scrutiny Panel's recommendations from the investigation and to report back to the Committee.

The findings of this investigation revealed that there were areas where provision was not meeting families' needs and expectations. They found that many of the issues faced locally are national and driven by insufficient resource and increases in demand and need. The report recognised that Camden has worked creatively within its budget but that there is still work to be done to improve local provision. The report made recommendations to improve practice on a local level as well as recommendations for changes that are needed national. This report contains the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families' response to these recommendations.

The Scrutiny Panel's investigation was gratefully received. Officers have been drawing on the evidence in the report to shape our local area partnership SEND strategy implementation plan and our priorities. The majority of the recommendations are agreed upon and included in our work plans.

12. CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER 2024/25

(Pages 171 -
180)

Report of the Executive Director Children and Learning.

This report provides an outline of the 2024-25 work programme (Appendix 1), the 2025-2026 provisional work programme (Appendix 2), and an update on actions requested at previous meetings (Appendix 3).

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE MEETING DATES

The Committee is asked to note the provisional meeting dates for the 2025/26 municipal year, with all meetings scheduled to start at 6.30 pm:

- Tuesday, 15 July 2025
- Tuesday, 16 September 2025
- Monday, 10 November 2025
- Tuesday, 9 December 2025
- Tuesday, 13 January 2026
- Monday, 23 February 2026

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECIDES TO CONSIDER AS URGENT

AGENDA ENDS