

# **CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA**



**Thursday, 10 September 2009**

**at 4.30 pm**

**in the Council Chamber,  
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

**MEMBERS: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:**

Councillors Aiken, C Akers-Belcher, Coward, Fleet, Griffin, London, Preece, Shaw and Simmons

Co-opted Member: David Relton.

Resident Representatives: Joan Steel, and Sally Vokes.

Young People's Representatives: Michael Burford, Karen Forcer, Arran Frame, Chris Lund, and Rebecca Richards.

- 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 14 July 2009
- 4. SHORT ICE BREAKER EXERCISE**

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

- 5.1 Portfolio Holders Response – Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason – *Joint Report of Director for Regeneration & Planning, Director for Children's Services, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety & Housing and Portfolio Holder for Children's Services*

**6. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

No items.

**7. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS**

No items.

**8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 8.1 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations – *Scrutiny Support Officer*
- 8.2 Scrutiny Investigation into Targeted and Detached Youth Work – Scoping Report – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

**9. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN**

No items

**10. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT**

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- i) **Date of Next Meeting - 1 October 2009 at 4.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

# **CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

## **MINUTES**

14 July 2009

The meeting commenced at 4.00 p.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor: Jane Shaw (In the Chair)

Councillors: Martyn Aiken, John Coward, Mary Fleet, Sheila Griffin,  
Francis London and Chris Simmons.

Resident Representatives: Joan Steel and Sally Vokes.

Young Peoples Representative: Chris Lund.

Also Present: Councillors Brash and James.  
Kelly Goulding, Participation Advisor, Barnardos

Officers: Sue Johnson, Assistant Director  
Joan Wilkins, Scrutiny Manager  
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer  
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Barker, Coopted representative David Relton and Young Peoples representatives, Michael Burford and Aaron Frame.

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

None.

### **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 April 2009**

Confirmed.

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

No items.

**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. The Role of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum**  
(*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer submitted a report for Members' information which set out the role and remit of Scrutiny in general and specifically the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum. Details of the scheduled meetings for 2009/10 were also set out.

Some concern was raised by Members that this meeting and the next three scheduled meetings clashed with meetings of the Schools Transformation Project Board. Officers were requested to look at the issue further.

**Recommended**

That the report be noted.

**8. Determining the Scrutiny Forum's Work Programme for 2009/10** (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer reported that the Scrutiny Forum needed to develop a Work Programme for the 2009/10 Municipal Year, together with a timeframe for each review, for consideration by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 31 July 2009. To this end, the Chair had met with the Director of Children's Services and various officers to identify issues that may warrant scrutiny investigation. Members had also been consulted to suggest topics for investigation.

Following these consultations, the following issues had been put forward for consideration as part of the forum's work programme for 2009/10: -

- Youth Service
- Child Poverty

The Chair highlighted that there had been no subject for investigation put forward by the young people's representatives due to changes in the nominations. Therefore, the first subject to be investigated in 2010/11 should come from the young people. There were, however, key areas of the two subjects suggested for investigation that the young people could play a crucial

role in. The Chair highlighted that the issue of 'child poverty' was one that was very wide ranging with impacts across the whole spectrum of the scrutiny forums. The Chair suggested that the issue of child poverty be referred to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to lead on the investigation and refer appropriate parts to the relevant scrutiny forums, including this forum.

The Chair also recommended the investigation into the Youth Service to the forum. The Chair was concerned that there were many government targets for this service but still concerns about whether the outreach services were actually meeting the needs of young people.

The Chair of Scrutiny Coordinating Committee, Councillor James, was present at the meeting and welcomed the referral of the Child Poverty investigation. The chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum, Councillor Brash also stated that it was likely that the Health Scrutiny Forum would be looking at the issue of alcohol abuse and may seek the input of this forum and particularly the young people on this issue.

After a broad debate on the subjects suggested for investigation, there was agreement among the Members present that the issues proposed should be investigated.

#### **Recommended**

1. That the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee be advised that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum would wish to investigate the issue of Outreach Youth Services in 2009/10.
2. That the investigation into Child Poverty be referred to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee due to it cross cutting the remits of several scrutiny forums.

### **9. Appointment to Outside Bodies** *(Assistant Chief Executive)*

In accordance with the authority delegated by the Cabinet, the Deputy Mayor, 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. The outside body referred for appointment of Councillor members is the School Admissions Forum. Nominations for the Schools Admission Forum had been received from Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Griffin, London and Simmons and were agreed at Annual Council. However, one further nomination was requested from the forum.

Councillor Fleet was proposed and seconded as the nomination.

#### **Recommended**

1. That the nominations agreed at Annual Council on 25 June 2009 to the School Admissions Forum of Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Griffin, London and Simmons be confirmed.

2. That Councillor Fleet be proposed as the final nomination from the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum to the School Admission Forum, subject to approval by the Executive.

## **10. Any Other Business**

The Chair informed the Forum that the Director of Children's Services, Adrienne Simcock, was due to retire from the authority at the end of August. The Chair and Members of the Forum wished Mrs Simcock their best wishes for a long and happy retirement and thanked her for her excellent work at Hartlepool Borough Council.

The meeting concluded at 5.30 p.m.

JANE SHAW

CHAIRMAN

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

**10 September 2009**



**Report of:** Joint Report of Director for Regeneration & Planning,  
Director for Children's Services, Portfolio Holder for  
Community Safety & Housing and Portfolio Holder for  
Children's Services

**Subject:** PORTFOLIO HOLDERS RESPONSE –  
APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION FOR  
HOMELESS YOUNG PEOPLE FOR WHATEVER  
REASON

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### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum with feedback on the recommendations from the investigation into 'Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason', which was reported to Cabinet on 27 July 2009.

### **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The investigation into 'Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason' conducted by this Forum falls under the remit of the Regeneration & Planning and Children's Services Departments and is, under the Executive Delegation Scheme, within the service area covered by the Community Safety & Housing and Children's Services Portfolio Holders.
- 2.2 On 27 July 2009, Cabinet considered the Final Report of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum into 'Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason'. This report provides feedback from the Portfolio Holders following Cabinet's consideration of, and decisions in relation to this Forum's recommendations.
- 2.3 Following on from this report, progress towards completion of the actions contained within the Action Plan will be monitored through the Scrutiny Monitoring Database, with standardised six monthly monitoring reports to be presented to the Forum. In addition to this, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating

Committee will also receive a breakdown of progress against all Scrutiny Forums' recommendations on an Annual basis.

### 3. SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXECUTIVE DECISION

- 3.1 Following consideration of the Final Report, Cabinet suggested one addition to the Forum's recommendations. It is suggested that recommendation (e) be included:-

*"That adequate information is available to young people on how to access advice on the housing and homelessness services."*

- 3.2 Details of each recommendation and proposed actions to be taken following approval by Cabinet are provided in the Action Plan attached at **Appendix A**.

### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Members note the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plan, appended to this report (**Appendix A**) and seek clarification on its content where felt appropriate.

**Contact Officer:-** Lynda Igoe – Principal Housing Advice Officer and  
Jim Murdoch – Head of Business Unit (Young Persons)  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Telephone Number: 01429 266522  
E-mail – lynda.igoe@hartlepool.gov.uk and  
jim.murdoch@hartlepool.gov.uk

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Final Report 'Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason' considered by Cabinet on 27 July 2009; and
- (ii) Decision Record of Cabinet held on 27 July 2009.



# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

5.1  
Appendix A

**NAME OF FORUM:** Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

**NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY:** Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason

**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** 27 July 2009

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(a) That supported accommodation providers be encouraged to set up more facilities in the Town, although before this occurs:-	Discussions take place as part of the Business Transformation Programme to explore the viability of converting existing Council owned property into appropriate supported accommodation for young people.	Potential budget pressure should viable properties be indentified.	Jim Murdoch	March 2011
(i) Residents in an area where a scheme is planned be properly consulted and reassured that supported accommodation is not only beneficial, but is to be encouraged;	Advice and guidance on recommended consultation methods to be developed and supplied to supported accommodation providers prior to the development of a scheme.	None	Jim Murdoch, Lynda Igoe	January 2010
(ii) Any scheme should include the provision of at least one if not two emergency beds or 'crash pads'.	The success of the 'crash pad' at Gainford House will be reviewed as part of the Supporting People review and evidenced as good practice for	None	Lynda Igoe	April 2012

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**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** 27 July 2009

RECOMMENDATION		EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
		existing / future schemes to encourage further provision.			
(b)	That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living.	Specific housing needs will be identified for each young person leaving care via their Pathway Plan	None	Jim Murdoch	Currently achieved
		Trends of need to be reported and used in planning for new provision	None	Jim Murdoch	September 2009 and thence six-monthly
		Create and maintain a directory of all housing providers.	Included in post below	Jim Murdoch, Lynda Igoe	December 2009
		The viability of the jointly funded Young Person's Accommodation Officer (currently temporary) being reviewed as a permanent appointment	Possible budget pressure to increase current provision to £35,000 [gross cost] per year, funded jointly by	Jim Murdoch, Lynda Igoe, Danny Dunleavey	October 2009

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

5.1  
Appendix A

**NAME OF FORUM:** Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

**NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY:** Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason

**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** 27 July 2009

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(c)	That the Children's Services and the Regeneration and Planning Services Departments examine Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's 'Homelessness Strategy 2008-2011' and:-	Children's Services and Regeneration and Planning Services Departments		
	(i) Adopt those examples of good practice which can assist the tackling of youth homelessness in Hartlepool; and	Provide out of hours telephone access for urgent advice to Care Leavers  Hartlepool's Homelessness Strategy is currently being reviewed and will be produced for 2009-12 presented to Cabinet for approval by March 2010. The prevention of homelessness amongst young people is key within our existing strategy and will continue to be a high priority, any identified good practice will be incorporated.	£3,038 to be funded from within current budget Not Applicable	Jim Murdoch  Lynda Igoe  September 2009  March 2010

# OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

5.1  
Appendix A

**NAME OF FORUM:** Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

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**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** 27 July 2009

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(ii) Where partnership funding is insufficient for the creation of supported accommodation in Hartlepool, that the Council allocates additional resources.	Funding will be applied for from Supporting People and the Council's budget process as appropriate.	Significant	Penny Garner-Carpenter, Jim Murdoch	Scheme dependant
(d) That during the planning stages for new housing developments in Hartlepool:-  (i) Consideration be given to appropriate accommodation for young people; and	The Strategic Housing Market Assessment was completed in Hartlepool in 2007 and throughout the sub region in January 2009, and the needs and aspirations of young people are specifically taken into account. This will be a key feature in future assessments which are carried out approximately every three years.	Not Applicable	Penny Garner-Carpenter	January 2011
(ii) Young people are consulted about	In addition to (d)(ii) and as part of recommendation (a), that	To be funded within existing	Jim Murdoch, Lynda Igoe	March 2011

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

5.1  
Appendix A

**NAME OF FORUM:** Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

**NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY:** Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason

**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** 27 July 2009

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
	accommodation that would be appropriate for their needs.	consideration will be given to the training of young people to be involved in the conversion of existing Council buildings to supported accommodation provision.	budget	
(e)	That adequate information is available to young people on how to access advice on the housing and homelessness services.	After consulting young people, publish a booklet giving relevant information and advice. The content to be available on websites operated by the council, schools and partners	Publication costs of £1,000 per year [includes costs of involving young people as a reference group]	Jim Murdoch, Lynda Igoe  January 2010

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

10 September 2009



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** SIX MONTHLY MONITORING OF AGREED  
CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM'S  
RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with the six monthly progress made on the delivery of the agreed scrutiny recommendations of this Forum.

### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 As Members will be aware, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 21 November 2007 approved the introduction of an electronic database to monitor the delivery of agreed scrutiny recommendations since the 2005/06 Municipal Year. Approval was also given for the introduction of a standardised six monthly cycle for the submission of progress reports to each Scrutiny Forum.
- 2.2 The newly created electronic database, to be known as the Scrutiny Monitoring Database, will run along the same principles as the Authority's former Corporate Performance Management Database and in addition to provision of standardised six monthly monitoring reports, as detailed above, will provide the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee with a breakdown of progress against all Scrutiny Forums' recommendations on an Annual basis. The introduction of the new database will also provide the ability to produce 'real time' information of the progression of recommendations upon request.
- 2.3 In accordance with the agreed procedure, this report provides for Members information details of progress made against each of the investigations undertaken by the Forum. Attached as **Appendix A** is a Summary Report that breaks down progress made by investigation and **Appendix B**, provides a detailed explanation of progress made against each recommendation.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That progress against the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's agreed recommendations, since the 2005/06 Municipal Year, be noted and explored further where appropriate.

**Contact Officer:-** James Walsh – Scrutiny Support Officer  
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Tel: 01429 523647  
Email: james.walsh@hartlepool.gov.uk

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

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**Children's Services Scrutiny Forum**
**Involving Young People**

<b>N</b>	No longer deliverable	1
<b>G</b>	Target achieved	27

**Raising Boys' Achievements - Bridging the Gender Gap**

<b>G</b>	Target achieved	20
<b>A</b>	Expect to achieve target	1

**The Provision of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) in Hartlepool Schools**

<b>G</b>	Target achieved	17
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**Sustainability of Externally Funded Community Initiatives in Schools**

<b>G</b>	Target achieved	1
<b>A</b>	Expect to achieve target	3

**Access to Recreation Facilities for Children and Young People in Hartlepool**

<b>N</b>	No longer deliverable	1
<b>G</b>	Target achieved	4
<b>A</b>	Expect to achieve target	2

**Hartlepool Borough Council's Foster Care Service**

<b>G</b>	Target achieved	5
<b>A</b>	Expect to achieve target	4

**Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason**

<b>?</b>	No update provided	12
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Department: \*  
Division: \*

Scrutiny: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum  
Scrutiny Enquiry: \*

<b>N</b>	<b>No longer deliverable</b>	<b>2</b>	2.0%
	Children's Services Scrutiny Forum	2	
<b>?</b>	<b>No update provided</b>	<b>12</b>	12.2%
	Children's Services Scrutiny Forum	12	
<b>A</b>	<b>Expect to achieve target</b>	<b>10</b>	10.2%
	Children's Services Scrutiny Forum	10	
<b>G</b>	<b>Target achieved</b>	<b>74</b>	75.5%
	Children's Services Scrutiny Forum	74	
<b>Total No. of Actions</b>		<b>98</b>	

# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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<b>SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:</b>					
<b>CS/05-6/1 INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE</b>					

*Recommendation:*

<b>CS/05-6/1n</b>	<b>That the Council transfers its advertising in youth papers to HYPE magazine so that it is supportive of the principle of involving young people in decisions that affect their lives.</b>
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<b>N</b>	CS/05-6/1n	To explore relative costings and reach of HYPE magazine in relation to other publications, which young people are likely to read.	December 2006	Hype Magazine is no longer functioning at a level where this action would be appropriate.	John Robinson
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

### CS/06-7/2 RAISING BOYS' ACHIEVEMENTS - BRIDGING THE GENDER GAP

#### *Recommendation:*

**CS/06-7/2e That a formal process be developed for the sharing of information and best practice to assist in the raising of boys' achievement levels across all schools in Hartlepool.**

<b>A</b>	CS/06-7/2e(iii)	Train schools in the use of RAISE online for tracking and interpreting data.	December 2009	RAISE online is a national tool that is available for training but will be altered to respond to the 2 levels progress requirement from 2009. Original deadline March 2008. (March 09 Update) Awaiting information for national rollout and subsequent training from the Data team.	Ruth Chalkley
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

### CS/07-8/4 SUSTAINABILITY OF EXTERNALLY FUNDED COMMUNITY INITIATIVES IN SCHOOLS

#### *Recommendation:*

**CS/07-8/4a That a joint Steering Group between the Children Services Department and the Adult and Community Services Department be established to further explore the proposed recommendations of the Independent Sports Consultant, commissioned specifically as part of this investigation.**

<b>A</b>	<b>CS/07-8/4a</b>	<p>Rather than establish a new joint Steering Group, in light of the wide reaching nature of community facilities, and the current schools transformation programme, it is suggested that this is referred to the Schools Transformation Extended Project Team.</p> <p>This team meets regularly and has representatives from all departments and a separate "Extended Services Work stream", a sub group of the main project team, has recently been established. This should ensure that a Borough wide view is formed regarding all community facilities</p>	<p>December 2008</p>	<p>The position regarding existing schemes has been stabilised following reports to the Schools Forum in October 2008. The Council's imminent restructuring will create a "Peoples Department" and issues regarding the sustainability of existing and any new school based community facilities will be reviewed as part of the Business Transformation Service Delivery Review process.</p>	<p>Stephen Haley</p>
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

### CS/07-8/4 SUSTAINABILITY OF EXTERNALLY FUNDED COMMUNITY INITIATIVES IN SCHOOLS

#### *Recommendation:*

**CS/07-8/4c That pending the outcome(s) of the joint Steering Group (recommendation (a) refers) immediate consideration be given to providing assistance to those schemes that are likely to encounter future sustainability issue.**

<b>A</b>	<b>CS/07-8/4c</b>	After business plans and financial forecasts have been prepared and agreed with schools it will be possible to identify sustainability issues and quantify the level of any subsidies that may be required from the LA in future years. Any bids will then be submitted as part of the Council's annual budget cycle.	October 2008	A contingency provision of up to £100,000 per year was secured by the Children's Services Department as part of its 2009/10 budget submission. This will be made available to subsidise those facilities who have demonstrated that, despite taking all appropriate actions, they are unable to break even financially. Following closure of the 2008/09 accounts no schemes carried forward deficits but there are at least 2 schemes which may require funding this year.	Stephen Haley
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#### *Recommendation:*

**CS/07-8/4d That the findings of this investigation be brought to the attention of school governing bodies to raise awareness of the issue and the proposed way forward.**

<b>A</b>	<b>CS/07-8/4d</b>	Agreed. This will also be reported to the Schools Forum and a training package will be developed by the Children's Services Finance Team covering the financial implications of Community Facilities.	April 2009	Following the School Forum's acceptance of the LA's guidance at the 8th October meeting individual letters have been sent to relevant Headteachers clarifying actions required. The local scheme for financing schools has been updated. The requirement for schools to prepare medium term financial forecasts for community facilities along side main school budgets is being embedded this year by School Finance Officers,	Stephen Haley
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

**CS/07-8/5 ACCESS TO RECREATION FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL**

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/07-8/5a That a process be implemented to ensure that young people are fully supported to participate in the future development and provision of recreation activities in Hartlepool.**

<b>A</b>	<b>CS/07-8/5a</b>	Children's services department will continue to support council departments to implement the seven vision statements for participation; In particular we will identify key staff involved in developing recreation facilities and provide targeted support to enhance current practice.	April 2010	Hartlepool now has a townwide young people's school forum and is developing a townwide primary school forum. These forums can be approached to give views on recreational activity. Target should be achieved April 2010 (original target 31 March 2009)	John Robinson
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### *Recommendation:*

**CS/07-8/5b That as part of any planned future recreation activities consideration be given to the use of 'pods' and youth shelters, with the close involvement of young people, and other stakeholders, throughout the process from location / selection of structure to Planning application.**

<b>N</b>	<b>CS/07-8/5b(i)</b>	We will hold a seminar for stakeholder that includes councillors, young people and other Community members to discuss the issues and implications of youth shelters.	January 2009	We have been unable to progress this agenda as set out as the work has moved on to the development of a new skate park which has been achieved using the process described in the action. Young people did not ask for youth shelters and were more concerned with the skate boarding developments. This consultation has set a model for future developments that we can follow as it included all stakeholders in the community. If young people ask for youth shelters through Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) or other forums we will re-establish this project. In the meantime this target will not be met.	John Robinson
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

CS/07-8/5	ACCESS TO RECREATION FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL
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### *Recommendation:*

CS/07-8/5b	<b>That as part of any planned future recreation activities consideration be given to the use of 'pods' and youth shelters, with the close involvement of young people, and other stakeholders, throughout the process from location / selection of structure to Planning application.</b>
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<b>A</b> CS/07-8/5b(ii)	We will support the development of a corporate strategy for the use of youth shelters and other community based facilities for young people that link with other community focussed initiatives such as local area forums and neighbourhood action plans.	March 2009	We continue to struggle to get manufacturers to hold a seminar. Progress has been made with community forums and the police in developing a dialogue with residents regarding access to open spaces. Further work is to be done through the Participation of young people in Neighbourhood action plans.	John Robinson
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

**CS/08-9/6 HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL'S FOSTER CARE SERVICE**

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/6a That the current review of Hartlepool Borough Council's Foster Care Service be completed as a matter of urgency in order to stabilise recruitment and retention difficulties.**

<b>A</b>	<b>CS/08-9/6a</b>	Team Manager has been appointed, new manager will take up post in January 2009. Once social work post has been filled, further advert will be posted January 2009. Upon taking post, team manager will produce a detailed service development plan.	July 2009	Interviews for Social Worker posts are on 27th July. Draft service development plan will be circulated for consultation with stakeholders w/c 20th July 2009 (original deadline 31 Jan 09)	Jim Murdoch
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### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/6b That innovative approaches in the future marketing of the foster care service be further explored in the following areas. (i) Lack of family group provision; (ii) Identification of suitable location(s) in the Town for a permanent advertisement for the recruitment of foster carers; and (iii) Through untapped mediums, such as Radio Hartlepool and leaflets in doctor's surgeries, libraries and shopping centres.**

<b>A</b>	<b>CS/08-9/6b(i)</b>	Matching Needs and Services exercise to be completed profiling children becoming looked after to identify gaps in existing provision.	December 2009	Background work undertaken including liaison with another local authority that have been using matching needs to services for several years. Delay in receipt of information has delayed the start of exercise. However the information is expected to be received later this month. (original deadline 31 March 09)	Keith Munro
<b>A</b>	<b>CS/08-9/6b(iii)</b>	Targeted recruitment campaign to be undertaken.	July 2009	Scoping of foster carers in progress and awaiting results of scoping exercise regarding Looked After Children. (original deadline 30 April 09)	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas



# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

CS/08-9/6 HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL'S FOSTER CARE SERVICE

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/6d That the Foster Care Service Section on the Council's website be redesigned to make it a more accessible and comprehensive source of information.**

<b>A</b>	CS/08-9/6d	Consultation undertaken with foster carers about what would be required from a web page. Benchmark national best practice examples. Web pages to be updated and redesigned taking above into consideration and seeking advice and guidance on 'what works' from web designers. Work to be undertaken with departmental website representatives in conjunction with additional corporate advice to explore ways to promote a short cut link to fostering pages, and upload information packs and application forms.	October 2009	Issue identified within service development plan and work on-going to develop areas identified in action. (original deadline 1 June 2009)	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

**CS/08-9/7 APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION FOR HOMELESS YOUNG PEOPLE FOR WHATEVER REASON**

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/7a(i) That supported accommodation providers be encouraged to set up more facilities in the Town, although before this occurs:- (i) Residents in an area where a scheme is planned be properly consulted and reassured that supported accommodation is not only beneficial, but is to be encouraged.**

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CS/08-9/7a(i)1

Discussions take place as part of the Business Transformation Programme to explore the viability of converting existing Council owned property into appropriate supported accommodation for young people.

March 2011 Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.

Jim Murdoch

?

CS/08-9/7a(i)2

Advice and guidance on recommended consultation methods to be developed and supplied to supported accommodation providers prior to the development of a scheme.

January 2010 Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.

Jim Murdoch

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/7a(ii) That supported accommodation providers be encouraged to set up more facilities in the Town, although before this occurs:- (ii) Any scheme should include the provision of at least one if not two emergency beds or 'crash pads'.**

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CS/08-9/7a(ii)

The success of the 'crash pad' at Gainford House will be reviewed as part of the Supporting People review and evidenced as good practice for existing / future schemes to encourage further provision.

April 2012 Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.

Lynda Igoe

# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009






Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

**CS/08-9/7 APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION FOR HOMELESS YOUNG PEOPLE FOR WHATEVER REASON**

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/7b That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living.**

	CS/08-9/7b(i)	Specific housing needs will be identified for each young person leaving care via their Pathway Plan.	July 2009	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Jim Murdoch
	CS/08-9/7b(ii)	Trends of need to be reported and used in planning for new provision.	September 2009	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Jim Murdoch
	CS/08-9/7b(iii)	Create and maintain a directory of all housing providers.	December 2009	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Jim Murdoch
	CS/08-9/7b(iv)	The viability of the jointly funded Young Person's Accommodation Officer (currently temporary) being reviewed as a permanent appointment.	October 2009	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Jim Murdoch
	CS/08-9/7b(v)	Provide out of hours telephone access for urgent advice to Care Leavers.	September 2009	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Jim Murdoch

# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

**CS/08-9/7 APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION FOR HOMELESS YOUNG PEOPLE FOR WHATEVER REASON**

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/7c(i) That the Children's Services and the Regeneration and Planning Services Departments examine Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's 'Homelessness Strategy 2008-2011' and:- (i) ☐ Adopt those examples of good practice which can assist the tackling of youth homelessness in Hartlepool.**

<b>? CS/08-9/7c(i)</b>	Hartlepool's Homelessness Strategy is currently being reviewed and will be produced for 2009-12 presented to Cabinet for approval by March 2010. The prevention of homelessness amongst young people is key within our existing strategy and will continue to be a high priority, any identified good practice will be incorporated.	March 2010	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Lynda Igoe
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### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/7c(ii) That the Children's Services and the Regeneration and Planning Services Departments examine Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's 'Homelessness Strategy 2008-2011' and:- (ii) ☐ Where partnership funding is insufficient for the creation of supported accommodation in Hartlepool, that the Council allocates additional resources.**

<b>? CS/08-9/7c(ii)</b>	Funding will be applied for from Supporting People and the Council's budget process as appropriate.	January 2012	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Penny Garner-Carpenter
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# Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

August 2009

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
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## SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

**CS/08-9/7 APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION FOR HOMELESS YOUNG PEOPLE FOR WHATEVER REASON**

### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/7d(i) That during the planning stages for new housing developments in Hartlepool:- (i) Consideration be given to appropriate accommodation for young people.**

<b>? CS/08-9/7d(i)</b>	The Strategic Housing Market Assessment was completed in Hartlepool in 2007 and throughout the sub region in January 2009, and the needs and aspirations of young people are specifically taken into account. This will be a key feature in future assessments which are carried out approximately every three years.	January 2011	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Penny Garner-Carpenter
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### *Recommendation:*

**CS/08-9/7d(ii) That during the planning stages for new housing developments in Hartlepool:- (ii) Young people are consulted about accommodation that would be appropriate for their needs.**

<b>? CS/08-9/7d(ii)</b>	In addition to (d)(ii) and as part of recommendation (a), that consideration will be given to the training of young people to be involved in the conversion of existing Council buildings to supported accommodation provision.	March 2011	Awaiting Action Plan to be Presented to Forum on 25 August 2009.	Jim Murdoch
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## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

10 September 2009



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO TARGETED AND  
DETACHED YOUTH WORK – SCOPING REPORT

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To make proposals to Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum for their forthcoming investigation into 'Targeted and Detached Youth Work'.

### **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 At the meeting of this Forum on 14 July 2009, Members determined their work programme for the 2009/10 Municipal Year. The topic of 'Targeted and Detached Youth Work' was selected as the first Scrutiny topic for consideration during the current Municipal Year. Furthermore, Members suggested that this investigation should form the major in-depth Scrutiny Inquiry for the Forum's 2009/10 work programme.
- 2.2 In July 2005 the Government launched a consultation exercise entitled 'Youth Matters' which sought to ensure that young people had more positive things to do and more places to go in their spare time. As a result of this consultation 19,000 young people responded and in March 2006 the Government published 'Youth Matters: Next Steps' with the aim of giving young people the opportunity of "Something to do, somewhere to go, someone to talk to".<sup>1</sup>
- 2.3 One the outcomes from 'Youth Matters', was that Integrated Youth Support was a core factor in ensuring that all agencies; including the Youth Support Service, Connexions, Youth Offending Team and other providers of youth support; were working in greater partnership in order that all young people

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<sup>1</sup> Department for Education and Skills, March 2006

had the opportunity of something to do, somewhere to go and someone to talk to.

2.4 Central to the delivery of the outcomes of 'Youth Matters' is Hartlepool Borough Council's Youth Service, which has four distinct areas of work:-

- (i) Generic Building Based Youth Work (for example; developmental and recreational facilities for young people);
- (ii) Participation Youth Work (to help young people to be involved in the decision-making processes);
- (iii) Targeted Youth Work (to provide early intervention to support young people at risk); and
- (iv) Detached and Mobile Youth Work (to ensure greater access to different groups of young people, engaging with young people where they meet and congregate).

These four areas of work are achieved by delivery through a variety of activities and in partnership with a number of external agencies.

### **3. OVERALL AIM OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION/ENQUIRY**

3.1 To gain an understanding of Targeted and Detached Youth Support Work delivered by Hartlepool Borough Council's Youth Service and the collaborative requirements of this approach.

### **4. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION**

4.1 The following Terms of Reference for the investigation are proposed:-

- (a) To gain an understanding of Detached Youth Work and how it is delivered in Hartlepool;
- (b) To gain an understanding of Targeted Youth Work and how it is delivered in Hartlepool;
- (c) To evaluate the success of Detached and Targeted Youth Work in comparison to local and national baselines / targets;
- (d) To assess the recruitment and retention of staff employed to deliver the Detached and Targeted Youth Work programmes; and
- (e) To examine the delivery of Detached and Targeted Youth Work through partner organisations and organisations in the voluntary sector.

## **5. POTENTIAL AREAS OF ENQUIRY / SOURCES OF EVIDENCE**

- 5.1 Members of the Forum can request a range of evidential and comparative information throughout the Scrutiny review.
- 5.2 The Forum can invite a variety of people to attend to assist in the forming of a balanced and focused range of recommendations as follows:-
- (a) Cabinet Member with Portfolio Holder for Children's Services;
  - (b) Director, or appropriate officers, from the Children's Services Department;
  - (c) Hartlepool Grant Givers;
  - (d) Team Around the Secondary School (TASS) (multi-agency approach, includes Youth Offending Service, Anti Social Behaviour Unit, Connexions, Family Intervention Programme (FIP), Barnardos etc);
  - (e) Local residents;
  - (f) Representatives of minority communities of interest or heritage; and
  - (g) Ward Councillors.
- 5.3 The Forum may also wish to refer to a variety of documentary / internet sources, key suggestions are as highlighted below:-
- (a) Hartlepool Youth Service Operation Plan 2009/10  
[http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/29.07.09\\_-\\_Children-s\\_Services\\_Portfolio\\_Agenda\\_1\\_.pdf](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/29.07.09_-_Children-s_Services_Portfolio_Agenda_1_.pdf)
  - (b) Youth Matters: Next Steps – Something to do, somewhere to go, someone to talk to  
[http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/\\_download-id=3287.url](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/_download-id=3287.url)

## **6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY**

- 6.1 Community engagement plays a crucial role in the Scrutiny process and paragraph 5.2 details who the Forum could involve. However, thought will need to be given to the structure in the way that the Forum wishes to encourage those views.
- 6.2 In addition, diversity issues have been considered in the background research for this enquiry under the Equality Standards for Local Government. As such the views of local diversity groups will be sought throughout the inquiry where felt appropriate and time allows. Consequently, consideration has been given as to how the views of people from minority communities of interest or heritage (for example, people with disabilities, people with learning disabilities, people with mental health problems, black and minority ethnic people, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people), which may not be gathered



through the usual community engagement routes, can be included over the course of the inquiry.

## **7. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM THE DEDICATED OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BUDGET**

- 7.1 Consideration has been given, through the background research for this scoping report, to the need to request funding from the dedicated Overview and Scrutiny budget to aid Members in their enquiry. At this stage no additional funding has been identified as being necessary to support Members in their investigation. Members, however, may wish to seek additional funding over the course of the investigation and the pro forma attached at **Appendix A** outlines the criteria on which a request to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee will be judged.

## **8. PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION**

- 8.1 Detailed below is the proposed timetable for the review to be undertaken, which may be changed at any stage:-

**10 Sept 2009** – Consideration of the Scoping Report by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

**1 Oct 2009** – Formal meeting of the Forum to receive:-

- (i) A 'Setting the Scene' report from the Children's Services Department to include an explanation of the differences between detached and targeted youth work; and
- (ii) Evidence from the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (*subject to availability*).

**Oct – Dec 2009** – Interested Members to undertake visits to Youth Bus and / or Detached Youth Worker in action in a particular area (*Scrutiny Support Officer to co-ordinate times / venues etc*)

**12 Jan 2010** – Formal meeting of the Forum to receive:-

- (i) Evidence on Detached Youth Support from Council's Youth Service and partner organisations;
- (ii) Feedback from Members visiting the Youth Bus
- (iii) Feedback from Members shadowing a Detached Youth Worker

- 23 Feb 2010** – Formal meeting of the Forum to receive:-
- (i) Evidence on Targeted Youth Support from Council's Youth Service and partner organisations;
  - (ii) Findings of the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills' (Ofsted) survey carried out 22-24 September 2009 into the impact of Integrated Youth Service, which will cover the effectiveness of Targeted Youth Support (*dependent on availability of feedback*); and
  - (iii) Evidence on the recruitment and retention of staff working in Detached and Targeted Youth Support.
- 30 Mar 2010** – Consideration of Draft Final Report by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum
- 23 Apr 2010** – Consideration of Final Report by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee
- 10 May 2010** – Consideration of Final Report by the Cabinet (tentative date)

## 9. RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 Members are recommended to agree the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's remit of the Scrutiny investigation as outlined in paragraph 4.1

**Contact Officer:-** James Walsh – Scrutiny Support Officer  
 Chief Executives Department – Corporate Strategy  
 Hartlepool Borough Council  
 Tel:- 01429 523647  
 Email:- james.walsh@hartlepool.gov.uk

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (a) Department for Education and Skills (March 2006) *Youth Matters: Next Steps – Something to do, somewhere to go, someone to talk to*, Available from: [http://www.dcsf.gov.uk-everychildmatters-\\_download-id=3287.url](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk-everychildmatters-_download-id=3287.url) (Accessed 12 August 2009)

- (b) Department for Education and Skills (July 2005) *Somewhere to go? Something to do?*, Available from:  
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/1612-2005PDF-EN-01.pdf>  
(Accessed 12 August 2009)
- (c) Youth Matters – Green Paper (July 2005), Available from:  
<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/Cm6629.pdf> (Accessed 13 August 2009)
- (d) Hartlepool Youth Service Operation Plan 2009/10, Available from:  
[http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/29.07.09\\_-\\_Children-s\\_Services\\_Portfolio\\_Agenda\\_1\\_.pdf](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/29.07.09_-_Children-s_Services_Portfolio_Agenda_1_.pdf) (Accessed 13 August 2009)

**APPENDIX A**

**PRO-FORMA TO REQUEST FUNDING TO SUPPORT  
CURRENT SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION**

<p><b>Title of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:</b> Children's Services Scrutiny Forum</p>
<p><b>Title of the current scrutiny investigation for which funding is requested:</b> Targeted and Detached Youth Work</p>
<p><b>To clearly identify the purpose for which additional support is required:</b></p>
<p><b>To outline indicative costs to be incurred as a result of the additional support:</b></p>
<p><b>To outline any associated timescale implications:</b></p>
<p><b>To outline the 'added value' that may be achieved by utilising the additional support as part of the undertaking of the Scrutiny Investigation:</b></p>

**To outline any requirements / processes to be adhered to in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules / Standing Orders:**

**To outline the possible disadvantages of not utilising the additional support during the undertaking of the Scrutiny Investigation:**

**To outline any possible alternative means of additional support outside of this proposal:**