

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

DECISION SCHEDULE



Tuesday, 13 April 2010

at 10.00 am

**in Committee Room C,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

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

1. KEY DECISIONS

- 1.1 Schools Capital Works Programme 2010/13 – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 2.1 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Update 2009-2010 – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 2.2 General Sure Start Grant Capital – Early Years Capital
- 2.3 Procurement of Specialist Consultancy to Support Special Educational Needs (SEN) Processes – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 2.4 Resources to complete the implementation of ContactPoint – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 2.5 Setting Up Home Grants for Care Leavers – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 3.1 Draft Annual Review of the Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2010 – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 3.2 Team Around the Primary School – Family Intervention Project (FIP) Housing Challenge – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 3.3 Separated Families Partnership Progress – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

3.4 Strategic Separation Specialist – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS

4.1 No items

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION) ORDER 2006

EXEMPT ITEMS

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

6. KEY DECISION

No items

7. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 7.1 Request for an exemption to Contract Procedure rules (para 3) – *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 7.2 Schools Insurance for long term absence and maternity cover (para 3) – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: SCHOOLS CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME
2010/13

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to the Schools Capital Works Programme for 2010/11 and approval in principle to an outline programme for 2012/13.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

- Report requiring decision.
- Information relating to the funding available.
- Information describing the collaborative approach by which capital priorities have been determined
- The proposed programme of works for 2010/11.
- The outline programme of works for 2011/13.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services has responsibility for all matters relating to Children's Services.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Key decision, tests 1 and 2 apply.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio Holder meeting 13th April 2010.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To seek approval for the Schools Capital Works Programme for 2010/11 be approved and approval in principle for the outline programme for 2011/13.

Report of: Director of Child and Adults Services

Subject: SCHOOLS CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME
2010/13

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Portfolio Holder approval for the Schools Capital Works Programme for 2010/11 and approval in principle for the outline programme for 2011/13.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On an annual basis, the Council receives Government (capital) funding to support, maintain and develop school buildings. Individual schools have their own maintenance budgets (revenue) which is usually spent on day to day repairs whilst. The Council tends to support major replacement or refurbishment projects with capital funding.
- 2.2 In addition, individual schools receive pupil based Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) from the DCSF via the LA or, in the case of Voluntary Aided schools, the local Diocese. This funding can be applied to a variety of 'capital' initiatives including building related projects.
- 2.3 The prime motivation behind the Works Programme is to realise improvements in education and raise levels of attainment. Accordingly, the programme will seek to provide:
- A safe and stimulating working environment for both staff and pupils;
 - School buildings and facilities which are capable of delivering the national curriculum; and
 - Projects which provide value for money.
- 2.4 This year's programme is set against a background of major capital investment in the Council's school buildings via Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and the Primary Capital Programme (PCP). In prioritising works over the 2010/13 period the officers have sought to minimise investment in those schools which are most likely to be modernised under Primary Capital Programme (PCP) or Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

2.5 Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

Hartlepool is included in Wave 5 of the Government's BSF programme and a Final Business Case for the Design and Build programme is due to be submitted in June 2010. The Council is well on course to deliver a £104 million programme of works impacting on all secondary schools over the next five years.

2.6 Primary Capital Programme (PCP)

The Primary Capital Programme was intended to be spread over a fourteen year period during which time approximately half of our primary schools can expect to receive significant investment in the form of new build or major remodelling. This funding has not been confirmed beyond Hartlepool's initial allocation of £8.4 million.

2.7 The Primary Programme commence in 2009/10 with a new school for Jesmond Road and a phase 1 remodelling for Rossmere. These two schemes are scheduled for completion by 2011 at a combined cost of £8.4 million (the first 2 year's allocation).

2.8 The amount of funding that will be available to support the Primary capital Programme in Hartlepool will depend on future national government funding decisions. At Cabinet on 19th October 2009 a shortlist of five additional schools were prioritised for early investment:

- Barnard Grove
- Rossmere
- St Aidan's
- St Cuthbert's
- West View

2.9 Cabinet also identified a further four schools where significant issues were identified, but there was no clear way forward at that time:

- Holy Trinity
- Seaton Carew Nursery
- Owton Manor
- Sacred Heart

2.10 Schools Forum Capital Sub Group

In July 2008 the LA established a sub group of the Schools Forum made up of Headteachers and representatives from the Children's Services and Neighbourhood Services department to work with the Local Authority to prioritise capital spending. The LA has been keen to improve the transparency of our prioritisation procedures and to include the sub group in this process. During 2009 a set of shared planning and shared funding principles was proposed and adopted by the Schools Forum to provide a framework by which the schools capital programmes would be determined. The LA extended

membership of this Sub Group to the local Dioceses during 2009 so that Voluntary Aided schools could also be fully included in this more collaborative approach.

- 2.11 The main focus for this group has been to develop a much more coordinated approach to all capital investment in Hartlepool schools. The major investment programmes (BSF and PCP) have also encouraged a more strategic outlook for all schools in relation to building issues. The term 'transformation' is being used increasingly to describe a progressive move to modernise and revitalise teaching methods. School buildings must help and enable that progression. Through the introduction of the Schools Forum Capital Sub-Group steps are being taken to harness all available funding to ensure all schools can be brought up to the highest of standards with a clear direction in terms of on-going maintenance and future development.

3. FUNDING AVAILABLE

- 3.1 Traditionally, the School Capital Work Programme has focused on community schools delivering a variety of projects funded from specific Government funding streams i.e. Modernisation, Basic Needs and Access. This 'pot' allocation been further supplemented by departmental revenue funding from the Dedicated Schools Grant giving in total an annual budget for the Works Programme approaching £2 million.
- 3.2 Quite separate from the above, schools receive their own Devolved Formula Capital and the Dioceses receive their equivalent of the LA's Government funding in the form of LCVAP (Locally Co-ordinated Voluntary Aided Programme).
- 3.3 Thus, if all available funding were to be brought together, the potential is there for a more co-ordinated approach to asset management. This would lead to a more extensive Capital Works Programme providing not only a more effective maintenance programme but also being able to meet the transformational wishes of schools which may not benefit from Primary Capital Programme.
- 3.4 The estimated value of capital funding available for investment in Hartlepool schools (excluding BSF and PCP) during 2010-13 is summarised below. There is however a degree of uncertainty beyond 2010-11, which is the last year of the Government's current 3 year Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) period. For planning purposes the LA has assumed that annual capital funding will continue at current levels although this position will need to be reviewed in light of any post election Government funding announcements.

Table 1 – Capital Funding Available			
LA	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
LA capital funding allocation	£1,418,052	£1,418,052	£1,418,052
Extended Schools	£96,383		
LA revenue funding from its share of DSG	£583,739	£583,739	£583,739
Annual LA Capital Funding	£2,098,174	£2,001,791	£2,001,791
One off Council funding re Brierton site	£296,000		
Uncommitted funds fwd from 2009/10	£29,417		
Total LA Capital Funding Available	£2,423,591	£2,001,791	£2,001,791
Diocese - LCVAP funding allocations	£726,994	£726,994	£726,994
Schools - devolved capital allocations			
Community and Foundation Schools	£789,960	£1,227,695	£1,227,695
Voluntary Aided Schools	£333,812	£556,355	£556,355
Total Schools Capital Funding Available	£1,123,772	£1,784,050	£1,748,050
Total Overall Capital Funding Available	£4,274,357	£4,512,835	£4,512,835

- 3.5 The table above illustrates that significant funding is available in 2010-11 over and above the £2.423m provided by the LA. Prior to 2009/10, whilst there has been some coordination of funding, this has been on an adhoc basis and separate spending plans have been in operation by the LA, the two local Dioceses and individual schools.

4. COLLABORATION PRINCIPLES

- 4.1 In May 2009 the Portfolio Holder approved the first fully joint funded Hartlepool schools capital programme which had been developed by the LA with support from the Schools Forum Capital Sub Group. This more collaborative approach required extensive engagement with individual schools regarding immediate condition issues, future aspirations and how schools could financially contribute to that process. The resulting programme which has been delivered during 2009/10 resulted in a more targeted programme of condition works and the commissioning of a number of "Transformational" schemes.
- 4.2 The process by which capital priorities for the 2010/13 was revised in light of lessons learned in 2009. The basic approach is as follows:
- Priorities for capital spending on condition works in each school have been identified based on guidance from the Regeneration and Neighbourhood Services technical staff and phased over 3 years.
 - All Hartlepool schools have been invited to submit bids for "Transformational" funding towards schemes which have been evaluated by LA Officers.

- All schools will be asked to make contributions towards their schemes from available DFC funding of at least 10% up to 100% of total costs based on what they can afford to contribute
- Those schools which are receiving or likely to receive BSF or PCP funding have been asked to “bank” their DFC allocations so that they can make contributions towards the scheme costs
- The LA recognises that, as a result of making greater contributions to LA schemes, school DFC balances will reduce. The LA will therefore set aside “contingency” funds in each year’s programme which will be used to cover unexpected emergency capital works such as roof or boiler replacements. Schools will not need therefore to set aside their funds for these items.

- 4.3 Following agreement with representatives from both Dioceses, a standard approach to capital planning across all Hartlepool schools has been agreed from 2010/11 onwards. Schedules of condition works recommended by the LA’s Technical Services Team in all Voluntary Aided schools have been issued to the Dioceses. VA schools have also been invited to submit bids for Capital Funding to transform learning and therefore raise standards although these would require joint funding.

5. PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORKS 2010-13

- 5.1 In view of the uncertainty of future capital funding the LA is proposing a definite programme of condition works for 2010-11 and an outline programme of condition works covering the following two years subject to review in January 2011. The LA has recommended that a similar approach is adopted by the Dioceses for VA schools.
- 5.2 These programmes have been proposed in consultation with individual schools and were discussed at the Schools Forum Capital Sub Group meeting on 31st March 2010. All schemes require schools to contribute a minimum of 10% towards overall costs but until the overall programmes are agreed it is not possible to accurately assess the value that individual schools will have available to contribute. For planning purposes, the LA is therefore assuming at this stage, that only the minimum 10% level of DFC will be available. In reality the LA would hope to negotiate significantly higher contributions which ensure each schools DFC is fully allocated. The actual value of individual contributions from schools will therefore be assessed over the next few weeks subject to the Portfolio Holder agreeing the programme.

- 5.3 Based on the above assumptions proposed programmes of works can be summarised as follows:

Table 2 - LA School Condition Items	Total Cost	Schools Contributions @ 10%	Total LA Funding Required
2010/11 scheme costs	£1,901,000	£190,100	£1,710,900
2011/12 scheme costs	£1,339,500	£133,950	£1,205,550
2012/13 scheme costs	£1,670,000	£167,000	£1,503,000

- 5.5 A schedule of all the proposed condition schemes in LA schools is attached at **Appendix 1**. Costings for individual schemes are indicative at this stage. Schemes will be fully costed as part of the standard procurement process.

- 5.6 A schedule of proposed condition items in VA schools is attached at **Appendix 2** for information. This information has been passed on to the local Dioceses.

- 5.7 A schedule of all the Transformational bids received by the LA is attached at **Appendix 3**. LA officers have prioritised the 80 schemes as follows:

- Those which would appear to have the potential to make the biggest positive impact on teaching and learning
- Those which, whilst not directly improving teaching and learning outcomes, would appear to develop or significantly improve the suitability of school facilities
- Those which schools themselves have suggested would be appropriate to commence in 2010-11

- 5.8 In determining these proposals the LA has made the following key assumptions which were discussed at the Capital Sub Group meeting on the 31 March 2010:

- **Completed/Committed Schemes** – some schools have submitted bids which are effectively asking for retrospective LA funding towards schemes which have already been committed. These are shown separately at the end of Appendix 3. Whilst the LA acknowledges that decisions may have needed to be taken outside the capital planning timetable, officers do not feel that any retrospective funding allocations should be made.
- **Safeguarding Issues** – a number of schools have submitted bids to improve access / security such as fencing improvements which the LA acknowledges may have been influenced by the new Ofsted framework (September 2009). Varying priority has been given to these works by individual schools and the LA has arranged for independent risk assessments to be carried out by the LA's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager prior to any funding being allocated.

Allocations from the contingency provision will be made on completion of this exercise to ensure priority works can be completed.

- **Equity** - Schemes from schools which have had significant LA capital funding in 2008/09 or 2009/10 have not been prioritised for 2010-11 funding to ensure investment is not focussed too heavily on particular schools and every school can benefit from capital projects over time.

5.9 For ease of identification, schemes have been highlighted on Appendix 3 as follows

- Green – priority for 2010-11 subject to shared funding being agreed/available
- Yellow – worthy of consideration for 2011-12 onwards subject to feasibility studies and the availability of funding
- Others – not priorities for LA funding at this stage but could still go ahead from devolved or Diocesan funding in those schools which are not required to make contributions to other LA schemes.

5.10 Although no capital schemes have been fully prioritised for 2010/2011 some were supported in 2009/2010 and a number have been supported in principle for future years. The LA is particularly keen to see a scheme for St Peter's Elwick being progressed but with a phase 1 indicative price of £1.8m, this would clearly require significant Diocesan funding. The LA would look favourably on assisting the school with its 10% governor's responsibility if a firm funding package can be agreed.

5.11 The Transformational schemes which are recommended to the Portfolio Holder to go ahead in 2010/11 are as follows;

<u>Table 3 – Transformational Schemes 2010/11</u>	Total Cost	Schools Contributions @ 10%	Total LA Funding Required
1) Brougham – Improve access arrangements	£50,000	£5,000	£45,000
2) Grange – Replacement of 3 classroom Annexe	£400,000	£40,000	£360,000
3) Ow ton Manor – Improve outdoor area	£50,000	£5,000	£45,000
4) Rossmere – Foundation stage outside area	£15,000	£1,500	£13,500
5) Springwell – Create enterprise area/cyber cafe	£60,000	£6,000	£54,000
6) St Helens – Remodelling	£180,000	£18,000	£162,000
7) Stranton – improve outdoor learning area	£22,000	£2,200	£19,800
8) Ward Jackson – create foundation unit	£60,000	£6,000	£54,000
9) West Park – improve toilet areas for reception class	£10,000	£1,000	£9,000

10) PRU – outside shelter for MUGA	£5,000	£500	£4,500
Total Transformational Schemes	£852,000	£85,200	£766,800

- 5.12 The overall 2010/11 programme recommended to the Portfolio Holder will include a contingency provision of £200,000 and is summarised as follows:

Table 4 – 2010/11 Summary	Total Cost	Schools Contributions @ 10%	Total LA Funding Required
LA Condition Items -Table 2	£1,901,000	£190,100	£1,710,900
Transformational Items - Table 4	£852,000	£85,200	£766,800
LA Emergency Contingency	£200,000		£200,000
Overall Programme	£2,953,000	£275,200	2,677,800
Capital Funding Available -Table 1			2,423,591

- 5.13 Although the Portfolio holder is asked to approve works totalling £2,677,800 which exceeds the indicative funding available of £2,423,591 officers are confident that additional school contributions above the 10% minimum will be secured. The programme will be carefully managed to ensure there is no risk of overspending.

6. MONITORING AND UPDATING THE PROGRAMME

- 6.1 The Capital Sub Group will meet on a termly basis to review and monitor progress on the 2010/2011 Works Programme and at the same time develop plans for future programmes. Cabinet will be kept up to date during the year on progress and developments to the programme via quarterly reports produced by the Authority's Corporate Finance team. In addition there will be direct reports to the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services as required.
- 6.2 Other than in response to an emergency situation, or for price adjustment (within financial procedures) there will be no significant variation to the programme of works as detailed in **Appendix 1** (Condition Items) or **Appendix 3** (Transformational Items) without the prior approval of the Portfolio Holder.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 This report is concerned with the maintenance, protection and development of Council estate i.e. school buildings.

- 7.2 The proposed programme of works has been compiled on the basis of those areas/sections of our buildings which are showing clear sign of failure together with aspects of the building which have the potential to transform education within our schools.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that:

- The schedule of 2010/11 condition items is approved as summarised at **Appendix 1**, subject to the LA agreeing contributions from schools towards individual schemes in line with the shared funding principles established by the Schools Forum.
- The schedule of 2011/13 condition items as included in Appendix 1 is approved in principle subject to a reassessment of priorities in March 2011.
- The schedule of 2010/11 Transformation Items is approved as summarised at **Appendix 3**, subject to the LA agreeing contributions from schools towards individual schemes in line with the shared funding principles established by the Schools Forum.
- The Child and Adult Services Department be allowed dispensation and discretion to authorise works where a significant health and safety risk is exposed in advance of formal approval by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 Report to the Schools Forum Capital Sub Group 31st March 2010.

10. CONTACT OFFICERS

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	Estimated Cost			Comments
	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	
Primary/Nursery:-				
Seaton Carew Nursery:				
• Electrics – Replace isolator/upgrade alarm system		6,000		
• Roofworks –			27,000	
Barnard Grove:				
• Caretakers Bungalow - Replace floor	15,000			Excluding any relocation costs
• KS1 – Electrics, including fire alarm system	10,000			
– Complete window replacement programme		30,000	22,000	
– Heating, upgrade distribution system			40,000	Situation to be monitored
– Roofworks		48,000	48,000	
• KS2 – Roofworks including cladding, fascia	72,000			
– External walls/windows		25,000	45,000	
– Heating/hot, cold water distribution		33,000		Situation to be monitored
• Annexe – Heating, connect to KS2	30,000			
Brougham:				
• Heating – Full replacement of boiler plus adaption to distribution system	110,000			
• Roofworks		30,000	30,000	Roofworks remains a constant problem for the school
• Toilet refurbishment		34,000	34,000	
• Window replacement			27,000	
Clawering:				
• Caretaker's Bungalow – Replace heating	4,500			
• Main Building – Heating/hot, cold water distribution			75,000	Situation to be monitored
– Replace windows		30,000		
• Boiler House – Roofworks	25,000			Roof currently leaking
Eldon Grove:				
• Heating, source and equipment	95,000			May be incorporated into approved 'transformational' project
• Roofworks – valleys and guttering into Courtyard		20,000	15,000	
• Replace damaged fascia		9,000		
• Replace mixer taps			4,000	Situation to be monitored
Fens:				
• Roofworks – complete work to front elevation		8,000		
• Kitchen – fittings/wall partitions/canopy			20,000	
Golden Flatts:				
• Main Building – Heating/hot, cold water distribution	60,000	60,000		
– Fire alarm system		7,000		
– Roofworks			30,000	
• External Areas – Boundary wall/fence			70,000	
Grange:				
• Annexe – Fire alarm system	5,000			May not be required if 'transformational' project approved
• Main Building – Complete window replacement programme		30,000	30,000	May not be required if 'transformational' project approved
Greatham:				
• Roofworks			45,000	Phase one of two year programme

Hart:				
• External Areas – Fencing alongside playground (condition/safeguarding)	9,000			
– Drainage		35,000		
– Boundary Wall			5,000	Situation to be monitored
• Main Building – Roof works			31,000	
– Heating Source			35,000	Phase one of two year programme
– Flooring hall		7,000		Situation to be monitored
– Fire alarm			12,500	Situation to be monitored
Jesmond Road:				
• Nil – Schoolto attend ongoing maintenance, new build to commence April				
Kingsley:				
• Main Building – Kitchen, windows/ceiling/fittings	46,000			
– Complete window replacement	16,000	43,500		
– Complete roofworks		6,000		
– Heating distribution			22,500	
Lynnfield:				
• Window replacement		26,000	40,000	
• Roofworks		40,000	40,000	
Owton Manor:				
• Window replacement (first floor)	75,000	30,000	30,000	
• Floor repair/replacement (rooms 29/30 and 23)			30,000	Situation to be monitored
• Heating (Foundation Unit)		25,000		Would link to ‘transformational’ project
Rift House:				
• Roofworks		40,000	40,000	Further £40,000 required in 2013/14
• Heating Annexe 2		20,000		Situation to be monitored
Rossmere:				
• Additional toilet/refurbish	30,000			
• Window replacement		30,000	40,000	Further phase may be required.
• Heating distribution			75,000	Phase one of two year programme
Springwell				
• Roof replacement	40,000	40,000		
• Window replacement		10,000		
• Replace air conditioning		13,000		
St Helens:				
• KS1 – Repair/replace cornerposts	10,000			
– Window replacement/panels/facia			35,000	
– Roofworks			25,000	
• KS2 – Repair/replace cornerposts	15,000			
– Window replacement/panels/facia		50,000		
– Electrics – upgrade wiring/fire alarm		32,000		
Stranton:				
• KS1 –Window replacement	38,000			
– Electrics rewire	23,000	23,000	24,000	
– Roofing			30,000	Phase one of three year programme
• KS2 –Window replacement			30,000	
– Electrics rewire			30,000	Phase one of three year programme
– Toilet refurbishment			20,000	

Throston:				
• Window replacement	80,000	60,000	20,000	Phase one could be linked to ‘transformational’ project
• Rewire (KS1)			35,000	Phase one of three year project
• Heating – boiler replacement/distribution			35,000	Phase one of three year project
• External works to playground/car park			28,000	
Ward Jackson:				
• Window Replacement	25,000	40,000	40,000	
• Roofworks		40,000	40,000	
• Electrics – rewire/distribution boards/fire alarm		50,000	50,000	Further phases required
West Park:				
• Access to school bungalow	7,500			
• Window replacement		47,000	18,000	
• Heating distribution/emitters	28,000	60,000	60,000	Monitor situation following first phase
• Electrics – rewire/fire alarm		40,000	60,000	Further phase required at £60,000
• Roofworks – complete works	10,000			
West View:				
• KS1 – Kitchen refurbishment (complete works)	60,000			
– Window replacement	18,000			
– Heating distribution		52,000		
– Roofworks		55,000		
• KS2 – Window replacement	52,000	25,000	50,000	
– Heating distribution	78,000			
– Roofworks			45,000	Phase one of three year programme
Secondary Schools:				
Brierton:				
• Work in progress to accommodate Dyke House students	546,000			
• Transport Interchange	190,000			
Catcote:				
• Heating – replace boiler	65,000			
Dyke House:				
• Work to commence on school remodel summer 2010				
High Tunstall:				
• Only work school have in mind is roofwork to Youth Centre – school to fund £25,000 repair				
Manor:				
• Number of concerns relating the roof, flooring, electrics and heating – school to maintain building in lead up to BSF however, the heating system in particular is a major concern and the Authority should be prepared to assist in the event of a significant failure.				
PRU:				
• External works – paving & lighting	8,000			
• Porch/Canopy	5,000			
• Window Replacement		30,000	32,000	
Total	1,901,000	1,339,500	1,670,000	

	Estimated Cost			
Church of England: -	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	
Primary: -				
Holy Trinity:				
• Drains	10,000			
• External walls/windows	40,000	40,000		
• Internal Walls	40,000			
• Dampness – sub floor basement		22,000		
• Replace ceilings			25,000	
• Electrics – rewire/control gear/distribution			91,000	
• Heating distribution			105,000	
St Aidans:				
• Flooring	5,000			
• Heating system	70,000	70,000	20,000	
• Electrics – rewire/fire alarm (could be phased)	11,000	140,000		
St Peter's Elwick:				
Main Building:				
• Electrics, rewire (could be phased)	97,000			
• Heating/hot, cold water distribution	75,000			
• Roofworks (could be phased)	88,000			
• Flooring	18,000			
Secondary: -				
St Hild's				
• Roofworks		42,000		
Roman Catholic: -				
Primary:				
Sacred Heart:				
• Repairs to tarmac – security fencing	50,000			
• Electrics – complete rewiring programme (could be phased)	120,000			
• Heating distribution system (could be phased)		200,000		
• Refurbish staff toilets		4,000		
• Fix ceiling panels		15,000		
St Bega's				
• Roofworks	45,000	45,000	40,000	
• Electrics - rewire		7,500	7,500	
• Heating			45,000	
• External walls/windows		12,500	12,500	
St Cuthbert's:				
• Toilet refurbishment	35,000			
• Heating distribution		68,000	150,000	
St John Vianney:				
• Heating/hot, cold water distribution	50,000	50,000	50,000	
• Roofwork	60,000	60,000		

• Window replacement			15,000	
St Joseph's				
• Heating/hot, cold water distribution	10,000	30,000		
• Electrics – lighting/rewire		50,000	50,000	
St Teresa's:				
KS1:				
• Toilet refurbishment	14,000			
• Window replacement	30,000	30,000	30,000	
• Heating distribution	26,000			
• Fire alarm		19,000		
KS2:				
• Window replacement	30,000	30,000	30,000	
• Fire alarm			22,000	
• Electrics – lighting		41,000		
• Hot/cold water distribution			27,000	
Secondary: -				
English Martyrs:				
• Heating – replace boiler	130,000			
Total:	1,054,000	976,000	720,000	

TRANSFORMATIONAL/DEVELOPMENTAL/SUITABILITY ITEMS

School		Project	Cost	Teach/ Learn	Suit/ Devel	School Priority	2010/11	Comments/Proposals
Barnard Grove	1	Covered linkway between main buildings	£100,000		√	1	√	School earmarked for early PCP investment – on hold pending PCP.
	2	Develop two home base units	£100,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	3	Improve storage facilities	£100,000		√	3		On hold pending PCP.
	4	Increase car parking	£60,000		√	4		On hold pending PCP.
	5	Improve fencing (safeguarding)	£30,000		√	5	√	Risk assessment required.
Brougham:	6	Develop entrance (safeguarding)	£60,000		√	1	√	Risk assessment required.
	7	Improve access arrangements within school	£50,000	√		2	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	8	Improve early years outside area	£15,000		√	3		Low priority for LA funding.
Clavering:	9	Improve perimeter fencing (safeguarding)	£10,000		√	1	√	Risk assessment required.
	10	Improve playground facilities	£50,500		√	2	√	Low priority for LA funding.
	11	Improve front entrance (safeguarding)	£8,500		√	3	√	Risk assessment required.
	12	Improve Foundation Area (could be phased)	£30,000		√	4	√	Low priority for LA funding.
Eldon Grove:	13	Re-assess playground following Phase 1 works	£40,000		√	1	√	Could this work be incorporated into Phase 1?
	14	Re-design front entrance (safeguarding)	£25,000		√	2		Risk assessment required.
	15	Phase 2 of remodelling	£500,000	√		3	√	Worthy of consideration for future programme.
English Martyrs:	16	Double mobile unit	£100,000			1	√	Check Catcote as alternative option.
	17	Upgrade PE area – ICT/boulder wall	£20,000	√		2	√	Worthy of consideration for future programme.
Golden Flatts:	18	Playground fencing (safeguarding)	£10,000		√	1	√	Risk assessment required.
	19	Adapt/remodel KS1 play area	£50,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	20	Adapt/remodel Foundation play area	£43,000	√		3		Worthy of consideration for future programme..
Grange:	21	Replacement of 3 classroom Annexe	£400,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	22	Extension of Hall into internal courtyard	£260,000	√		2	√	Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	23	Create suitable meeting/PPA space	£150,000		√	3	√	Low priority for LA funding.
Greatham:	24	Create dining room/community facility	£150,000		√	1	√	Low priority for LA funding.
	25	Extend Nursery to incorporate baby changing	£70,000		√	2		Low priority for LA funding.
	26	Remove central pillar from teaching area	£5,000		√	3	√	Low priority for LA funding.
Holy Trinity:	27	Adaptation to EYFS	£50,000	√		1		School earmarked for early PCP investment. Worthy of consideration for future programme. Late submission 22.02.10
Lynnfield:	28	Create Nurture Room	£15,000	√		2	√	Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	29	Phase 2 of 'transformational' project (GWK)	£120,000	√		3		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
Owton Manor:	30	Improve fencing (safeguarding)	£15,000		√	1	√	Risk assessment required.
	31	Create a Year 6 Annexe	£30,000	√		2	√	Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	32	Improve outdoor area for Foundation Stage	£50,000	√		3	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	33	Reduce the overall size of the building	£30,000		√	4		Low priority for LA funding
	34	Improve access for extended services	£30,000		√	5		Low priority for LA funding
Rift House:	35	Additional security fencing	£10,000		√	1	√	Risk assessment required.
	36	Possible further phase of 'transformational' scheme	£100,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
Rossmere:	37	Foundation stage – outdoor play	£15,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme. Late submission 19.02.10
	38	KS1 classroom refurbishment	£20,000		√	2		Low priority for LA funding. Late submission 19.02.10
	39	Years 4 and 5 classroom refurbishment	£15,000		√	3		Low priority for LA funding. Late submission 19.02.10
Sacred Heart:	40	Remodel playground		√		1		School earmarked for early PCP investment. Worthy of consideration for future programme.

	41	Improve Foundation Area	£290,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	42	Create mezzanine area in hall			√	3		Low priority for LA funding.
Springwell:	43	Create Enterprise Area/Cyber Café	£60,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	44	Create pupil quiet area	£20,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	45	Create Speech & Language/Physiotherapy area	£20,000	√		3		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
St Bega's:	46	Extend courtyard to improve outdoor facilities	£45,000		√	1	√	Low priority for LA funding.
St Helen's:	47	Create intervention space for 1:1 teaching		√			√	Currently under review – could be phased programme – worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	48	Create DT/Media unit	£180,000	√			√	
	49	Remodel KS2 hall		√			√	
	50	Remodel entrance		√			√	
St John Vianney	51	Improvements to Early Years Centre (Safeguarding)	£77,000	√		1	√	Risk assessment required. Late submission 19.03.10
	52	Create intensive learning space KS2	£160,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
St Joseph's	53	Refurbishment/storage	£21,000		√	1	√	Low priority for LA funding.
	54	Create extra space (family learning)	£80,000		√	2		Low priority for LA funding.
	55	Improve external play facilities	£60,000	√		3		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
St Peter's Elwick:	56	Four phased programme of work	£1,800,000	√		1		Ongoing discussions with Diocese – worthy of consideration for future programme.
St Teresa's	57	Reorganise/re-site Early Years	£70,000	√		1		Worthy of consideration for future programme. Late submission 25.02.10
	58	Create parents/community room	£60,000		√	2		Low priority for LA funding.. Late submission 25.02.10
Stranton:	59	Improve outdoor learning environment	£22,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	60	New office for Head Teacher	£40,000		√	2		Low priority for LA funding.
Throston:	61	Create external corridor within hall	£230,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	62	Create discrete teaching areas	£80,000		√	2		Low priority for LA funding.
	63	Enhance KS2 outdoor area	£30,000		√	3		Low priority for LA funding.
	64	Create new entrance to KS2 block	£30,000		√	4		Low priority for LA funding.
	65	Enhance hall facilities for out of hours learning	£100,000		√	5		Low priority for LA funding.
Ward Jackson:	66	Create Foundation Unit within the main building	£60,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	67	Adapt Sure Start room to become Nurture Room	£15,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
West Park:	68	Improve toilet facilities for Reception	£10,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme.
	69	Additional car parking space	£15,000		√	2		Low priority for LA funding.
	70	Internal link between KS1 & KS2	£40,000		√	3		Low priority for LA funding.
	71	Create Foundation Unit within school	£400,000	√		4		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
West View:	72	Improve Early Years outdoor learning facilities	£30,000	√		1	√	School earmarked for early PCP investment. Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	73	Adapt Reception classrooms	£45,000	√		2		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
	74	Improve KS2 outdoor learning facilities	£40,000		√	3		Low priority for LA funding.
	75	Install light & sound system to KS2 hall	£10,000	√		4		Worthy of consideration for future programme.
PRU	76	Outside shelter for pupils – improve access to MUGA	£5,000	√		1	√	Worthy of consideration for 2010/11 programme. Late submission 05.03.10
Additional projects submitted , not considered because alternative funding has been found or schemes already complete:								
Lynnfield	77	Installation of fencing (Safeguarding)	£21,000					
Manor	78	Provide double demountable for ASD pupils	£70,000					
	79	Provide double demountable for existing pupils	£70,000					
	80	Additional car parking	£22,000					
Total Transformational Bid Values			£7,235,0000					

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT
UPDATE 2009-2010

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

For the Portfolio Holder to approve the publication of the childcare sufficiency update 2009-2010.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Childcare Act 2006 places a duty on local authorities to publish a childcare sufficiency assessment on a three yearly cycle. Cabinet approved the publication of the first childcare sufficiency assessment on 12th May 2008.

The Childcare Act 2006 also sets out a requirement for local authorities to publish an update of the childcare sufficiency assessment annually. The following report sets out the background to the update and includes the update document as an appendix.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Children's Services.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder meeting 13th April 2010.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

For Portfolio Holder to approve the publication of the childcare sufficiency update 2009-2010.

Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT
UPDATE 2009-2010

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

For the Portfolio Holder to approve the publication of the childcare sufficiency update 2009-2010.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Childcare Act 2006 requires local authorities to undertake a number of new duties one of which is to shape and support the development of childcare provision in their local area in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. The overall aim of the Childcare Act is that parents will be able to find childcare locally that meets their needs and enables them to make a real choice about training and work.
- 2.2 Local authorities are required under Clause 11 of the Act to assess childcare provision in their area. The results of the assessment form the basis of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA).
- 2.3 Local authorities were required to undertake their first Childcare Sufficiency Assessment during 2007-2008 and to publish a final copy in April 2008. Hartlepool's assessment is publicly available on the LA website for consultation. There is a further requirement to keep the assessment under review (annually) with a full assessment repeated every three years.
- 2.4 Hartlepool's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment provides an overall up-to-date picture of the supply of childcare in the town together with opinions of parents and carers of their use and demand for childcare.

3. DEFINITION OF SUFFICIENCY

- 3.1 DCSF guidance fails to supply a definition of 'sufficient childcare'. In order to begin to understand if Hartlepool has sufficient childcare places, the childcare sufficiency working group felt that it was important to attempt to define 'sufficient' within a local context. The following definition is challenging and one which we will strive to achieve:

Sufficient childcare is where a parent or carer has:

- Access to impartial information, advice and guidance through the Families Information Service – supported with brokerage as appropriate.
 - Information – what types of childcare are available, where they are and what vacancies they have
 - Advice – jargon busting, help with making childcare choices
 - Guidance – supporting the decision making process, remaining impartial
 - Brokerage – making contact with providers with/ on behalf of the parent, negotiating suitable care.
- Access to a range of childcare that meet the needs of the child and the parent or carer.
 - Choice – a range of childcare to choose from - a choice of at least two childcare types in the ward in which they live or the ward in which they train/ work – preferably more
 - Quality – choice should be from childcare that is preferably 'good' or 'outstanding'
 - Availability – choice should include vacancies in the childcare identified
 - Affordability – choice should include childcare with a range of costs – flexible pricing strategies – ability to purchase only what you require
 - Accessibility – childcare where the parent needs the care - accessible for the child and their parent or carer – taking into account access to suitable public transport
 - Flexibility – childcare that are prepared to work with a parent or carer in order to meet their individual needs – suitable cover for evenings/ lates/ weekends/ holidays
 - Inclusivity – meetings the needs of marginalised and vulnerable groups – parents and children with disabilities – looked after children – ethnic minorities – teenage parents.

4. CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT UPDATE DOCUMENT 2009-2010

4.1 The update document can be found in **Appendix 1**. It includes the following:

- Introduction and context
- Updated profile of Hartlepool
- Supply of childcare places 2009-2010
- Comparison of childcare places 2008/09 against 2009/10
- Supply of Free Nursery Entitlement places 2009/10
- Comparison of Free Nursery Entitlement places 2008/09 against 2009/10

- Childcare Market Analysis 2009/10
- Out of school childcare – summary of research report and key findings
- Potential childcare market gaps
- Actions for 2010/11

5. KEY FINDINGS FROM THE CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT UPDATE 2009-2010

5.1 Comparison of childcare places 2008- 09 against 2009-10

	No of active registered/ approved care schemes	Total number of registered/approved childcare places
2008-2009	170	3,241
2009-2010	139	2,799
Variance	-31	-422

5.2 Reasons for the reduction in both carescheme providers and registered and unregistered places include:

- The closure of some out of school care schemes following the end of grant funding together with financial reviews which indicated they were no longer sustainable
- A steady decline in the number of registered childminders.

5.3 Although the number of childcare places has decreased there still seems to be adequate childcare places for demand although this is being monitored closely.

6. ACTIONS FOR 2009/2010

6.1 The following actions are based on feedback received on the childcare sufficiency assessment 2007-2008 from both OPM (Office of Public Management) and Hemsall Consultancies (commissioned by GONE). The overall evaluation of the assessment was good. However there are a number of actions to implement to improve further. These need to be acted upon in order to ensure the next full childcare sufficiency assessment covers all aspects required in the statutory guidance. The implementation of the following actions will enable officers to be able to effectively manage the childcare market. Although it should be noted that managing the childcare market is very difficult as the majority of the childcare market is in the private sector and make decisions independently of the council.

- All comments received from both OPM and Hempsall consultancies need to be acted upon in conjunction with the new and updated guidance from DCSF;
- The initial CSA gathered a vast amount of data however not all of this was included in the final written report or its appendices. Only relevant data should be collected. All relevant data needs to be included in the next full report
- The initial CSA also failed to clearly map childcare supply to parent demand. A good sample of parents' views were gathered as part of the research process however concerns over data validity meant that a 'scaling up' exercise was not undertaken. This needs addressing in the next full report in order that the assessment is robust and able to fully meet government requirements;
- Work needs to continue with childcare providers in order to effectively communicate parent demand;
- Consultation with parents needs to be strengthened and continually fed into the 'managing the market' process;
- Consultation with children and young people needs to begin;
- Consultation with vulnerable groups needs to take place in particular children with disabilities, lone parents and parents with older children;
- All consultation findings need to be mapped against the supply side of the market in order to identify 'perceived' and 'real' childcare gaps
- Consideration needs to be given to the involvement of a professional researcher in order to ensure the next full assessment meets ALL of the necessary legal requirements. Whilst the FIS (Families Information Service) can supply good quality 'supply' data help may be required in order to gather 'demand' data. It is likely that the distribution of a parent questionnaire can be covered 'in house' but focus groups and in depth interviews may be best carried out by an independent researcher.

6.2 An action plan is attached to the update document (Appendix 1). This plan sets out actions that support the management of the childcare market.

7. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Childcare Act places a duty on the local authority to produce a childcare sufficiency assessment every three years and update the assessment annually. This update needs to be approved by Portfolio Holder to ensure that the LA meets their duty.
- 7.2 The Childcare Act also place a duty on LAs to manage the childcare market based on the findings of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. There is a risk that, if the findings from the childcare sufficiency assessment are not secure, the management of the market will not be effective. It must also be noted that the childcare market can change very quickly and the information provided in the update is only reliable for a short period of time.

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The update document attached as an appendix does not set out any financial information as it is as an assessment of childcare sufficiency. The action plan being developed alongside this update document will include costing for managing the childcare market. This funding is provided to the LA through the General Sure Start Grant.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 The Childcare Act places a duty on LAs to ensure there is sufficient childcare particularly with reference to parents with disabled children and low income families. This is included in the update document.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 For Portfolio Holder to approve the publication of the childcare sufficiency update 2009-2010.

11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 To ensure the LA meets the duty to produce a childcare sufficiency assessment every three years and update annually.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

13. CONTACT OFFICER

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Hartlepool Borough Council

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Interim Assessment Update 2009-10

Published March 2010

Acronyms List

AHDC	Aiming High for Disabled Children
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
CRN	Childcare Regional Network
CSA	Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
CYPP	Children and Young People's Plan
DCSF	Department for Children, Schools and Families
FIS	Families Information Service
FNE	Free Nursery Entitlement
FSD	Families Services Directory
GO:NE	Government Office North East
HBC	Hartlepool Borough Council
HMRC	Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
JSU	Joint Strategy Unit
LA	Local Authority
LAA	Local Area Agreement
NI	National Indicator
PKHD	Parent Know How Directory
PVI	Private Voluntary and Independent sector
SEN	Special Educational Need

List of Definitions

After school provision: registered or approved childcare that takes place after school has finished – usually between 3.00pm and 6.00pm term time only

Approved childcare: childcare that is run by and operated on a school site and therefore does not need to be registered with Ofsted

Before school provision: registered or approved childcare that takes place before school and ends when school starts – usually between 7.45am and 9.00am term time only

Carescheme: generic Ofsted terminology for the different types of childcare provision

Childcare provider: registered, unregistered or approved provider of childcare

Childminder: registered childcare provider that operates childcare in their own home on a self-employed basis 50+ weeks of the year catering for a wide age range of children

Daycare: for the purposes of this CSA the registered provision of childcare ('day nursery') for children aged under 5 years from early in the morning until early evening – usually between 7.30am and 6.00pm 50+ weeks of the year

Extended school service: a service offered on school site or through school signposting which is available outside of the school curriculum and beyond the school day usually term time only

Holiday playscheme: organised, registered or approved provision of play opportunities during some of the key dates in the school holiday calendar

Holiday provision: registered or approved childcare that operates each day of the school holidays – usually between 8.30am and 6.00pm

Integrated care: the care of children aged 3 and 4 years old before and/or after their free nursery entitlement – eg childcare on an afternoon following morning nursery session

Free nursery entitlement: the statutory provision of between 12.5 and 15 hours of free early education per week for children aged 3 and 4 years – usually offered by schools as an am or pm session (term time only) and by private providers as part of the full daycare offer

Ofsted: Office for Standards in Education with responsibility for the registration and inspection of formal childcare

Registered childcare: childcare that operates for more than 2 hours per session and must be inspected and approved by Ofsted

Special Educational Need: for the purposes of the CSA this includes both perceived and formally identified physical and learning disabilities

Tax credit: administered by HMRC, a preferential tax rate offered to eligible individuals depending on a number of factors including hours worked and gross income earned

Unregistered childcare: childcare that operates for less than 2 hours per session and therefore cannot be registered by Ofsted

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- A. Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Action Plan
- B. Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Timeline
- C. Childcare Market Analysis 2009-10

1. Introduction and Context

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) is a measurement of the nature and extent of the need for, and supply of, childcare within the local area. It is intended to help the Local Authority identify where there are gaps in the childcare market and – in consultation with parents, communities and employers – plan how to support the market to address them. According to The Childcare Act 2006 a full assessment must be conducted every three years with interim assessments in between.

In 2007-2008 Hartlepool's first full CSA was researched and prepared in line with government guidance. Since this first assessment an interim update was undertaken for the period 2008-09 and this report serves as a further interim update for 2009-10. The next full CSA will be for 2010-11 and is due to be published in March 2011.

The Childcare Act 2006 and subsequent guidance makes clear the role local authorities must play as strategic leaders in facilitating the local childcare market. The Act focuses in particular on sufficient, sustainable and flexible childcare that is responsive to parents' needs. For the purposes of the CSA, the Local Authority is only responsible for childcare for children aged 0-14 years that meets the needs of parents in work or in training that may lead to work. However it should be noted that the Local Authority also has a duty to ensure that ALL children with disabilities aged up to 17 years have access to a childcare place if they want one.

The process of managing the childcare market is a difficult one not least because the Local Authority does not 'control' the maintained, private and voluntary sector groups that provide childcare in the town. Similarly, the work required to undertake a thorough CSA is complex. However, much learning has taken place since 2007-08 and this learning continues. Robust 'Managing the Market' and CSA action plans are now in place (see appendices) which are supported by a timeline that clearly indicates work that must be undertaken in order to complete the next full assessment for 2010-11.

1.1 Purpose of the interim assessment 2009-10

The purpose of this interim assessment is to:

- provide an update to childcare and free nursery entitlement supply data including a comparison against 2008-09 supply data
- provide an analysis of Hartlepool's childcare market based on current demographic and childcare supply data
- summarise the findings of recent research undertaken re: out of school childcare market in Hartlepool
- identify potential childcare market gaps
- highlight key market management issues that need addressing
- identify the next steps in order to complete the 2010 - 11 CSA.

1.2 NI 118 - the take up of formal childcare by low income working families

Hartlepool has not elected for NI 118 (increasing the take up of formal childcare by low income working families) to be a designated target however officers within the LA continue to monitor the target closely not least because it is clearly linked to reducing and eventually eradicating child poverty by 2020.

The measure for this target centres on the take up of the childcare element of Working Tax Credit. Hartlepool has been highlighted as strongly improving as can be seen from the table below :

Local Authority	Childcare element ratio in 2004-05	Childcare element ratio in 2005-06	Childcare element ratio in 2006-07	Childcare element ratio in 2007-08	Difference from previous year
England	14%	16%	16.95%	17.76%	0.81%
North East	12.9%	14.75%	16.89%	17.72%	0.83%
Hartlepool	14%	16%	16.86%	18.02%	1.16%
Darlington	17%	18%	19.17%	19.47%	0.3%
Middlesbrough	13%	15%	16.10%	16.97%	0.86%
Redcar and Cleveland	14%	17%	17.7%	18.76%	1.06%
Stockton on Tees	14%	16%	17.12%	18.41%	1.29%

Source: Hemsall Consultancies, August 2009.

The take up of Working Tax Credits, and in particular the childcare element, are crucial to the affordability and sustainability of the childcare market and NI 118 remains a priority for the Local Authority.

1.3 NI 116 - to reduce the number of children living in poverty

Within Hartlepool's Local Area Agreement (LAA) for 2008-11, child poverty is a key improvement target. Hartlepool Borough Council is one of only 45 LAAs in the country to include NI 116 as a priority target. The aim is to reduce child poverty by helping families to improve their earnings ensuring they get extra assistance if their incomes fall short.

Recent data (2009) received from Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit indicates the following position with regards to child poverty in Hartlepool:

Ward name	% of Children in Workless Families	% of Children in Low Income Families
Brus	41.6%	75%
Burn Valley	27.0%	62%
Dyke House	49.8%	83%
Elwick	4.8%	29%
Fens	16.8%	45%
Foggy Furze	39.0%	70%
Grange	29.1%	67%
Greatham	15.7%	50%
Hart	11.0%	34%
Owton	45.1%	81%
Park	5.9%	25%
Rift House	27.2%	68%
Rossmere	29.9%	61%
St. Hilda	40.2%	73%
Seaton	8.2%	32%
Stranton	55.0%	86%
Throston	11.3%	40%

% of Children in Workless Families - calculated using the numbers of children in families out of work receiving child tax credit.

% of Children in Low Income Families - calculated using the numbers of children in families out of work receiving child tax credit **plus** the number of children in families in work receiving child tax credit or working tax credit.

Flexible and affordable childcare is crucial for parents that train or work in order to support them in employment. Employment is seen as the first route to increasing family income and reducing child poverty.

1.4 Key findings of the 2008-09 interim assessment

The 2008-09 interim assessment highlighted the following key issues:

- the declining economic climate resulted in a mixed impact on childcare providers. Some providers reported a loss of children as childcare was no longer required; some providers reported parents had switched to informal childcare; others reported an increase in the take up of sessional childcare as parents took on further part time work or increased their working hours
- a decline in the number of active registered childminders
- an overall reduction in the number of both active careschemes and childcare places.

1.5 Progress and actions since the 2008-09 assessment

Progress since the last interim assessment includes:

- the 2008-09 assessment was sent to all registered/ unregistered/ approved childcare providers listed on the Families Information Service database in order to raise awareness of childcare sufficiency. In addition key partners and stakeholders received a copy including schools, health colleagues, JobCentre Plus and local libraries
- an external consultant was engaged in order to research the out of school childcare market in Hartlepool and to raise CSA knowledge, skills and capacity of officers within the Local Authority
- the Childcare Sufficiency Working Group (comprising relevant members of the SureStart, Extended Services and Early Years team) has reviewed its role and remit and has taken ownership of the Managing the Market Action Plan

- Hartlepool continues to attend Tees Valley and regional childcare sufficiency network meetings facilitated by Hemsall Consultancy on behalf of GO:NE and DCSF
- a 'childcare costs' workshop was held with childcare providers in order to look at current charging policies and future price increases to improve sustainability
- articles continue to be published in the 'Hartbeat', 'Parents Inform' and 'Business Inform' magazines in order to raise awareness of sufficiency with parents, providers and professionals
- a regular advert continues in The Hartlepool Mail in order to promote FIS and to raise awareness with parents of the availability of formal childcare
- a grant fund was allocated (£40,000) in order to make available pilot funding to support providers that attempted to fill sufficiency gaps. The grant was made available in April 2009 with funding to support providers available until March 2010.

Actions to be undertaken include:

- a review of the draft Childcare Sufficiency and Assessment 2010-11 Guidance released by DCSF in January 2010
- continue to learn from the first full assessment and subsequent interim assessments and take steps to improve future content and quality
- continue to work with DCSF, GO:NE and the childcare sufficiency network in order to share and learn good practice
- use the Childcare Sufficiency Working Group to support issues in relation to market management.

1.6 Preparation for the 2010-11 CSA

Appendix B details the work to be undertaken in order to complete the 2010-11 full CSA together with target dates in the year for completion. The next full assessment will be completed in conjunction with the approved statutory guidance (current draft due for

approval Spring 2010). The Childcare Market Officer supported by the FIS Manager will prepare the assessment and consult on this draft before final publication in March 2011.

2. Updated profile of Hartlepool 2009-10

All data has been supplied by the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit unless otherwise stated.

2.1 Overview

The population of Hartlepool in October 2009 was 91,802 of which 18,283 were children and young people aged 0-15 years. This comprises 39,950 households of which 10.5% are single parent families caring for 36.3% of the towns' children and young people. Average earnings are in the region of £460 per week per household. In October 2009 there were 147 Looked After Children Hartlepool. Hartlepool PCT reported 77 live births to teenage parents (under 18 conceptions) in 2008.

2.2 Children and Young People

According to summer 2009 GP registrations (as opposed to population estimates) the number of children and young people by ward can be broken down as follows:

	Age Groups						
Ward	0-2	3-4	5-7	8-10	11-14	15-17	0-17
Bru s	305	235	265	295	385	295	1,780
Burn Valley	260	140	210	190	270	260	1,330
Dyke House	235	160	225	220	310	245	1,395
Elwick	60	50	65	85	105	85	450
Fens	125	80	135	155	260	185	940
Foggy Furze	210	115	155	170	270	235	1,155
Grange	245	135	165	175	265	245	1,230
Greatham	40	25	35	50	110	85	345
Hart	270	170	215	250	350	250	1,505
Owton	280	200	280	270	355	280	1,665
Park	110	90	170	170	295	265	1,100
Rift House	215	140	230	220	370	270	1,445

Rossmere	230	160	235	200	285	225	1,335
St. Hilda	210	140	190	190	295	240	1,265
Seaton	190	140	200	215	300	295	1,340
Stranton	240	145	175	180	280	205	1,225
Throston	235	150	235	250	345	260	1,475
Hartlepool Total	3,460	2,275	3,185	3,285	4,850	3,925	20,980

2.2 Local Labour Market

66.2% of the working age population are in employment, 19.3% are claiming either unemployment benefit or incapacity benefit and 14.8% are 'inactive'. 19.6% of the working age population are reported as having a limiting long term illness. The range of jobs undertaken across the borough is wide ranging however manufacturing (20.5%), retail/wholesale (15.8%) and health and social work (13.2%) are amongst the highest industry groups.

2.3 Current Economic Climate

The economic downturn continues to have an impact in Hartlepool. Unemployment has increased from 4.8% in 2008 to 7.1% in 2009 however is in line with trends across both the region and country.

3. Supply of Childcare Places 2009-10

It should be noted that childcare providers, available childcare places and vacancies within settings changes on a daily, weekly, monthly and termly basis. This is a snapshot of childcare supply at a given period of time.

In October 2009 there were:

Carescheme type	Number of carescheme providers	Number of available childcare places
Childminder	55	304
Daycare (nursery)	13	698
Holiday	11	334
Integrated care	4	54
Before school	27	640
After school	25	701
Sessional	4	68
Total	139	2,799

- There are 5 secondary schools, 30 primary schools, 2 special schools and 1 maintained nursery. All schools in Hartlepool are Extended Schools providing services to children, families and the wider community. 24 schools in the town provide childcare themselves or in association with a registered childcare provider. In addition a wide range of extended services are available outside of the school day and many parents take advantage of this provision in order to support their childcare choices.
- A recent (January 2010) survey of positive activities for young people aged 13-19 years identified the following number of activities:

Positive Activity Monday to Sunday 9am -12.30pm	Positive Activity Monday to Sunday 12.30pm - 6pm	Positive Activity Monday to Sunday after 6pm
117	99	200
Total number of Positive Activities	416	

- All careschemes advise that they offer inclusive childcare however it should be noted that when challenged a number of careschemes are unable/ unwilling to offer places to children with disabilities for a variety of reasons including staffing, training and problems with the accessibility of their premises.
- In October 2009 childcare providers that responded to the research reported 424 vacancies out of the total available childcare places. This equates to 15.1% of all places being vacant however this should be treated with caution – vacancies change daily and particularly around school term start dates when children move into nursery education and full time school. ***More importantly, not all providers report vacancy information and therefore this vacancy figure could be higher.***
- Opening hours of careschemes vary. The availability of childcare outside of the 9-5 day can be broken down as follows – 4 providers offering weekend care, 5 providers offering Bank Holiday care, 8 offering early morning care (pre 7.30am), 5 offering evenings (after 6pm), 3 offering overnight care and 22 offering school PD days. It should be noted that the majority of these unsocial care hours are offered by childminders.

- Charges for careschemes vary. A variety of reasons influence the wide range of costs that parents pay. Before school provision ranges from 30p to £5.25 per session, after school provision from 40p to £8.75 per session, holidays from £1.0 - £16 per day, daycare from £22 - £32 per day and childminding from £3.00 - £4.80 per hour. The lower priced care is often provided by schools many of whom choose to subsidise the cost of the care using their school budget.
- Many careschemes provide a pick up and drop off service to schools throughout the town. This is largely offered by childminders although some daycare providers and out of school providers offer the service at an extra cost. The majority of schools are serviced by childminders although childminders are rarely required at secondary schools. Out of school club carescheme providers struggle to collect children from all of the villages on the outskirts of the town.

4. Comparison of childcare places 2008-09 against 2009-10

	No of active registered/ approved careschemes	Total number of registered/ approved childcare places
2008 - 2009	170	3,241
2009 - 2010	139	2,799
Variance	-31	-442

Reasons for the variations in carescheme providers and places include:

- The closure of some out of school careschemes following the end of grant funding together with financial reviews which indicated that they were no longer sustainable
- A steady decline in the number of registered childminders.

5. Supply of Free Nursery Entitlement Places 2009-10

Every eligible 3 or 4 year old child has access to between 12.5 and 15 hours of free nursery entitlement (FNE) per week for 38 weeks of the year in either a maintained or approved daycare setting. From September 2010, every eligible 3 and 4 year old child will have access to 15 hours of flexible care, thus making FNE an important part of a families childcare choices.

According to the Autumn Term Headcount (October 2009) there were:

- 2,285 children aged 3 and 4 years in Hartlepool
- 29 maintained Primary Schools offering FNE
- 1 maintained Nursery School offering FNE
- 11 PVI providers offering FNE
- 1,010 children were accessing their FNE in a maintained setting
- 80 children were accessing their FNE in a PVI daycare setting
- 1,090 children in total taking up their free entitlement.

6. Comparison of Free Nursery Entitlement places 2008-09 against 2009-10

	No of children taking up an FNE place in the maintained sector	No of children taking up an FNE place in the PVI sector
2008-2009	977	88
2009-2010	1,010	80
Variance	+33	-8

Possible reasons for the variance includes more flexibility in the maintained sector making this choice more attractive to parents.

7. Childcare Market Analysis 2009-10

The table in Appendix C shows a range of demographic and childcare supply factors by ward in Hartlepool and serves to highlight potential childcare sufficiency problem areas. However this data cannot be used in isolation. The 2010-11 full CSA will undertake further research into parent demand which will be mapped against demographic factors and childcare supply data to give a more accurate picture of market gaps and market management issues. At the moment, the table indicates areas for the Local Authority to delve deeper into childcare availability and highlights the need for more research to understand the available childcare provision and/ or the need for more/ less provision.

8. Out of School Childcare - summary of research report and key findings

During 2009-10 the LA commissioned ehGreen Ltd to undertake research into the out of school childcare market in Hartlepool. The first full CSA indicated concerns from parents in relation to a number of key out of school childcare issues including -

- Not enough holiday childcare places for primary school aged children
- Not enough out of school childcare places for children with a disability
- 'Patchy' out of school provision across the town
- Wide variation in the costs of out of school provision.

ehGreen Ltd -

- formatted the out of school childcare supply data provided by FI
- undertook an analysis of the original 2007-08 parental demand surveys
- mapped supply data to parental demand
- surveyed out of school childcare providers
- surveyed parents of children with a disability
- conducted a focus group with a selection of out of school childcare providers
- undertook training with LA Officers in order to build their knowledge, understanding and capacity to deliver the next full CSA 2010-11.

A full copy of their report is available upon request (details at the end of this report). In summary -

- There appears to be an oversupply of out of school childcare across the town
- Distribution of out of school childcare across the town is 'patchy'
- There is a need to reduce provision in some wards and consider the need to establish provision in others
- There is insufficient out of school childcare for children aged 3-4 years
- There is insufficient childcare for children with a disability.

9. Potential Childcare Market Gaps

Based on the childcare market analysis data (Appendix C) and the findings of the Out of School Childcare Research Report the following gaps need investigation and where necessary action by the Local Authority:

- Childcare for children with a disability - this includes care for all ages (0-17 years) and for all care scheme types

- Childminders - a need to stimulate the number of childminder registrations in order to increase the number of places in specific areas of the town. This includes the Brus and Foggy Furze wards.
- An investigation into parental demand in the Burn Valley, Elwick, Fens and Park wards and an understanding of their current childcare arrangements and future childcare requirements.
- An investigation into parental demand in the villages (Greatham, Elwick, Dalton Percy and Hart) and an understanding of their current childcare arrangements and future childcare requirements.

10. The Way Forward 2010-11

There are a number of actions that need to be taken forward during 2010-11. These include:

- all comments received from both OPM and Hemsall Consultancies need to be acted upon in conjunction with the new and updated guidance from DCSF
- the initial CSA gathered a vast amount of data however not all of this was included in the final written report or its appendices. Only relevant data should be collected. All relevant data needs to be included in the next full report
- the initial CSA also failed to clearly map childcare supply to parent demand. A good sample of parents views were gathered as part of the research process however concerns over data validity meant that a 'scaling up' exercise was not undertaken. This needs addressing in the next full report in order that the assessment is robust and able to fully meet government requirements
- work needs to continue with childcare providers in order to effectively communicate parent demand
- consultation with parents needs to be strengthened and continually fed into the 'managing the market' process
- consultation with children and young people needs to begin

- consultation with vulnerable groups needs to be begun, in particular children with disabilities, lone parents and parents with older children
- all consultation findings need to be mapped against the supply side of the market in order to identify 'perceived' and 'real' childcare gaps
- consideration needs to be given to the involvement of a professional researcher in order to ensure the next full assessment meets ALL of the necessary legal requirements. Whilst the FIS can supply good quality 'supply' data, help may be required in order to gather 'demand' data. It is likely that the distribution of a parent questionnaire can be covered 'in house' but focus groups and in depth interviews may be best carried out by an independent researcher.

Final Comments

For more information about the childcare market in Hartlepool contact Penny Thompson or Sarah Tudor as below. If you would like copies of any of the previous CSAs please contact the Families Information Service on 01429 284284 alternatively email fis@hartlepool.gov.uk. For a copy of the Out of School Childcare research report undertaken by ehGreen Ltd please contact Penny Thompson.

Contact Officer

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Supporting Officer

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Appendices

- A. Managing the Market Action Plan 2009-10
- B. Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Timeline
- C. Childcare Market Analysis 2009-10

2.1 Appendix 1

Aim - to shape and support the development of childcare provision in Hartlepool in order to make it flexible, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community. The overall aim is that parents will be able to find childcare that meets their needs and enables them to make a real choice about training and work

Relevant Legislation - Section 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 of The Childcare Act 2006

Relevant documentation - Securing sufficient child care; SI 2007 The Childcare Act 2006 (Childcare Assessments); Childcare Sufficiency Assessments: guidance for local authorities; Choice for Parents - the best start for children a ten year strategy for childcare; Next Steps for Early Learning and Childcare - building on the 10 year strategy

Links to National Indicators/ Targets - Proportion of children living in poverty (NI16), Take up of formal childcare by low income families (NI18)

Delivery requirement - sufficiency assessment with a requirement to refresh and update annually and to redo by April 2011

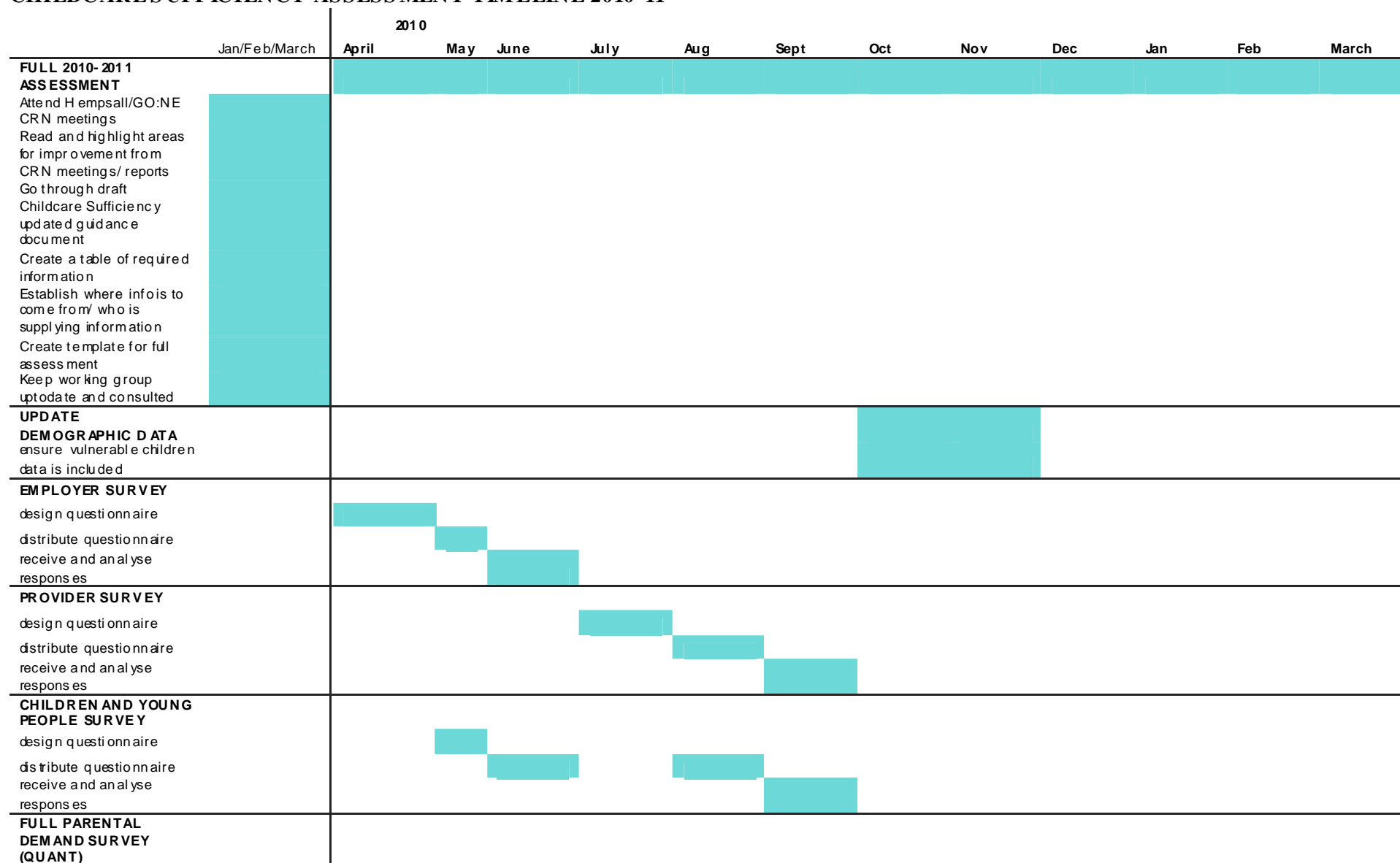
Strategic Priority	Key Objectives	When?
Secure the sustainability of existing and new childcare providers	Build upon existing relationships with childcare providers to improve confidence in business information sharing	30 December 2009
	Work with providers to evaluate their current business position and ascertain likely short, medium and long term sustainability	01 September 2010
	Closely monitor take up of childcare places and vacancies amongst providers	01 March 2010
	Work with training providers (e.g. HCFE and HSFC) to review childcare training programmes to ensure business planning skills are incorporated into their childcare courses	01 March 2010
	Consult with providers re business training requirements and develop a programme of business training based on research findings	01 March 2010
	Continue to produce a business newsletter aimed at childcare providers	01 March 2010
	Nursery Manager and Childminder provider meetings to be used as a forum for the provision of business and sustainability information and support	01 March 2009
	Establish Childcare Sufficiency Grant including criteria and application forms to pilot childcare that meets the needs identified in the CSA	01 October 2009
Encourage flexible and responsive childcare providers	Ensure EYRG is in place to look at Flexible Free Nursery Entitlement - single funding formula, models of FNE delivery. See FNE action plan.	01 March 2009
	Make best use of Early Years Foundation Stage requirements including Early Years Professional and/or Qualified Teacher input which allows changes in adult to child ratios	01 March 2009
	Work with providers (maintained and non maintained) to change cultural practice and to consider new methods of flexible delivery	01 March 2010
	Cost up the most effective models of flexible childcare with providers to ensure any flexibility makes good business sense	01 March 2010
	Use funding available through the Childcare Sufficiency Grant to encourage providers to trial a variety of flexible childcare solutions	01 March 2010
	Share CSA findings with childcare providers in order to provide them with evidence of demand for atypical hours	01 April 2010
	Promote the identified gaps to providers as a new business opportunity and provide business support for those providers who may be willing to fill them	01 April 2010

Increase consultation amongst childcare providers	All childcare providers to be invited to locality meetings	01 December 2009
	Nursery Manager and Childminder meetings (termly) as means of disseminating a wide variety of information including CSA	01 September 2009
	Business Inform to be used as a mechanism for information sharing with providers	01 November 2009
Support employers with childcare responsive to employee needs	Consult with employers as part of CSA process	01 March 2011
	Employer CSA data to be shared with childcare providers in order that providers adjust their provision to meet demand	01 April 2010
	Encourage employers to offer 16 hours+ contracts in order that parents are eligible for tax credits	01 March 2010
	Work with appropriate LA officers and agencies such as Business Link to encourage employers to consider flexible working for their employees	01 March 2010
	Work with agencies such as Business Link and appropriate LA officers to promote childcare to employers	01 March 2010
Promote the benefits of formal and approved childcare	BSO and Families Information Service to lead on marketing campaign aimed at promoting the benefits of working 16+ hours per week	01 September 2010
	Collaborative working with Lone Parent Advisors and Jobcentre Plus colleagues in FISH, Children's Centres and Extended Schools promoting tax credits to employers and parents	01 March 2010
	Encourage HMRC to deliver information sessions to providers re Tax credits	01 September 2010
	Extend the availability of the FIS service into localities ensuring maximum reach of parents and carers	01 March 2010
	Promote the financial support available to parents using registered/formal care (e.g. Tax Credits)	01 March 2010
	Encourage schools to promote the use of formal care through their school newsletters	01 March 2011
Secure affordable childcare	Ensure FISH parent newsletter promotes a variety of issues including formal childcare and tax credits	01 March 2010
	Encourage the take up of Tax Credits working alongside Lone Parent Advisors and Jobcentre Plus	01 April 2010
	Continue to work with childcare providers to rationalise running costs and make business savings that can be passed on to the parent/carer	01 March 2010
	Promote the benefits of Salary Sacrifice Schemes (childcare vouchers) to employers/employees	01 March 2011
	Ensure parents are getting everything they are entitled to including free nursery entitlement and Tax Credits	01 March 2010
	Work with Jobcentre Plus to support parents/carers in completing the tax credits paperwork	01 March 2010

Accessibility	Training and further support required for providers in order to improve their offer of childcare for children with disabilities	01 September 2010
	Accessibility of premises may be an issue - early years grant may be able to address this is for some providers	01 April 2010
	Aiming high for disabled children - make best use of capital and revenue grant to ensure providers are able to offer inclusive places	01 April 2010
Raise the quality of childcare in settings - including raising the skills of the childcare workforce	Raise the issue of quality and experience with childcare providers and encourage them to tackle this themselves - learn to challenge providers	01 March 2011
	Graduate Leader Fund - opportunity to increase the number of qualified leaders in setting	01 March 2011
	Continue to improve the Childminder pathway leading to better recruitment and retention of childminders	01 March 2011
	Conduct an audit on age/qualification of childcare staff in Hartlepool and use this information to lever training and CPD	01 September 2010

APPENDIX B

CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT TIMELINE 2010-11



commission researcher/ company - prepare project brief/ tender, advertise, interview and select design questionnaire send out questionnaire receive and analyse responses summarise findings	
FREE NURSERY ENTITLEMENT (SUPPLY/TAKE UP DATA) October headcounts upply and take up data	
CHILDCARE PROVISION - ALL REGISTERS inc UNREGISTERED (SUPPLY/TAKE UP DATA) evince data tabulated vacancy data collected and tabulated	
COMPARISON ON OLD V NEW SUPPLY DATA old v new childcare supply data old v new FNE data	
MAP SUPPLY TO DEMAND full count of all supply data by type, ward, age range, costs, hours etc full breakdown of vacancies by type, ward, age range, costs, hours etc full breakdown of children with disability data by type, ward, age range, costs, hours etc assess parent demand findings and map to supply	
WRITE UP FULL ASSESSMENT allow time for data formatting	
CONSULT ON DRAFT ASSESSMENT Amend draft	

**PUBLISH FULL
ASSESSMENT**

add to internet

send to print room

distribute



APPENDIX C

CHILDCARE MARKET ANALYSIS

RED SIGNIFIES MARKET MANAGEMENT ISSUES - RESEARCH INTO SUPPLY/ DEMAND REQUIRED	Brus	Burn Valley	Dyke House	Elwick	Fens	Foggy Furze	Grange	Greatham	Hart	Owton	Park	Rift House	Rossmere	St Hilda	Seaton	Stranton	Throston	Totals/ averages
Deprivation Data																		
Overall SOA ranking (A top 5%, B top 10%, C top 20% and D top 30%)	B	B	A	-	-	-	C	-	-	A	-	B	A	A	-	D	D	-
% workless households with dependents	40.8	18.2	39.7	3.2	16.5	27.1	23.7	12	9.4	45.5	4.2	28.2	28.5	30.7	9.7	47.3	12.6	25.9
% single parent households	13.9	11.8	15.3	3	6.6	12.6	10.5	7.2	6.6	19.9	3	12.3	9.7	10.4	5.8	12.8	8.9	10.5
Estimated weekly household income	450	450	400	740	500	440	470	530	530	390	690	410	400	370	570	420	570	480
Population Data																		
Number of 0-2 years	305	260	235	60	125	210	245	40	270	280	110	215	230	210	190	240	235	3460
Number of 3-4 years	235	140	160	50	80	115	135	25	170	200	90	140	160	140	140	145	150	2275
Number of 5-7 years	265	210	225	65	135	155	165	35	215	280	170	230	235	190	200	175	235	3185
Number of 8-10 years	295	190	220	85	155	170	175	50	250	270	170	220	200	190	215	180	250	3285
Number of 11-14 years	385	270	310	105	260	270	265	110	350	355	295	370	285	295	300	280	345	4850
Number of 15-17 years	295	260	245	85	185	235	245	85	250	280	265	270	225	240	295	205	260	3925
Total number of children and young people in ward	1780	1330	1395	450	940	1155	1230	345	1505	1665	1100	1445	1335	1265	1340	1225	1475	20980
Childcare Supply Data																		
Number of childminder places	0	27	24	16	23	0	16	28	21	6	23	37	4	12	6	12	49	304
Number of daycare places (group based)	140	0	28	0	0	0	55	0	0	15	75	26	41	53	62	123	80	698
Number of holiday places	121	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	32	68	0	0	40	0	33	0	16	334

	Brus	Burn Valley	Dyke House	Elwick	Fens	Foggy Furze	Grange	Greatham	Hart	Owton	Park	Rift House	Rossmere	St Hilda	Seaton	Stranton	Throston	Totals/averages
Number of after school places	121	0	0	0	0	156	16	20	32	88	0	46	44	24	56	58	40	701
Number of before school places	112	20	32	0	32	66	24	20	32	54	0	36	60	32	0	40	80	640
Number of sessional care places	0	0	0	0	0	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	68
Number of integrated car places	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	16	0	20	0	0	54
Total number of childcare places 0-17 years	502	47	84	16	55	298	111	78	117	231	98	145	205	137	177	233	265	279.9
Density of children to childcare places data																		
Number of 0-2 years for every 1 day care place	2.1	0	8.3	0	0	0	4.4	0	0	18.6	1.4	8.2	5.6	3.9	3.0	1.9	2.9	4.9
Number of 3-4 years for every 1 day care place	1.6	0	5.7	0	0	0	2.4	0	0	13.3	1.2	5.3	3.9	2.6	2.2	1.1	1.8	3.2
Number of 0-10 years for every 1 childminder place	0	617.0	629.1	180.3	346.7	0	555.9	101.7	666.9	805	377.3	590.9	675	555.8	565.8	575	625.1	893.0.8
Number of 5-10 years for every 1 before school place	267.6	219.5	231.8	0	139.8	157.5	172.2	37.5	222.8	285	0	236.1	238.3	195.9	0	179.5	238.1	319.0.13
Number of 5-10 years for every 1 after school place	267.4	0	0	0	0	156.0	175.9	37.5	222.8	283.1	0	234.7	239.5	197.9	203.8	178.1	241.2	318.9.6
Total number of children for every 1 childcare places (0-17 years / all types of childcare)	3.5	28.2	16.6	28.1	17.0	3.8	11.0	4.4	12.8	7.2	11.2	9.9	6.5	9.2	7.5	5.2	5.5	7.4

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: GENERAL SURE START GRANT CAPITAL –
EARLY YEARS CAPITAL

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to allocate early years capital to private daycare settings in Hartlepool.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

A number of reports have been presented to Portfolio Holder in relation to Sure Start Capital grant spend. It is estimated that £200,000 of Sure Start capital grant remains which needs to be spent by 31st March 2011.

The Early Years Capital funding is provided through the General Sure Start Grant to support settings to offer flexible extended free nursery entitlement. Officers are currently working with schools and settings to ensure all settings are offering the extended entitlement as per statutory guidance received from DCSF.

Guidance on the allocation of the Early Years Capital funding sets out a requirement for local authorities to prioritise spend on the private and voluntary sector although it can be spent on the maintained sector. A letter from the DCSF sent to local authorities dated 13th May 2009 strengthens the need for LAs to allocate this element of funding to the private and voluntary sector in order to continue to improve their early learning environments.

The following report sets out the proposed allocation of the remaining allocation of the Early Years Capital grant.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

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

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key decision.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio Holder meeting 13th April 2010.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To seek approval to allocate early years capital to private daycare settings.

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Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: GENERAL SURE START GRANT CAPITAL –
EARLY YEARS CAPITAL

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to allocate early years capital to private daycare settings.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A number of reports have been presented to Portfolio Holder in relation to Sure Start Capital grant spend. It is estimated that £200,000 of Sure Start capital grant remains which needs to be spent by 31st March 2011.
- 2.2 The Early Years Capital funding is provided through the General Sure Start Grant to support settings to offer flexible extended free nursery entitlement. Officers are currently working with schools and settings to ensure all settings are offering the extended entitlement
- 2.3 Guidance on the allocation of the Early Years Capital funding sets out a requirement for local authorities to prioritise spend on the private and voluntary sector although it can be spent on the maintained sector. A letter from the DCSF sent to local authorities dated 13th May 2009 strengthens the need for LAs to allocate this element of funding to the private and voluntary sector.

3. ALLOCATION OF FUNDING

- 3.1 It is estimated that £200,000 of Early Years Capital remains across Children's Centres and private daycare settings in 2009/10. The focus of this funding is to enable settings to offer fully flexible nursery entitlement.
- 3.2 It is proposed that the £200,000 is made available for daycare settings to request additional capital works. All settings would be advised of the allocation and asked to complete an application to bid for the funding. A panel would oversee the applications and make a decision based on the DCSF capital guidance and the funding previously allocated. The panel would consist of Finance, Early Years and Childcare Officers and successful applicants would sign a contract with clear terms and conditions of grant use.

4. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 All capital works must be undertaken in line with the Disability Discrimination Act requirements to ensure that all children's centres are fully accessible with special needs and disabilities.

5. SECTION 17

- 5.1 The development of children's centres supports early intervention to those families who are disadvantaged and in need in order to support them in parenting and supporting successful outcomes for their children.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 To seek approval to allocate early years capital to private daycare settings.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 To ensure Early Years Capital is spent in line with DCSF requirements.

8. CONTACT OFFICER

Danielle Swainston (Sure Start, Extended Services and Early Years Manager) 523671

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: PROCUREMENT OF SPECIALIST
CONSULTANCY TO SUPPORT SPECIAL
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) PROCESSES

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To request a direction for an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in respect of securing additional support for Special Educational Needs (SEN) processes.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The special educational needs (SEN) team manages the processes around the local authority's legal duties to identify, assess and make provision for pupils for SEN. Temporary lack of capacity in the team since the start of January 2010 has created a significant risk that the local authority will fail to meet its statutory duties. In view of the specialist nature of the work, additional capacity can only be provided by a special educational needs expert with knowledge of local circumstances. The report requests a direction for an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in respect of securing such capacity via a specialist consultant.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Children's Services issues

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio Holder meeting 13th April 2010.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To direct an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in respect of the proposed consultancy.

Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: PROCUREMENT OF SPECIALIST
CONSULTANCY TO SUPPORT SPECIAL
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (SEN) PROCESSES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To request a direction for an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules in respect of securing additional support for Special Educational Needs (SEN) processes.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The SEN team manages the processes around the local authority's legal duties to identify, assess and make provision for pupils for SEN. Members of the team work closely with parents / carers, schools staff and a range of other professional staff from Psychology, Health and Social Care to ensure these duties are met and children in Hartlepool receive appropriate and timely support.
- 2.2 SEN regulations set precise and demanding time schedules for the completion of statutory processes and the SEN team in Hartlepool has been successful over a number of years in achieving a 100% record on these. Furthermore, by working in partnership with parents / carers and the range of professionals involved in assessment processes, the local authority has never been taken to the SEN tribunal (the mechanism by which parents can appeal if they disagree with the formal recommendations made by the local authority for meeting their child's SEN). This success is based on insuring that parents always receive personal attention and considerable time from officers to listen to their views and concerns and to ensure the process is not merely bureaucratic.
- 2.3 The SEN team is a small team of only 3 officers (the Manager, Assistant Manager and Administrative Assistant). During 2009 there was pressure on capacity when the Assistant SEN Manager was seconded to training and subsequently moved to a new post within the Preventative Services in the Child and Adult Services Department. A new appointment was made in Autumn 2009 to the vacancy. However through the unavoidable absence from work of both the SEN Manager and the Administrative Assistant since the start of January 2010, capacity issues have understandably increased to a level where there is a high risk not only of failing to meet the required timescales for

completing statutory processes but also of being unable to provide an adequate, personal service to families alongside ensuring the very specific legal requirements of SEN formal processes are met without error.

- 2.4 Given the specialist nature of work, namely the need for a thorough understanding of the regulations and the ability to manage face to face work with families who are often under considerable stress, merely adding additional non-specialist administrative or officer support until the substantive members can return to work is not appropriate. Equally, seeking to procure consultancy / additional expert capacity based solely on the knowledge of national SEN regulations would not necessarily meet Hartlepool's requirements, as each local authority has its own local policies and procedures which are important in setting the style of working.
- 2.5 Hartlepool has previously used consultancy services from a former Assistant Director in the region who has now worked as a Specialist SEN Consultant for a number of years. He is an expert in the area, his extensive experience including having being appointed since 2002 as a specialist member of the SEN and Disability Tribunal. In addition he is familiar with working practices in Hartlepool and was very effective in providing SEN expertise to contribute to Building Schools for the Future planning and acting as a critical friend in evaluating progress on access and inclusion.
- 2.6 This consultant is currently available for work and has been able to offer immediate support during March 2010. The cost of support during the 2009/2010 financial year is below the £5,000 procurement limit and this has allowed him to start work immediately on assisting and dealing with the backlog of cases. In view, however, of the likelihood that there will be a need for this additional support to continue for some time during the Spring and Summer 2010, the cost of the support will exceed the procurement limit for 2010/2011.

3. EXCEPTION TO THE CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

- 3.1 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules for contracts between £5,000 and £20,000 require that three Quotations should be obtained wherever possible. However, Part A1(ii) Application of Contract Procedure Rules state that...' these rules do not apply to contracts with professional persons or contractors for the execution of works or the provision of services in which the professional knowledge and skill of these persons or contractors is of the primary importance...'

- 3.2 Paragraph A(iii) states that: 'No exception from any of the rules shall be made otherwise than by direction of the Executive or the Council...'. The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services is requested therefore to direct an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules in respect of the proposed consultancy.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There is a significant risk of the Local Authority failing to meet its statutory duties in relation to SEN if the short term capacity issues in the SEN team are not addressed promptly.

5. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Funding has been identified within the 2010/11 Special Educational Needs budget to cover the cost of the consultancy.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 To direct an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to allow the commissioning of specialist SEN Consultancy Services during the period April – July 2010.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

- 7.1 Sue Johnson, Assistant Director Planning and Service Integration

CHILD AND ADULT SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: RESOURCES TO COMPLETE THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTACTPOINT.

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for the appointment of consultancy staff to assist in the implementation of ContactPoint in Hartlepool.

To request an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to appoint consultancy support for the implementation of ContactPoint.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

ContactPoint is a national database containing basic demographic information on every child and young person in England. It is designed to promote earlier intervention and information sharing between practitioners working with children and as such, is a key component of the Government's *Every Child Matters: Change for Children* programme.

Hartlepool Borough Council has a duty inherent in the Children Act 2004 to implement ContactPoint both within the Local Authority and with local Partner Agencies including schools and health services. The implementation is scheduled to be completed by March 2011.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

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

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio Holder meeting 13th April 2010.

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To approve the procurement of consultancy staff to assist in the implementation of ContactPoint in Hartlepool.

To agree an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to appoint consultancy support for the implementation of ContactPoint.

Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: RESOURCES TO COMPLETE THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTACTPOINT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the procurement of agency staff to assist in the implementation of ContactPoint in Hartlepool.
- 1.2 To request an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to appoint consultancy support for the implementation of ContactPoint.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 ContactPoint is a national database containing basic demographic information on every child and young person in England. It is designed to promote earlier intervention and information sharing between practitioners working with children and as such, is a key component of the Government's *Every Child Matters: Change for Children* programme.
- 2.2 Hartlepool Borough Council has a duty inherent in the Children Act 2004 to implement ContactPoint, both within the Local Authority and with local Partner Agencies including schools and health services. The implementation should be complete by March 2011.

3. IMPLIMENTATION OF CONTACTPOINT IN HARTLEPOOL

- 3.1 As a national database, ContactPoint is subject to high security requirements meaning the Local Authority, and their partners, have to meet a wide range of criteria before being granted access.
- 3.2 Hartlepool Borough Council completed organisational accreditation for Local Authority Staff in July 2009.
- 3.3 Work with Partner Organisations is continuing to ensure they are able to access ContactPoint. This is progressing well although there remains a significant amount of work to accredit and train all partners, particularly within schools and the health sector. One consultant with the appropriate skills and experience will be responsible for continuing the accreditation work. They will be working to ensure Partners have the appropriate policies and procedures in relation to Human Resources, IT security, and the appropriate use of ContactPoint. Hartlepool Borough Council is responsible for training all ContactPoint users in Hartlepool. Our ContactPoint training is progressing well for

our local authority staff but training will need to continue to catch new Local Authority staff and those identified by partners as they become accredited the training will be managed and delivered by another consultant who has the appropriate accreditation to deliver this work..

- 3.4 External consultancy support is required to ensure implementation is completed within the required timescales. External staff for both roles must have security clearances, be fully aware of the security requirements, have been Level One ContactPoint trained and have authorisation to access ContactPoint and the training system.

4. EXCEPTION TO THE CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

- 4.1 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules for contracts between £5,000 and £20,000 require that three Quotations should be obtained wherever possible. However, Part A1(ii) Application of Contract Procedure Rules state that...' these rules do not apply to contracts with professional persons or contractors for the execution of works or the provision of services in which the professional knowledge and skill of these persons or contractors is of the primary importance...'
- 4.2 Paragraph A(iii) states that: 'No exception from any of the rules shall be made otherwise than by direction of the Executive or the Council...'. The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services is requested therefore to direct an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules in respect of the proposed consultancy.
- 4.3 The appointment of external consultants to support the implementation of ContactPoint has been discussed with the Corporate Procurement Team and it has been agreed that the services required cannot be met through the Procurement of Agency Staff Framework.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The associated costs will be met in full by existing grant funding from the Department for Children, Schools and Families. This grant funding is ring-fenced for the sole purpose of implementing ContactPoint in Hartlepool.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Portfolio Holder is recommended to:
- i) To approve for the appointment of consultancy staff to assist in the implementation of ContactPoint in Hartlepool.

- ii) To agree an exception to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to appoint consultancy support for the implementation of ContactPoint.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

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CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: SETTING UP HOME GRANTS FOR CARE LEAVERS

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the current financial arrangements for Setting Up Home grants for Care Leavers and make proposals to increase the total amount of money that may be spent to achieve a suitable level of provision that will ensure the wellbeing of an individual Young Person as they move to Independence from the Care system

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The background to the service for those young people leaving the care of the local authority, the current responsibilities and provision and information that seeks to justify an increase in the maximum amount to be paid from the current level.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The proposals are relevant in terms of the Portfolio Holder's responsibilities as corporate parent for children who are looked after by the local authority.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non Key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Decision by Portfolio Holder

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

Approve the increased upper limit of financial provision in relation to any individual Care Leaver in respect of a grant to help them set up their own home at £1,700.

Approve the policy of an annual increase in April each year that reflects the published cost of living increase.

Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: SETTING UP HOME GRANTS FOR CARE LEAVERS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the current financial arrangements for Setting Up Home grants for Care Leavers and make proposals to increase the total amount of money that may be spent to achieve a suitable level of provision that will ensure the wellbeing of an individual Young Person as they move to Independence from the Care system

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The local authority has a range of responsibilities toward young people leaving their care under the provisions of the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000. Of particular relevance for this report is the requirement under Section 23B(8)(b) of the Act whereby the local authority is required to “support them [Care Leavers] by providing them with or maintaining them in suitable accommodation unless they are satisfied that their welfare does not require it”.
- 2.2 For the purposes of section 23B (10) of the Act and Regulation 11 of the Children (Leaving Care) (England) Regulations 2001, “suitable accommodation” is accommodation which so far as is reasonably practicable is suitable for the child in light of his needs, including his health needs **and** in respect of which the local authority has satisfied itself as to the character and suitability of the landlord or other provider **and** the responsible authority has taken into account the wishes and feelings and educational, training or employment needs of the young person.
- 2.3 Once suitable accommodation has been obtained the local authority has a continuing responsibility to assist and support the young person as determined by the assessment that leads to the required Pathway Plan [Regulation 8] which is a written statement setting out the manner in which the responsible authority proposes to meet the needs of the young person.

- 2.4 When the Act and subsequent Regulations came into force, detailed policy and procedures were prepared and implemented by staff. There was also agreement that the level of support for those young people moving to their own homes would include a sum of up to £1,200 to purchase essential items to ensure that their move to independent living is successful. This group of young people remain the responsibility of the local authority and are not eligible to claim any support from the Department of Work and Pensions.
- 2.5 Personal Advisors/Social Workers who are employed in the specialist team providing services to this group of young people have used their skills and experience over the intervening years to ensure that the basic needs of the young people are met within the existing upper limit. The young people are fully involved in the choice of items. However, with the increase in costs of all items that are purchased since the limit was set in 2001, they are now finding it virtually impossible to meet the basic needs of such young people. They use the services of voluntary services for furniture etc but health & safety concerns demand that any electrical or gas goods are purchased new. Consultation with care experienced young people has concluded that they fully support the proposed increase since a number of them would have made different choices in terms of items purchased if more money had been available.
- 2.6 On average there are between 7 and 9 young people who require this level of provision each year but the recent increases in the Looked After Population - up from 120 to 168 over a 3 year period strongly suggests that the number eligible for this service will increase in future years.
- 2.7 When the original grant was agreed there was no provision for the amount to be reviewed on a regular basis. The current consultation document "Planning for transitions to adulthood for looked after children – draft guidance" indicates in chapter 8, under Funding Priorities, the need for there to be specific arrangements in place in respect of Setting Up Home Allowances and that this should include a mechanism for reviewing the level. Since the level of expenditure covers a wide range of items, most of which will increase in cost in line with cost of living increases, it would be appropriate to consider an annual increase that reflects the published cost of living increase.

3. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 While the current level of provision in terms of eligible young people has remained stable for the past 5 years, there is a likelihood that the absolute number will increase in the next 4 to 5 years, placing an additional burden on this budget.

4. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 There is a clear legal responsibility to make some provision to meet the assessed needs of young people who are eligible for the service. The current levels have resulted in a high level of successfully maintaining young people in suitable accommodation into their adulthood.
- 4.2 The increase from £1,200 to £1,700 [upper limit] represents a reflection of the increase in costs since the lower level was set in 2001. The total increase in budget provision on current numbers of eligible young people would be $9 \times £500 = £4,500$.
- 4.3 The increased costs can be met from current budget provision within the global Leaving Care budget with some reductions in other areas of spending that will not adversely affect performance overall.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Portfolio Holder approve the increased upper limit of financial provision in relation to any individual Care Leaver in respect of a grant to help them set up their own home at £1,700.
- 5.2 Approve the policy of an annual increase in April each year that reflects the published cost of living increase.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The local authority has a responsibility to Care Leavers to ensure that their assessed needs are met in the process of moving them into adulthood - in this case by setting them up in their own accommodation.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000
Children (Leaving Care) (England) Regulations 2001
Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 Guidance - Department of Health 2001
Consultation document - Planning for transitions to adulthood for looked after children – draft guidance – Department for Children, Schools and Families, March 2010

8. CONTACT OFFICER

Jim Murdoch, Head of Business Unit (Resources & Specialist Services)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: DRAFT ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009-2020

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present a draft of the Children and Young People's Plan annual review document and update the Portfolio Holder on progress.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

This report provides an update on the progress of the Children and Young People's Plan annual review document which is attached as **Appendix A** to this report.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

This is within the remit of the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio Holder meeting 13th April & 11th May 2010

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

Portfolio Holder to note progress to date

Report of: Director of Child & Adult Services

Subject: DRAFT ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009-2020

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present a draft of the Children and Young People's Plan annual review document, which is attached as **Appendix A** to this report, and update the Portfolio Holder on progress.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. The Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2020 is owned by the Children's Trust Board and is the single, strategic, overarching plan for all local services affecting children, young people and families in Hartlepool.
- 2.2. The Children Act 2004 places a duty on Children's Trusts to prepare and publish a Children and Young People's Plan and conduct an annual review against milestones, with the appropriate involvement of all the partners to the Plan.

3. UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF THE ANNUAL REVIEW

- 3.1. A copy of the draft annual review document is presented with this report. Whilst the Children's Trust Manager is still waiting on a small number of responses from Children's Trust partners, the vast majority of the actions in the Children and Young People's Plan have been updated, with significant work having been done over the last 12 months.
- 3.2. The final draft of the Children and Young People's Plan annual review will be presented to the Children's Trust Board on 29th April 2010 and the Children's Services Portfolio Holder on 11th May for agreement.

4. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. By not producing an annual review of the Children and Young People's Plan, Hartlepool Borough Council and other Children's Trust partners risk a breach of the Children Act 2004, which may have a significant impact on Hartlepool's Comprehensive Area Assessment.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1. It is recommended that the Portfolio holder notes the progress made on the annual review to date.

6. CONTACT OFFICER

- 6.1 Kelly Moss
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KEY PRIORITY	GAP IN SERVICE	HOW ARE WE DOING?
TACKLING INEQUALITIES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the positive benefits of breastfeeding and the negative impact of smoking and ensure that women during pregnancy and after their baby's birth receive appropriate information and support to help them address these issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage more women to instigate and maintain breastfeeding for as long as possible Ensure that all services work effectively together to support pregnant women to stop smoking 	<p>A breastfeeding strategy has been developed for Hartlepool and investment has been made in capacity to improve co-ordination across all agencies to improve breastfeeding.</p> <p>Problems have been identified with recording breastfeeding status accurately and a new process has been agreed to ensure robust coverage and prevalence data.</p> <p>A 12% reduction in the number of women smoking in pregnancy has been achieved.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obesity and unhealthy choices among children and young people locally is a cause for concern as it has a significant impact on their long term health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with all stakeholders to address obesity of children and young people within the town • Support those schools yet to achieve the National Healthy School Status award and ensure that those who already have the award continue to maintain the relevant standards required • Ensure that all parents have the information that they require to support their children to make healthy choices • Reduce the number of children who have untreated tooth decay 	<p>Through the implementation of Healthy Schools Standard and working with schools, health eating messages have been promoted and food preparation skills developed to ensure children and young people adopt healthy eating behaviours.</p> <p>Currently 95% of schools have achieved National Healthy School Status. This is equal to 36 out of 38. The target is 100%.</p> <p>Once 100% of schools have achieved National Healthy School Status then to retaining this under the new enhanced model, schools must successfully complete an annual review to self-validate that minimum requirements are being maintained. They may then commence enhancement work.</p> <p>The MEND (Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It!) Health and Wellbeing initiative for children aged 7-13 and their parents, has been established. All schools across Hartlepool have now achieved the Golden Apple Healthy Eating award for food providers.</p> <p>NHS Hartlepool met its target for the number of patients accessing NHS dental services in the last 24 months.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackle teenage pregnancy and sexual health across Hartlepool, in partnership with children, young people and parents and carers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the recommendations of the Teenage Pregnancy National Support Team ensuring the delivery of the 10 priority areas for action 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the recommendations of the Tees wide Sexual Health National Support Team in particular the integration of contraception and sexual health services for young people 	<p>A Sex, Relationship and Education programme has been implemented in schools and advice and access to contraception and sexual health services is offered. Trained people are working with young people about issues relating to teenage pregnancy.</p> <p>A midwife has been funded to support those teenagers who do get pregnant.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address to issues relating to length of time parents wait for a diagnosis for certain medical conditions and subsequent access to support services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hartlepool Borough Council and NHS Hartlepool to support the implementation of the Bercow report recommendations to transform speech and language therapy for children and young people with speech, language and communication difficulties • Ensure that integrated working tools (the Common Assessment Framework, Lead Practitioner role and Team Around the Child) and practices are embedded within the children and young people's workforce to support a smoother transition for those children, young people and families accessing services • Ensure that the 11 standards of the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services continue to be rolled out • Implement the recommendations of the national review of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services 	<p>Hartlepool was successful in bidding for the Speech, Language and Communication Needs Commissioning Pathfinder Programme. A steering group in place to take this project forward, looking at how we commission speech and language therapy services and speech and communication needs services more generally based on the needs of children, young people and parent and carers as well as a thorough needs assessment.</p> <p>Training on Common Assessment Framework, Lead Practitioner and Team Around the Child is embedded in the Children's Workforce Training Plan. This will ensure that all Children's Trust Partners have access to training in these areas.</p> <p>The National Service Framework recommendations are an ongoing roll out of actions across a number of services and some are included in the draft Healthy Child service specification. The NHS Hartlepool strategy delivery groups (child health and maternity) are overseeing their implementation.</p> <p>A self assessment against the recommendations of the national review of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services is to be completed during 10/11 and an action plan developed.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing the issues of substance misuse by young people and adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the relevant services are in place to support children and young people with alcohol or drug problems by implementing the Young Person Specialist Substance Misuse Treatment Plan Develop focussed work with parents who have problem drug and alcohol issues through parenting programmes and/or intensive intervention for families where there are children with a high risk of being taken into care Implement the 'Hidden Harm' Strategy particularly in respect of the development of dedicated services for children affected by parental drug and alcohol misuse 	<p>Significant changes have been made to how young people's substance misuse is to be managed in Hartlepool with the Children's Trust Board now taking overall responsibility.</p> <p>In 2009/10 Hartlepool has developed strengthened prevention arrangements that are centred on our primary and secondary schools. This 'team around the school' service allows us to focus our universal and targeted work in a totally new way. In addition, we will use the 'team around the secondary school' as a key route into treatment services.</p> <p>The Hidden Harm Action Plan is being progressed. A Hidden Harm Principal Practitioner is now in post to enhance the assessment of substance misusing parents/carers.</p> <p>Actions in the Hidden Harm Action plan are being addressed. Progress will be enhanced via the 'Think Family' project in respect of developing services for parents with a parental substance misuse and as well as for their children.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care Co-ordination needs to be extended to meet the needs of young people with disabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better organisation and co-ordination of services, so that when a service closes a case, parents are not left without support 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect children against disease through high uptake of immunisation and screening programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the uptake of childhood vaccinations and implement the new national Human Papiloma Virus vaccination programme to protect against cervical cancer 	<p>Additional vaccination clinics have been offered in community setting such as schools and Children's Centres for MMR to protect more children against Measles, Mumps and Rubella.</p> <p>The Human Papiloma Virus vaccination programme has now been implemented across schools to protect girls against cervical cancer.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure access and continued effectiveness of local stop smoking services so that everyone who smokes can easily find the support they need to stop, close to where they live or work 		<p>Hartlepool Borough Council has secured £100k from the Department of Health to develop initiatives to work on tobacco control issues and smoking cessation.</p>
ADDITIONAL NEEDS OF SOME YOUNG PEOPLE		
Children & Young People with Disabilities		
<p>Ensure that those children and young people with disabilities who are not known to the appropriate services and require support, receive information and the support they need</p>	<p>A Guide To Services for Children with additional needs and disabilities has been completed and a copy was sent to all schools, GP Surgeries, Libraries, Children's Centres etc so that families not known to the service could find out about services, how to get a copy of the guide etc. The guide is web based and links into the wider Family Information Service.</p> <p>A texting service has also been launched which allows families to</p>	

	sign up to receiving texts informing them of new developments in services, information about activities going on etc. This is managed by Families Information Service Hartlepool.
Promote direct payments or independent budgets to families of children with disabilities, by providing better access to information about the support available	Direct Payments are always promoted as an option to meet assessed needs and families are made aware of where they can gain further information in respect of Direct Payments. Families are also provided with information from support services who provide a range of services to families in the management of their direct payment. Children's services are looking at Individual Budgets and work is to commence with colleagues in Adult Services regarding how best to progress this.
Ensure that all young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are involved in their Section 140 assessments	Connexions Personal Advisors have supported all young people eligible for an assessment of their post 16 learning needs (who are not staying on at school) to participate in their assessments during the 2009/2010 academic year.
Children & Young People Looked After	
We will develop a database which collates information and identifies key health care issues for looked after children. This will support the development of services based on the identified health care needs of looked after children in order to further improve targeting of resources	There have been developments in the ICS system currently in use so that the health information is recorded in a way that permits reports to be drawn off to inform service planning

Children & Young People from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities	
We will ensure that advice and information about healthy diets and lifestyles is accessible to children, young people and parents/carers from black and minority ethnic backgrounds and is sensitive to cultural dietary requirements	<p>It is recommended to schools that diversity and community cohesion are always considered as part of good quality Personal, Social and Health Education sessions/lessons which includes healthy eating messages.</p> <p>The National Personal, Social and Health Education Continuous Professional Development Programme is a qualification that requires 'Difference and Diversity' to be specifically focussed upon.</p>

KEY PRIORITY	GAP IN SERVICE	HOW ARE WE DOING?
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ERADICATING CHILD POVERTY		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the availability of supported housing for vulnerable young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eradicate the inappropriate use of bed and breakfast accommodation for young people who are homeless 	<p>Hartlepool Borough Council Cabinet agreed a supported lodgings scheme for vulnerable young people. The procurement process for this will take place between January and March 2010 with the aim of securing six supported lodgings hosts to provide accommodation for young people aged 16-24 years old.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at transport network issues in Hartlepool more closely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More affordable transport and activities for children and young people for low income families 	<p>The Education and Inspections Act 2006 extended entitlement to free school travel for those pupils entitled to free school meals or whose parents are in receipt of maximum Working Tax Credit.</p> <p>Primary school pupils aged over eight, from low income families, are entitled to free travel to their nearest school where this is more than 2 miles from their home. At secondary age (11-16 years), pupils attending a suitable school that is between two and six miles from the child's home, (as long as there are not more than three nearer schools) and those attending their nearest school preferred on the grounds of religion and belief, between two and fifteen miles, (providing there is no suitable qualifying school which is nearer to the child's home) are entitled to free transport.</p> <p>Funding to meet the cost of the extended rights during the comprehensive spending review period 2008-2011 was confirmed by the DCFS. Hartlepool regularly</p>

		evaluates the provision of extended rights.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help families which struggle to make ends meet on a weekly basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve job opportunities Support parents to maximise their income and increase the number of people who are economically active Develop the work of the Hartlepool Financial Partnership to ensure that there are better routes to financial advice and support 	<p>In August 2009, Hartlepool Borough Council and its partners received confirmation that their Future Jobs Fund application had been successful. Initially the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have contracted with the Council for 500 starts over the period of October 200 to 31 March 2010. DWP have confirmed that the additional 220 starts will be re-negotiated once the project commences.</p> <p>There are a wide range of employment and training programmes across Hartlepool that will help parents to become economically active. Key initiatives such as the new Employment Support Allowance and Flexible New Deal programmes will provide intensive support to those individuals who have been long term economically inactive.</p> <p>Sure Start Children's Centres support partners in 'preparing parents for work'. In addition, all Children's Centres advertise job vacancies and offer support with childcare choices in order to remove barriers to work.</p> <p>The Families Information Service Hartlepool continues to support families with advice on benefit entitlement and other forms of financial support working in conjunction with partners such as Job Centre Plus who co-locate with Families Information Service Hartlepool one day a week.</p> <p>In addition Families Information Service Hartlepool</p>

		<p>continues to publicise information on accessing financial support towards the cost of childcare through a variety of media including an information booklet for parents, the new parents newsletter, articles in Hartbeat and Mail and in school newsletter.</p> <p>Through Working Neighbourhood Funding, a Financial Inclusion Manager has been employed by Hartlepool Borough Council to progress the work of the Financial Inclusion Agenda. There are a key number of actions that have been developed by the Hartlepool Financial Partnership to prevent and protect local residents from the risks of financial exclusion including maximising the services of the Credit Union and delivering workshops in schools on money matters initiatives.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to benefits advice and information for all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent, high quality information is available about the range of benefits available to vulnerable young people and families 	<p>As part of the Hartlepool Financial Partnership's remit, regular reviews on the information provided to vulnerable groups on the range of benefits is undertaken. There are key organisations within Hartlepool who provide benefits advice such as Jobcentre Plus, Department for Work and Pensions and third sector groups such as West View Resource and Advice Centre and this is consistently of a high quality.</p> <p>Families Information Service Hartlepool's duty is for children and young people aged 0-19 years and their families and not only covers childcare but services to support the child, young person and family as a whole.</p>

		<p>Accessibility of Families Information Service Hartlepool has been strengthened with a base in the Centre Library, outreach in the community and SureStart Children's Centres, joint working with partners (e.g. Job Centre Plus), increased resource capacity into The Directory and most recently the introduction of information kiosks or 'Pods' with touch screen information, advice and guidance for parents.</p> <p>Families Information Service Hartlepool promotes tax credits as part of its statutory duty and offers help with tax credit calculations and form filling.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve services so that they meet the needs of lone parents and grandparents who are looking after grandchildren 		<p>Families Information Service Hartlepool have a duty to support lone parents and grandparents with information, advice and guidance on a range of family support services/issues. Bespoke information leaflets for grandparents and lone parents have been introduced.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better information about courses for parents and young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that every young person has a goal to continue their education, enrol on a training • Increase the number of young people who participate in post-16 education and training and reduce the number who are not in some form of education, employment or training, including those from vulnerable groups e.g. care leavers course or gain employment 	<p>The Connexions Service has prioritised the September Guarantee which aims to provide all school leavers with a place in education, employment or training. In September 2009, 97.2% of Year 11 pupils and 87.5% of Year 12 pupils had an offer.</p> <p>The Connexions service achieved 7.9% against a target of 8.4% in 2008/09 and is on track for meeting this year's target despite the economic downturn nationally.</p> <p>Hartlepool's numbers of young people in education are the best in Tees Valley (October 2009) and show a 5% improvement since October 2008.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people in Hartlepool to grow up in an environment free from the effects of poverty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of people with the right skills to get local employment and who are 'work ready' • Help people develop their entrepreneurial ideas and start up their own business • Continue the expansion of re-engagement programmes for the most disaffected and disadvantaged young people • Support families to break 	<p>Hartlepool Borough Council's Cabinet agreed the preparation of a strategy and action plan to tackle child poverty. This is now in draft awaiting further guidance on the Child Poverty Bill to ensure the final version is compliant with new legislation.</p> <p>Through the Working Neighbourhood Fund programme there are increased numbers of programmes to improve business start-up and self-employment.</p> <p>The Future Jobs Fund coincides with the Flexible New Deal programme which commenced in October 2009 and will provide intensive support for adults who have reached the 12 months stage of unemployment. A4E and Working Links are the prime providers for Flexible New</p>

	patterns of unemployment	<p>Deal in Hartlepool and Economic Development has been working closely with both organisations to ensure that this new provision adds value to existing activities.</p> <p>New initiatives have been introduced including the ESF Going Forward Project, a teenage parenting programme and a leaving care project.</p> <p>There are a number of key programmes across Hartlepool to encourage business start up. For example, the Incubation System & Business Skills seeks to increase the number of business start-ups within Hartlepool through a number of interventions.</p> <p>SureStart Children's Centres support parents with 'preparing for work' and equip parents with the skills required to enter the voluntary and paid employment market.</p> <p>The Children's Trust is actively engaged in working towards eradicating child poverty and Council officers are engaged with the North East Child Poverty Network.</p> <p>Child Poverty and Financial Inclusion are currently the subject of an investigation by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep people healthy so they can remain in employment 		<p>The Healthy Schools Standard has been promoted in Hartlepool schools, 100% of schools are engaged. Initiatives have included engagement with parents.</p>

		HHEY Officer in place supporting SureStart Children's Centers with healthy choices
ADDITIONAL NEEDS OF SOME YOUNG PEOPLE		
Children & Young People with Disabilities		
Ensure that the review of the current transitions arrangements results in the agreement of a robust transitions policy that is agreed and owned by all relevant partners	The transitions pathway has been developed by the multi-agency Transitions Steering Group for young people with disabilities.	
Raise the awareness of the business community of the positive benefits of employing young people with learning disabilities, learning difficulties and mental health problems	Hartlepool Borough Council's Employment Link Team has been undertaking a number of events with local employers to promote the benefits of employing young people with learning disabilities, learning difficulties and mental health problems. The Team has a high level of success in securing work placements and voluntary placements for this priority group.	
Ensure that young people with disabilities have the opportunity to access education, employment and training with the relevant support	The majority of young people participate in their section 140 assessment (93% in 2008/09). This assesses the needs of young people with disabilities as part of their transition. Connexions staff make follow up visits to ensure the identified needs are being met by the young person's post 16 placement.	
Children & Young People Looked After		
Continue to work with the Leaving Care Team to ensure that all young people leaving care are given the relevant advice,		

information and support to help them access adequate housing, the right benefits and further education, employment or training	
Children & Young People from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities	
Support children and young people from black and minority ethnic communities to access information about further education, employment or training, paying particular attention to those whose first language is not English	Connexions have participated in specific activities aimed at raising the awareness of both young people and parents across the local black and minority ethnic communities to support their access information about further education, employment or training. This has involved the delivery of presentations to BME groups; incorporating diversity messages within all of the Connexions literature which highlights in each of the languages which currently predominate Hartlepool BME community to highlight the availability of our literature in these languages and arranging for the translation of key documents relating to local further education, employment or training into languages preferred by individual young people and their families.

KEY PRIORITY	GAP IN SERVICE	HOW ARE WE DOING?
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NARROWING THE GAP		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better access to a range of affordable activities for all ages and abilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the core offer within the Children's Centres and Extended Services Strategy to address issues such as access to affordable childcare and activities 	<p>Eight SureStart Children's Centres are designated with all Phase 1 and 2 centres gaining full core offer status. Work continues on promoting Working Tax credits to ensure families can afford childcare in order for them to return to work.</p> <p>Families Information Service Hartlepool continues to offer face to face, telephone and online advice and guidance service to all parents and children and young people regarding childcare and activities.</p> <p>The Children and Young People's Service Directory, which is an on line resource for children and young people to identify where activities and support are available, continues to improve in response to users feedback.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all children and young people have the opportunity to achieve better outcomes through their education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to raise attainment within the Foundation Stage Profile particularly in relation to Communication, Language and Literacy and Personal, Social and Emotional Development • Raise the quality of early years provision; including provision within Children's Centres and Extended Schools to ensure all children and families have access to the support they require • Improve the quality of services for children and young people that enable them to enjoy their education, improve their well being, enrich their lives and raise aspirations • Continue to increase the number of children attaining GCSEs and going into further and higher education • Improve performance in GCSE English and mathematics 	<p>The Early Years Outcomes Duty Plan is in place with focus on communication, language and literacy development and personal, social and emotional development. The communication, language and literacy development programme continues to be supported in schools and settings and is showing impact on Foundation Stage Profile scores. Every Child a Talker is being rolled out now with 30 settings and the impact on provision is now being seen. Personal, social and emotional development training is in place for early years practitioners with particular focus on empathy dolls.</p> <p>Early Years Outcomes Duty Plan also focuses on support for settings that have satisfactory Ofsted inspections. The Children's Centre annual review is in place with a focus on outcomes.</p> <p>Support from the Local Authority is good for settings 0-5 years old but out of schools childcare support is limited due to changes in staffing and is, therefore, being looked at in service delivery options.</p> <p>There is better focus on improving the educational achievement of vulnerable children and young people to further narrow the gap e.g. Personal Education Allowance and one-to-one tuition for those children and young people who struggle.</p> <p>The successful re-location of the Hartlepool Pupil Referral Unit, which took place during summer 2009, has resulted in a fit for purpose learning environment to</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that effective collaboration is in place between schools and the Children's Trust to improve educational outcomes for children and young people 	<p>enable staff to plan activities to meet the needs of pupils with behavioural, emotional and social needs.</p> <p>The team of learning and teaching consultants are deployed across schools to support teachers in providing learning that is securely rooted in assessment and that informs accurate next steps. This ensures that learners are receiving a curriculum that is appropriate and ensures progress.</p> <p>The team of consultants also work with teachers to ensure appropriate teaching strategies are used. These include quality first teaching that uses ICT and contexts to motivate learners and appropriate group work and one to one intervention to address the needs of the range of learners.</p> <p>The role of Parent Support Advisors has been developed to improve home school links in all primary schools.</p> <p>The Secondary National Team challenge secondary staff to provide a broad and balanced curriculum in order that all young people can achieve their potential in all areas of the secondary curriculum. They have worked on super learning days with schools to enrich their experiences, delivering sessions at A/A* and C/D borderline to stimulate and engage learners. Subject leaders have been supported to develop compelling learning experiences including the development of bespoke resources.</p> <p>Standards are rising in Hartlepool School including 5 A* -</p>
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		<p>C grades including English and mathematics. The 14-19 reforms agenda is being implemented to ensure all young people will have access to a range of learning pathways</p> <p>During the year there have been significant milestones achieved in the Schools Transformation Programme which aims to deliver 21st century teaching and learning environments in the primary and secondary age sectors. Hartlepool Borough Council have appointed Northgate Education as their ICT Managed Service Provider for the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Project. They will announce the name of their BSF construction partner on 1st April. The new Jesmond Road Primary School will be completed by the summer of 2011, with a partially remodelled Rossmere Primary School opening in early 2012. In addition, they are currently well on with the building of the nationally recognised '<i>Space to Learn</i>' project on the site of St Hild's Church of England school. All these projects have involved young people in their key planning stages as the new facilities have been designed specifically around their future needs and will provide exciting, enjoyable and stimulating opportunities for learning for current and future generations of Hartlepool's young people.</p> <p>Hartlepool improved the number of young people achieving 5 A*-C grades and the number of A*-G grades in 2008-9; the local authority area is one of the most improved areas in the country. This has been support by</p>
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		<p>an increase in the number of young people achieving level 2 and 3 qualification by the age of 19 and has narrowed the attainments gap for young people achieving level 2 and 3 by age 19 who receive free schools meals at age 15.</p> <p>Hartlepool has increased the number of young people applying for and accepting places in higher education. This has included young people from lower socio economic backgrounds. The UCAS data for 2003-2008 indicates that there was a 34.6% increase in the actual number of accepted UCAS applicants for Hartlepool falling into socio economic groups 4- 7 (age 19 and under) and 20.4% increase in the actual number of accepted UCAS applicants for Hartlepool living within the 0-40% most deprived wards between 2003-08 (age 19 and under).</p> <p>The results for Hartlepool at Key Stage 4 in 2009 for 5 A*-C grades including maths and English were the best ever at 49% and this was just under the national average. This was an improvement of 9% from 2008; Hartlepool was the most improved Local Authority in the country along with Haringey. This was a national headline.</p> <p>The gap between those pupils entitled to Free School Meals and those not entitled to Free School Meals for 5 A*-Cs including English & mathematics was the same as the national average. It has narrowed since 2008 and</p>
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		<p>Hartlepool is the only Local Authority out of the 12 regional Local Authorities to meet the national standard. The success achieved by Hartlepool Secondary Schools this year is due to the strong collaboration that exists between them and the Local Authority, especially in supporting each other on the standards agenda in particular the focus on 5 A*-Cs including English and maths. All schools are well placed to match or even exceed their challenging Building Schools for the Future targets by 2011.</p> <p>Specific, appropriate and tailor made intervention for all vulnerable pupil groups is a particular focus and strength of each school. Because of this it is expected that all gaps between vulnerable pupils and their less vulnerable counterparts continue to be narrowed at an at least national rate of progress.</p> <p>The Children's Trust has pre-empted the implementation of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 and primary, secondary and special schools are all represented on the Children's Trust Board. Schools also have a significant role on the 0 to 11 and 11 to 19 Age Related Partnerships which are the Trust's operational groups.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more support for those children and young people who struggle with their schooling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain the levels of achievement in relation to GCSEs and tackle the issue of boys' under-achievements in certain subjects • Improve the educational achievement of vulnerable children and young people to further narrow attainment gaps including boys' performance • Implement Targeted Youth Support to ensure that vulnerable young people who require additional support have access to the help that they need 	<p>Schools are supported in identifying pupils who are not on trajectory to achieve either / or English and maths 5 A*-C. Subsequently, appropriate intervention and targeting is supported by secondary core coordinators working alongside school personnel.</p> <p>This continues to be the main priority of schools supported by the maths & English collaborative with schools and the Local Authority (this now incorporates science and proposals for behaviour and attendance and ICT.</p> <p>There is a maintained high focus on gender achievement as part of the narrowing the gap agenda. Boy friendly resources are now being used in targeted schools.</p> <p>All pupils excluded for 6 days or more, including permanently excluded, receive full-time educational provision.</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council is on track to achieve no more than 5% Persistent Absence pupils by 2010/11. The Council exceeded its 2008/09 target by 0.1%.</p> <p>Personalised tuition packages are in place including home/hospital tuition, personal tuition, virtual learning package, individual learning packages, and equipment provided/extra lessons provided for 247 pupils.</p> <p>A full time School Attendance Officer has been appointed for missing children to address the needs of those vulnerable groups.</p>
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		<p>Parent Support Advisors work with vulnerable families on an ongoing and individual basis depending on need.</p> <p>Service Level Agreements are now in place with alternative provision so daily attendance data is now available.</p> <p>Children involved with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and finding it difficult to attend school now have an integrated health/education reintegration package incorporating a range of methods as above.</p> <p>A successful Ofsted inspection on 22nd-24th September 2009 highlighted good practice in Targeted Youth Support. These will be used to action plan future initiatives and to embed the 'Team Around the Secondary School' model further town wide.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address the issue of access to more open spaces that are children and young person friendly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to other Local Authority departmental strategies, for example the Open Space Strategy to ensure that play areas and open spaces are more accessible to children, young people and their families 	<p>The Council has been allocated over £1 million to develop high quality play areas. These will be developed between April 2009 and March 2011.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the training needs of teaching and non-teaching staff around challenging behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to improve the training programmes available for teaching and non-teaching staff around challenging behaviours 	<p>There are bespoke training opportunities with Local Authority Primary and Secondary Behaviour Consultants. Personalised programmes are available for target groups such as Higher Level Teaching Assistants, Newly</p>

		<p>Qualified Teachers, Teaching Assistants and teachers in Early Professional Development.</p> <p>Social care staff have annual training around managing challenging behaviour as part of their core training. This includes specialised initial and comprehensive training around those who display sexually harmful behaviour.</p> <p>Intervention technique training is also part of the annual training programme.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all training issues are addressed under the Workforce Development Strategy 	<p>Addressing CPD entitlement for all</p> <p>Working with TDA to embed the links of professional standards, performance management and CPD.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A better approach to dealing with issues about anti-social behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a programme of education to bring together adults, children, young people and the relevant professionals (including Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers) to develop an understanding of what anti-social behaviour is and improve tolerance towards children and young people • The Youth Offending Service will continue to work with partner agencies to ensure early identification and support to those young people and their families who are at risk of entering the youth justice system. They will also work to reduce offending and continue to develop programmes of intervention to address the needs of those young people who offend 	<p>The Anti-Social Behaviour awareness day is a half day for all year 8 pupils and looks at different aspects of anti-social behaviour. One of the elements of the day is delivered by Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers looking at the impact of groups of young people; the Police School Liaison Officer delivers in all schools; the Reassurance Task Group of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership has been encouraging intergenerational work, and the best intergenerational project improving community safety was recognised this year for the first time as part of the Pride in Hartlepool Awards.</p> <p>Cleveland Police now have a 'Desk In Every Primary School'. This means that a member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team attends a nominated school and spends time with pupils and adults to talk through issues in that locality and about anti-social behaviour. The feedback on this initiative has been very good.</p> <p>As a result of securing Home Office PB funding for distribution to the three (north, central and south) neighbourhood managers, the central area held an event in April 2009 which brought a number of junior schools together. This one day event focused on the young people's issues in their neighbourhood. The session also included a 'hoodies' play enacted by the Police's Schools Liaison Officer. This dealt with anti-social behaviour and</p>
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		<p>the stereotyping of offenders. This 'hoodies' session has been delivered to a number of other schools throughout the year.</p> <p>Throughout the year, members of the Neighbourhood Team attend primary school council meetings. A member of the senior Police management team also attends the Secondary School Council Forum. This allows interaction with young people and an opportunity to discuss issues including what they perceive and suffer as anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>For the first time young people attended the Police Authority's Tier 3 consultation meeting in Sept 2009 alongside adults, giving them a voice and an opportunity to be listened to by adults. This meeting is held in all four policing districts in Cleveland and Hartlepool was the only one to attract young people.</p> <p>For 11 Million Day this year a group of young people problem solved issues of damage and anti-social behaviour at the allotments in Hartlepool. They engaged with adults in this process and actually presented their findings to the Council's Scrutiny Committee and allotment holders. Their findings also informed the Council's new Allotment Strategy. A massive achievement for young people.</p> <p>The Youth Offending Service has worked with partner agencies to develop the Team Around the Secondary School with a prevention worker being allocated to each secondary school, undertaking preventative work in the</p>
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		<p>schools and working with young people and their families. The team have played a significant role in the implementation of the Youth Crime Action Plan with a triage process developed for young people coming to the attention of the Police for the first time and all young people brought to the attention of the Police through Operation Stay Safe being assessed and appropriate interventions undertaken. An inspection of Youth Crime Prevention in December 2009 lead by Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary commented "that Hartlepool's prevention approach was, in our collective opinion, the best structured one we have seen on our fieldwork. This structure is also supported by excellent professional relationships between all agencies."</p> <p>Work with those young people who have offended has focussed upon the implementation of The Youth Rehabilitation Order and the Scaled Approach tailoring the assessed needs of the young person to the appropriate intervention level.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to ensure that parents/carers can fulfil their responsibilities to their children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve more parents in long term planning of all services 	Parents, carers and young people were consulted on their school's behaviour policies and all reported positive outcomes.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review childcare sufficiency and intervene where necessary 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There has been a significant rise in the number of grandparents who are looking after their grandchildren. Support from services should address their needs as carers which can be very different from parents 	<p>The Team around the Primary School Service is working with a number of grandparents who are the main carer of their grandchildren. This is also true of other services including the Parenting Programme's, Children's Centres and Children's Fund Activities. Barnardo's have identified a specific grandparents parenting programme that we are investigating. ADVANCE are providing a respite activity session at weekends for children cared for by grandparents. We are not yet in a position where we have a grandparent's strategy and we are not sure that this is required as the Parenting strategy group is taking grand parents and their needs into account. We will continue to review this through the Parenting Strategy and preventative services.</p>
ADDITIONAL NEEDS OF SOME YOUNG PEOPLE		
Children & Young People with Disabilities		
<p>We will work towards the implementation of Aiming High through the delivery of a local core offer</p>	<p>The readiness criteria for Aiming High was met to enable Hartlepool Borough Council to draw down grant funding in March 2009.</p> <p>Delivery of increased access to short break care both within universal and specialist Services has now commenced</p> <p>Joint working arrangements between Hartlepool Borough Council and Hartlepool PCT are in place with draft joint protocol pathways between health and local authority for Community Equipment</p>	

	<p>Resources.</p> <p>A free texting Service for families of disabled children and a specialist toy library service for both individuals and settings, including schools have been launched.</p> <p>A core steering group in place and a parent led forum established, together with 4 focus groups and 3 additional task & finish groups. 32 parents are actively involved in the Aiming High agenda, which are part of the forum, focus groups and core steering group. Aiming High has supported the delivery of 3 parent led conferences to encourage more parents/carers to become involved in re-shaping services and being involved with decision making</p> <p>A Grant Adaptation Fund is available for individuals and settings for building adaptations and specific equipment. At the moment, the installation of up to 4 accessible changing places is being explored and new play space has been installed at Exmoor Grove.</p> <p>Aiming High funding has also supported the delivery of training in Portage and Key Worker Training.</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council and NHS Hartlepool have been ranked 4th in England for customer satisfaction for families of disabled children (National Indicator 54).</p> <p>A dedicated webpage is under development through the Family Information Service Hartlepool.</p> <p>Action Plan has been developed to demonstrate the increase of take up into universal and specialist services.</p>
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Implement the Inclusion Development Programme	<p>Speech, Language, Communication and Dyslexia has been introduced to all schools through Headteacher briefings and SENCO forums. In addition 5 schools worked as a pilot and feedback their findings to all schools via the SENCO Forum. Some schools have engaged with the materials when this area has been identified as a development need.</p> <p>The Autism Spectrum has been introduced to all schools through Heads briefings and SENCO forum. There are 11 schools working to introduce the programme into school and they will feedback their work to all schools via the SENCO forums in the summer term 2010.</p> <p>Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulties (BESD) materials are to be introduced into schools through the academic year 2010/11.</p>
Ensure that all young people with learning disabilities and/or difficulties are involved in their transitional planning arrangements	All young people moving from child to adult social care are included in the plans being made for them as much as is possible given their individual needs. Young people are always encouraged to attend or give their views to their Educational Reviews which include their Transition Review. Consideration is being given as to how the work being undertaken with young people can be more Person Centred particularly for those in Transition. A review of multi-agency procedures, guidance and toolkit is currently in progress.
Children & Young People Looked After	
Continue to work with schools to ensure that children and	100% of Looked After Children have a Personal Education Plan.

young people looked after receive the relevant support to help them achieve their potential	<p>All Looked After Children are encouraged to attend their Personal Education Plan meetings.</p> <p>Work has continued with schools to ensure that children and young people looked after receive the relevant support to help them achieve their potential. 8% Looked After Children achieved 5+A*-C GCSE (including English and maths).</p>
Children & Young People from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities	
Ensure that all children and young people from minority ethnic groups receive appropriate support to help their learning	<p>Extra 1:1 support has been time-tabled by the Hartlepool Ethnic Minority Achievement Team Teaching Assistant.</p> <p>Extra resources have been ordered and utilised and extra funding has been allocated to schools to engage more Teaching Assistant hours.</p>

KEY PRIORITY	GAP IN SERVICE	HOW ARE WE DOING?
LIVING SAFELY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the number of placements being made beyond 20 miles from home and further improve value for money and placement choice using a Preferred Provider Partnership with the independent sector (a partner has now been chosen following a formal tendering process) 		<p>The preferred provider have recruited a number of carers within the 20 mile limit as has the placement team and the number outside the 20 mile limit is now restricted to those who have specific needs that require specialist provision that is unavailable in the locality.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the numbers of children looked after by strengthening integrated preventative work and targeting services to those most vulnerable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to promote models of good practice in early intervention and increase the availability of preventative services to stop families reaching crisis point and aid a smoother transition between services • Continuously improve services and structures within child protection • Strengthen the leadership and management of child protection services in Hartlepool 	<p>A Think Family Coordinator is now in place and making progress with an action plan. A steering group is also in place and chaired by the Director of Child and Adult services.</p> <p>The Think Family process has status at a National Level. 'Think Family' practice and ethos means helping parents/families secure better outcomes for children through more effective and better coordinated interventions by services for adults and children.</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council and partner agencies have been working towards a preventative agenda for a number of years. This has never been the focus of one primary agency but has been a multi-agency approach that has grown stronger over the years and has seen both the statutory and voluntary sectors contribute resources in order to allow families within Hartlepool to achieve. Whilst this approach has been successful in Hartlepool it was felt that in order to Think Family and identify families that could be 'at risk' at the earliest opportunity, strong and clear links needed to be made with all of the services who work with children and adults. The Think Family Coordinator is leading on this work.</p> <p>Hartlepool Children's Social Care has been restructured to create a Safeguarding Assessment and Support</p>
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		<p>Business Unit. This brings together all of the Child Protection field work services into one unit. An Initial Response Team has also been created so that all of the referrals into social care for initial assessment are dealt with by one manager, which is achieving greater consistency and quality. It also frees up the medium to long term teams to focus on delivering services to children subject to protection plans and complex child in need cases. A set of quality standards have also been implemented and an audit framework which ensures improved quality of services which was recognised as leading to discernable improvement by the unannounced safeguarding inspection.</p> <p>The Hartlepool Safeguarding Children's Board are in the process of creating a Business Manager position.</p> <p>The Hartlepool Safeguarding Children Board has also undertaken a development day and they are now in the process of reshaping Board business and activity around Outcomes Based Accountability.</p> <p>The Board membership has been reviewed and extended and an Executive has been created which is made up of lead officers for safeguarding in 'duty to co-operate' agencies.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed the Integrated Children's System and ensure this is an effective 		<p>A Research and Development Officer has been appointed to work with staff to improve the effective use of the Integrated Children's System.</p>

<p>tool to improve performance</p>		<p>The Department for Children, Schools and Families usability tool/questionnaire has been used to identify areas for priority action.</p> <p>Work has begun on redesigning forms in line with requests from users and families. System upgrades have addressed most of the outstanding changes requested by the user group.</p> <p>Additional ICS modules (e.g. Adoption) have been purchased to improve joined up working. Protocol ICS linked directly to ContactPoint.</p> <p>Regular information/support/training sessions offered to social work teams and individuals.</p> <p>All of these are contributing to more effective use of the Integrated Children's System, however, further benefits will be seen as the changes are embedded.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that there are sufficient links in place to support the smooth transition into specialist services from universal and targeted services by promoting the use of integrated working tools (i.e. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that there are good governance arrangements in place and robust linkages between the Local Safeguarding Children's Board and the Children's Trust • Develop and strengthen 	<p>Hartlepool Safeguarding Children Board now report to the Children's Trust Board on a biannual basis. The first report was received in November 2009.</p> <p>As part of the preparation of the new Children and Young People's Plan, which must be published by April 2011, the Children's Trust and Hartlepool Safeguarding Children Board are exploring the possibility of shared priorities.</p>

<p>Common Assessment Framework, Lead Practitioner, Team Around the Child and effective Information Sharing)</p>	<p>community policing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that safe recruitment and safe workforce practice is in place across all organisations that provide services to children and young people • Ensure that children and young people who are the victims of crime are supported and feel confident to report the crime • Ensure that children and young people who are the victims of crime receive relevant and timely support • Vulnerable young people aged 16 and 17 have a right to request an assessment from the Children's Services Department and to access services to meet their identified needs 	<p>A full day of training is now offered via the Child and Adult Workforce Development Team. The day is multi-agency and covers Common Assessment Framework, Lead Practitioner, Team Around the Child meetings, and how this is used within Hartlepool. The training is now available on an almost monthly basis for the next two years. The course is extremely popular and is always oversubscribed.</p> <p>Alongside the formal training we have delivered Common Assessment Framework, Lead Practitioner, Team Around the Child themed, work based briefing sessions and presentations. This was delivered to a variety of primary and secondary schools, Children Centre's and third sector organisations.</p> <p>We also have two main services within Hartlepool that provide continued support, advice and guidance to the Children's Workforce on Common Assessment Framework, Lead Practitioner, Team around the Child – Team around the Primary Schools and Team Around School (TAPS) and the Team Around Secondary School (TASS).</p> <p>A web page has been set up within www.hartlepool.gov.uk which offers advice guidance and literature for practitioners.</p>
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		<p>The 'Think Family' model has been implemented within Hartlepool, 'Think Family' is starting to examine and evaluate how adult and child services work together in order to address unmet need and ways in which Common Assessment Framework can be the main driver to this.</p> <p>Crimestoppers are now in several areas. This is led by the Neighbourhood Teams and involves young people's workshops which include anti-social behaviour and being a good person. This programme is being developing this year and will be relaunched.</p> <p>A member of the Neighbourhood Policing Team is part of each of the 'Team Around the Schools' initiative. This initiative has been instrumental in dealing holistically with matters in a school or with a particular pupil. It can encompass many issues which includes citizenship and anti-social behaviour</p> <p>Safer recruitment training will sit within the Children's Services Workforce Development Plan. This will ensure that all Children's Trust Partners are trained in this area if they have responsibility for recruitment.</p> <p>The Young Victim Steering Group meets regularly in Hartlepool. The group have explored the issues that hinder children and young people reporting crime and or fully accessing support services in Hartlepool. In order to do this, the Youth Offending Service have explored the</p>
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		<p>key issues to inform their decision-making and actions. The Young Victim's Steering group explore both local and national issues to form an ongoing action plan to improve the services to young victims of crime in Hartlepool. Several statutory and voluntary agencies have fully participated to make a positive difference. We are already seeing positive benefits as a result of the group's commitment to positive change and have a clear strategy to better understand and meet the needs of young victims of crime.</p> <p>Working arrangements changed in January 2010 and all 16 & 17 year old young people who visit the Housing Action Team are interviewed by a member of staff from the Children's Services Department and an assessment done with them while determining their needs and assisting them to be met.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the issue of 'cyber' bullying is addressed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to roll out and embed the bullying strategy and address the emerging issue of 'cyber bullying' via the internet and mobile phones which children and young people are increasingly concerned about 	<p>Continued to roll out and embed bullying strategy and address the issue of 'cyber bullying'.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address the issue of e-safety by ensuring that the relevant policies and procedures are in place across organisations and promoted to children and young people 	E-safety has been addressed through schools and Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Strategy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that parents/carers are supported in their responsibility to keep their children safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to determine what can be done to help and support children, young people and their families when services are closed at night and weekends 	<p>An out of hours telephone services has been established to provide urgent advice to care leavers.</p> <p>Family Support Services - The new manager started work in mid December 2009. The restructure documentation will be completed before the end of March with full extension of hours being completed in May 2010. there are already 40% of the support staff able to work into the evenings and at weekends</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve road safety in the town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote better and safer driving within the town and improve traffic calming measures 	
ADDITIONAL NEEDS OF SOME YOUNG PEOPLE		
Children & Young People with Disabilities		
Effective planning and support is in place to safeguard children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities		The Children's Disability Team undertake it's own Child Protection Enquiries Training is currently being looked at in terms of the types and level of training that those people working with

	disabled children require in order to effectively safeguard them. Quality Standards have also been introduced within Children's Social Care which should assist in the planning and safeguarding processes for children.
Children & Young People Looked After	
We will continue to ensure that looked after children are well supported to live in safe environments and be protected from abuse and exploitation	Placement support staff continue to work with carers and young people and staff from the Settled Care team have continued to visit children & young people within the statutory requirements.
Review the arrangements for children and young people's participation in looked after reviews to achieve better involvement and participation	Feedback from children & young people has led to a revision of the mechanism used previously. A variety of tools will be used from 1 st April 2010.
Children & Young People from Black and Minority Ethnic Communities	
Ensure that all children and young people coming to Hartlepool from another country, particularly unaccompanied asylum seekers are safeguarded against exploitation, by working closely with the relevant organisations to put preventative measures in place to secure their welfare	The protocol has now been agreed and is available on the procedures website. Its publication has been noted in the relevant staff meetings.



PROMOTING EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people in Hartlepool and engage effectively with children, young people and their families in developing approaches to meet those needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote good mental and emotional health and prevent deterioration in low level mental health problems Promote a holistic approach to meeting need in a flexible and responsive way Continue to work with schools to support the delivery of the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning in school for all children and young people Promote the use of the Vulnerability Assessment Screening Tool within Hartlepool's schools, to identify children at risk of self harming 	<p>Universal, targeted and low-end specialist services now available to young people aged 0-16 years. Support is available for parents through parenting programmes. Children's Fund mentoring is now available through Team Around the Primary School and the ACORN service provides therapeutic services including play therapy.</p> <p>The Common Assessment Framework and Team Around the Child processes are developing well and linking in with Team Around the Primary School and Team Around the Secondary School. The Think Family Coordinator is in place and starting to identify action plan issues for development. In January 2010 the Psychology Team will begin a programme of training, starting with the Team Around the Primary School Team, on how to run effective, solution based meetings.</p> <p>Real commitment to this evident in Behavioural, Emotional and Social Development Clusters. There were regular meetings of the 4 Behavioural, Emotional and Social Development Cluster groups.</p> <p>The Targeted Mental Health in Schools programme will</p>

		<p>address the needs of children and young people aged 5-13 yrs. The main aims of this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity development in universal staff via training, joint work with specialists etc. • Further development of integrated locality based working enhancing the Team Around the School model with a mental health strand • Further development of integrated processes and pathways ensuring swift and easy access to specialist services. There will be an emphasis on appropriate support and intervention pre, during and post any diagnosis of a mental health need <p>An application is being made for NHS Hartlepool non-recurrent funding to increase the age range to 0-19 years and involve other setting such as Children's Centres, Foster Carers and Respite Services.</p> <p>Close links being formed between MIND and the Psychology Team to aid a holistic approach to mental health. Research shows that one of the best ways to promote good mental health in children is to help ensure good mental health in their parents.</p> <p>The Psychology Team are leading on the roll out of the Circle of Adults approach which is a problem solving technique for practitioners holding complex cases.</p> <p>The Psychology Team support schools with the delivery</p>
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		<p>of Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning for all children and young people.</p> <p>A questionnaire was circulated to schools in advance of the Targeted Mental Health in Schools project which will be rolled out from April 2010.</p> <p>56% of schools responded to a questionnaire regarding the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people in Hartlepool. Analysis of this data will inform the Targeted Mental Health in Schools Programme due to start in April 2010</p> <p>Plans in place to interview 80 pupils from Yr 7 – Yr 10 regarding emotional and mental health needs as part of an action research project. The results of this will inform intervention programmes in secondary schools led by the Psychology Team.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote access to better mental and emotional support at all levels for children and young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When problems arise, parents, carers, children and young people and the practitioners working with them on a daily basis need swifter, more effective input from practitioners who are able to address the full range of needs Up-skill the children's workforce in promoting mental health and 	<p>A swift referral process is in place through schools and Parent Advice Line is operational through ACORN. Work is ongoing to secure greater involvement of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service in the Team Around the Primary School process including direct access to a Primary Mental Health Worker. MIND provides a staff member to the Team Around the Primary School team and this is providing an immediate pathway to services for parents.</p> <p>Plans are in place to develop integrated working</p>

	<p>well-being including improved knowledge of risk and resilience factors and improve skills in early identification and early intervention as part of a common core of basic knowledge and skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordinate support to families with children identified as needing help with emotional well being delivered through a model that has consistent approaches and equity across the Borough • Ensure those who have more complex mental health issues can access care and treatment that is right for them, especially when making the transition into Adult Mental Health Services • Provide swift easy access to specialist services including Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Education Psychology Services and ACORN for assessment and intervention and enable joint work where 	<p>processes with a focus on Common Assessment Framework, Think Family and Risky Behaviours. Training continues on assessment and Parent Support Advisors have a range of inputs on risk resilience factors. Links will be made through the Targeted Mental Health in Schools programme. The ACORN Team have provided workshops on Direct Work and these will continue.</p> <p>A key work strand of the Targeted Mental Health in Schools programme due to start in April 2010 is to further develop care pathways with an emphasis on early identification and early intervention of mental health needs.</p> <p>Still at the stage where model is not consistent, work needs to be done as part of the Targeted Mental Health in Schools process to clarify and develop a chosen model for Hartlepool. High commitment is evident, however, and sign up to shared development will not be difficult. This will be developed through Team Around the School but will need some additional work around the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service appointment process that still works on a process that some of our families find inaccessible e.g. phone for an appointment and the travel to the service.</p> <p>Parents, carers and universal practitioners can make an appointment for an initial consultation with an Educational Psychologist via their school.</p>
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	<p>appropriate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to progress plans to develop integrated working teams 	<p>A programme of training is to be developed as part of Targeted Mental Health in Schools. Each school will receive a bespoke package according to need selected from a menu drawn up as a result of a questionnaire analysis.</p> <p>As far as possible training will be delivered by local practitioners in the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, ACORN Therapeutic Team, the Psychology Team and Special School outreach teams. The aim is to develop closer relationships between practitioners in universal and specialist services so that sustainable practice can evolve from the first year of the Targeted Mental Health in Schools funding.</p> <p>Close links being formed between MIND and the Psychology Team to aid transition from children's services to adult services.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support all parents to achieve better outcomes for them and their children and help them to fulfil their responsibilities in this area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise parents' awareness of the importance of emotional well being and how to promote it and to support them in doing so • Continue to roll out and embed the Parenting Strategy 	<p>Parenting courses such as the Nurturing Programme and Strengthening Families focus on developing understanding of attachment and developing self confidence, security and appropriate boundaries.</p> <p>Work is now being developed to reinitiate the Parenting Challenge using Parent Support Advisors to be the key message givers.</p> <p>The number of parenting programmes in place is increasing, five new programmes started in September 2009, 38 practitioners were trained to provide accredited parenting courses. 11 parenting programmes starting in January 2010 with a total of 100 participants. Parenting Pathways are in place and advertised through Children's Centres and Team Around the School processes. A target of 120 parents to access Department of Children, Schools and Families accredited programmes in 2010/11 as been set in addition to those parents attending non-accredited courses.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the opportunities to extend the good practice achieved by pilot projects across Hartlepool so that more can be done to address emotional health problems at a lower level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and promote what works best if things go wrong Consider commissioning additional low-level emotional support for children and young people 	<p>Team Around the Primary and Secondary School are proving effective due to their holistic approach to meeting the child and family needs. The Psychology Team will be evaluating 'what works' in these processes so that best practice can be more widely spread.</p> <p>Robust evaluation of the interventions in each school Targeted Mental Health in School action plan is central to the programme. The Psychologist for each school will provide support in baseline measures and impact measures so that 'what works best' can be shared at the Targeted Mental Health in Schools forum.</p> <p>As part of the Targeted Mental Health in Schools programme, schools will be encouraged to have a 'champion' for emotional well being. There will be a support network formed for practitioners leading this area in schools – this network will be a forum to share good practice particularly with regard to early intervention</p> <p>New Deal for Communities have funded an emotional literacy project to be rolled out across all New Deal for Communities primary schools to build on the work now mainstreamed in Stranton and Lynnfield. This will start January 2010.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that no child or young person experiences isolation or social exclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all children and young people are adequately supported in the major 	<p>Team Around the School and Children's Centres process now covers 0-16 and is designed to identify vulnerability early and respond with effective short term interventions</p>

	<p>transitional points within their lives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support for children and their families to better access services through Children's Centres 	<p>to avoid later crisis. This process is further enhanced by the Parent Support Advisers in each primary school.</p> <p>Making and keeping friends, developing social skills and developing self esteem/assertiveness (to protect against bullying) will be key focus areas in the Targeted Mental Health in Schools programme.</p> <p>Quality Circle Time is a whole school approach to developing emotional literacy and will be heavily promoted in 2010. A nationally renowned trainer, Jenny Mosely, has been provisionally booked.</p> <p>A transitions pathway has been developed on multi-agency basis by the Transitions Steering Group for young people with disabilities.</p> <p>Person Centred Planning training is about to be undertaken and rolled out to support transitions, particularly for young people with complex needs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that any child or young person who has been the victim of bullying, physical or emotional abuse or neglect is adequately supported to prevent a decline in their emotional well-being 		<p>Policies are now strong in each school and support is available from the school improvement team through a qualified and experienced therapeutic social worker.</p> <p>Training for school staff and pupils is available on a range of interventions including circles of friends, Big Red Bus approach and peer mentoring, to ensure low level support is available in schools.</p> <p>The Psychology Team will shortly receive intensive</p>

		<p>training in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) to provide increased support for more complex cases. This approach will be particularly suitable for young children aged 3-8 years.</p> <p>A member of the ACORN Team is supporting a group of Foster Carers using Filial Therapy approaches. This approach is based on attachment theory and is particularly successful for children who are looked after. It helps support the formation of safe, secure attachments between child and carer and provides a great deal of emotional support for all parties.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve children, young people, parents and carers in the planning and development of services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to promote and develop the YP Smile Awareness as a method of improving and increasing the participation of children and young people in the decision making process • Ensure that the participation of children and young people is promoted across all organisations • Develop a more robust framework for the involvement of parents, grandparents and carers in strategic planning 	<p>A Children's Trust Stakeholder group has been developed to increase the involvement of children and young people in the work of the Trust. A greater involvement in town wide processes such as residents groups and neighbourhood forums could also be utilised to gather a wide range of young people's views.</p> <p>Barnardo's have an agreement until March 2011 and will continue to work across services to establish 7 vision statements. 11 Million Day has been successful and needs to maintain its momentum. Work continues on challenging the idea that participation can only be facilitated by participation workers.</p> <p>Nine looked after children; two children with disabilities and the child of a foster carer have completed accredited training in recruitment and are actively involved in supporting interviewing panels Successful bid to the Young Inspectors Programme by the Youth Service.</p> <p>The participation of young people was rated as outstanding in a recent (September 2009) Ofsted inspection.</p> <p>All secondary schools now involved in town wide Schools Council that links into the Children's Trust Board. North Hartlepool has an area wide primary school council and this will be widened in 2010.</p> <p>Two parent led conferences have taken place in relation</p>
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		to Aiming High for Disabled Children.
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ADDITIONAL NEEDS OF SOME YOUNG PEOPLE	
Children & Young People Looked After	
Deliver safeguarding services based on a thorough assessment of the needs of children and young people and maintain the focus on the child throughout	
Deliver continuous improvements in services for looked after children providing high quality placements to deliver continuity of care, education, health and social and emotional development	Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaires are completed on an annual basis for Looked After Children to promote early identification of emotional and mental health issues. 98% of Looked After Children had a Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire completed and any emotional or mental health issues addressed.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13 April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: TEAM AROUND THE PRIMARY SCHOOL –
FAMILY INTERVENTION PROJECT (FIP)
HOUSING CHALLENGE

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the further development of the Team Around the Primary School (TAPS) project to include the Family Intervention Project (FIP) Housing Challenge.

To ask the Portfolio Holder to note the project developments described in this report.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Team Around the Primary School project including the Family Intervention Project has been successful in a bid to attract funding for a specific housing project. This report informs the Portfolio Holder of how this project will develop.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

This work is now managed through Child and Adult Services

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non Key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio – 13 April 2010

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

The Portfolio Holder is requested to note the progress made by the team.

Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: TEAM AROUND THE PRIMARY SCHOOL – FIP
HOUSING CHALLENGE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the further development of the Team Around the Primary School (TAPS) project to include the FIP Housing Challenge.
- 1.2 To ask the Portfolio Holder to note the project developments described in this report.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The TAPS project has been operational across Hartlepool since January 2009. This followed funding being granted by the DCSF to expand the remit of Hartlepool Anti Social Behaviour Family Intervention Project (ASB / FIP) in order to tackle child poverty and youth crime.
- 2.2 Hartlepool Local Authority and partner agencies have been working towards a preventative agenda for a number of years. This has never been a single agency initiative but has been a multi agency approach that has grown stronger over the years and has seen both the statutory and voluntary sectors contribute resources in order to prevent social exclusion, offending and anti social behaviour. Whilst this approach has been successful in Hartlepool it was felt that in order to identify children and families that could be 'at risk' at the earliest opportunity, strong and clear links needed to be made with all of the primary schools in Hartlepool as schools have the most contact with children and families.
- 2.3 It was this link and the need for a prevention service that saw the creation of the TAPS approach. This consisted of funding from a variety of sources, being pooled together alongside FIP funding, in order to create one team. The team links with all primary schools, in order to identify those children that were at risk of not achieving the five key outcomes of Every Child Matters (Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution, Achieve Economic and Wellbeing) and consequently, ensuring that they received the appropriate support at the earliest opportunity. This would not only reduce risk factors for families, but prevent some families reaching crisis point and therefore, prevent them from needing safeguarding and specialist services.

3 The Hartlepool FIP Housing Challenge

- 3.1 In January 2010 the DCSF Family at Risk division notified local authorities and social housing providers to apply for funding from the Family Intervention Project Housing Challenge. The Housing Challenge was open to all local authority areas and offered successful bidders funding to tackle poverty, crime and anti social behaviour through working with communities to develop safer housing estates.
- 3.2 Hartlepool bid for this funding in partnership with Housing Hartlepool, Belle Vue Centre and the NDC. The bid is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report for information.
- 3.3 The Hartlepool bid that focussed on the new housing development in the Belle Vue area has been successful and we will receive £83,706 towards the cost of this project in 2010/11. Match funding in cash and in kind has been found by the partners who are committed to this project.
- 3.4 This funding will provide three workers to the TAPs Team and a Senior Housing Officer. This new team, that is to be based at the Belle Vue Centre, will work in the area bounded by Stockton Road, Belle Vue Way and Oxford Street. The project has several key objectives:
 - The team will work with residents to agree a community compact that will set standards of behaviour for people who live in the area.
 - Tackle anti social behaviour that is currently evident in the community using Family Intervention Project guidance.
 - Support vulnerable families to engage with services that are available in the Belle Vue Centre and that can help them move out of poverty.
 - Establish local conditions that encourage people to move into the area and take up various options available as a consequence of the new build housing.
- 3.5 The project will be monitored by the DCSF nationally and by the project steering group locally. The steering group will be linked to the Children's Trust Board through the FIP Management Group and the Safer Hartlepool Partnership. Progress will be reported to the Portfolio Holder by the Parent Commissioner on a regular basis.
- 3.6 This project is funded for one year and will provide the partners with an opportunity to pilot a new way of working with communities that empowers residents to set standard of acceptable behaviour and raises aspirations of the families that live there. If successful this will provide a template for work in the future.

4. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

- 4.1 The service is managed through Child and Adult Services and the Portfolio Holder has responsibility for matters relating to children

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

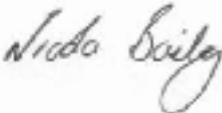
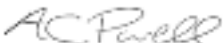
- 5.1 The Portfolio Holder is requested to note the progress made by the team.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 None.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

John Robinson,
Parent Commissioner,
01429 523348
John.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

ANNEX B: PROJECT PROPOSAL		
Family Intervention Project Housing Challenge Fund for Social Housing Providers and Children's Services		
<p><i>To be completed by each <u>children's services</u> and <u>Lead social housing provider</u></i> <i>Shaded areas give guidance (please type over), refer also to www.dcsf.gov.uk/ecm/thinkfamily</i> Templates MUST be submitted as Word documents (.doc or .docx) to: housingchallengefund.mailbox@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk by 5pm on 23rd February 2009. <i>Late or incomplete applications may not be considered. Do not exceed 7 sides.</i> PLEASE INDICATE IN THE SUBJECT HEADING OF THE EMAIL THE REGION, NAME OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND HOUSING PROVIDER(S) (IN THAT ORDER). PLEASE SUBMIT ONE EMAIL PER LOCAL AUTHORITY CHILDREN'S SERVICES</p>		
1. Key Contact Details		
	Children's Services	Lead Social Housing Provider
Organisation name	Hartlepool Borough Council	Housing Hartlepool
Type of organisation (e.g. RSL/ ALMO)		RSL
Contact name	John Robinson	Andy Powell
Job Title	Parent Commissioner	Director of Housing Services
Telephone Number	01429 523348	01429 525203
Mobile number	07760170906	
Email	john.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk	Andy.powell@housinghartlepool.org.uk
Is your organisation submitting other bids (with other partners, or in other areas)?	No	No
Signature of named contact authorised to bid.		
Signature indicates acceptance of terms and conditions of funding stated at Section 12.		
Date of bid	22nd February 2010	22nd February 2010
Value of grant requested: £ 83,706.00		
Summary of match funding offered: note full breakdown of funding at S.10. Total cash funding offered: £ 75,906 Total in-kind support offered £ 7,800 Total offered: £ 83,706 Is this funding approved or only agreed in principle? APPROVED/ IN PRINCIPLE		
Location: Hartlepool Borough Council Urban or rural? Urban		

Is the bid on behalf of more than one social housing provider? No

Housing Hartlepool is our key partner in this process. They do however have clear working links with other housing providers who have investments in the area.

Other partners:

- Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth centre – Alex Sedgwick
- New Deal for Communities – Malcolm Walker
- Cleveland Police – Inspector Peter Knight
- Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Alison Mawson
- (Current Partners in the Hartlepool FIP programme, Team around the Primary School are also automatically engaged in this bid).

2. Brief project outline, including hosting arrangements**Belle Vue FIP Proposal****Hartlepool FIP – Team Around the Primary School Service (TAPs)**

The TAPS project has been operational across Hartlepool since January 2009. In Hartlepool it was felt that in order to identify children and families that could be 'at risk' at the earliest opportunity, strong and clear links needed to be made with all of the primary schools in Hartlepool as schools have the most contact with children and families. It was this link and the need for a Prevention Service that saw the creation of the TAPS approach. The team link with all primary schools to identify those children that are at risk of not achieving the five key outcomes of Every Child Matters. The TAPS team at the present time consists of 14 members of staff who are split in to three locality teams of North, South and Central. Each team comprises of one social worker and a number of interventions workers that have been seconded to TAPS from a number of partner agencies. The project has specialists from a number of partners: Dad's Worker', Mental Health Worker, Youth Offending Worker, Domestic Violence Worker, Substance Misuse Worker, Parenting Worker, Anti Social Behaviour Worker, Police Sergeant, Debt Worker and two established ASB FIP workers. From the end of October 2009 additional workers to help those families where there are parental separation issues are in place and linked in to the TAPS process. This highly effective integrated approach allows new services to be added based on need. Consequently we are confident that we will also be able to establish the Belle Vue Family Intervention Project quickly and effectively. The TAPS approach consists of four tiers of support:

Tier 1 – Advice and support to staff around available support services and the CAF (common assessment framework) and TAC (team around the child) process.

Tier 2 – Low level support to children and families. Assisting parents for a short period of time until the relevant service becomes involved or offering advice and support around a specific issue for a small period of time. This could also include 1:1 or group work with a child for a short period of time.

Tier 3 – Family support. Following a FIP assessment that does not fully meet the criteria for FIP a worker will take on the role of lead practitioner. We maintain the ability to move these families into FIP very quickly if agreed outcomes are not achieved.

Tier 4 - Is a full FIP process.

FIP Housing challenge

The project is aimed at using our experience in Family Intervention Projects to support the regeneration of the Belle Vue estate in Hartlepool. In particular we will target the families currently proving to be a blockage to community cohesion. We will use FIP strategies to tackle their crime, anti social behaviour and poverty issues. The project will take a team approach to support and enforcement that will bring together a senior Housing Officer seconded by Housing Hartlepool, two FIP workers who will be assigned to the project from Belle Vue Centre and a senior FIP worker who will have a key role in linking this project with the TAPs team including overall management of the TAPs programme in Central Hartlepool. The team will link FIP processes with the skills of community development to shape the community and their living environment to make the estate a more desirable place to live.

Belle Vue Estate – Housing Hartlepool

Belle Vue is an area of largely older housing approximately one mile to the south of the town centre. The area sits within the boundaries of Hartlepool NDC which in 2003 invested £1.7 million in the area through the extension to the flagship Belle Vue Community Centre, which has been highly successful in its work within the area over the last 20 years. Hartlepool Borough Council, NDC and Housing Hartlepool are investing within the area to remove 129 older terraced houses and outdated housing stock to be replaced with a balanced mixture of 97 new build properties for sale and rent. This will represent a total investment of £12 million within the area including support from the Homes and Community Agency. New build will start on site this year. The partners in the development are keen that this catalyst is used to produce a step change in the broader Belle Vue area, uplifting the surrounding streets. However in order for this to be achieved the community within the surrounding streets needs to be strengthened, including addressing the lifestyles and life chances of some of the individuals and extended family units in the wider area. The project will link with the Landlord Licensing Scheme and it is hoped this process improve the condition of homes and the standards of management of tenancies. HBC's emerging Empty Homes Strategy identifies the area as having a high level of empty homes and will target action to bring these properties back into use. We will support families in establishing and maintaining tenancies, improving their housing options and nurturing sustainable tenancies allowing families to establish roots within the community. The work with families would enable them to demonstrate their ability to sustain long term tenancies and where appropriate move to mainstream social rented tenancies. We will operate a dispersed housing model within this area, which is currently high on the **Vulnerable Localities Index**, but is not currently targeted due to it "being lost" in a ward that is made up mainly of privately owned housing that does not attract the attention of enforcement priorities. We will use FIP ideology and practice to work with residents to develop an estate compact that will set out conditions of living in the area and will then enforce this compact. This will be a new model for Hartlepool that will in our opinion allow those law abiding citizens who wish to live in the area a framework of security and a sense of pride in their community. This project will enable us to develop the FIP both to deal with those families who require enforcement and dispersed accommodation and as a preventative tool for those entering the area to take up residence in new social and shared tenancy housing.

Belle Vue Estate – The Belle Vue Centre

The Belle Vue Centre has been established in the Belle Vue Community for 25 years. Its origins lie with the fund-raising efforts and commitment of a group of local residents who, in the early 1980s, recognised the needs of local unemployed young people in the area. Regeneration funds provided an opportunity to significantly expand the facilities in 2002. The Centre is run, as a Company Limited by Guarantee with charitable status, by a Board of Trustees which still comprises of many of the initial fundraisers. The Board has a strong knowledge of, and commitment to, the local community. The Centre now employs over 80 staff and provides opportunities for almost 50 volunteers. It receives 100,000 visits per year and has a turnover of just under £1 million. It has developed a strong reputation locally and beyond for its ability to reach and work successfully with disadvantaged groups, and has a strong track record for effective delivery of services commissioned by statutory sector agencies. The employment of FIP workers by the Centre, with access to its facilities and services, will provide significant additionality to this project. In addition to the services already provided through the TAPS project the Centre provides ready access to youth club facilities, crèche, play activities, Bistro, health and fitness support activities, training opportunities and a range of advice services. These resources are at the centre of the target area yet currently under used by our target families.

3. Families to be targeted: numbers, selection

We expect to work with 18 families in this project (6 per staff member). We will start with those families that live on the Belle Vue estate which is part of the Hartlepool Central area that has some of the highest deprivation levels in the town. As part of our plans to maximise resources the Senior Practitioner requested as part of this service will have responsibilities across the central area. These families will be identified by housing staff, the Anti Social Behaviour Unit, Adult Services Practitioners

and the local community. Each family nominated will undergo a FIP assessment and receive an appropriate service from the TAPs Service. The area has a number of families who have inter generational crime or substance misuse issues that will be the focus of this project. These families are currently in private substandard housing and have to some extent stayed under our radar although the adults are known to all of our partner agencies. We will use our TAPs/FIP process to engage these families and work to ensure that they are able to move into social housing as part of a programme to tackle their underlying problems. This gives us a real opportunity to move our Think Family process forward.

4. Referrals and acceptance process

The FIP Programme in Hartlepool is well known and well respected. This new element of the programme will replicate the processes already in place. These will however be enhanced on the basis that for the first time we are concentrating on a small area with specific needs. This will mean that the team will have to develop new work with community leaders and residents. The belief is that this will be a positive initiative that will help identify better practice across the FIP townwide. We do not see a need to alter the criteria for involvement in the programme as the profile of our target families fit well with the FIP processes in place. The Senior Housing Officer will be key to identifying families who require an intervention. This will be done through contact with the community other housing providers and other professionals. When families are identified the process currently in place will be followed but with an additional layer of planning to focus on the local opportunities that this project provides.

5. Strategic responsibility

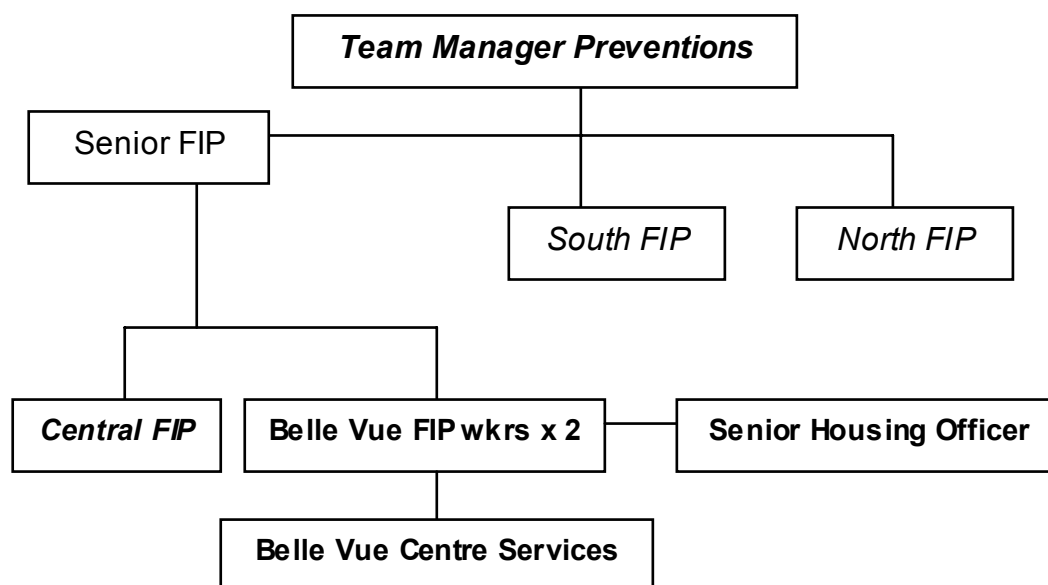
This project will be part of the current FIP arrangements and will be directly accountable to the FIP Management Group who report to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and the Children's Trust Board. This group is well represented and well attended with all of the key partners required to make the type of impact required from this project. The work of the FIP is an integral part of the Hartlepool Prevention Strategy and is managed by the Parent Commissioner who has strategic and operational responsibility for the Think Family Programme in Hartlepool.

6. Project details

(i) Staffing

The diagram below shows clearly how the proposed FIP extension will fit into current provision. Hartlepool has from the outset developed the FIP as a multi agency team incorporating partners at every stage of development. As already stated the TAPS service was developed to facilitate integrated services that enable us to be proactive in the roll out of the FIP model. The roles identified for this project will simply become part of the service but will have an intense focus on the Belle Vue estate. We have identified the need for a senior practitioner to lead this team and have a role in supporting the FIP Manager (Team Manager Preventions) across the service by focussing on the Central area of Hartlepool. This immediately links the full range of FIP services into the new project. This is a management role but will carry a full case load as described in FIP guidance but will also have supervision and strategic responsibilities within the Hartlepool FIP Service (TAPs). This worker will have experience across our key outcomes but may come from a range of professional backgrounds. In addition the two Belle Vue FIP workers will be linked into the TAPs but will work within the boundaries of this additional project. These workers will have a FIP job description that includes a specialist component in line with all other team members. The profile of this area suggests that their core skills will be in crime prevention, substance misuse or worklessness. The team will be joined by a Senior Housing Worker from Housing Hartlepool who will be seconded to the project as part of the Match Funding process. This worker will be the key individual responsible for the development of the estate management process that is central to this project. Recruitment is crucial to this project in view of the time scales. We are confident that our work with FIPs thus far leaves us in a good position to recruit quickly. In particular the local authority is currently undergoing a business transformation process that is likely to leave appropriately qualified staff looking for new

roles. We are currently working with our partners to see if they are able to identify key personnel. We are confident that we will recruit and be operational by April 1st 2010.



(ii) whole family assessment

By integrating this service into our current FIP project we will immediately adopt the practises of the team that are already in place and monitored by DCSF. All families linked to the project will receive a whole family assessment and a service at tier 1 -4 as described above. This process ensures that all contacts have a thorough FIP based process applied at the assessment stage. The team is crucial to our development of the CAF and has access to the CAF Coordinator who will support their practice. Our experience is that the families we work with are challenging but very quickly see the benefits of working with us. Many of the families in the Belle Vue area are challenging and are in need of FIP style interventions which is why we feel this new project is the best one to adopt.

(iii) contract setting and review

Our FIP team will provide the contracting expertise to this new service and we would not envisage this providing us with any problems. We review all of our contracts for each individual in the family at regular meetings and our FIP Workers are all supported to take on Lead Practitioner roles for family members. We will be setting up a dispersed model for this project with a house provided to us by the NDC programme. In addition we will use FIT's when required and eviction when absolutely necessary. Our expertise in Housing provision and enforcement leaves us confident in these processes.

(iv) key worker role

We have a record of excellent FIP delivery and will use our experience to deliver across this project. With Belle Vue Centre we have the ideal partner in the provision of diversionary activities for all family members and each family member will have access to the range of activities available at no cost to themselves. In addition they will have access to training activities that are individually tailored to their needs. The Key Workers will be based on the estate and as a result of this team being based in the locality we are ideally positioned to pick up issues early and apply the persistence that is always required in these cases. Our partnership practice is well developed and we already have services who actively participate in our plans for families. We have police officers who check that children are in bed on a Saturday night and Fire Officers who do regular checks on our families. In adding Belle Vue to our programme we widen the contact potential to our families considerably. Our understanding of the Key Worker role is clear and has been scrutinised by DCSF and by recent inspections into Hartlepool's Integrated Youth Service, Prevention services and our unannounced inspection of Safeguarding.

(v) additional services

The opportunities that Belle Vue provides this project is central to the whole process and is key to the engagement of families and the community general. The Centre is already the focus of community groups and residence associations as well as providing a much needed place to go for community members. The Centre has youth provision that includes an alternative to school curriculum project, a Children's Fund Activities Project and a general Youth Club every evening. In addition the Centre is a key partner in our parenting strategy as both a venue and provider. Belle Vue currently provides a number of training opportunities to parents of FIP family parents who are unable to access work opportunities due to lack of confidence, lack of basic skills or chaotic life styles. The TAPs Service already has on call and weekend working arrangements and these will be further developed with the new Estate Team. We have identified properties that give us the potential to develop dispersed accommodation. The property that will be immediately available will be prepared to a very high standard by a community enterprise organisation called Community Campus that supports trainees to renovate properties ready for new tenants. This work and the opportunity for FIP family members to become trainees are offered as small part of the match funding in this bid. Housing Hartlepool will provide the management expertise and legal support for this process through their seconded post. This opportunity will be open to us as soon as a family is identified. Up to 6 further houses will be available to the project by Housing Hartlepool and other providers as the need is identified. This will fit with the Hartlepool Empty Homes strategy and will be available to all FIP families in Hartlepool.

Funding

The funding required for this element of Hartlepool's FIP programme will provide staffing additionality. Our key partners Housing Hartlepool are providing a Housing Manager to the Team. This role is vital if we are to develop a new template for community shaping and regeneration. The second element of funding comes from the Safer Hartlepool Partnership. The third element of funding is an in kind offer to accommodate the team for a year. In addition the New Deal in Communities Trust has offered a House prepared to a high standard for the project to use for FIP families who require a FIP tenancy as part of this offer is a training opportunity for workless young people and adults with Community Campus (an organisation that provides training opportunities for workless adults).

Service	Funder	Cost	Match
Senior FIP Worker Housing Specialist	Housing Hartlepool		£39,196
Senior Practitioner FIP Worker	DCSF	£39,196	
FIP Worker (Belle Vue)	HBC		£36,710
FIP Worker (Belle Vue)	DCSF	£36,7100	
Accommodation Costs	Belle Vue (£2600 x 3)		£ 7,800
Family Budgets		£ 7,800	
Total Investment		£83,706	£83,706

Information sharing

Information Sharing Systems are in place for the FIP in Hartlepool and all partners in this project are included in this. These protocols operate in line with policies of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and the Children's Trust Board. All information sharing will be based on consent gained through the CAF process that is well developed in Hartlepool.

Monitoring

All monitoring of this project will be done through our current system and under the Supervision of the Preventions Manager (FIP Manager). The Belle Vue Estate Project Team will monitor several local outcomes including resident satisfaction, reduction in family mobility, and increased use of Belle Vue by families in the postcode area. Number of diversionary activities attended by children, Number of families engaged moving into mainstream social housing tenancies, Number of families engaged signing up to estate 'compact'. A key outcome for the project will be that six sustainable social rented tenancies are created for FIP families.

Risk Management

Risk management framework, setting out key risks, countermeasures and contingency plans. Please rate your risks on a scale of 1-5 (1 being low and 5 high) and your plans for reducing and managing these risks.

Risk	Counter measure	High/Low
Inability to recruit in time frame	Identify secondment opportunities for staff who work with partner organisations and who have skills required by the project. Use current TAPs team members to start the project. This is possible because of the large team that we have gathered in the development of our FIP.	2
Refusal of Families to participate with Project	The experience of the FIP Manager and the current team will help lessen the likelihood of this happening. We have three years of experience in dealing with such issues successfully.	2
The local community refuse to support the project	Belle Vue Centre is an integral part of this community and will use its connections to liaise with community leaders and engender support.	3
Without this project there is a risk to the regeneration of the area	We will seek resources to establish a programme in the Belle Vue area.	3

7. Key Milestones

Please provide milestones for set-up and project delivery.

Services should be operational by April 2010, and operating a full caseload by July 2010. If exceptions to this are sought, clear reasons should be given.

Milestone	Action	Date
Identify/Recruit staff to participate in the project.	Advertise internally amongst Partners who may provide staff to the service.	Staff in place April 1st 2010
Identify families that need to be part of the project.	Use local intelligence to set criteria for identifying families who are priorities for service.	Families identified April 2010
Develop links with key community leaders and services.	Detail community map to identify strengths that can be used by the service.	April 2010
Establish contact with identified families.	Staff visit each family identified as above.	Mid April 2010
Prepare House identified for dispersed tenancy.	Community Campus completes the preparation work.	May 2010

8. Acceptance of Terms and conditions of funding

Submission of this proposal indicates formal acceptance of the terms and conditions of funding, including to:

- implement the final Project Proposal as agreed with DCSF; any variation to the Proposal is subject to the prior approval of the DCSF Families Delivery Team
- be named as Family Intervention Projects and adhere to the FIP models as set out in Department's guidance at: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/ecm/thinkfamily> grant
- ensure that FIP workers are trained in Safeguarding and Local Safeguarding Processes, including safeguarding protocols set by the Local Safeguarding Children's (LSCB)
- keep case files and supply data on families supported as required by DCSF
- commit to providing dispersed accommodation using Family Intervention Tenancies where appropriate.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: SEPARATED FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP
PROGRESS

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To notify the portfolio holder of the progress of the Separated Families Partnership

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Separated Families Partnership is one of 10 National Pilots funded by the Department of Children Schools and Families. In Hartlepool the pilot is a partnership is being taken forward through a partnership between Hartlepool Borough Council, Families Talking, Relate, Harbour, Headland Futures and the Citizens Advice Bureau. Families Talking is the lead organisation of the partnership.

The Partnership has been in place since October 2009.

This report will outline/show the progress of the partnership to date, how the service has been integrated with the Team Around the Primary School and where the work of the partnership fits within the prevention agenda.

The pilots aim to deliver a range of integrated services to separating and separated parent.

The desired outcomes of the projects are to:

- Reduce conflict
- Improve co-parenting
- Improve the parent/child relationship
- Reduce the financial impact of separation

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

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

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-Key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio – 13 April 2010

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

The Portfolio Holder is asked to note this new programme in the preventions service and to acknowledge the progress made.

Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: SEPARATED FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP
PROGRESS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To notify the portfolio holder of the progress of the Separated Families Partnership

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Separated Families Partnership is one of 10 National Pilots funded by the Department of Children Schools and Families (DCSF). In Hartlepool the pilot is being taken forward through a partnership between Hartlepool Borough Council, Families Talking, Relate, Harbour, Headland Futures and the Citizens Advice Bureau. Families Talking is the lead organisation of the partnership. The Partnership has been in place since October 2009.
- 2.1 The pilots aim to deliver a range of integrated services to separating and separated parent. The desired outcomes of the projects are to:
- Reduce conflict
 - Improve co-parenting
 - Improve the parent/child relationship
 - Reduce the financial impact of separation.
- 2.2 The pilots are the Governments response to the 2008 "Relationships Summit" and "Kids in the Middle" a national campaign from a partnership of national parenting and family charities, including Relate, One Parent Families/Gingerbread, Families Need Fathers and the Fatherhood Institute. As part of the work to develop the pilots, a national survey identified a lack of advice and support for parents and children at the time of separation and in dealing with the aftermath.
- 2.3 The Separated Families Partnership fits well with the "Think Family" approach currently being developed within Hartlepool and the aims of the pilot align with those of the prevention agenda.

- 2.4 Research into the social and economic impacts of divorce and separation evidence strong links to the level of parental conflict and negative long term outcomes for the children and adults involved. Children of separated parents are more likely to become teen parents, become involved in risk taking behaviours and achieve poor educational results. Adults involved in conflicts over residency and contact are at risk of mental health issues and substance and alcohol misuse. Children from separated families make up a large proportion of the service users of, ACORN, HYPED, the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), referrals to Team Around the Primary and Secondary Schools, and children's social care.
- 2.5 In January 2010 the Government published "Support for All: the Families and Relationships Green Paper". The Green Paper identifies similar gaps in services to support family relationships as identified in the "Kids in the Middle" campaign. The paper makes a commitment to improve relationship support for children and families. Relationships are to be given a higher priority through the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) and Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) programmes within schools and ways of embedding relationship support into the training and development of all frontline staff are being examined.
- 2.6 In 2011 new birth registration legislation will come into force requiring fathers to be named on all birth certificates. This, along with the 2003 legislation giving parental rights to fathers named on the birth certificate not just to those who are married, has implications for the local authority working with separated couples where both parents have parental responsibility. Where there is conflict between parents there will need to be greater awareness amongst those working with separated families of parental rights to information and involvement in the decision-making process regarding their children.

3. **PROGRESS**

- 3.1 The work of the project began in November 2009. Each organisation provides specific services to the project as well as access to core services. This work is facilitated through a partnership with the Council's Child and Adult Services with the Parent Commissioner as lead officer.
- **Families Talking:**
The lead organisation has three areas of work within the partnership.

- **Mediation:**
There is a designated mediator working for the partnership in Hartlepool based in Foggy Furze Library. The mediator provides free mediation to help decisions about arrangements for the children, finances including maintenance and access to “Parenting Apart” a course to help parents in conflict focus on children’s needs. As a core service, children 5-18 years of age have access to free counselling for issues relating to their parents separation.
- **Separation Workers:**
There are currently two Separation Workers with a third being recruited. The separation workers are the link between the partner agencies for referrals and the pilot. In addition they provide one to one support to parents, working with parents in conflict with the aim of developing relationships which will enable them to encourage access to mediation services as a couple. The separation workers are attached to the Team Around the Primary School and their work is overseen by the Prevention Services Manager. In the first quarter of operation the team engaged 18 families.
- **Strategic Separation Specialist:**
The strategic lead is tasked with embedding separation awareness into Hartlepool. This entails identifying development needs within services and ways forward to ensure that the learning from the pilot is not lost should funding for the services not continue. Working closely with the Think Family Co-ordinator an audit of services has taken place and a report prepared for the Portfolio Holder. The separation specialist is seconded into Child and Adult Services to ensure positive linkage is achieved.

3.4 **Relate** - The work for the partnership by this organisation is undertaken by two relate counsellors. They provide individuals or couples counselling focusing on maintaining or improving the co-parenting relationship. Helping individuals deal with the emotions of separation, Family Therapy is provided focusing on separation issues and together with Families Talking their deliver parenting courses. In the first quarter of operation five families were accessing the service.

3.5 **Headland Future** - One designated worker provides one to one support to fathers with a focus upon parenting and participation in a child’s life. Support and encouragement is offered to fathers to access additional services within the partnership with a focus upon young father’s activities to develop parenting skills and knowledge. In the first quarter of operation eight fathers were engaged.

3.6 **Harbour** - Where domestic abuse is an issue, Harbour provide risk assessment. Three workers work separately with mums, dads and children on separation issues to ensure safe parenting. Harbour also facilitates contact where it is deemed safe to restart. In the first quarter of operation four families were engaged in this work.

- 3.7 **Citizens Advice Bureau** - A designated worker provides financial advice covering debts, welfare benefits, employment and housing law and money guidance. The worker also provides information and onwards referral to other partnership services. In the first quarter 50 initial interviews were offered.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Family Separation Partnerships is an eighteen month pilot project. Early figures and rates of referral indicate genuine need for support to families and that the service is filling a pre-existing gap. Without the learning from the project being embedded into Children and Families services the gap in provision will return at the end of the pilot.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Portfolio Holder is asked to note the progress of the Family Separation Pilot.
- 5.2 The Portfolio Holder is asked to note the national significance of the pilot and the implications for future policy outlined in the Support for All: The Families and Relationships Green Paper.

6 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 To ensure that the Portfolio Holder is aware of the development of the Family Separation Partnership and is given the opportunity to support it progress.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Support for All: Families and Relationships Green Paper

8. CONTACT OFFICER

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CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

13th April 2010



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: STRATEGIC SEPARATION SPECIALIST

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To notify the portfolio holder of the work of the Strategic Separation Specialist.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Separated Families Partnership is one of 10 National Pilots funded by the Department of Children School and Families. In Hartlepool the pilot is a partnership between Hartlepool Borough Council, Families Talking, Relate, Harbour, Headland Futures and the Citizens Advice Bureau. Families Talking is the lead organisation of the partnership.

The Partnership has been in progress since October 2009. The strategic elements of this project are the responsibility of The Parent Commissioner who shares line management of the Strategic Separation Specialist

The Strategic Separation Specialist has been in post since November 2009 the role is to ensure that the learning from the pilot is embedded into Child and Adult Services.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

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

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-Key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Children's Services Portfolio 13 April 2010

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To ensure that the Portfolio Holder is aware of the development of the Family Separation Partnership and is given the opportunity to support its progress.

Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: STRATEGIC SEPARATION SPECIALIST

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To notify the portfolio holder of the work of the Strategic Separation Specialist.
- 1.2 To notify the Portfolio Holder of the areas of development identified by the audit of local services.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Separated Families Partnership is one of 10 National Pilots funded by the Department of Children Schools and Families. In Hartlepool the pilot is being taken forward through a partnership between Hartlepool Borough Council, Families Talking, Relate, Harbour, Headland Futures and the Citizens Advice Bureau. Families Talking is the lead organisation of the partnership. The Partnership has been in progress since October 2009.
- 2.2 The pilots aim to deliver a range of integrated services to separating and separated parent. The desired outcomes of the projects are to:
 - Reduce conflict
 - Improve co-parenting
 - Improve the parent/child relationship
 - Reduce the financial impact of separation
- 2.3 The pilots are the Governments response to the 2008 "Relationships Summit" and "Kids in the Middle" a national campaign from a partnership of national parenting and family charities including Relate, One Parent Families/ Gingerbread, Families Need Fathers and the Fatherhood Institute. A part of the work to develop the pilot, a national survey identified a lack of advice and support for parents and children at the time of separation and in dealing with the aftermath.
- 2.4 The Separated Families Partnership fits well with the "Think Family" approach currently being developed within Hartlepool and the aims of the pilot are aligned with those of the prevention agenda.
- 2.5 Research into the social and economic impacts of divorce and separation evidence strong links to the level of parental conflict and negative long term outcomes for the children and adults involved. Children of separated parents are more likely to become teen parents, become involved in risk taking behaviours and achieve poor educational results. Adults involved in conflicts over residency and contact are at risk of mental health issues, and substance and alcohol misuse.

- 2.6 Children from separated families make up a large proportion of the service users of, ACORN, HYPED, the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), referrals to Team Around the Primary School (TAPS) and Team Around Secondary Schools (TASS), and social care.
- 2.7 In January 2010 the Government published "Support for All: the Families and Relationships Green Paper". The Green Paper identifies similar gaps in services to support family relationships as identified in the "Kids in the Middle" campaign. The paper makes a commitment to improve relationship support for children and families. Relationships are to be given a higher priority through the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) and Sex Relationship Education (SRE) programmes within schools and ways of embedding relationship support into the training and development of all frontline staff are being examined.
- 2.8 In 2011 new birth registration legislation will come into force requiring fathers to be named on all birth certificates. This, along with the 2003 legislation giving parental rights to fathers named on the birth certificate not just to those who are married, has implications for the local authority working with separated couples where both parents have parental responsibility. Where there is conflict between parents there will need to be greater awareness amongst those working with separated families of parental rights to information and involvement in the decision-making process regarding their children.

3 PROGRESS

- 3.1 In the first four months of the pilot the work has focused upon identifying the current position in Hartlepool and introducing the Family Separation Partnership to key services and personnel within Child and Adult Services
- 3.2 Along with the Think Family Co-ordinator an audit of services has been carried out looking at provision for separated families and of initial assessment documentation and referral forms. The audit focused upon nine main areas and was carried out on a one to one basis with nominated staff.

4. FINDINGS

- 4.1 Services consulted during the audit process include: Children's Centre's, parenting support and education, Youth Offending Service, Teenage Pregnancy, Parent Support Advisors, Educational Psychology, Anti Social Behaviour Unit, HYPED, Children's Social Care, and Bamardos Hartbeat. This work will continue throughout the project.

- 4.2 There are no services currently which are targeted to meet the needs of separated parents. Existing parenting courses focus upon behaviour management and general parent child relationship issues. Most staff working directly with parents has received no training specific to separation issues. Non-resident parents are welcome to access existing parenting courses. Parents experiencing conflict are sign posted to mediation services though there is no follow up to assess impact.
- 4.3 Prior to involvement in the Separation Project Headland Future have provided fathers with a range of parenting support options but not worked directly on separation issues.
- 4.4 Step parenting advice and support is touched upon within some parenting programmes. There is no specific support available and what is available has to be accessed alongside standard parenting courses.
- 4.5 Support for children and young people across services is based upon identification of needs. Staff are generally aware of separation issues affecting children and young people.
- 4.6 Support for parent child relationships is met through a range of universal, and targeted services. There are no services targeted at separated families dealing specifically with separation issues. The father child activities provided by Headland Futures aim at improving the father child relationship. There are no specific services which target step-parent and child relationships.
- 4.7 Service delivery including assessments, individual and group support, supervised and informal contact is delivered across the majority of services provided during office hours although the development of the preventions services is beginning to change this. Headland Futures which targets fathers provides all services outside normal office hours. There are no services to support the co-parenting relationship outside office hours unless a crisis occurs and statutory services are called.
- 4.8 Statistically non-resident parents are more likely to have work commitments which restrict their ability to access services during office hours.
- 4.9 No service had policies related to separated parenting. Work with separated parents was not referenced into key objectives and work plans. No protocols existed in services for decision making and information sharing with non-resident parents. There was limited awareness of statutory obligations to each parent with parental responsibility concerning information sharing and decision making regardless of residency amongst frontline staff.

- 4.10 There was no consistency within services regarding the parental information requested on assessment and referral forms. Information gathering regarding the non-resident parent was dependant upon the relationship developed with the resident parent.
- 4.11 No staff spoken too had received separation related training or were aware of training available. The majority of services responded positively to the statement “we believe that our basic skills are all transferable to working with fathers” and did not acknowledge a need for additional training. Staff recognised the need to include non-resident parents as a positive support for children regardless of the resident parent's view however they acknowledge that in practice engaging the non-resident parent was dependant upon the consent of the resident parent.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS.

- 5.1 The Family Separation Partnerships is an eighteen month pilot project. Early figures and rates of referral indicate genuine need for support to families and that the service is filling a pre-existing gap. Without the learning from the project being embedded into Children and Families services the gap in provision will return at the end of the pilot.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Portfolio Holder is asked to note the progress of the Family Separation Pilot.
- 6.2 The Portfolio Holder is asked to note the national significance of the pilot and the implications for future policy outlined in the Support for All: The Families and Relationships Green Paper.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 To ensure that the Portfolio Holder is aware of the development of the Family Separation Partnership and is given the opportunity to support it progress.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Audit Tool Kit
Research References

9. CONTACT OFFICER

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