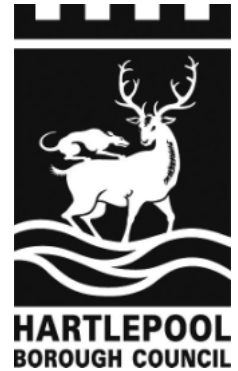


CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Tuesday, 12 January 2010

at 4.30 pm

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

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

Co-opted Members: David Relton and Tracey Priestman

Resident Representatives: Joan Steel and Sally Vokes

Young People's Representatives: Michael Burford, Karen Forcer, Arran Frame, Chris Lund, Rebecca Richards and 1 vacancy

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 4 November 2009
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. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Scrutiny Investigation into Detached and Targeted Youth Work

7.1 Detached Youth Work:-

- (a) Covering Report – *Scrutiny Manager*; and
- (b) Presentations from:-
 - (i) Principal Youth Officer;
 - (ii) Senior Youth Worker; and
 - (iii) Barnardos (The Fast Team).

7.2 Detached Youth Work – Feedback from Site Visits:-

- (a) Covering Report – *Scrutiny Manager*
- (b) Verbal evidence from Members

7.3 Evidence from Children’s Services Portfolio Holder:-

- (a) Covering Report – *Scrutiny Manager*; and
- (b) Verbal evidence from the Children’s Services Portfolio Holder

Scrutiny Database

7.4 Six Monthly Monitoring Update of Agreed Children’s Services Scrutiny Forum Recommendations – *Scrutiny Manager*

8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN

No items.

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

i) Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 20 January 2010 at 4.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

4 November 2009

The meeting commenced at 4.30 p.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Shaw (In the Chair)

Councillors: Aiken, C Akers-Belcher, London and Simmons

Resident Representative: Joan Steel

Young Peoples Representatives: Michael Burford, Arran Frame and Rebecca Richards

Also in attendance Councillor Hill, Children's Services Portfolio Holder

Officers: Nicola Bailey, Director of Child and Adult Services
Sally Robinson, Assistant Director of Children's Services
(Safeguarding & Specialist Services)
Kelly Goulding, Participation Officer, Barnardos
Zoe McKenna, Participation Worker
John Robinson, Senior Children's Services Officer
Joan Wilkins, Scrutiny Manager
Amanda Whitaker, Democratic Services Team

31. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Fleet, Griffin and Preece and Resident Representative Sally Vokes

32. Declarations of interest by Members

None

33. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2009 were confirmed.

The Scrutiny Manager updated the Forum on the following matters arising from the minutes:-

- The details requested from the Principal Youth Worker, relating to the number of young people accessing generic building based youth work activities, would be circulated.
- With regard to the number of young people using the youth bus, the information would be presented to the Scrutiny Forum in January.
- The Chair would be discussing, with the Principal Youth Officer, reference made to an issue of underage drinking in one of the youth centres in the town.

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

No items

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

No items

36. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents

(i) Children's Services Department: Budget and Policy Framework Initial Consultation Proposals 2010/11 – *Scrutiny Manager*

The Scrutiny Manager advised that this item provided the opportunity, as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/11, for this Scrutiny Forum to consider the Child and Adult Services Department's pressures relating to the provision of children's services.

The Director of Child and Adult Services made a presentation to the Forum which gave an overarching view of the general risks facing the Child and Adult Services departmental budgets and key policy issues for the year. The Director detailed the following budget pressures for 2010/2011 relating to the provision of Children's Services..

- £125,000 – Brierton School site pre Dyke House decant
- £220,000 – Home to School Transport

The Forum recognised the nature of the budget pressures and supported the pressures as reported.

Decision

- (i) That the pressures relating to the Children's services areas of service provision within the Child and Adult Services Department be supported as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/11
- (ii) That the Chair report the Forum's support for the budget pressures to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 27th November 2009 to enable a formal response to be presented to Cabinet on 14th December 2009.
- (iii) That the Forum look forward to participating in the next stage of the budget consultation process. At which time, further details will be available of the Government's financial settlement and any possible 'knock on' budgetary implications for the Children's Services Department..

37. Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report and Business Plan 2009-2010 (*Assistant Director (Safeguarding and Targeted Services)*)

The Assistant Director of Children's Services (Safeguarding & Specialist Services) introduced the Annual Report and Business Plan of Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) 2009 – 2010.

The Children Act 2004 required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to co-ordinate the local arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The requirements for the delivery of the LSCB were laid out in the Government statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2006). The LSCB was the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how local organisations would work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and for ensuring this was carried out effectively. The report set out the remit of the LSCB together with details of those organisations represented on the Board.

It was noted that the work of the LSCB needed to be properly planned and LSCB's should have a clear work programme including measurable objectives and a budget. 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' outlined the responsibility on the LSCB to produce a work plan which was endorsed by all Board members and made publicly available. It detailed that the Board, in any plan or annual report should include:

'Relevant management information on activity in the course of the previous year; and a review of its work in the previous year – for example progress against objectives. This will enable the LSCB's work to be scrutinised by the local authority (perhaps by the overview and scrutiny committees), by other local partners and by other key stakeholders as well as the inspectorates.' (Section 3.84)

Attached to the report was the Annual Report and Business Plan of Hartlepool LSCB 2009 – 2010. This document included, amongst other things, details of the structure of the LSCB, a review of management information and child

protection activity in 2008/09, membership of the Board and a review of the work programme for 2008/09. The report outlined the work of the LSCB, the priorities and work plan in 2009/10 and how the key partner organisations in the town were working together to ensure the arrangements for safeguarding children were effective.

Members discussed issues arising from the composition of the Board and the role of the Children's Services Portfolio Holder in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Decision

The Forum noted the Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board's Annual Report and Business Plan 2009/10.

38. Issues Identified from Forward Plan

No items

39. Any other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

(i) Scrutiny Investigation into Detached and Targeted Youth Work – Site Visit Arrangements – The Chairman reported that the Scrutiny Team had not received any responses in respect of attendance at the site visits. The Chairman highlighted that this was not acceptable and that the Scrutiny Manager would be contacting Members again.

40. Date and Time of Next Meeting

It was reported that the next meeting would be held on 12th January 2010 at 4.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

The meeting concluded at 5.20 p.m.

JANE SHAW

CHAIRMAN

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

12 January 2010



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: DETACHED YOUTH WORK - PRESENTATIONS - COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform Members that representative's from the Youth Service and Barnardos will be in attendance at today's meeting to deliver separate presentations in relation to the operation of detached youth work services in Hartlepool.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 As part of the Forum's ongoing investigation in to the provision of targeted and detached you work services, Members will today receive presentations from the following individuals:-

(i) Peter Davies, Principal Youth Officer – Detached Youth Work Overview Presentation;

(ii) Steve Sproston, Senior Youth Worker – Presentation on the Practical Provision of Detached and Mobile Youth Work; and

(iii) Lee Cain, Bamardos (The Fast Team) – Presentation from the Third Sector on the Provision of Detached Youth Services.

2.2 In support of these presentations, it was felt that it would be important for Members to be given the opportunity to hear the views of those who use detached youth services in Hartlepool. In order to do this, and in addition to the visits outlined at item 7.2 of this agenda, a selection of young people will be in attendance at today's meeting to assist in the presentation of information and to participate in discussions.

- 2.3 At the time that this report being circulated confirmation had been received of attendance by three young people from the Fens (in relation to the provision of detached youth work services) and two young people from King Oswy (in relation to the provision of mobile youth work services). A selection of staff members who support these young people on a daily basis will also be in attendance at today's meeting to participate in discussions and assist Members were required.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That Members note the content of both this report and the presentations, seeking clarification on any relevant issues from the representatives in attendance, where felt appropriate.

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

There were no background papers referred to in the preparation of this report.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

12 January 2010



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: DETACHED YOUTH WORK – FEEDBACK FROM
SITE VISITS – COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To facilitate a discussion amongst Members of this Forum in relation to the site visits to observe detached youth work in Hartlepool.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 As part of the evidence gathering process for the undertaking of the investigation into the provision of targeted and detached youth work services in Hartlepool, a selection of visits were undertaken by Members of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum in the weeks commencing 16 and 23 November 2009. **Appendix A** outlines the general findings from these visits. In addition to this a further visit was undertaken by the Chair of the Forum on the 21 December 2009, details of the outcome of which will be reported verbally at the meeting.

2.2 In line with good practice, Members of this Forum who were in attendance are requested to share / discuss their findings at today's meeting.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members of the Forum discuss their findings from the site visits as outlined in paragraph 2.1 of this report.

Contact Officer:- Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Manager
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

There were no background papers referred to in the preparation of this report.

Date of Visit and Location	Councillor	Question	Comments
<p>17 November 2009</p> <p>King Oswy Drive, St. Hild's School</p> <p>(Youth Bus Only)</p>	<p>(i) Cllr Simmonds</p> <p>(ii) Resident Rep. Joan Steel</p>	<p>What were your initial impressions of the detached service on offer?</p>	<p>(i) Very impressed – provides a much needed and well used resource for young people in the area.</p> <p>(ii) Very cramped but relaxed, cheerful and welcoming. The young people did not resent visitors as I had expected, but were quite willing to chat. Respect for the Youth Workers.</p>
		<p>If you spoke to staff, what information did they tell you about the quality of service on offer?</p>	<p>(i) The service is well used by young people, with more than 20 individuals per week participating.</p> <p>(ii) They seem proud of their achievements. They offer a range of activities aimed at the interests/information needs of their members and a wide range of residential week-ends and activity days within the area. They are constricted by the lack of space and storage within the bus.</p>

Date of Visit and Location	Councillor	Question	Comments
<p>King Oswy Drive, St. Hild's School</p> <p>(Youth Bus Only)</p> <p>*Continued</p>	<p>(i) Cllr Simmonds</p> <p>(ii) Resident Rep. Joan Steel</p>	<p>If you spoke to staff did they offer any suggestions for improvements?</p>	<p>(i) The young people expressed a wish for a bigger bus with real TV and a small kitchen facility.</p> <p>(ii) A bigger bus!! Preferably a double Decker. A current members' activity is the design of a larger vehicle to include a communal area which will seat more than the 3-4 as in the present one (young people especially young adolescent males need space as they grow into their bodies!) A kitchen area with a micro-wave and cold drinks storage area. A toilet was also requested by members.*</p>
		<p>If you spoke to young people, what were their thoughts about the service they were accessing?</p>	<p>(i) They need a bigger bus with toilet facilities. "a warm space"; "keeps me off the streets"; access to sex education (and other educational/personal development) and condoms</p> <p>(ii) They have an ownership attitude to their bus. Will participate in small games activities and projects if they find them interesting. Undemanding about a greater range of activities, they see the bus more as a social centre.</p>

Date of Visit and Location	Councillor	Question	Comments
<p>King Oswy Drive, St. Hild's School</p> <p>(Youth Bus Only)</p> <p>*Continued</p>	<p>(i) Cllr Simmonds</p> <p>(ii) Resident Rep. Joan Steel</p>	<p>If you spoke to young people did they offer any suggestions for services that were currently not being provided, but which would be appreciated?</p>	<p>(i) Most of the youngsters were happy with what is already provided, but a wish for a bigger bus was mentioned several times.</p> <p>In conclusion the staff clearly had a very good relationship with the young people, quietly challenging inappropriate behaviour on the rare occasions it was displayed and offering friendly and non-intrusive intervention when they felt it to be appropriate. We were received very well by both the staff and the youngsters and we were both made to feel very welcome. The young people had made a few successful bids for funding for their activities during the year and were keen to discuss their success.</p> <p>(ii) Staff opened up the question of bigger premises but the young people were very explicit about this need. Did not feel 'short-changed' in any way compared to centre-based youth work. See* above.</p>

Date of Visit and Location	Councillor	Question	Comments
<p>King Oswy Drive, St. Hild's School</p> <p>(Youth Bus Only)</p> <p>*Continued</p>	<p>(i) Cllr Simmonds</p> <p>(ii) Resident Rep. Joan Steel</p>	<p>Please detail any other information from your site visit experience that you think Forum Members would be interested in hearing about.</p>	<p>(i) No comment.</p> <p>(ii) Evidence of social issues projects followed by the young people were on posters in the bus e.g. STI (socially transmitted infections) – how to detect, avoid and treat them.</p> <p>Evidence of their project was restricted by the display space available.</p> <p>Work against racism had culminated in the production of a linen shoulder bag decorated with slogans and sketches.</p> <p>We were presented with a bag on condition that it was used and shown to other members of the Forum – how's that for pride in what you've achieved!</p>
<p>25th November 2009</p> <p>Town Centre detached Youth Work</p>	<p>Resident Rep. Joan Steel</p>	<p>What were your initial impressions of the detached service on offer?</p>	<p>Dedicated workers fully committed to detached work.</p>

Date of Visit and Location	Councillor	Question	Comments
<p>Town Centre detached Youth Work</p> <p>*Continued</p>	<p>Resident Rep. Joan Steel</p>	<p>If you spoke to staff, what information did they tell you about the quality of service on offer?</p>	<p>Staff talked about the young people they meet regularly and relate to. They were accepted by young people in very relaxed, even casual manner, but always with respect. It was apparent that they are trusted, as shown by the fact that the young people give their names and addresses - having first established why they were wanted.</p>
		<p>If you spoke to staff did they offer any suggestions for improvements?</p>	<p>Only in the surroundings in which they work in the Skate Park at Mill House. Repairs to existing lighting and increased lighting would help to identify trouble-makers in the groups of different cultures who use the facilities.</p>
		<p>If you spoke to young people, what were their thoughts about the service they were accessing?</p>	<p>Non-skaters use the park as an outdoor youth club. They were vehement in their need for improvements to the skate park which appeared rather scruffy and neglected. "More benches, an overhead heater, repairs to non-functioning lights and increased lighting to eliminate a 'blind spot' for cameras. Take wall down and provide space for social users."</p>

Date of Visit and Location	Councillor	Question	Comments
<p>Town Centre detached Youth Work</p> <p>*Continued</p>	<p>Resident Rep. Joan Steel</p>	<p>If you spoke to young people did they offer any suggestions for services that were currently not being provided, but which would be appreciated?</p>	<p>Seemed quite happy with their detached workers and accepted them easily. They were very concerned about the 'blind spot on cameras' particularly as only 3 nights ago an older man " about 30 who was on poppers" had taken the bike of a youngster and rode off with it.</p>

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

12 January 2010



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: DETACHED AND TARGETED YOUTH WORK INVESTIGATION – EVIDENCE FROM THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER - COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform Members that, in accordance with the wishes of the Forum an invitation has been extended to the Children's Services Portfolio Holder to attend today's meeting (subject to availability) to provide evidence in relation to the ongoing investigation into 'Detached and Targeted Youth Work'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 10 September 2009, the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry / Sources of Evidence were approved by the Committee for this scrutiny investigation.

2.2 Consequently, the Authority's Children's Services Portfolio Holder has been invited to attend today's meeting (subject to availability) to provide evidence in relation to her responsibilities, and views on the provision of targeted and detached youth work in Hartlepool.

2.3 During this evidence gathering session it is suggested that responses should be sought from the Children's Services Portfolio Holders in relation to the following key questions:-

- (a) What are your roles and responsibilities in relation to the provision of targeted and detached youth work?
- (b) What are your views on level and quality of targeted and detached youth work provision in Hartlepool?
- (c) Are there any particular examples of success in the provision of detached and targeted youth work in Hartlepool that you would like to share with the Forum?

- (d) Are there any potential areas of improvement in the provision of this service that you would like to bring to the attention of the Forum?

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That Members of the Committee consider the views of the Children's Services Portfolio Holders in relation to the questions outlined in section 2.3.

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

The following background paper was used in preparation of this report:-

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into Targeted and Detached Youth Work - Scoping Report' presented to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 10 September 2009

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

12 January 2010



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

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

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:- Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Manager
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Children's Services Scrutiny Forum
Involving Young People

N	No longer deliverable	1
G	Target achieved	27

Raising Boys' Achievements - Bridging the Gender Gap

G	Target achieved	20
A	Expect to achieve target	1

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

G	Target achieved	17
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Sustainability of Externally Funded Community Initiatives in Schools

G	Target achieved	1
A	Expect to achieve target	3

Access to Recreation Facilities for Children and Young People in Hartlepool

N	No longer deliverable	1
G	Target achieved	6

Hartlepool Borough Council's Foster Care Service

G	Target achieved	6
A	Expect to achieve target	3

Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason

G	Target achieved	5
A	Expect to achieve target	7

Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 2009

Department: *

Scrutiny: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

Division: *

Scrutiny Enquiry: *

N	No longer deliverable	2	2.0%
	Children's Services Scrutiny Forum	2	
A	Expect to achieve target	14	14.3%
	Children's Services Scrutiny Forum	14	
G	Target achieved	82	83.7%
	Children's Services Scrutiny Forum	82	
Total No. of Actions		98	

Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 2009

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

Recommendation:

CS/05-6/1n 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.

N	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

December 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.

A	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 (December 09 Update) Schools have access to RAISE, but are currently awaiting training.	Ruth Chalkley
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Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 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.

A	CS/07-8/4a	<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>	December 2008	<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>	Stephen Haley
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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.

A CS/07-8/4c	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.

A CS/07-8/4d	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

December 2009

Progress Rec. No. Recommendation By When / Milestone Update on progress Lead Officer

SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

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

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.

Progress	Rec. No.	Recommendation	By When / Milestone	Update on progress	Lead Officer
N	CS/07-8/5b(i)	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

Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 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.

A	CS/08-9/6a	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.	January 2010	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). Two staff appointed internally in July but their transfer was delayed due to difficulty in recruiting their replacements. The draft Service development Plan has been included in the revision of the Looked After Strategy document being prepared by the whole Division and is due to be produced by January 2010.	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.

A	CS/08-9/6b(iii)	Targeted recruitment campaign to be undertaken.	December 2009	Information has been collected and a draft Recruitment Strategy written. Finalised version to be produced by the end of December 2009 and become part of the overall Looked After Children's strategy. (original deadline 30 April 09)	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas
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Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 2009

Progress Rec. No. Recommendation By When / Milestone Update on progress Lead Officer

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.

A	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.	June 2010	Issue identified within service development plan and work on-going to develop areas identified in action. Hartlepool Borough Council website to be re-launched by end of 2009 and will inform further development of web pages (original deadline 1 June 2009)	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas
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Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 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.

A	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	Despite efforts to attract potential providers, none have so far expressed an interest. It is still too early to identify any possible Council owned property that may become vacant and hence be considered for use as supported accommodation for young people.	Jim Murdoch
A	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	Joint work by the Housing Advice Team & Commissioning staff of Child & Adult Services department should produce guidance within the time scale.	Jim Murdoch

Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 2009

Progress Rec. No. Recommendation By When / Milestone Update on progress Lead Officer

SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO:

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

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'.

A	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 Discussions with Centrepont, the national youth homelessness charity, are ongoing with a view to them developing a direct access supported accommodation unit for homeless young people in Hartlepool. If successful this will include at least one 'crash pad'. The 'crash pad' at Gainford House has been well used since it opened in March 2009 and a full analysis report will be produced after 12 months of operation and be available in April 2010	Lynda Igoe
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Recommendation:

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

A	CS/08-9/7b(ii)	Trends of need to be reported and used in planning for new provision.	February 2010 The trends will be reported to the Corporate Parenting Forum at their meeting in February 2010 along with the rest of the Leaving Care Annual Report. (Original deadline Sept 09)	Jim Murdoch
A	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 2010 A detailed report is being considered by Senior Managers currently. A central difficulty is converting the post to a permanent one while it is funded by grants and at a time when Business transformation is happening. (original deadline Oct 2009)	Jim Murdoch

Scrutiny Recommendations (Not Completed) Monitoring Report

December 2009

Progress Rec. No. Recommendation By When / Milestone Update on progress Lead Officer

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.

<p>A CS/08-9/7c(i)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>March 2010 Work on the Homelessness Strategy is progressing well and will produce a Strategy document for the next 5 years, 2010-15. Formal consultation on the draft document will take place during January and February 2010 with the final Strategy document being presented to Cabinet for approval in March 2010.</p>	<p>Lynda Igoe</p>
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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.

<p>A CS/08-9/7d(ii)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>March 2011 Preliminary work with young people has identified a willingness to participate in this piece of work by them.</p>	<p>Jim Murdoch</p>
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