

# PLEASE NOTE VENUE

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2007

at 4.00 pm

in Owton Manor Community Centre,  
Wynyard Road, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

Councillors S Cook, Coward, Fleet, Griffin, A E Lilley, London, Plant, Preece, Shaw,  
Simmons and Worthy

Co-opted Members:

Elizabeth Barraclough, David Relton and Jesse Smith

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge, Evelyn Leck and Michael Ward

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

3. **MINUTES**

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

4. **RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE  
COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM**

No items.

# PLEASE NOTE VENUE

## 5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

No items.

## 6. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

No items.

## 7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 The Role of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

7.2 Determining the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Work Programme for 2007/08 – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

7.3 Appointments to Outside Bodies – Assistant Chief Executive

## 8. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

### ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

i) Date of Next Meeting Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 commencing at 4.00pm at Owton Manor Community Centre, Wynyard Road, Hartlepool.

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

## MINUTES

16<sup>th</sup> April 2007

The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm in Owton Manor Community Centre,  
Wynyard Road, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor: Jane Shaw (In the Chair)

Councillors: Jonathan Brash, Mary Fleet, Sheila Griffin, Pauline Laffey, Frances London and Arthur Preece

Co-opted Members:

Elizabeth Barraclough

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge and Evelyn Leck

Young People Representatives:

Kelly Goulding and Gillian Pounder

Also Present: Pamela Hargreaves, Portfolio Holder for Children's Services  
Beth Hawkrige, Barnardos

Officers: Sue Johnson, Assistant Director, Children's Services Department  
John Robinson, Children's Fund Manager  
Deborah Gibbin, Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator  
Sandra Saint, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator  
Geraldine Chapman, Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator  
Gillian Richmond, Gender Achievement Co-ordinator  
Jonathan Wistow, Scrutiny Support Officer  
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **95. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Shaun Cook, Maureen Waller and David Young and from Reverend Jesse Smith.

### **96. Declarations of interest by Members**

None.

**97. Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> February and 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

Confirmed.

**98. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Final Reports of this Forum**

None.

**99. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee**

None.

**100. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents**

None.

**101. Draft Final Report – Scrutiny Investigation into the Provision of Sex and Relationship (SRE) in Hartlepool Schools** (*Children's Services Scrutiny Forum*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer submitted the Draft Final Report of this Forum following their enquiry into Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) in Hartlepool Schools.

During this inquiry the Forum:

- Received detailed officer reports supplemented by verbal evidence
- Received evidence from the Authority's Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
- Received a questionnaire produced by the young people co-opted onto the Forum
- Held a Focus Group Session with Year 10 students and teachers with responsibility for SRE, from schools across Hartlepool to obtain first hand views on the provision of SRE in Hartlepool
- Attended a delivery of an SRE class to the Forum to illustrate the ways in which it was provided within Hartlepool schools
- Received further evidence from:
  - South Tyneside Council
  - United Kingdom Youth Parliament (UKYP) on their work in relation to SRE provision nationally
  - Regional Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator

Regional Health Schools Co-ordinator.  
B76/Barnardos  
SureStart  
Youth Service  
School Nursing Service  
Relate  
PATCH (Parent and Toddler Care in Hartlepool)  
Teesside Positive Action  
The local community

It had been suggested during the inquiry that the name be changed from Sex and Relationship Education in schools. Members felt that Hartlepool Young Voices and the Youth Parliament be asked to submit some suggestions. The Scrutiny Support Officer indicated that this could then be incorporated within the Closing the Loop report.

Members were very impressed by the progress the Authority was already making with sex and relationship education in schools and felt that the recommendations from this report would help enhance this and empower young people. It was requested that an acknowledgement of the young people involved in the inquiry be included within the report.

### **Decision**

Members agreed the content of the submitted Draft Final Report subject to the above comments being incorporated, which would then be considered by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2007 and Cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2007.

## **102. Joint Area Review (JAR) of Services for Children and Young People** (*Director of Children's Services*)

The Assistant Director of Children's Services gave a comprehensive and detailed presentation to Members which outlined the results of the Joint Area Review of Services for Children and Young People. The results of the Review were published on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2007 and were provided to Members and a verbal update given at Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007. Attached by way of Appendix were the outcomes of the Review, a summary report and an inspection report of the Youth Service which was carried out at the time of the JAR.

In response to a question, the Assistant Director indicated that an action plan was to be implemented as a result of the JAR which would include examination of the development of courses and raising aspirations for young people with special educational needs.

**Decision**

Members noted the results of the Joint Area Review.

**103. Portfolio Holder's response to the Final Report:  
Raising Boys' Achievement – Bridging the Gender  
Gap** (*Joint Report of Director of Children's Services and the Portfolio  
Holder for Children's Services*)

The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services presented a report which included feedback from Cabinet on the recommendations made from the investigation into Raising Boys' Achievement – Bridging the Gender Gap. Cabinet considered the Final Report on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007 and approved the recommendations in their entirety.

Details of each recommendation and proposed actions to be taken following approval by Cabinet were provided in the Action Plan attached by way of Appendix.

**Decision**

Members noted the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plan.

JANE SHAW

CHAIRMAN

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

11 JUNE 2007



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** THE ROLE OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
SCRUTINY FORUM

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## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To give an overview of the role and functions of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council's approach to Overview and Scrutiny has been informed by government guidance, best practice nationally and experience of what works locally to ensure that the Scrutiny Forum's operate in an optimum scrutiny structure that will enable the Forums to add value and improve services for the residents of Hartlepool.
- 2.2 The role of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is briefly discussed in the following section. Following this in Section 4, there is a more detailed description of the roles and functions of this forum.

## 3. ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is made up of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the four standing Forums and a further two Members from each Forum. This approach enables the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to draw on the experience of a variety of Members, represent a cross-section of political views and equally represent each of the four standing Forums. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is responsible for the overall management of Overview and Scrutiny within the Authority. Other authorities' experience of scrutiny appears to have benefited from the establishment of such a body. Given the increasing importance of the scrutiny role under the new arrangements and the likely increase in workload of the scrutiny function the

role of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is invaluable. The main roles and functions of the committee are as follows:-

- i) To work with the four Forums to decide an annual Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, including the programme of any ad-hoc forum that it appoints, to ensure that there is efficient use of the forums and that the potential for duplication of effort is minimised.
- ii) To lead the involvement of Overview and Scrutiny in the development of the budget and the plans and strategies that make up the policy framework and to delegate issues for consideration to the Forums.
- iii) Where matters fall within the remit of more than one Overview and Scrutiny Forum, to determine which of them will assume responsibility for any particular issue and to resolve any issues of dispute between overview and scrutiny Forums.
- iv) To receive requests from members, the Executive and/or the Full Council for items to be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Forums and to allocate them, if appropriate to one or more Overview and Scrutiny Forum.
- v) To put in place and maintain a system to ensure reports from Overview and Scrutiny to the Executive are managed efficiently and do not exceed any limits set out in the Constitution (this includes making decisions about the priority of reports, if the volume of such reports creates difficulty for the management of Executive business or jeopardises the efficient running of the Council business).
- vi) To exercise the power of call-in in relation to Executive decisions made as set out in Section 21 (3) of the Local Government Act 2000, or allocate them to the appropriate overview and scrutiny forum for consideration.

#### **4. FUNCTIONS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FORUMS**

4.1 The four standing Overview and Scrutiny Forums have three main functions and these are set out in the following paragraphs:

(a) Policy Development and Review.

Overview and Scrutiny Forums may:

- (i) Assist the Council and the Executive in the development of the budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- (ii) Conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
- (iii) Consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;



- (iv) Question members of the Executive and Chief Officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area;
  - (v) Liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working
- (b) Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny Forums may:

- (i) Review and scrutinise the decisions of the Executive and Chief Officers both in relation to individual decisions and their overall strategic direction.
- (ii) Review and scrutinise the work of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas.
- (iii) Question members of the Executive and Chief Officers about their decisions, whether generally in comparison with the service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects.
- (iv) Review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area, requesting them to attend and address relevant scrutiny forums to speak about their activities and performance;
- (v) Investigate other issues of local concern, outside the control of the Council and other public bodies in the area, and make recommendations to the Council, the Executive and/or other organisations arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.
- (vi) Question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent)
- (vii) Make recommendations to the executive and/or the council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.

(c) Finance

Overview and Scrutiny Committees may exercise overall responsibility for the finances made available to them. This presently consists of a dedicated overview and scrutiny budget of 50k. Applications for funding must be made through Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.

## **5. THE REMIT OF THIS FORUM**

- 5.1 The strategic direction of the Scrutiny Forums will be to assess, monitor and advise on the Council's progress towards the 7 priority aims of the Community Strategy whilst the operational direction of the individual Scrutiny Forums will be governed by the remits outlined in the Constitution.

The remit of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum is as follows:-

To consider issues relating to specialist (intervention), targeted (prevention) and universal services for children and young people.

- 5.2 There will be, however, from time to time, issues that could be considered by more than one Forum and it will be for the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to determine which forum should examine a particular issue. It is also open to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to appoint ad hoc forums. For example, where an issue comes within the remit of two scrutiny forums, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee could decide to establish an ad hoc forum made up of four Members from each of those two Forums.

## **6. SCHEDULE OF FORUM DATES FOR 2007/08**

- 6.1 Detailed below, for Members information, are the scheduled dates for meetings of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in 2007/08. Please note that all scheduled meetings will commence at 4.00pm, in various venues across the town, with the capacity for additional meetings to be arranged where required to accommodate the needs of individual inquiries.

Monday 16 July 2007

Monday 20 August 2007

Monday 1 October 2007

## **7. CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 No specific action is required as a result of this report, however Members may have questions about the role of the Forum.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- i) Hartlepool Borough Council Constitution.

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# CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

11 June 2007



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** DETERMINING THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM'S WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2007/08

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## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum with a range of information, extracted from various sources to assist in the consideration of suitable topics for inclusion into the Forum's Work Programme for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

## 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum needs to develop a Work Programme for the 2007/08 Municipal Year, together with a timeframe for each review, for consideration by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 29 June 2007. Detailed terms of reference should be developed at the start of each review.
- 2.2 As such the Director of Children's Services; the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services; Local Area Agreement Reward Element Targets (Also known as LPSA2); Corporate Plan (BVPP); and the Viewpoint Surveys have been the foundation sources for this report to enable the Forum to compile its Work Programme.
- 2.3 However, it should be appreciated that some of the areas detailed below are continually evolving and further details will emerge throughout the year.
- 2.4 In addition to establishing the Forum's Work Programme, the Forum may consider it appropriate to receive illustrations from service departments in relation to impending legislation and to respond on an ad hoc basis to emerging issues which would be considered appropriate for an investigation or review to be undertaken.

TOPIC	Director, Elected Mayor and Cabinet Member	Member(s)	Referrals	Viewpoint Survey May 2006 to January 2007
<p>Access to recreation facilities for young people in Hartlepool</p> <p>(Issue: Examination of the provision of recreation facilities for young people in Hartlepool, looking at issues around access and costs)</p>	X			
<p>Extended Schools</p> <p>(Issue: Examination of the role and meaning of 'Extended Schools' including the implications for sustainability and Accountability of Community Usage)</p> <p><i>* Issue originally referred from the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum. Subsequently referred by Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to this Forum for consideration as a 2007/8 Work Programme item. Consideration discretionary.</i></p>			X	
<p>Foster Caring (Viewpoint 19 - May 2006)</p> <p>(Issue: Viewpoint members were asked what they thought of foster caring, whether they had seen any recent advertising and their views on what would encourage people to become foster carers)</p>				X

2.5 In setting the Work Programme for 2007/08 consideration also needs to be given to Budget and Policy Framework documents which the Forum will need

to consider throughout the year and the following 6 Monthly Progress Review reports.

<b>6 MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON COMPLETED REVIEWS</b>	<b>To be considered by the Forum</b>
Raising Boys' Achievement – Bridging the Gender Gap	October 2007
Provision of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) in Hartlepool Schools	January 2008

<b>BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS</b>	<b>Estimated timetable for consideration by the Forum</b>
Children and Young Person's Plan	October 2007

2.6 Having considered the above information together with individual Members' identified topics for inclusion into the Work Programme, the Forum may wish to discuss various aspects contained within the Corporate Plan 2007/08 to raise potential areas for consideration. They could range from areas already identified as suitable for development through commitments or areas where the specific performance is below the targeted level. For this purpose, **Appendices A and B** detail the relevant Sections of the Corporate Plan for the Forum's consideration as outlined below:-

**Appendix A** – Council's Priority Contributions to Community Strategy Themes: 'Jobs and the Economy'; 'Lifelong Learning and Skills'; 'Health and Care'; 'Community Safety'; and 'Strengthening Communities';

**Appendix B** - Performance Indicator Table: 'Jobs and the Economy'; 'Lifelong Learning and Skills'; 'Health and Care'; 'Community Safety'; and 'Strengthening Communities';

**Appendix C** – Local Area Agreement Reward Element Targets (Also known as LPSA2)

2.7 The Forum may also wish to apply a degree of emphasis on a particular source for example, would the Forum consider issues which are clearly raised as a concern by the public to carry more weight than those considered important by the service provider? In practice the Forum will need to apply a considered opinion from all sources against the individual subject area.

- 2.8 Once the Forum has identified Scrutiny topics, anticipated time frames need to be applied. It is suggested to the Forum that a standard template for applying time allocations should be treated with caution as when scoping a subject a number of complexities may arise, therefore the anticipated duration should be allocated to the subjects on an individual basis.
- 2.9 The Forum is also advised to be cautious in setting an overly ambitious Work Programme for which it may be unable to deliver.
- 2.10 In addition to the above, the Forum may also consider establishing some small Sub-Groups, known as Working Groups to look at sharp focused areas of supplementary aspects of the main topic being scrutinised.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum is requested to consider the wide range of information detailed within this report to assist in the determination of its 2007/08 Work Programme, to be approved by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on 29 June 2007. Members may want to choose a maximum of two items for the coming year, which will allow for flexibility in its work programme for emerging issues and referrals Council/Cabinet.

**Contact Officer:-** Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Support Officer  
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy  
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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Corporate Plan for 2007/08
- (ii) Community Strategy
- (iii) Viewpoint Survey – May 2006 to January 2007

## **Corporate Plan Action Plan 2007/08 – Community Strategy Themes / Council Priorities**

This Forum's remit covers Actions under the following Community Strategy Themes / Council Priority areas:

- Jobs and the Economy;
- Lifelong Learning and Skills;
- Health and Care;
- Community Safety; and
- Strengthening Communities

The information provided in the appendix includes all of the 'key achievements' and the 'vision' for each of the relevant Community Strategy Themes. The Themes are divided into the Corporate Plan Objectives that have some relevance to this Forum. Under each Corporate Plan Objective there are a number of Actions. However, not all of the Actions under the Corporate Plan Objectives fall under the remit of this Forum, where this is the case the Action is included here but it is indicated that is not under this Forum's remit.

### **Jobs and the Economy**

<b>Community Strategy / Council Priority</b>	Develop a more enterprising, vigorous and diverse local economy that will attract investment, be globally competitive and create more employment opportunities for local people
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### **Key achievements in 2006/07**

- Our economic regeneration priorities for Hartlepool have been reflected within the draft Regional Economic Strategy for the North East.
- With local partners in the Tees Valley we have significantly contributed to the production of a Business Case for the Tees Valley City Region, which has been well received by central Government as a basis for future discussions on the Tees Valley's continued development and funding arrangements.

- Working in partnership with New Deal for Communities and local businesses, 28 commercial area grants totalling approximately half a million pounds have been awarded to improve local shopping areas and to create new jobs and businesses.
- Hartlepool's rate of new VAT registered businesses was the ninth highest in Great Britain.
- Enhancements to Brougham Enterprise Centre were completed and are proving popular with existing and new tenants.
- Property developers, Rivergreen have started on their 80,000 Square feet development of workspace at Queen's Meadow

**In 5-10 years time: -**

- The development of Victoria Harbour will be providing employment opportunities, housing and facilities for townspeople and visitors in a unique setting, adding to Hartlepool's overall role and image.
- The legacy of the 2010 tall Ship's Race will be represented by an enhanced awareness and image of Hartlepool, increased tourism investment and more visitors, staying longer.
- Queen's Meadow will be fully developed with a range of serviced office and manufacturing workspace.
  
- We will have increased the employment rate, reduced the unemployment rate and increased the business startup rate.
- We will have reduced the unemployment rates of disadvantaged groups (lone parents, ethnic minorities, people aged 50 and over, those with the fewest/lowest qualifications and those living in the most disadvantaged wards) and significantly reduced the gap between the unemployment rates of the disadvantaged groups and the overall rate.
- Reduce the gap between Hartlepool and GB employment rate by 3% points by 2012.
- Employment rate to be 67% by 2012.
- Reduce gap between Hartlepool and GB unemployment rate to 1% point by 2012.
- Unemployment rate - Neighbourhood Renewal narrowing the gap - 3.1% points by 2012.
- Youth unemployment rate across Hartlepool - 29% by 2012.
- Youth unemployment rate across Hartlepool - Neighbourhood Renewal narrowing the gap - 29.2 % by 2012.
- Increase number of business start ups by 50% by 2012.



<b>Jobs and the Economy</b>				
Corporate Plan Objective: Achieve Economic Well Being (Children and Young people will achieve the qualifications, develop the skills and be given the necessary life experiences to enable them to lead full and active adult lives) (Ref: CO06 )		Community Strategy Ref: JE02 JE05 JE12		Key Pls: LPI RP5b LPI RP6b BVPI 221a+b
Ref:	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer	Links to Other Plans
JE09*	Development of targeted interventions and commissioning approach for the delivery of integrated support for 16 to 24 year olds.	Mar 08	Antony Steinberg	LAA Outcome 5
JE10	Connexions service works with other teams and agencies to achieve NEET targets agreed with GONE	Mar 08	Miriam Robertson	LAA Outcome 5
JE11	Implement, with partner agencies, the Hartlepool 14-19 strategy and support the 14-19 regional strategy	Mar 09	Tom Argument	LAA Outcome 5
JE12	Promote the development of employability skills and enterprise education in Hartlepool schools	Mar 09	Tom Argument	LAA Outcome 5
JE13	Raise the aspirations of young people from vulnerable backgrounds and increase their participation in education, employment and training	Mar 09	Tom Argument	LAA Outcome 5

\* The responsibility for this Action falls under the remit of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum.

### **Lifelong Learning and Skills**

<b>Community Strategy / Council Priority</b>	Help all individuals, groups and organisations realise their full potential, ensure the highest quality opportunities in education and lifelong learning, and raise standards of attainment
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### **Key achievements in 2006/07**

- Hartlepool schools achieved the best ever GCSE results for the town, with 57.5% of pupils obtaining 5 or more A\* - C passes.
- The DfES agreed to Hartlepool being in wave 5 of Building Schools for the Future, which should secure around £90 million pounds to redevelop the town's secondary school provision.

**In 5-10 years time: -**

- All secondary schools will be refurbished or rebuilt
- Hope to replace or refurbish up to 50% of Hartlepod primary schools under the Government's Primary Capital programme

Lifelong Learning and Skills				
Corporate Plan Objective: Enjoy and Achieve – raise achievement and standards of children and young people in the early years, primary and secondary phases of education (Ref: CO09)		Community Strategy Ref: LLS01, LLS03 LLS06, LLS08 LLS11		Key PIs: BVPIs 38-41, 45, 46, 50 BVPIs 181a-d, 222a+b LAA LLS1-10
Ref:	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer	Links to Other Plans
LL01	Implement the Building Schools for the Future project plan for 2007/08 including completion of the Strategy for Change	Apr 08	Paul Briggs	LAA Outcome 7
LL02	Challenge and support schools to improve performance to national averages and above	Sep 09	John Collings	LAA Outcome 7
LL03	Challenge and support schools in targeting vulnerable children and young people for additional intervention and support so that they achieve in line with or better than expected levels	Sep 09	John Collings	LAA Outcome 7
LL04	Work with partners to extend and improve the quality of services for children and young people which enable them to enjoy their education, improve their well-being and enrich their lives	Sep 09	John Collings	LAA Outcome 7
LL05	Ensure all children and families have access to high quality childcare, integrated services and play activities through Children's Centres, Extended Schools and the Play Strategy	Mar 10	Danielle Swainston	LAA Outcome 7

## Health and Care

<b>Community Strategy / Council Priority</b>	Ensure access to the highest quality health, social care and support services, and improve the health, life expectancy and well-being of the community.
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### Key achievements in 2006/07

- The Council has commenced building work (with our partners) on the 'Hartfields' Extra Care Retirement Village at Middle Warren.
- There has been a significant increase in the number and range of people receiving Direct Payments to enable them to arrange their own support and care.
- There has been an increase in intermediate care with a corresponding impact on reducing nursing and residential care. Intermediate care is a range of personal care services provided at home to maintain people's independence and prevent them moving into unnecessary hospital/residential care admissions.
- Telecare Services have been introduced. Telecare is the remote or enhanced delivery of health and social services to people in their own homes by means of telecommunications and computerised systems.
- Work commenced on integration of Health and Social Care Team, with one team now being located in the community.
- The health and well-being of local people has been improved thanks to the Council and partners working together to tackle various public health issues, such as healthy eating, accidents and physical activity
- The Local Authority secured funding for, and appointed, a Nutritionist who has worked with schools and in the Community to raise awareness of and improve access to health food.
- The School Catering Service implemented the new school food trust "standards" without major detriment to the number of meals served.

### In 5-10 years time we will: -

- deliver person centred, community based services in accordance with the White Paper and Vision for Care.
- develop a work Commissioning based approach to our work which include integrated commissioning with our health partners.

- work with parties to deliver the wellbeing agenda.
- deliver a range of extra care facilities such as the Hartfields development
- ensure all people with Social care needs are able to take control of how their support is delivered
- develop and implement a strategy for working the third sector (such as voluntary organisations)

Health and Care				
Corporate Plan Objective: Be Healthy (Children and young people will be physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy, lead healthy lifestyles and choose not to take illegal drugs) (Ref: CO12 )		Community Strategy Ref: HC2, 9, 11, 12 + 15		Key Pls: LPI NS 16 LAA HC21 BVPI 197
Ref:	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer	Links to Other Plans
HC02*	Actively contribute to the health and future well-being of the children of Hartlepool	Mar 08	Ralph Harrison	LAA Outcome 10
HC03	Work with partner agencies, young people, schools and families to reduce under 18 conception rate by 55%	Jan 10	Sheila O'Connor	LAA Outcome 10
HC04	Work with schools and other agencies to address childhood obesity through initiatives such as Healthy Schools Programme and Physical Education, School Sports and Club Links Strategy	Mar 08	John Collings	LAA Outcome 10
HC05	Improve arrangements for transition between settings and from children's to adult services	Mar 08	Sheila O'Connor	LAA Outcome 10

\* The responsibility for this Action falls under the remit of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum.

### Community Safety

<b>Community Strategy / Council Priority</b>	Make Hartlepool a safer place by reducing crime, disorder and fear of crime
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**Key achievements in 2006/07**

- In October 2006, Hartlepool Youth Offending Service was inspected by a joint inspectorate, led by HM Inspectorate of Probation. The inspection report stated that “the service had consistently performed well against required targets and sound performance management systems were in place”. The service was awarded scores of 4 ‘good’ and 1 ‘adequate’.
- In the nine months from April to December 2006, 602 people had entered drug treatment, compared to 601 in whole of 2005/06. Hartlepool’s service for drug using offenders was the second area nationally to achieve all 6 key performance indicators.
- Drug offences recorded by the Police have risen by 14% compared to 2005/06, which indicates greater Police activity to tackle the drug dealing and use in Hartlepool. In the BVPI general survey completed in autumn 2006, 51% people perceived drug dealing or use to be very or fairly big problem, compared to 76% in the last survey in 2003/04.
- Recorded levels of domestic burglary and vehicle crime continue to reduce, year on year. Vehicle crime in Hartlepool is now below the national average.
- The number of active Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) have increased from 8 at end of 2005, to 22 at end of 2006 and voluntary Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and Agreements from 14 in 2005 to 25 in 2006
- Throughout 2006/07 there has been a co-ordinated enforcement campaign by the Police and the Council to crack down on the sale of alcohol to those under-age, and prosecution of those selling the alcohol. Licensees of pubs, clubs and off-licences have been warned and one club had its licence revoked for 3 months.
- The NDC Community Warden scheme has been re-aligned to give Wardens additional powers and the ability to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for certain environmental crimes. This has significantly improved their ability to play an effective role in dealing with anti-social issues within the community.
- The Neighbourhood Action Team has secured funding to provide 5 additional Enforcement Officers over the next two years
- For a third successive year ‘reduced’ F1 vehicle arson figures have been achieved through a pro-active and multi-agency approach to removing untaxed, abandoned and nuisance vehicles from the streets of Hartlepool. This initiative has also contributed significantly towards a further reduction in vehicle-related crime.
- A joint initiative with the National Probation Service was launched, which involves offenders from Hartlepool taking part in environmental improvement schemes throughout the town. The offenders, who have committed crimes in the town, engage in various projects as a way of ‘paying back’ to the community.

**In 5-10 years time: -**

- Residents will feel safe out in their neighbourhood after dark
- The risk of being a victim of crime will have reduced significantly, compared to our baseline set in 2003/04
- Less young people will be entering the criminal justice system
- Treatment services for alcohol abuse will be readily available in Hartlepool
- Social behaviour will be the norm, and ASBOs will no longer be required, even for a minority of the population
- A central covert surveillance unit for Hartlepool Borough Council will be established to address key environmental and anti-social issues in the town.
- Dog Control Orders will be introduced as a replacement for existing dog byelaws to address key related environmental issues.
- We will continue to develop new initiatives, and work in close collaboration with other sections and external agencies to provide a safer and cleaner environment for the people of Hartlepool.

Community Safety				
Corporate Plan Objective: Stay Safe (Children and young people will live, grow, and learn in safety, where parents, carers and all adults take responsibility for their safety and well-being and they are free from harm, discrimination, harassment and exploitation) (Ref: CO22)		Community Strategy Ref:		Key PIs: BVPI 49 BVPI 162 BVPI 163
Ref:	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer	Links to Other Plans
CS14	Increase the number and range of foster and adoptive placements to meet local needs	Mar 09	Phill Warrilow	LAA Outcome 18
CS15	Reduce the number of placement moves for looked after children and increase the stability of placements	Mar 09	Phill Warrilow	LAA Outcome 18
CS16	Develop the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board	Mar 09	Phill Warrilow	LAA Outcome 18

## Strengthening Communities

<b>Community Strategy / Council Priority</b>	Empower individuals, groups and communities and increase the involvement of citizens in all decisions that affect their lives.
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### Key achievements in 2006/07

- Working with local communities, Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) have been updated for both Dyke House/Stranton/Grange and Burbank areas, and work on updating the Rift House/Burn Valley Plan is underway. We have also assisted New Deal for Communities in completing a NAP for their area.
- Around £350,000 of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Residents Priorities Budget has been spent across NAP areas, on priorities identified in Neighbourhood Action Plans.
- We have undertaken a review of the NAP process and commenced implementation of its many recommendations including for example, how to involve more residents in the process and achieve a good geographical spread of participants.
- The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) showing how residents and the broader community can get involved in the preparation of new land-use plans and consideration of planning applications was adopted in October 2006.
- Residents continue to be involved in the ongoing development and governance of the Housing Market Renewal (HMR) programme across central Hartlepool
- A Best Value Review of Strengthening Communities has been undertaken with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and a Strategic Improvement Plan developed to improve performance in this aspect of the Council's work.
- Hartlepool Borough Council has achieved Beacon Status for emergency planning, in partnership with the other 3 authorities in 'Cleveland' and Cleveland Police and Cleveland Fire Brigade. The Cleveland Emergency Planning Unit made a joint bid for Beacon Status, with the main theme being partnership working through the emergency planning unit.

### In 5-10 years time: -

- There will be an increased range of services and activities that have been developed and delivered in partnership with local communities.
- The public will be reassured through awareness of the emergency planning arrangements that are in place and which are continually reviewed.
- Information on how the public can protect themselves during an emergency will be enhanced.

<b>Strengthening Communities</b>				
Corporate Plan Objective: Make a positive contribution (Children and young people who live in Hartlepool are provided with the opportunity to participate fully in the life of their community) (Ref: CO38)		Community Strategy Ref: CS06 SC04		Key PIs: BVPI 221a+b
Ref:	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer	Links to Other Plans
SC06	Implement the requirements of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to deliver Positive Activities for Young People	Mar 08	Peter Davies	LAA Outcome 32
SC07	Establish the role of commissioner of parenting support and develop a Parenting Strategy for Hartlepool to establish a continuum of services for parents to assist them in promoting positive outcomes for their children	Mar 09	John Robinson	LAA Outcome 32
SC08	Ensure that all children and young people from vulnerable groups (LDD, BME, traveller, asylum seeker and refugee communities) have the opportunity to gain full access to services and have a role in service development	Mar 09	John Robinson	LAA Outcome 32
SC09	Establish the Participation Strategy through the development of standards that support organisations in Hartlepool in its implementation	Mar 09	John Robinson	LAA Outcome 32



**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - APPENDIX B**

Every council is required by the Department for Communities and Local Government to collect and publish a range of Best Value performance indicators. In addition to these Government indicators, services in Hartlepool Borough Council have also set 'Local indicators' These statutory and non-statutory Best value indicators are set out in the pages that follow.

***The tables provide detailed performance presented against the overall performance of the council and each of the Community Strategy themes and aims. Five of the Community Strategy themes have some relevance to this Forum, and are listed below.***

⇒ <b>Jobs and the Economy</b>	⇒ <b>Lifelong Learning and Skills</b>
⇒ <b>Health and Care</b>	⇒ <b>Community Safety</b>
⇒ <b>Strengthening Communities</b>	

BVPIs are set by the government and information for these must be included in the plan. Some of the BVPIs are have additional uses these include:-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA)</b> The means by which the Audit Commission assesses the Council's overall performance</li> <li>• <b>Performance Assessment Framework (PAF)</b> Indicators set by the government for Social Services service areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Public Service Agreement (PSA)</b> Agreement between local and central government to improve performance across a range of indicators based upon national and local priority</li> <li>• <b>Quality of Life (QoL)</b> These indicators cover the issues that effect how people feel about life in the local area.</li> </ul>
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<b>Jobs and the Economy</b>
<p><b>Corporate Plan Objective:</b> Achieve Economic Well Being (Children and Young people will achieve the qualifications, develop the skills and be given the necessary life experiences to enable them to lead full</p>

and active adult lives) (Ref CO06 )				
Ref	Definition	Outturn 2006/07	Target 2007/08	LAA Target 2008/09
LPI RP5b	The number of residents assisted into employment that were young unemployed people	247	305	n/a
LPI RP6b	The number of residents assisted into training that were young unemployed people	315	356	n/a
BVPI 221a	Participation in and outcomes from Youth Work: recorded outcomes	57	60	n/a
BVPI 221b	Participation in and outcomes from Youth Work: accredited outcomes	11	15	n/a

Lifelong Learning and Skills				
Corporate Plan Objective: Enjoy and Achieve – raise achievement and standards of children and young people in the early years, primary and secondary phases of education (Ref CO09)				
Ref	Definition	Outturn 2006/07	Target 2007/08	LAA Target 2008/09
BVPI 38	Percentage of pupil achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSEs	57.5	61	n/a
BVPI 39	Percentage of pupil achieving 5 or more A*-G GCSEs	90.3	91	n/a
BVPI 40	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 4 or above in KS2 Math tests	79.0	87	n/a
BVPI 41	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 4 or above in KS2 English tests	80.0	83	n/a
BVPI 45	Percentage absence in secondary schools	7.14	7.3	n/a

BVPI 46	Percentage absence in primary schools	5.63	5.3	n/a
BVPI 50	Educational qualifications of Looked After Children	33	50	n/a
BVPI 181a	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - English	70.00	79	n/a
BVPI 181b	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - Maths	76.00	80	n/a
BVPI 181c	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - Science	70.00	78	n/a
BVPI 181d	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - ICT Assessment	66.44	75	n/a
BVPI 222a	Percentage of leaders of integrated early education and child care settings funded or part-funded by the local authority with a qualification at level 4 or above	62	69	n/a
BVPI 222b	Percentage of leaders of integrated early education and child care settings funded or part-funded by the local authority which have input from staff with graduate or post graduate training in teaching or child development	77	77	n/a
LAA LLS1	Early Years– improve children's communication, social and emotional development so that by 2008, children reach a good level of development at the end of the Foundation Stage	38.6%	45%	50%
LAA LLS2	Early Years - improve children's communication, social and emotional development so the gap between NRS and Hartlepool is reduced for a good level of development at the end of the foundation stage	7%	8%	6%
LAA LLS3	Early Years– increase the percentage of 3 and 4 year olds who attend an early years and childcare place to 96%	100%	96%	96%
LAA LLS4	Early Years - Increase the percentage of 3 and 4 year olds who attend an early years and childcare (Neighbourhood Renewal Area narrowing the gap)	4%	3%	2%
LAA LLS6a	Key Stage 2 - reduce the gap between children from NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 4 or above in English	5%	4%	3%

LAA LL6b	Key Stage 2 - reduce the gap between children from NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 4 or above in Maths	4%	4%	3%
LAA LLS8a	Key Stage 3 - Reduce the gap between children from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 5 or above in English	8%	8%	6%
LAA LLS8b	Key Stage 3 - Reduce the gap between children from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 5 or above in Mathematics	7%	6%	5%
LAA LLS8c	Key Stage 3 - Reduce the gap between children from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 5 or above in Science	7%	7%	5%
LAA LLS10a	Key Stage 4 - Reduce the gap between young people from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving 5+ A*-C	10%	8%	6%
LAA LLS10b	Key Stage 4 - Reduce the gap between young people from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving 5+ A*-G (including English and Maths)	3%	2%	<5%
LAA LLS10c	Key Stage 4 - Reduce the gap between young people from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving 5+ A*-C (including English and Maths)	12%	10%	<5%

<b>Health and Care</b>				
<b>Corporate Plan Objective:</b>				
Be Healthy (Children and young people will be physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy, lead healthy lifestyles and choose not to take illegal drugs) (Ref CO12 )				
Ref	Definition	Outturn 2006/07	Target 2007/08	LAA Target 2008/09
LPI NS 16	Percentage take up of nutritionally balanced school meals	New Indicator – to collect baseline 2007/08		
LAA HC21	Number of schools achieving the Health Eating module of the new Healthy Schools Status	14	32	36 by July 09
BVPI 197	Teenage Pregnancies	+3.2	-8.5	n/a

<b>Community Safety</b>				
<b>Corporate Plan Objective:</b> Stay Safe (Children and young people will live, grow, and learn in safety, where parents, carers and all adults take responsibility for their safety and well-being and they are free from harm, discrimination, harassment and exploitation) (Ref: CO22)				
<b>Ref</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Outturn 2006/07</b>	<b>Target 2007/08</b>	<b>LAA Target 2008/09</b>
BVPI 49	Stability of Placements for Looked After Children	14.93	10	n/a
BVPI 162	Reviews of child protection cases	100	100	n/a
BVPI 163	Adoptions of children looked after	5.7	7.0	n/a

<b>Strengthening Communities</b>				
<b>Corporate Plan Objective:</b> Make a positive contribution (Children and young people who live in Hartlepool are provided with the opportunity to participate fully in the life of their community) (Ref: CO38)				
<b>Ref</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Outturn 2006/07</b>	<b>Target 2007/08</b>	<b>LAA Target 2008/09</b>
BVPI 221a	Participation in and outcomes from Youth Work: recorded outcomes	57	60	n/a
BVPI 221b	Participation in and outcomes from Youth Work: accredited outcomes	11	15	n/a

## APPENDIX C

**EXTRACT OF LAA REWARD ELEMENT TARGETS (ALSO KNOWN AS  
LPSA2) WHICH FALL UNDER THE REMIT OF THE CHILDRENS SERVICES  
SCRUTINY FORUM**

<b>Tgt</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Outturn</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Period</b>
10	Promoting healthy life chances through the achievement of the Healthy Schools Status across Hartlepool	Number of schools achieving the new Healthy Schools Status	14	36	At 31/08/09

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM REPORT

11th June, 2007



**Report of:** Assistant Chief Executive

**Subject:** APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

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## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek Councillor Nominations to Outside Bodies referred to the Scrutiny Forum by the Executive.

## 2. BACKGROUND

2.1 In accordance with the authority delegated by the Cabinet, the Deputy Mayor, in conjunction with other Executive members, considered the issue of appointments to outside bodies. Several of these outside body appointments were referred to other meetings for appointment, and of these, one was referred to this Scrutiny Forum for consideration.

2.2 The outside bodies referred for appointment of Councillor members are:-

School Admissions Forum  
Schools Organisation Committee

## 3. APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

3.1 School Admissions Forum – 5 members

The appointments will need to reflect the political balance of the Council and therefore, 3 labour, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Administrative group members are required.

The Schools Admissions Forum considers existing and proposed admission arrangements and how they serve the interests of local children and parents; aim to reach local agreement on any new or controversial issues; consider the comprehensiveness and accessibility of the Children's Services Authority's admissions literature and information for parents; consider and approve local co-ordinated arrangements; promote more modern and parent-friendly admissions processes.

3.2 School Organisation Committee – 3 Members

The appointments will need to reflect the political balance of the Council and therefore, nominations are sought for 2 Labour and 1 Administrative group members are required.

The School Organisation Committee considers and determines matters relating to school organisation e.g. opening and closing of schools, changes to net capacities and admission numbers, in accordance with statutory regulations.

**4. RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 That Councillor nominations to the above outside bodies be made.



## CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

11 June 2007



**Report of:** Hartlepool Children's Fund Manager and Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** The Involvement of Young People in the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider the effectiveness of the existing arrangements for the co-option of young people onto the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum, with a view to identifying possible improvements for implementation during 2007/08.

### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 In September 2006 six young people were co-opted onto the membership of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum, in a ground breaking move to further increase community involvement/engagement.

2.2 Young people gained their first experience of Scrutiny during the Forum's investigation into the provision of sex and relationship education in Hartlepool. Throughout this investigation the young people participated fully and contributed a range of experiences and views which went on to play a key role in the formulation of the Forum's final recommendations.

2.3 A number of factors have been instrumental to the successful co-option of young people onto the Forum; most notably the enthusiasm of Members and the young people themselves. Other factors include:-

(i) The training and support given to the young people by Barnardos Hartbeat and the Children's Services Department;

(ii) The Forum's support for the young people and willingness to make practical changes to the timing and operation of meetings to help make their participation easier and more comfortable. These include the introduction of comfort breaks and the use of a roundtable at meetings, both of which were suggested by the young people themselves; and

- (iii) The development of stronger working relationships between young people and their Forum colleagues, instrumental to which was a “team building” workshop organised, and run, by Hartlepool Young Voices.

### **3. YOUNG PEOPLE'S VIEWS ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR CO-OPTION ONTO THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

3.1 With a view to the continued development of the operation of the Forum the Chair met with young people and representatives from Barnardos on the 29 May 2007 to obtain views on the effectiveness of arrangements for their co-option. During the course of discussions views were expressed in relation to the following areas and suggestions made for the development of arrangements in 2007/8:-

- (i) The overall view was that young people have enjoyed their participation in Scrutiny and feel that they have and will continue to contribute to the process in 2007/8;
- (ii) Changes already made by the Forum to its organisational arrangements, in order to help young people participate, including the introduction of a break during the course of meetings, are appreciated;
- (iii) Concern was expressed regarding the need for discussions to be focused in order to keep meetings to a reasonable length for the benefit of all involved. This was linked into the provision of further training for young people in terms of how to break into discussions, including the possible use of cards to get the Chair and officer's attention;
- (iv) Those people involved in the “team building” workshop, as detailed in Section 2.3 (iii) above, felt that this was helpful and it was suggested that a further Workshop should be organised to familiarise the new membership of the Forum with the young people, and vis-a-versa;
- (v) The complex nature of reports and issues, in particular Budget and Policy Framework items, and need to explore possible ways of improving the format and presentation of reports;
- (vi) By their nature some reports to scrutiny cover complicated issues. There have been occasions when either the reports, or the presentation, have left the young people lost and unable to participate. It would be helpful to explore options around reporting to scrutiny with all involved;
- (vii) Difficulties experienced in getting to meetings by 4.00pm and the benefits of moving the start time back to 4.30pm;
- (viii) In relation to seating arrangements it would be beneficial to introduce a short ice breaker session at the beginning of each meeting (no more than 5 minutes) to encourage young people and other members of the Forum to circulate;

- (ix) Difficulties are being experienced by young people in attending all meetings. Six young people were initially co-opted, however, due to a range of issues two young people have left the group. Subsequently maintaining six young people at each the Forum may be over ambitious and as such it is suggested that a process be introduced to ensure that a minimum of three young people are in attendance at each meeting of the Forum;
- (x) It was initially envisaged that a mentoring system would be put in place to support young people. This role has not been developed and young people were of the view that this was still the preferred option for pre meetings support;
- (xi) That it would be beneficial for a young person co-opted on to the Forum to attend Cabinet/Council with the Chair during the presentation of Final Reports; and
- (xii) That as part of the scoping process for investigations ways of utilising 'Mind Mapping', as used during the Sex and Relationship investigation should be explored.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 It appears for the co-option of young people has had many positives for the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum, the democratic process and young people. It is, however, recognised that work still needs to be undertaken, taking into consideration the issues highlighted in Section 3 of the report and any comments made during the course of today's discussions, to build on success during 2007/8.

#### 5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum note the report and consider the proposals outlined in Section 3 of the report for the future development of meeting and support arrangements for co-opted young people.

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#### BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.