

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



Tuesday, 15 July 2008

at 10.00 am

in Committee Room A

Councillor Hill, Cabinet Member responsible for Children's Services will consider the following items.

- 1. KEY DECISIONS**
No items
- 2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**
 - 2.1 School Term And Holiday Dates: School Year 2009/2010 (and 2010/2011) – *Director of Children's Services*
- 3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**
 - 3.1 Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2009 – 2012 – Director of Children's Services
- 4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**
No items
- 5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION) ORDER 2006**

EXEMPT ITEMS

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

- 6. KEY DECISION**
No items
- 7. OTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**
 - 7.1 Children's Homes: Regulation 33/34 Reports (Para 1) – *Director of Children's Services*

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report To Portfolio Holder

15th July 2008



Report of: Director of Children's Services

Subject: SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES:
SCHOOL YEAR 2009/2010 (AND 2010/2011)

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the agreement of the Portfolio Holder to the pattern of school term and holiday dates for the school year 2009/2010 for community and controlled schools in Hartlepool (**Appendix 1**).
- 1.2 To seek the agreement of the Portfolio Holder in recommending those dates to the governing bodies of aided schools in Hartlepool.
- 1.3 To make Children's Services Management Team, senior colleagues, schools and governing bodies aware of the draft "setting the school calendar - guiding principles for the North East and Yorkshire Regions" that are currently being developed.
- 1.4 To consider the draft proposals for 2010/2011 (**Appendix 2**, Option 1 and Option 2). No decision required at this stage.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

- 2.1 A report is attached detailing the current state of play nationally, regionally and locally on the pattern of the school year, and recommendations for the school year 2009/2010.
- 2.2 The development of a regional school calendar guiding principles framework. Draft document "setting the school calendar – guiding principles for the North East and Yorkshire Regions" has been included (**Appendix 3**).
- 2.3 A draft 2010/2011 North East and Yorkshire Regional Calendar has been produced as several Local Authorities are beginning to consult on 2 year calendars (2009/2010 and 2010/2011). Option 1 and Option 2 for

2010/2011 are included within this report (**Appendix 2**). However, Hartlepool only intends to formally agree the calendar for 2009/10 at this stage.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Children's Services issues.

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key decision.

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder's meeting on 17th July 2008.

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

- 6.1 Approval by the Portfolio Holder of Hartlepool term dates for school year 2009/2010.
- 6.2 Agreement to recommending the 2009/2010 dates to governing bodies of Aided schools in Hartlepool.
- 6.3 Agreement in principle to the documentation "on setting the school calendar – guiding principles for North East and Yorkshire Regions".

Report of: Director of Children's Services

Subject: SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES:
SCHOOL YEAR 2009/2010 (AND 2010/2011)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek the agreement of the Portfolio Holder to the pattern of school term and holiday dates for the school year 2009/2010 for community and controlled schools in Hartlepool (**Appendix 1**).
- 1.2 To seek the agreement of the Portfolio Holder in recommending those dates to the governing bodies of aided schools in Hartlepool.
- 1.3 To make Children's Services Management Team, senior colleagues, schools and governing bodies aware of the draft "setting the school calendar - guiding principles for the North East and Yorkshire Regions" that are currently being developed.
- 1.4 Please note that draft proposals for 2010/2011 have also been included within the framework of the report (**Appendix 2**, Option 1 and Option 2).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As the Local Authority (LA), the Council has the responsibility for setting the school term and holiday dates for community and controlled schools in Hartlepool. Aided school governing bodies are responsible for setting their own school holiday pattern within the agreed national framework of working days. Traditionally the LA and the governing bodies of all the aided schools work together to ensure a consistent pattern across the town in respect of school term and holiday dates, though in the case of Roman Catholic schools in particular, some variation does occur in some years.
- 2.2 The pattern proposed for 2009/2010 provides for an "envelope" of 195 days, of which 190 are days on which pupils attend and the remaining five days are designated by the school as Professional Development (PD) days. Five PD days are provided for in the Conditions of Service and can be taken in combinations of part-day "twilight" sessions at the direction of individual schools.
- 2.3 Regional consultation has taken place via the Regional Directors of Children's Services Network meetings. The local authorities in the North East and Yorkshire region (representatives from approximately 25 of our neighbouring authorities and authorities from further afield) are committed

to achieving broad consistency across the region when considering the school year pattern for 2009/2010 and subsequent years.

2.4 The Local Government Association (LGA) is attempting to achieve an overall national consensus based on a number of principles:

- To start the school year on a September date as near as possible to 1st September;
- To equalise teaching and learning blocks (roughly 2x7 and 4x6 weeks);
- To establish a two week spring break in early April irrespective of the incidence of the Easter bank holiday (where the break does not coincide with the bank holiday the date should be, as far as practicable, nationally agreed and as consistent as possible across all LAs);
- Allow for the possibility of a summer holiday of at least six weeks for those schools which want this length of break;
- Identify and agree annually designated periods of holiday, including the summer holiday, where head teachers are recommended not to arrange teacher days.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 In the 2007 Autumn Term, a draft 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 Hartlepool and regional calendar was produced and circulated to colleagues across the North East (and Yorkshire) region.

3.2 LA representatives discussed the school year pattern for 2009/2010 and 2010/11, and the draft document for “setting the school calendar – guiding principles for North East Region and Yorkshire” at a regional meeting on the 27th February 2008. Various models were shared, including the LGA recommended model. The North East and Yorkshire authorities agreed to all individual LAs consulting locally on a common preferred model.

3.3 The vast majority of neighbouring LAs that were represented at the meeting were in favour of the attached 2009/2010 calendar (**Appendix 1**). LA representatives agreed to share the draft guidance on “setting the school calendar guiding principles for the NE and Yorkshire Regions” with colleagues, with a view to LAs adopting this guidance framework. Several regional LAs have already agreed and are adopting the guidelines.

3.4 From the LA representatives’ meeting (27th February 2008) the general consensus was that the 2009/2010 model described in **Appendix 1** should be adopted across the region, however it is recognised that slight variations may occur. LAs were also asked to consider the two options for 2010/2011 (**Appendix 2**, Option 1 and Preferred Option 2).

- 3.5 Following that meeting, arrangements were made to consult all headteachers, Governing Bodies in Hartlepool and also the relevant teaching associations / unions through the Director's termly meetings. Consultation took place from 18th March to 25th April 2008. The outcome of the consultation with stakeholders was unanimous agreement on the 2009/10 regional preferred model (**Appendix 1**) and agreement in principle to adopting the guidance on "setting the school calendar guiding principles for the NE and Yorkshire Regions" (**Appendix 3**).
- 3.6 For 2010/2011 schools and Governing Bodies within Hartlepool had varied preferences in relation to Options 1 and 2 (**Appendix 2**). Secondary school head teachers indicated that they preferred Option 1 even though this was not the preferred regional option. Option 1 provides schools with additional time after the Easter break to finalise preparation work for Year 9 SATs whereas Option 2 had students returning from Easter break directly into SATs tests.
- 3.7 After due consideration it has been agreed to defer the 2010/2011 decision until Hartlepool has been able to obtain the views of neighbouring LAs during their consultation events.
- 3.8 At the time of writing the report, 7 neighbouring LAs have agreed to the 2009/2010 model. However for 2010/11 there are 3 LAs choosing Option 1, one LA choosing Option 2 and 3 LAs deferring the decision. A further 6 neighbouring and regional LAs are still going through the consultation process.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 It is proposed that Hartlepool should follow the proposed 2009/2010 regional model on which consultation took place. This is shown in **Appendix 1**.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Portfolio Holder is requested to consider the following recommendations:
- To approve the schedule of term and holiday dates for 2009/2010 for community and controlled schools in Hartlepool as shown in **Appendix 1**.
 - To recommend the schedule of term and holiday dates for 2009/2010 to the governing bodies of aided schools in Hartlepool as shown in **Appendix 1**.
 - To approve the guidance and framework of "setting the school calendar – guiding principles for North East Region and Yorkshire" as shown in **Appendix 3**.

- To defer the decision for the 2010/2011 calendar until Hartlepool is able to obtain the views of neighbouring and regional LAs' consultation events.

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Appendix 1

Children's Services Department

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2009/10 (Final Version)

2009	July	August	September	October	November	December
Monday		24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Tuesday		25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday		26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday		27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Friday		28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Saturday		29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Sunday		30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27

2010	January	February	March	April	May	June
Monday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Wednesday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Thursday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27

2010	July
Monday	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	7 14 21 28
Thursday	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	3 10 17 24 31
Sunday	4 11 18 25

195 DAY ENVELOPE

	Bank Holiday
	Holiday
	Weekends

The number of term days shown is 195. Up to five of these days will be used as professional development days for teaching staff; pupils will not attend on these days. Each school determines when these will take place and will inform parents.

N.B. The majority of Northern Region Local Authorities (North East and Yorkshire) have agreed to the above and it also mirrors the LGA recommended calendar.

Appendix 2: (Option 1)

NORTH EAST AND YORKSHIRE REGIONAL CALENDAR 2010 / 2011

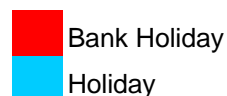
2010/2011

2010	July	August	September	October	November	December
Monday		23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Tuesday		24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Wednesday		25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday		26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Friday		27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Saturday		28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Sunday		29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26

2011	January	February	March	April	May	June
Monday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Tuesday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Wednesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Friday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Saturday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Sunday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26

2011	July
Monday	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	6 13 20 27
Thursday	7 14 21 28
Friday	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31

195 DAY ENVELOPE



The number of term days shown is 195. Up to five of these days will be used as professional development days for teaching staff; pupils will not attend on these days. Each school determines when these will take place and will inform parents.

Appendix 2: (Option 2 - preferred option)

NORTH EAST AND YORKSHIRE REGIONAL CALENDAR

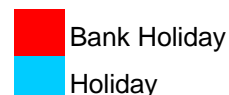
2010/2011

2010	July	August	September	October	November	December
Monday		23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Tuesday		24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Wednesday		25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday		26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Friday		27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Saturday		28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Sunday		29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26

2011	January	February	March	April	May	June
Monday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Tuesday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Wednesday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Thursday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Friday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Saturday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Sunday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26

2011	July
Monday	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	6 13 20 27
Thursday	7 14 21 28
Friday	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	3 10 17 24 31

195 DAY ENVELOPE



The number of term days shown is 195. Up to five of these days will be used as professional development days for teaching staff; pupils will not attend on these days. Each school determines when these will take place and will inform parents.

As at : 27th February 2008 (Regional Directors of Children's Services Network Meeting)

Please note: Preferred option for Northern Region Local Authorities (North East Region and Yorkshire). Under consultation.

Setting the School Calendar - Guiding Principles for North East and Yorkshire Regions

1. The following Authorities listed will work together to establish common school holiday dates each year:

Yorkshire Authorities:

Barnsley
Bradford
Calderdale
Doncaster
East Yorkshire
Kirklees

Leeds
North Yorkshire
Rotherham
Sheffield
Wakefield
York

North East Authorities:

Cumbria
Darlington
Durham
Gateshead
Hartlepool
Middlesbrough

Northumberland
Redcar/Cleveland
Stockton
Sunderland

2. The school year will consist of 195 school days. Pupils must attend on 190 of those days.
3. The starting point for consideration of each year's holiday pattern will be the pattern recommended by the LGA for that school year modified as per these principles.
4. Wherever possible, in any academic year, terms should be of equal length and split weeks avoided or kept to a minimum. Where there are an odd number of weeks the second half term should be the shorter of the two.

5. **Start of the School Year**

The school year will normally start on the first Monday in September.

6. **Autumn Half Term**

The Autumn half term break will be the five days which are the last period Monday to Friday in October. According to the year, October half term can start as early as Monday 21 and as late as Monday 27 October.

7. **Christmas Break**

The Christmas break will be at least 10 weekdays, and will normally start at the end of the school day on the Friday which is on, or otherwise immediately prior to, 22 December. It will include the New Year's day holiday which is outside that period, and the day after New Years Day, where this is a weekday.

8. **February Half Term**

The February half term holiday will be five days Monday to Friday, which divides the term as far as possible into two equal parts. Where there are an odd number of weeks the second half term will be the shorter of the two.

2.1 APPENDIX 3

9. **Easter Break**

The Spring Term will normally end at the end of the school day on the Friday before Good Friday. The holiday will be 10 weekdays.

Where the LGA recommended patterns would result in a break between the Easter bank holidays and the school Easter holiday, consideration will be given to modifying Easter to incorporate the bank holidays in the school holiday. The Easter bank holidays could be at the start (with the Spring Term ending at the end of the school day on the Thursday before Good Friday), middle, or end of the school Easter break, but never outside of the break itself.

10. **Spring Bank Half Term**

The Spring Bank half term will be five days Monday to Friday from the statutory holiday which falls as the last Monday in May.

11. **End of the School Year**

Taking into account the above pattern, term will end on the date which achieves 195 school days of which five days shall be declared as training days. The term will normally end on the third Friday in July.

The summer break will not be less than five weeks and preferably not less than six weeks.

12. **Exceptions**

Some LEAs (such as Bradford) have historically provided for a number of occasional (training) days within the schedule. These days allow schools to be responsive to their respective community needs. The schedule normally provides for between 3 – 5 occasional days which are found by reducing the half terms to three days in length.

13. **Polling Day**

In nominating the five training days, governing bodies must accommodate the use of the school as a polling station, where needed. Where schools close on polling day governing bodies should use this as a training day.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

15th July 2008



Report of: Director of Children's Services

Subject: Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)
2009 - 2012

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present a new draft vision statement and to report on the emerging issues arising from recent consultation on the first draft Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 - 2012.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

- 2.1 The requirement to produce a Children and Young People's Plan is an important part of the Government's Change for Children agenda, through which the lives of children, families and young people can be improved.
- 2.2 The Children's Services Department, through the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, has completed the first round of consultation as outlined in the previous Portfolio Holder report dated 20th May 2008.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Children's Services issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio Holder meeting 15th July 2008.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

- 6.1 To note the new draft vision statement and emerging issues arising from the first round of consultation on the Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 – 2012.
- 6.2 To note that as the consultation progresses a further draft of the plan will be brought back to Portfolio Holder for approval in September 2008.

Report of: Director of Children's Services

Subject: The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)
2009 - 2012

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present a new draft vision statement and to report on the emerging issues arising from recent consultation on the first draft Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 - 2012.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The local authority is required to produce a Children and Young People's Plan through section 17 of the Children Act 2004 and the Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007.
- 2.2 The existing Children and Young People's Plan 2006 – 2009 requires review and updating to meet new requirements on Children's Services departments and their partners. The current plan expires on 31st March 2009.
- 2.3 The Children's Services Department, through the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, has completed the first round of consultation as outlined in the previous Portfolio Holder report dated 20th May 2008.

3. DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

The original vision statement has been changed to reflect the priorities set out in the governments Children's Plan – Building Brighter Futures published in December 2007 and reflect the successes of the previous plan and changing practice within Hartlepool.

The new draft vision statement is set out below.

In Hartlepool we will continue to transform our services in a way that keeps children, young people and families at the heart of everything we deliver.

As commissioners and service providers we will work with and through the Children's Trust to better understand the needs of children, young people, families and communities in Hartlepool, listen

to what they want and work with them to design, improve and re-commission services.

In order to do this we need to develop new skills to respond to the government's new priorities which are:

- Building resilience through attainment in education, promoting health and wellbeing including the development of good social and emotional skills and positive parenting which promote better outcomes for children in childhood and later life;
- Greater personalisation by ensuring that services are more responsive to the needs of families, offer support earlier or tailor support according to need;
- Proactive support for those who need it most – reaching out to those children and families who have the most significant needs, but who may be less willing or able to articulate their needs;
- Helping families to break out of the cycle of low achievement so that in future fewer families require intensive support and intervention.

4. HAVE WE MADE A DIFFERENCE?

A key activity of the first round of consultation was to determine whether or not the existing plan had made a difference and what still needed to be improved. There are many positive examples of where organisations in Hartlepool have made a difference to the lives of children, young people and their families. However, there are areas in which further work is required and these are outlined in the section on Emerging Issues.

Examples of positive statements about organisations making a difference are set out below:

Parents told us:

- They were aware that MMR immunisations had risen but there is a difference of opinion about whether it works. Parents thought MMR had been looked at and people have been made aware of the importance of having their children vaccinated.
- They felt that there was positive progress with diet, exercise and healthy lifestyles. They thought the idea of schools being awarded healthy eating star ratings was good. Some parents had also had the opportunity to take part in a 12-week healthy eating course.
- Awareness of teenage pregnancy issues have improved.
- They thought that bullying was being tackled: parents were involved in the creation of a leaflet, which was printed and distributed to parents in the North of Hartlepool. The leaflet gave

information to parents and carers of what the school policy and procedure is on bullying.

- They thought community policing was working well in some areas and that there was a good relationship between the police and the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit.
- They thought that speed bumps were a good idea.
- Respite is good when available for children and young people with disabilities.
- Care Co-ordination a good experience in terms of information received, sharing of information and 1 person taking the lead.
- The Family Resource Workers for children and young people with disabilities was good but there was an issue about waiting times.
- Groups such as Families First, Hartlepool Special Needs Group, PHAB and Young Carers were acknowledged as good and supportive groups.
- They thought there was more support available in schools.
- Children enjoy school and are happy.
- The increase in PE is seen as a positive.
- Children's Centres have improved in every area – all across the town and opened them up to many.
- There seems to be a lot of services for the under 5's.
- Parents felt that they got good support from voluntary sector agencies.
- Respect is slowly changing.
- Hope for the future – ability of parents and ability of child.
- Consultation events are seen as positive
- Access to government benefits have changed for some but not for all.

Young people told us:

- Young people are clearly learning from the work around the healthy schools agenda as many knew they should be eating healthily, reduce their intake of fatty foods and drinking more water.
- They thought doing vaccinations in schools was positive.
- They knew that in order to lead a healthy lifestyle they also needed to be more active.
- They thought more children and young people were enjoying school.
- Good service from Connexions.
- Some young people had clear ideas about what they wanted to do when they grew up.
- They thought it was important to give their opinions.

5. EMERGING ISSUES

There were a range of methods used to elicit the views of parents, children, young people and partner organisations the consultations took the form of events, meetings, questionnaires and briefing sessions.

Whilst a great deal of information and data was collected the following provide an overview of what the emerging issues are:

- Teenage pregnancy and sexual health is still a key health issue across Hartlepool that needs to be tackled in partnership with children, young people and parents/carers.
- Parents whose children are awaiting a health diagnosis for particular conditions often find it difficult to access some services.
- Children and young people remain concerned about the drinking and drug culture in Hartlepool.
- The improvement in awareness raising about living healthier lifestyles is seen as a positive but parents need access to the same information as their children.
- More needs to be done to tackle emotional health problems at a lower level and more quickly.
- Although it is acknowledged that work has been done to address the issue of bullying, particularly in schools there remains concern about the increase in the instances of 'cyber bullying' via the internet and mobile phones.
- Care Co-ordination extended to meet the needs of young people.
- Access to a range of affordable activities proved to be particularly important to children, young people and parents/carers.
- Parents want more access to open spaces where children and young people can play safely.
- Parents, children and young people want to be more involved in local decision making.
- Communication needs to be improved – many do not have access to the Internet more use needs to be made of newsletters and magazines.
- Parents thought that information sharing between organisations could be improved.
- There are a range of housing issues that need to be investigated further including single tenancies for young adults and reduction in the levels of housing stock.
- Families with low incomes have particular issues in relation to transport and access to activities for children and young people which need to be more affordable.
- Some families struggle to make ends meet on a weekly basis.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of the consultation program will be met by grant funding from the Department of Children, Schools and Families, to support the development of Children's Trusts.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

The department will ensure that no individual is discriminated against because of their age, race, gender etc. A Diversity Impact Assessment (DIA) has been completed and an Impact Needs Requirement Assessment (INRA) is underway.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 To note the new draft vision statement and emerging issues arising from the first round of consultation on the Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 – 2012.
- 7.2 To note that as the consultation progresses a further draft of the plan will be brought back to Portfolio Holder for approval in September 2008.

8. CONTACT OFFICER

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