

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Monday, 6 September 2010

at 4.30 pm

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Fleet, Griffin, Ingham, Lauderdale, Maness, Simmons, P Thompson and Wells

Co-opted Members: David Relton and 3 vacancies

Resident Representatives: Joan Steel

Young People's Representatives: Ashleigh Bostock, Lauren Carroll, Demi Coull, Shauna Hanley and 2 representatives from the School Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2010

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

No items.

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

No items.

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

No items.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 7.1 Scrutiny Investigation Into Youth Involvement / Participation In The Development And Delivery Of Council Services Including The Safeguarding Of Young People – Scoping Report - *Young People's Representatives*
- 7.2 Scrutiny Investigation Into Think Family – Preventative And Early Intervention Services – Scoping Report – *Scrutiny Support Officer*
- 7.3 Six Monthly Monitoring Of Agreed Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 28 September 2010 at 4.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

29 June 2010

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

Present:

Councillor Chris Simmons (In the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Mary Fleet, Sheila Griffin,
Peter Ingham, Sarah Maness, Paul Thompson and Ray Wells.

Co-opted Member: David Relton.

Resident Representative: Joan Steel.

Young Peoples Representatives: Millie Allen and Danielle O'Keefe.

Also Present: Hilda Wales, Rift House Community Association
Tara Davidson, NDC Community Development Officer
Millie Allan and Danielle O'Keefe, Hartlepool Youth Parliament.

Officers: Sue Johnson, Assistant Director, Planning and Service Integration
John Robinson, Parent Commissioner
Mark Smith, Head of Integrated Youth Services
Beth Storey, Youth Work Manager
Juliette Ward, Participation Youth Worker
Zoe McKenna, Participation Youth Worker
Irene Cross, Neighbourhood Development Officer
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
Elaine Hind, Scrutiny Support Officer
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Lauderdale, Young People's Representatives David Clark, Karen Forcer, Arran Frame, Chris Lund, Rebecca Richards and Nathan Storm, and Councillor Cath Hill, Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

2. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 March 2010 were confirmed.

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

No items.

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

No items.

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

No items.

7. Portfolio Holders Response to the Cabinet Decision on Targeted and Detached Youth Work Provision in Hartlepool *(Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and Director of Child and Adult Services)*

The Assistant Director, Planning and Service Integration provide Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum with feedback on the recommendations from the investigation into the Final report and recommendations of the investigation into Targeted and detached youth work in Hartlepool that was reported to cabinet on the 10th May 2010. Cabinet approved the recommendations in their entirety. Details of each recommendation and proposed actions to be taken following approval by Cabinet were set out in the Action Plan submitted in Appendix A to the report.

Members welcomed the fact that Cabinet had adopted the recommendations but were concerned that in the current economic environment that the proposed actions may not be deliverable because of potential funding cuts. The Assistant Director indicated that some of the actions could be achieved without significant expenditure. The provision of a larger bus for example may seem to have a significantly higher cost but through partner delivery and efficiencies in the way services are delivered it could be provided.

Recommended

That the report and the action plan be noted and welcomed.

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

The Scrutiny Manager presented a report giving an overview of the role and functions of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum. The report set out in general terms the role and function of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the forums and the specific role of this forum 'to consider issues relating to specialist (intervention), targeted (prevention) and universal services for children and young people'. The report also outlined the scheduled meeting dates of the forum for 2010/11.

The Chair commented that this forum had an important role in feeding into the executive the views of Members and young people on the Children's Services provided by the authority. As had been reported earlier, these views were taken seriously as all the recommendations of the last investigation had been adopted by the executive.

Recommended

That the report be noted.

9. Determining the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Work Programme for 2010/11 (Scrutiny Support Officer)

The Scrutiny Manager reported that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum needed to develop a Work Programme for the 2010/11 Municipal Year, together with a timeframe for each review, for consideration by the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 23 July 2010. Identified in the report were the topics that had been identified as potential investigations through discussions with the Cabinet member, the Director of Child and Adult Services, individual Members, the young people's representatives and members of the public/resident representatives. For each of the subject identified an appendix to the report also set out the aim of the potential investigation and some brief background information for the forum's consideration. The Children's Services section of the Corporate Plan 2010/11 was also appended for information.

The issues that had been identified were: -

- Business Transformation – Service Delivery Options (SDO's)
- Youth Involvement / participation in decision making processes
- Safeguarding of Children
- Supporting Looked After Children / Young People
- Think Family – Early Intervention and Prevention
- Narrowing the Gap / Raising Standards

It was also highlighted that the forum would have two Budget and Policy Framework items to consider during the year; the budget 2011/12 and the Departmental Plan 2011/12. In order not to commit itself to a too busy workload, it was suggested that the forum choose a maximum of one or two items for investigation in the coming year.

The Chair commented that through the discussions with the young people Safeguarding of Children had been identified as a subject they would wish to investigate. The Chair asked if the young people's representatives would combine that investigation with Youth Involvement. The Chair asked if the young people on the forum could come back with an action plan for such an investigation. The chair indicated to the forum that should this be agreeable with the young people, they would undertake the investigation themselves bring update reports and subsequently a final investigation report for the forum to consider.

Through the forum's discussion, the Chair confirmed that the young peoples investigation would include safeguarding in social networking. The forum discussed the issues it would wish to investigate and concluded that 'Think Family – Early Intervention and Prevention' should form the principal investigation, though Members did wish to look at the issues around Supporting Looked After Children / Young People as this was an area where the local authority had such an important influence on the future of young people.

Recommended

That the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee be informed that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum would wish to investigate Safeguarding of Children/Youth Involvement (to be undertaken by the young peoples representatives), Think Family – Early Intervention and Prevention and Supporting Looked After Children / Young People during the 2010/11 municipal year.

10. Appointments to Outside Bodies *(Assistant Chief Executive)*

The Assistant Chief Executive reported that in accordance with the authority delegated by the Cabinet, the Deputy Mayor considered the issue of appointments to outside bodies. Several of these outside body appointments were referred to other meetings for appointment, and of these, two were referred to this Scrutiny Forum for consideration. The outside bodies referred for Member appointment are the Schools Admissions Forum and the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

Five nominations were required for the Admissions Forum and Councillors Christopher Akers-Belcher, Mary Fleet, Sheila Griffin, Sarah Maness and Chris Simmons had been nominated in advance of the meeting. Only one nomination to the two councillor positions on the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education had been received, that being Councillor Sheila Griffin, and therefore a second nominations was sought.

The Chair reported that he had been invited to take a position on the Children's Trust as Chair of the Scrutiny Forum.

Recommended

1. That Councillors Christopher Akers-Belcher, Mary Fleet, Sheila Griffin, Sarah Maness and Chris Simmons be appointed to the Admissions Forum, subject to the approval of the Executive.
2. That Councillor Paul Thompson be appointed to the remaining position on the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education, subject to the approval of the Executive.
3. That the Chair's appointment to the Children's Trust be noted.

11. Issues Identified from the Forward Plan

No items.

12. Any Other Items that the Chair Considers Urgent

Whilst not considered as an urgent matter, the Chair considered a debate in relation to the role of the Children's Scrutiny Forum and the consideration of major decisions taken in relation to education provision in Hartlepool by the Executive and Chief Officers. A co-opted Member highlighted that in many cases in recent years, major decisions on the provision of education in the town should have, in his view, come to this forum as part of the process of reaching those decisions. The Chair highlighted the role of the forum and individual Members in the calling-in of decisions of the executive and that it was a proactive process requiring Members to take the initiative.

The meeting concluded at 5.25 p.m.

CHAIR

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6 September 2010



Report of: Young People's Representatives

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO YOUTH INVOLVEMENT / PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF COUNCIL SERVICES INCLUDING THE SAFEGUARDING OF YOUNG PEOPLE – SCOPING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum of the suggested way forward for the investigation into youth involvement / participation in the development and delivery of council services including the safeguarding of young people.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The young people on the Forum decided that they wanted to investigate their own scrutiny topic this year and picked Youth Participation / Involvement.

3. AIM OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

- 3.1 To explore ways of expanding the participation / involvement of young people in the development and delivery of Council services with particular focus on the safeguarding of young people during their involvement in the process

4. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

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

- (a) To gain an understanding of what methods are available in terms of social networking so young people can become involved in council services (at all levels) in a safe and cost effective way.
- (b) To examine the safeguarding arrangements around social networking covering all positive and negative aspects. The young people will examine examples of good practice and how we could build on these.

5. POTENTIAL AREAS OF ENQUIRY / SOURCES OF EVIDENCE

5.1 The young people would like the following people to be involved in their investigation:-

- (a) Young people from Town Wide Projects including BME, Deaf Youth Project, Hart Gables, LDD Young People.
- (b) Local Authority Officers responsible for safeguarding / IT (Mike Smith)
- (c) Mayor
- (d) Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
- (e) School Representatives
- (f) Other Councils who have used social networking in the past
- (g) Ward Councillors.

5.2 The young people suggest referring to the following documentary / internet sources, as highlighted below:-

- (a) Facebook (test face book page to be set up by young people)
- (b) Twitter
- (c) MySpace
- (d) MSN
- (e) St Hilds Cyber Survey
- (f) Relevant Websites and internet documents
- (g) Hartlepool Borough Council Safeguarding Document
- (h) NSPCC

- (i) Wheelscape (for skate park project)
- (j) Good practice guide from the Department for Children, Schools and Family in terms of using social networking to engage young people

6. PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

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

6th September 2010 – 'Setting the Scene' - Young people to present Scoping Report to Scrutiny and explain methods on how they will do it.

19th October 2010 – Update on the investigation – explain what methods have been investigated, safeguarding impacts and restrictions, people consulted.

2nd November 2010 – progress update on the investigation

18th January 2011 – Consideration of Draft Final Report

25th February 2011 – Consideration of Final Report by the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee – (To be presented by the young people)

21st March 2011 – Consideration of Final Report by Cabinet – (To be presented by the young people)

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 Members are recommended to consider and approve the scope of the young people's investigation.

Contact Officer:- Young People's Representatives / Zoe McKenna
Participation Worker
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel:- 01429 01429 868558
Email:- zoe.mckenna@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Good practice guide from the Department for Children, Schools and Family in terms of using social networking to engage young people

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6 September 2010



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO THINK FAMILY –
PREVENTATIVE AND EARLY INTERVENTION
SERVICES – SCOPING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To make proposals to Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum for their forthcoming investigation into Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At the meeting of this Forum on 29 June 2010, Members determined their work programme for the 2010/11 Municipal Year. The topic of the 'Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services' was selected as the first Scrutiny topic for consideration during the current Municipal Year.
- 2.2 In November 2009, the Government announced the Think Family programme for which Hartlepool is a pathfinder Authority (Young Carers). The programme in its entirety aims to ensure that everyone who works with a family and the people in the family can provide the right support at the right time. A Think Family Strategy in Hartlepool is currently in development.
- 2.3 Hartlepool delivers integrated preventative services to children and young people through the 'Team Around the School' services which bring together key organisations / professionals to plan and implement support packages for children and young people with identified needs.
- 2.4 The Government's Social Exclusion Taskforce in their Families at Risk review estimated that around 140,000 of the 12.8 million families in England experience entrenched problems of the type which are often passed from

generation to generation. This is despite the support which is often provided from a large number of different agencies. From this review evidence shows that this support often does not succeed because it is poorly co-ordinated and does not take into account the wider family problems which lie at the root of those experienced by individual children or adult family members.

- 2.5 Think Family means securing better outcomes for children, young people and families with additional needs by co-ordinating the support they receive from children's, young people's, adults' and family services so that they can:-

- (a) Identify families at risk of poor outcomes to provide support at the earliest opportunity;
- (b) Meet the full range of needs within each family they are supporting or working with;
- (c) Develop services which can respond effectively to the most challenging families; and
- (d) Strengthen the ability of family members to provide care and support to each other.

- 2.6 In selecting this investigation, Members are keen to gain a clear understanding of how Think Family services are provided in Hartlepool. In doing this Members are keen to identifying ways of improving or maintaining service provisions for the benefit of all. In order to facilitate this, suggestions for the terms of reference, potential areas of enquiry / sources of evidence and timetable for the investigation are outlined in Sections 4, 5 and 8 of this report. Member's views on these suggestions and the way forward for the conduct of the investigation are now being sought.

3. OVERALL AIM OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION/ENQUIRY

- 3.1 To explore the provision of preventative and early intervention services including the provision of practical support for children including children on the cusp of care; young people and their families

4. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION/ENQUIRY

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

- (a) To gain an understanding of the Think Family approach in Hartlepool along with the role of each of the following services in contributing to this approach:-
 - (i) Universal services;

- (ii) Targeted services; and
 - (iii) Specialist services
- (b) To examine how the Council and its partner organisations co-ordinate their Think Family approach in order to deliver services in an integrated way to avoid duplication and gaps in service provision;
 - (c) To identify the impact that Think Family services have on children including children on the cusp of care, children living in poverty, young people and their families;
 - (d) To evaluate Hartlepool's Think Family approach to establish whether it is achieving its overall aim;
 - (e) To gain an understanding of the impact of current and future budget pressures on the way in which Think Family services are provided in Hartlepool;
 - (f) To explore how Think Family services could be provided in the future, giving due regard to:-
 - (i) Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the way in which the services are currently provided; and
 - (ii) If / how the services could be provided at a reduced financial cost (within the resources available in the current economic climate).

5. POTENTIAL AREAS OF ENQUIRY / SOURCES OF EVIDENCE

- 5.1 Members of the Forum can request a range of evidential and comparative information throughout the Scrutiny review.
- 5.2 The Forum can invite a variety of people to attend to assist in the forming of a balanced and focused range of recommendations as follows:-
 - (a) Member of Parliament for Hartlepool;
 - (b) Elected Mayor;
 - (c) Portfolio Holder for Children's Services;
 - (d) Director / officers of the Council's Child and Adult Services Department;
 - (e) Ward Councillors;
 - (f) Local residents;

- (g) Representatives of minority communities of interest or heritage;
- (h) Families First;
- (i) Family Intervention Project;
- (j) Children's Trust;
- (k) Family Pathfinder;
- (l) Family Nurse Partnership;
- (m) Children's Centres / Sure Start;
- (n) Job Centre Plus;
- (o) Police;
- (p) The Parenting Early Intervention Project;
- (q) Service users;
- (r) Connected Care;
- (s) Young Carers';
- (t) Hartlepool Carers';
- (u) Looked After Children's Group;
- (v) Health Services;
- (w) Community Consultation Group;
- (x) Probation Service;
- (y) School representatives; and
- (z) Other local authorities – Gateshead Council has been identified as best practice for their work on developing integrated working by an ongoing evaluation of the pathfinder programme commissioned by the Department for Children, Schools and Families.

5.3 The Forum may also wish to refer to a variety of documentary / internet sources, key suggestions are as highlighted below:-

- (a) Hartlepool Borough Council – Health Scrutiny Forum Final Report –
Reaching Families in Need -

https://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/file/5176/scrutiny_final_report-reaching_families_in_need

- (b) **Durham County Council – Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Think Family Review 2010 –**
<http://www.cfps.org.uk/scrutiny-exchange/library/education-and-young-people/?id=2895>
- (c) **Department for Children, Schools and Families - Think Family Toolkit**
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychildmatters/strategy/parents/ID91askclient/thinkfamily/tf/>
- (d) **Cabinet Office: Social Exclusion Task Force (2008): Think Family: Improving the Life Chances of Families at Risk -**
http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/cabinetoffice/social_exclusion_task_force/assets/think_families/think_family_life_chances_report.pdf

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY

- 6.1 Community engagement plays a crucial role in the Scrutiny process and diversity issues have been considered in the background research for this enquiry under the Equality Standards for Local Government. Based upon the research undertaken, paragraph 5.2 includes suggestions as to potential groups which the Forum may wish involve throughout the inquiry (where it is felt appropriate and time allows).

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

Option 1

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

8. PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

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

6 September 2010 – Scoping Report

28 September 2010 – Setting the Scene:-

- (a) To gain an understanding of the Think Family approach in Hartlepool along with the role of each of the following services in contributing to this approach:-
 - (i) Universal services;
 - (ii) Targeted services; and
 - (iii) Specialist services
- (b) Evidence from the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services;*
- (c) Evidence from the Member of Parliament for Hartlepool, Iain Wright*

* Subject to availability

19 October 2010 – Evidence gathering:-

Small group exercises to examine how the Council and its partner organisations co-ordinate their Think Family approach in order to deliver services in an integrated way to avoid duplication and gaps in service provision*;

* Suggested format: - to invite a number of partner organisations along to the meeting, and for the Forum to divide into small groups with representatives from the partner organisations in each of the groups to discuss the above.

November 2010 (dates to be confirmed)

- (a) distribution of a questionnaire / online consultation to people who access services through the Think Family programme to evaluate Hartlepool's Think Family approach to establish whether it is achieving its overall aim;

(To gather views to feed into the meeting of 31 January 2011)

- (b) Site visit

18 January 2011 – Evidence gathering:-

Report / presentation from the Child and Adult Services Department on current and future budgetary restrictions

31 January 2011 – Evidence gathering:-

- (a) Small group exercises to identify the impact that Think Family services have on children including children on the cusp of care, children living in poverty, young people and their families**;

** Suggested format: - to invite children, young people, families who have experience of the Think Family approach along to the meeting, and for the Forum to divide into small groups to discuss the above.

- (b) Feedback from the questionnaire / online consultation to evaluate Hartlepool's Think Family approach
- (c) Feedback from site visit

22 March 2011 – Consideration of Final Report

15 April 2011 – Consideration of Final Report by the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

9 May 2011 – Consideration of Final Report by the Cabinet/Council (tentative date)

9. RECOMMENDATION

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

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Durham County Council – Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Think Family Review 2010
- (ii) Department for Children, Schools and Families - Think Family Toolkit
- (iii) Cabinet Office: Social Exclusion Task Force (2008): Think Family: Improving the Life Chances of Families at Risk
- (iv) Hartlepool Borough Council – Health Scrutiny Forum Final Report – Reaching Families in Need

APPENDIX A

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

Title of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
Title of the current scrutiny investigation for which funding is requested:
To clearly identify the purpose for which additional support is required:
To outline indicative costs to be incurred as a result of the additional support:
To outline any associated timescale implications:
To outline the 'added value' that may be achieved by utilising the additional support as part of the undertaking of the Scrutiny Investigation:

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

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

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

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6 September 2010



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

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

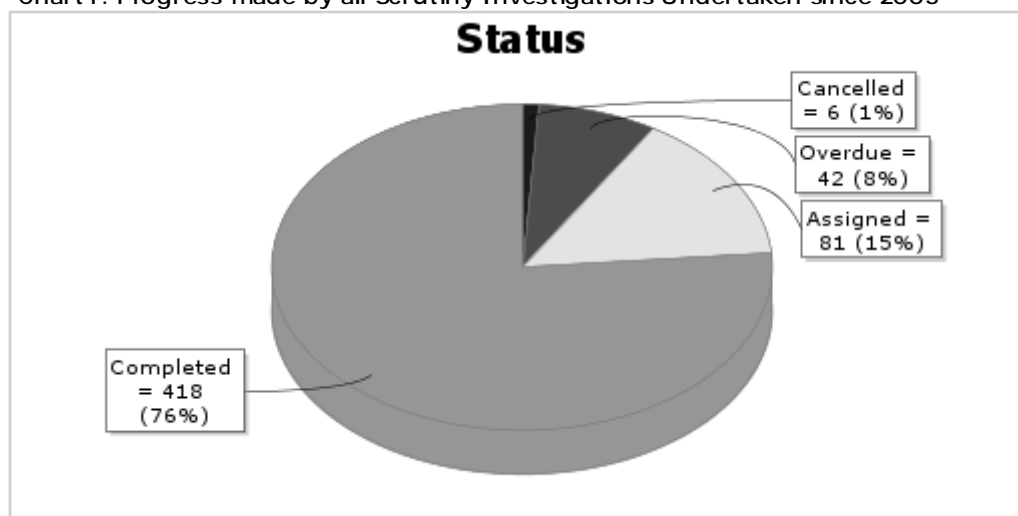
1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 In November 2007 the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee approved the introduction of the Scrutiny Monitoring Database, an electronic database, to monitor the delivery of agreed scrutiny recommendations since the 2005/06 Municipal Year.
- 2.2 In March 2010 Scrutiny Chairs noted and agreed for the movement of the Scrutiny Monitoring Database into the Covalent, which is the Council's Performance Management System. Members are asked to note that the transfer of data into Covalent took place during February – April 2010, this process updated notes made by Officers in the Scrutiny Monitoring Database with an automatically stamped date of transfer, this explains why some notes might appear more recent than the completion date.
- 2.3 In accordance with the agreed procedure, this report provides for Members details of progress made against each of the investigations undertaken by the Forum. **Chart 1** overleaf is the overall progress made by all scrutiny forums since 2005 and **Appendix A** provides a detailed explanation of progress made against each scrutiny recommendation agreed by this Forum.

Chart1: Progress made by all Scrutiny Investigations Undertaken since 2005



3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members:-

- (a) Note progress against the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's agreed recommendations, since the 2005/06 Municipal Year, and explore further where appropriate; and
- (b) Retain **Appendix A** for future reference.

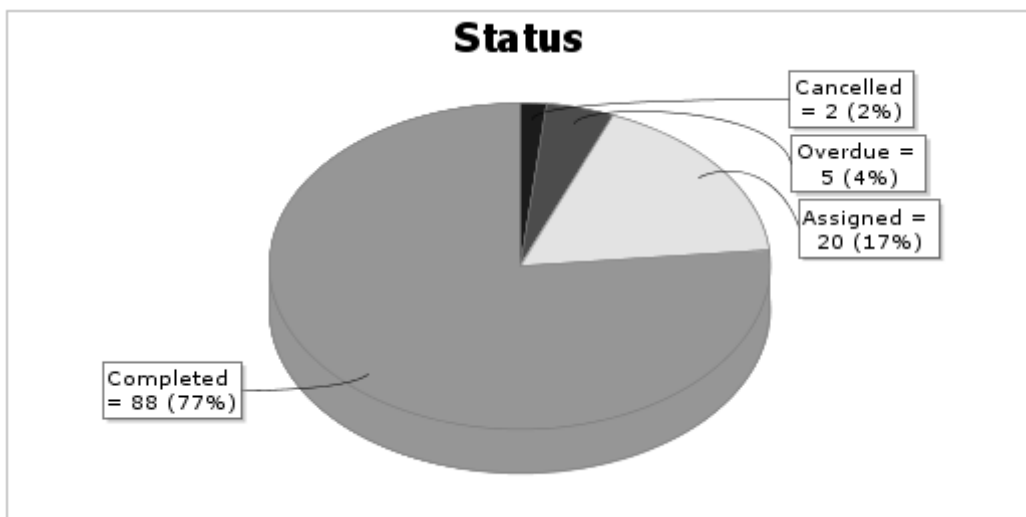
Contact Officer:- Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
 Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
 Hartlepool Borough Council
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Children's Services Scrutiny Forum





Generated on: 23 August 2010








Year 2005/06



Investigation Involving Young People





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/1a That the Forum sends its findings to all schools in the town, thanking those who were involved in the process, whilst asking each school how they would like us to follow up the scrutiny process.	Despatched to all schools in the town in April 2006. Positive verbal feedback received from High Tunstall School only.	Jonathan Wistow	01 Aug 2006	01 Aug 2006	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	<div> <div>100%</div> <div>Completed</div> </div>




Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/1b That six months after the Forum has completed its final report the young people involved in the scrutiny process should be consulted to see if anything has changed in their view.	Brief 'child friendly' questionnaire to be compiled and dispatched. Due to pressures on schools during the summer term this exercise will take place during the autumn.	John Robinson	01 Dec 2006	01 Dec 2006	23 Apr 2010 Due to development of town wide schools forum this action is now not going to take place as we are currently making new participation demands on partners. Most young people involved in the initial enquiry are still involved and giving constant feedback.	 Completed
SCR-CS/1c That the young people involved in the process should be invited to meet the Chair of the Council.	That arrangements be made for a handful of children involved in the scrutiny process to meet the Chair of the Council accompanied by the Chair	John Robinson	01 Sep 2006	01 Sep 2006	23 Apr 2010 Carried Out	 Completed
SCR-CS/1d That the Forum holds a series of meetings with young people at venues (possibly in schools) outside of the Council in the north/central/south areas of the town.	Jesmond Rd Primary School (North) visited in April 2006.	John Robinson	01 Dec 2006	01 Dec 2006	23 Apr 2010 This process was superseded by the co-option of young people on to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.	 Completed
SCR-CS/1e That the Forum should actively pursue the possibility of co-opting young people onto the Forum.	Exploratory meetings held on 5 July 2006 with the Chief Solicitor, Scrutiny Support Officer, Principal Democratic Services Officer and Children's Services representative. Children's Services Scrutiny Forum meeting on 1st September 2006 to work through the proposal. Consultation	John Robinson	01 Jun 2007	01 Jun 2007	23 Apr 2010 Young People now co-opted on to the Forum.	 Completed





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	where appropriate with Scrutiny Forum prior to consideration by the Constitution Committee.					
SCR-CS/1f That the nature of local funding needs to be explained to young people so that they are aware of why something is built in one part of town but not in another.	As part of the participation strategy a question time process has been started finance will be asked to participate in this.	John Robinson	01 Feb 2007	01 Feb 2007	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed
SCR-CS/1f That the nature of local funding needs to be explained to young people so that they are aware of why something is built in one part of town but not in another.	The youth opportunity fund will provide practical experience to young people in setting up financial systems and allocating resources. Youth ops cards future Caypp - user survey.	John Robinson	01 Apr 2008	01 Apr 2008	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed
SCR-CS/1g That the council develops a leaflet outlining all the activities for young people for the north, south and central areas, and consults with young people involved in producing the HYPE magazine about how this should be developed.	Government guidance has recently placed a requirement on local authorities to develop internet based directories for young people. The Children's Services Directory is due to become 'live' in August 2006 and will allow events to be updated on a 24 hour basis. The electronic directory will form a key part of a 'joined-up' approach to information sharing through which the service will be	Francesca Magog	01 Aug 2006	01 Aug 2006	23 Apr 2010 Went live in Aug 2006 as planned and now updated on 24 hour basis. Young people designed 'Skins' for their web pages. The management of the service directory now transferred to the Children's Information Service and is currently being reviewed.	 Completed




Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	signposted through leaflets, articles in the Hartlepool Mail and Hartbeat, and through links to the Children's Information Service, all schools and in the longer term children's centres and extended schools.					
SCR-CS/1h Given the evidence gathered by the Forum from its schools visits the Forum recommends that young people should be considered as much of a priority as the elderly when accessing public/community transport.	The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum investigation was at such a stage that it could not be extended. The issue of provision of transportation for young people was considered as part the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum Work Programme discussions. The Forum did not select the issue as a 2006/07 Work Programme item.	Jonathan Wistow	01 Feb 2006	01 Feb 2006	23 Apr 2010 Complete	 Completed
SCR-CS/1i That all the town's libraries (including the mobile library) make out of issue books available to children without library cards.	It is not library policy to pursue parents for repayment of the value of lost books. There may be a need to more proactively dispel the idea that borrowing library books involves financial risk on the part of parents and to promote a more positive image. At the same time, the operation of a library service does require	Graham Jarritt	01 Feb 2006	01 Feb 2006	23 Apr 2010 Complete	 Completed



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	children to learn the social habit of respecting items borrowed. We would not wish to encourage the idea that returning books is optional.					
SCR-CS/1j It is recommended that the Forum should liaise in future with schools and libraries, and explore best practice, to develop a strategy for issuing library cards to all young people.	The Library Service would be very happy to take part in this. A very high percentage of young children are enrolled as library members as part of the BookStart scheme, which contacts children and parents at 9 months, 18 months and 36 months. It also provides them with books and other reading related gifts and invites them to visit the library for story times. Many schools also have close links to their local library.	Graham Jarritt	01 Feb 2006	01 Feb 2006	23 Apr 2010 Complete	 Completed
SCR-CS/1k That the Council needs a Citizenship Policy for all age groups, and the work carried out by the Community Network could usefully link into this.	Preliminary work has been undertaken in terms of developing a draft citizenship policy. Further cross-departmental work to be carried out and links to the LSP to be established in accordance with the recommendation. Additional links to be established in relation to school's curricular	Caroline O'Neill	01 Jul 2007	01 Jul 2007	23 Apr 2010 A Hartlepool Corporate Citizenship Policy now exists which relates to all age groups. This has been developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and with the full support of the elected members of the Council. Representatives from cross-Council departments have liaised to develop the policy. In addition all Hartlepool	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	activities.				schools have developed their own policies for teaching Citizenship which is given appropriate curriculum focus in all schools across the borough.	
SCR-CS/1i That the Forum supports the recommendations of the Community Network (outlined in section 8.16) and commends them to the Council as a whole.	Unanimously supported by Council on 16 February 2006. Department to explore further where appropriate.	John Robinson	01 Feb 2006	01 Feb 2006	23 Apr 2010 Supported by Council on 16 Feb 06	 Completed
SCR-CS/1m That the Forum supports the development of a Youth Forum/Council, and requests that this is included in the development of the Council's Participation Strategy.	To be incorporated into the Participation Strategy and when appropriate the Scrutiny Forum to comment upon its content.	John Robinson	01 Apr 2007	01 Apr 2007	23 Apr 2010 Schools Forum now meeting regularly and will be feeding into scrutiny when required. Young people from Schools forum now attending Children's Services Scrutiny.	 Completed
SCR-CS/1n That the Council transfers its advertising in youth papers to HYPE magazine so that it is supportive of the principle of involving young people in decisions that affect their lives.	To explore relative costings and reach of HYPE magazine in relation to other publications, which young people are likely to read.	John Robinson	01 Dec 2006	01 Dec 2006	23 Apr 2010 Hype Magazine is no longer functioning at a level where this action would be appropriate.	 Cancelled
SCR-CS/1o That the Council should support positive publicity about children and young people across the town, including in the Council's own Hartbeat magazine.	The editorial team of Hartbeat supports the recommendation made by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum. Furthermore, the Council is generally supportive of reflecting	Alastair Rae	01 Feb 2006	01 Feb 2006	23 Apr 2010 Process in place	 Completed



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	the interests of all groups (including children and young people) when seeking to generate positive publicity. The editorial team of Hartbeat will continue to seek out positive achievements of children and young people and to publicise them wherever possible.					
SCR-CS/1p That the Forum was supportive of the continued development of the Participation Network, and would like further links to be explored between this network, the participation strategy and the Children's Services Forum.	To be incorporated into the Participation Strategy and where appropriate to consult with the Children's Services Scrutiny ForumYouth opportunities fund and other initiatives around the Participation Strategy will provide ongoing focus for this group.	John Robinson	01 Apr 2007	01 Apr 2007	23 Apr 2010 Network in place	 Completed
SCR-CS/1q That the 'Choices, Chances and Changes for Young People' Framework should be developed, where possible, as a basis for involving young people in the democratic process.	To be incorporated into the Participation Strategy	John Robinson	07 Apr 2007	07 Apr 2007	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed
SCR-CS/1r That the Council should seek to make links between the school councils and the Neighbourhood Forums and that funding	Joint Events to be held between the three Neighbourhood Consultative Forums and School Councils.	Dave Stubbs	01 Sep 2006	01 Sep 2006	23 Apr 2010 Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Forums link into Neighbourhood Consultative Forums & Schools Council's link into the Youth Forum.Links	 Completed





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
streams developed by, and, for young people should be explored through this route.					made in all NAP Forums with Youth Forums (funding set aside within each NAP to address young people involvement).	
SCR-CS/1s That the Forum supports the development of a Participation Strategy and would like to see linkages developed between this and the Forum's recommendations, and that this strategy should be developed across the town.	To be incorporated into the Participation Strategy	John Robinson	01 Apr 2007	01 Apr 2007	23 Apr 2010 Completed	 Completed
SCR-CS/1t That the Forum would like to see the findings of this report submitted as a response to the consultation process for the 'Every Hartlepool Child Matters' report.	Final Report submitted to the Authority's Children's Services Department as part of the consultative process for the Children and Young People's Plan.	Paul Briggs	01 Apr 2006	01 Apr 2006		 Completed
SCR-CS/1u That the Council should approach outside bodies, for example the PCT, Police and Fire Service in relation to making links to the Council's participation work.	To be incorporated into the Participation Strategy Clear linkage with Health Development	John Robinson	01 Apr 2007	01 Apr 2007	23 Apr 2010 Children's Trust responsibility	 Completed
SCR-CS/1u That the Council should approach outside bodies, for example the PCT, Police and Fire Service in relation to making links to the	Clear linkage with Health Development Team	John Robinson	01 Apr 2006	01 Apr 2006	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
Council's participation work.						
SCR-CS/1u That the Council should approach outside bodies, for example the PCT, Police and Fire Service in relation to making links to the Council's participation work.	Hartlepool Interventions Project will provide linkage with a range of organisations as first step.	John Robinson	01 Apr 2006	01 Apr 2006	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed
SCR-CS/1v That the Council should organise an 'annual youth conference' through which information can be shared by young people and youth practitioners, and that connections should be made with the Participation Network here.	The Participation Strategy will deliver at least 3 events year. Delivery will be through the Participation Network and the Hartlepool Young Voices Forum.	John Robinson	01 Apr 2007	01 Apr 2007	23 Apr 2010 Now in place and including the 11 million events annually	 Completed
SCR-CS/1w That the Council and Hartlepool NDC explore the possibility of entering into future projects geared towards training 'young advisers'.	Council and NDC supportive of the recommendation and keen to enter into any future opportunities of this nature if and when they arise. In addition, NDC recently conducted a consultation exercise around young people's well-being at Dyke House School. Young people identified peer mentors as a key mechanism to offer support, particularly to vulnerable children.	Julian Penton	01 Jul 2006	01 Jul 2006	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	Consequently, NDC has funded 25 peer mentors at Dyke House School for the 2006/7 school year.					
SCR-CS/1x The Forum supports the notion of making all Councillors and Resident Representatives 'Children's Champions'.	To be incorporated into the Participation Strategy.	John Robinson	01 Apr 2007	01 Apr 2007	23 Apr 2010 We will continue to provide support and training to Forum members and alert them to issues that require the support of "Children's Champions" in the future.	 Completed
SCR-CS/1x The Forum supports the notion of making all Councillors and Resident Representatives 'Children's Champions'.	Workshop on YP involvement in Scrutiny Process will give direction	John Robinson	01 Sep 2006	01 Sep 2006	23 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed






Year 2006/07**Investigation Raising Boys' Achievement - Bridging the Gender Gap**



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/2a That the Authority focuses its future strategies in relation to the raising of boys' achievement levels on boys' literacy and writing.	Identify boys' underachievement as a key priority in both Primary and Secondary Operational Plans.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	23 Apr 2010 Completed	 Completed
SCR-CS/2a That the Authority focuses its future strategies in relation to the raising of boys' achievement levels on boys' literacy and writing.	Implement specific actions as part of the primary and secondary national strategies programme which target intervention and support in underachieving pupils	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2007	01 Mar 2007	23 Apr 2010 Completed and action reviewed from September 2007	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	including boys.					
SCR-CS/2b That in addition to the Authority's Children's Services Departmental Action Plans.	Develop and agree an overarching strategy for raising boys' achievement	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	23 Apr 2010 An overarching strategy has been explored and is now felt not to be the most effective way forward. Instead planning for bridging the gender gap will be better tackled through targeted support and challenge in schools.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2b That in addition to the Authority's Children's Services Departmental Action Plans.	Agree with schools and other stakeholders including milestones for implementation.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	23 Apr 2010 An overarching strategy has been explored and is now felt not to be the most effective way forward. Instead planning for bridging the gender gap will be better tackled through targeted support and challenge in schools.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2c That a review be undertaken to ensure that an appropriate staffing structure is in place for the effective 'rolling out' of the Blended Learning Project across all Hartlepool schools.	Continue to develop the blended learning pilot for reading.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 The original cross phase Assessing Pupils Progress (APP) literacy group with Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) support is established and ongoing, being scaled up to include other schools. Numeracy group building on the work.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2c That a review be undertaken to ensure that an appropriate staffing structure is in place for the effective 'rolling out' of the Blended Learning Project across all Hartlepool schools.	Develop a writing pilot.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Pilot in place and ongoing.	 Completed


Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/2c That a review be undertaken to ensure that an appropriate staffing structure is in place for the effective 'rolling out' of the Blended Learning Project across all Hartlepool schools.	Brief Secondary and Primary Heads through Director's briefings and Primary / Secondary Strategy updates.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Complete.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2d That a review be undertaken to ascertain what, if anything can be done to strengthen the LA's transfer and transition arrangements, including the possible extension of use of the Transfer and Transition Self Evaluation Toolkit.	Improve the electronic transfer of information on pupils' learning needs, dependent by increasing the ICT capacity of schools.	Paul Wilkinson	31 Mar 2010	31 Mar 2010	27 Apr 2010 Not complete, dependant on development of Learning Platforms in schools. Agreement reached in principal with all secondary schools through managed services for ICT and BSF. Therefore, in line with BSF for learning platform. Original deadline Sept 2007.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2d That a review be undertaken to ascertain what, if anything can be done to strengthen the LA's transfer and transition arrangements, including the possible extension of use of the Transfer and Transition Self Evaluation Toolkit.	Secondary schools to complete the on-line self-evaluation monitored by LA/SIPs.	Paul Wilkinson	01 Sep 2007	01 Sep 2007	27 Apr 2010 Work ongoing. All schools familiar with the on line self evaluation, promoted through work with the secondary team and communicated through the School Improvement Partners (SIPs).	 Completed
SCR-CS/2e That a formal process be developed for the sharing of information and best practice to assist in the raising of boys' achievement levels across all schools in Hartlepool.	Further develop the collection and analysis of data by LA.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved. Analysis of data across the five phases is currently being undertaken for report on boys underachievement, for use with school improvement partners.	 Completed





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/2e That a formal process be developed for the sharing of information and best practice to assist in the raising of boys' achievement levels across all schools in Hartlepool.	Ensure underachievement by gender is a focus.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Data shared with schools. Grant108 funding allocated to secondary schls focusing on raising boys achievement. Planning with secondary schls for action research networks & links with work initiated by primary National Schl College Leadership learning network	 Completed
SCR-CS/2e That a formal process be developed for the sharing of information and best practice to assist in the raising of boys' achievement levels across all schools in Hartlepool.	Train schools in the use of RAISE online for tracking and interpreting data.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Dec 2009	23 Feb 2010 RAISE online is a national tool that is available for training but will be altered to respond to the 2 levels progress requirement from 2009. (March 09 Update) Awaiting information for national rollout and subsequent training from the Data team (December 09 Update) Schools have access to RAISE, but are currently awaiting training.	 Overdue
SCR-CS/2e That a formal process be developed for the sharing of information and best practice to assist in the raising of boys' achievement levels across all schools in Hartlepool.	Sharing good practice via SIPs and school reviews.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2e That a formal process be developed for the sharing of information and best practice to assist in the raising of	Create opportunities to share good practice locally, regionally and nationally.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Where good practice has been found this has been adopted or shared through an on-going process with schools and other agencies.	 Completed





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
boys' achievement levels across all schools in Hartlepool.						
SCR-CS/2f That the feasibility of establishing a Regional Network with Local Authorities to share best practice to relation to addressing the boys' underachievement issue be explored.	Use links with Gary Wilson, Doncaster gender co-ordinator and practitioners in Sunderland to explore possibilities and share good practice.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Completed. Gary Wilson conference well attended. Formal contact with other LAs to be established Sept. 07.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2g That ways of encouraging greater parental involvement in the education of boys' within schools across Hartlepool be explored.	Introduce a town-wide campaign to encourage parental support for pupils.	Ruth Chalkley	31 Dec 2008	31 Dec 2008	27 Apr 2010 Links with Family Literacy Co-ordinator established and joint work underway. Original deadline March 2008.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2g That ways of encouraging greater parental involvement in the education of boys' within schools across Hartlepool be explored.	Develop work with schools to involve parents in their children's education and progress with particular reference to vulnerable groups.	Ruth Chalkley	31 Dec 2008	31 Dec 2008	27 Apr 2010 Stronger links with Adult learning. Family learning Coordinator implemented courses aimed at vulnerable groups. More parents from vulnerable groups have been involved in Family Learning and some have achieved accreditation. Original deadline March 2008.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2g That ways of encouraging greater parental involvement in the education of boys' within schools across Hartlepool be explored.	Develop and establish links with other agencies.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Links with other agencies now established. Target achieved.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2h The Authority encourages schools with low levels of boys' achievement to become involved in the	Information shared with all schools on recent Breakthrough Programme publicity events.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Feb 2007	01 Feb 2007	27 Apr 2010 Achieved	 Completed





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
National Breakthrough Programme.						
SCR-CS/2i That the Authority explores with the National Breakthrough Programme the possibility of adopting a 'cluster' funding approach, to assist in the reduction of costs associated with participation in the programme.	Seek additional resources to support participation and discuss financial contributions from schools with headteachers.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Explored and proven to be too expensive to be purchased as an additional resource by schools.	 Completed
SCR-CS/2j That Elected Member involvement in the Primary School Enquiry Groups together with the creation of Secondary School Enquiry Groups be further explored.	Work with enquiry groups to create opportunities for elected members to participate in their work.	Ruth Chalkley	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved. Primary groups still in place but the new cycle of enquiry groups not yet begun. Conference with presentation of findings held in Nov 2007. Secondary groups being explored. Members to be invited to secondary groups when in place.	 Completed





Year 2006/07**Investigation** The Provision of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) in Hartlepool Schools

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/3a That all primary, secondary and specialist schools in Hartlepool be encouraged to provide SRE, as part of PSHE, and a uniform approach to its provision	Continue to deliver and develop local SRE programmes in all primary, secondary and special schools in Hartlepool: - APAUSE (Secondary)- Lucinda & Godfrey (Primary)-	Sandra Saint	01 Jul 2008	01 Jul 2008	27 Apr 2010 Training for staff in this area is on-going and continuous as the need/opportunity arises. Nov 08 - Position and progress in relation to this remains the same. An on-going process, now to be a	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
promoted, based upon the use of trained teachers.	Special SRE adaptations (Special) Utilising best practice (i) and (ii) and adding value by the use of external providers (iii)				statutory subject and training will be provided accordingly.	
SCR-CS/3b That the establishment of a working relationship with Millennium Volunteers and further education establishments in Hartlepool for the provision of SRE peer mentors be explored.	Explore opportunities for delivering Peer education with: - (i) Millennium Volunteers; and (ii) The College of FE.	Sandra Saint	01 May 2008	01 May 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved. Students from College of FE are being recruited to deliver peer education element of APAUSE. Delivery begin June 08. delivery commenced in Dyke House.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3c That parental involvement/awareness plays a crucial role in the effective provision of SRE and more emphasis should therefore be placed upon the use of external learning sources.	Delivery of 2 Speakeasy Courses	Sandra Saint	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved. 2 Courses delivered 12 parents have achieved accreditation.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3c That parental involvement/awareness plays a crucial role in the effective provision of SRE and more emphasis should therefore be placed upon the use of external learning sources.	Explore opportunities to develop capacity to deliver Speakeasy across the Town.	Sandra Saint	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Plans in place to use localities to roll-out Speakeasy across the town. Nov 08 - out of the 5 localities, 2 have completed, 2 are currently happening and 1 remains to be planned.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3c That parental	Offer all schools opportunity for SRE	Sandra Saint	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved. Available on request either	 Completed



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
involvement/awareness plays a crucial role in the effective provision of SRE and more emphasis should therefore be placed upon the use of external learning sources.	involvement at parents evenings				in person, display boards or leaflets. Nov 08 - discussions now around offering Speakeasy awareness as part of parents evenings in schools.	
SCR-CS/3d That in recognition of the sexual and emotional development of children and young people with special educational needs, work continues to be undertaken to develop, and modify, SRE materials.	Adapt the Lucinda & Godfrey primary SRE for use in Special schools (Springwell, Catcote).	Sandra Saint	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved. Lucinda + Godfrey carried out at Springwell and an SRE resource is currently being developed for use in Catcote School. Nov 08 - further input requested at Springwell. Training date to be arranged. Catcote resource currently being trialled.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3e/i That in order to further develop SRE provision in Hartlepool the Local Authority explore ways of improving the delivery of the 'relationship' element of SRE to better meet young people's needs.	Develop a local SRE resource for Secondary schools linked to the science curriculum and extending fact based lessons to include relationships.	Sandra Saint	01 Sep 2008	01 Sep 2008	27 Apr 2010 SRE programme developed, pilot school identified and staff training carried out (Dec 07). Nov 08 - pilot still running. Some issues with timetabling to facilitate delivery. Kate Watson liaising with the school.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3e/ii That in order to further develop SRE provision in Hartlepool the Local Authority explore the use of less formal language in the delivery of the 'APAUSE' programme.	Ensure that APUASE training includes recommended use of appropriate language	Sandra Saint	01 Jan 2008	01 Jan 2008	27 Apr 2010 Achieved. Language used in APAUSE is appropriate to group.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3e/iii That in order to further develop	Work being undertaken to ensure that APUASE	Sandra Saint	01 Jul 2008	01 Jul 2008	27 Apr 2010 To date: - 22(minus 2) Teachers	 Completed



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SRE provision in Hartlepool the Local Authority explore ways of improving training and support for SRE teachers, to encourage their participation.	training includes recommended use of appropriate language. Local and national PSHE CPD developed to ensure teachers participation.				achieved, 14 (minus 3) Nurses achieved. Currently underway: - 1 Teacher, A promotion of the national CPD Programme with Head teachers planned for the new year.	
SCR-CS/3e/iv That in order to further develop SRE provision in Hartlepool the Local Authority explore ways of ensuring the continuation of SRE provision between Years 7 and 8.	The development of the new local SRE resource will achieve this (See E)	Sandra Saint	01 Sep 2008	01 Sep 2008	27 Apr 2010 Nov 08 - pilot underway and being positively received. The independent evaluation of the primary resource has highlighted further the need to develop this.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3e/v That in order to further develop SRE provision in Hartlepool the Local Authority explore ways of increasing the current frequency of SRE provision within the curriculum.	Continue to raise awareness of the effectiveness of a spiral PSHE curriculum with all schools.	Sandra Saint	01 Jul 2007	01 Jul 2007	27 Apr 2010 Achieved and ongoing. Continuous promotion and included in new LAA. Nov 08 - continue to do this at every available opportunity.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3e/vi That in order to further develop SRE provision in Hartlepool the Local Authority explore the development of improved information/best practice sharing systems/processes for schools, including the provision of a central resource/query line.	Develop a SRE school network.	Sandra Saint	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 A possibility of using the local page of the National Healthy Schools Programme website to share good practice. Nov 08 - alternative direction being investigated.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3f That additional ways of assessing the	(i) Ensure that assessment is built into recommended	Sandra Saint	01 Jul 2009	01 Jul 2009	27 Apr 2010 Assessment CPD is planned as an on-going activity. It is also an	 Completed



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
effectiveness of SRE provision, including the introduction of a parental questionnaire and feedback forms for students following individual lessons, be explored.	programmes: Lucinda & Godfrey and APAUSE; (ii) Assessment is included in the Speakeasy programme; and (iii) Training for teachers in assessment in PSHE.				integral part of Healthy Schools which 100% of schools are now registered with. To be part of statutory PSHE education.	
SCR-CS/3g That the combining of external programmes, including the 'Time to Talk' and 'Speakeasy' programmes, with the 'APAUSE' system be explored.	Explore combining Speakeasy and APAUSE programmes.	Sandra Saint	01 Dec 2007	01 Dec 2007	27 Apr 2010 Following exploration of this it was found that it was not viable to 'combine' Speakeasy with APAUSE. However, will be working closely with Children's Centres & Extended Services.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3h That consideration be given to the renaming of 'Sex and Relationship Education' (SRE) to place primary emphasis upon the relationship aspect of provision within Hartlepool schools.	Consult with teachers, governors, parents, school nurses and young people in respect of changing the name of SRE.	Sandra Saint	01 Mar 2008	01 Mar 2008	27 Apr 2010 Title nationally determined. The 'relationships' aspect is a national focus.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3i That the current Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum meets with school governors to present the findings of this investigation and encourage 'buy in' for the provision of SRE.	Forum's Final Report included in the booklet of reports circulated to all governing bodies in September 2007.	Joan Stevens	01 Sep 2007	01 Sep 2007	27 Apr 2010 Complete.	 Completed
SCR-CS/3j That the young people who participated in the Focus Group Session on the 15 March 2007 be thanked for their	Letter circulated on behalf of the Forum.	Joan Stevens	01 Jul 2007	01 Jul 2007	27 Apr 2010 Letter circulated	 Completed


Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
involvement in the Forum's investigation.						

Year 2007/08**Investigation** Access to Recreation Facilities for Children and Young People in Hartlepool


Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/5a That a process be implemented to ensure that young people are fully supported to participate in the future development and provision of recreation activities in Hartlepool.	Children's services department will continue to support council departments to implement the seven vision statements for participation; In particular we will identify key staff involved in developing recreation facilities and provide targeted support to enhance current practice.	John Robinson	30 Apr 2010	30 Apr 2010	27 Apr 2010 Hartlepool now has a townwide young people's school forum and is developing a townwide primary school forum. These forums can be approached to give views on recreational activity. Target should be achieved April 2010 (original target 31 March 2009) We continue to achieve against this target with another successful 11 Million event. Our self assessment for positive contribution is level 4 (outstanding) and the council continues to work hard to involve children and young people.	 Completed
SCR-CS/5b That as part of any planned future recreation activities consideration be given to the use of 'pods' and youth shelters, with the close involvement of young people.	We will hold a seminar for stakeholder that includes councillors, young people and other Community members to discuss the issues and implications of youth shelters.	John Robinson	31 Jan 2009	31 Jan 2009	27 Apr 2010 We have been unable to progress this agenda as set out as the work has moved on to the development of a new skate park which has been achieved using the process described in the action. Young people did not ask for youth shelters and were more concerned with the skate boarding	 Cancelled



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					developments. This consultation has set a model for future developments that we can follow as it included all stakeholders in the community. If young people ask for youth shelters through Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) or other forums we will re-establish this project. In the meantime this target will not be met.	
SCR-CS/5b That as part of any planned future recreation activities consideration be given to the use of 'pods' and youth shelters, with the close involvement of young people.	We will support the development of a corporate strategy for the use of youth shelters and other community based facilities for young people that link with other community focussed initiatives such as local area forums and neighbourhood action plans.	John Robinson	31 Mar 2009	31 Mar 2009	27 Apr 2010 A number of consultations have taken place in 2009 regarding facilities for young people. The Myplace consultation, Play Builders, and the Skatepark development have all given opportunities to young people to talk about facilities that they want access to. Youth Shelters were not brought up in any of these consultations. This would suggest that the youth shelter option is not one that is currently seen as required or wanted by young people. Children's Services will continue to monitor this.	 Completed
SCR-CS/5c That an action plan be produced that explores ways of addressing the barriers to accessing recreation activities for young people, as outlined in	Children's Services currently have a strategic group undertaking work on the Public Service Agreement 14 and will include work on the	Tracy Liveras	30 Jan 2009	30 Jan 2009	27 Apr 2010 Community Action Group now set up and will meet on a 3 monthly basis (original deadline November 2008).	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
the report (Section 9 refers).	barriers outlined in Section 9. The Hartlepool Community Activities Group is supporting the development of sports and recreation for children and young people. An action plan will be developed connecting the work of these two groups with the play strategy for Hartlepool.					
SCR-CS/5d That further work be undertaken to increase the marketing of recreation activities to target all young people, and their families across Hartlepool.	We will develop the work of the Family Information Service to include all services and recreational activities that are open to children and young people.	Penny Thompson	31 Mar 2009	31 Mar 2009	27 Apr 2010 The Families Information Service Hartlepool (FISH) now promotes all services, activities and facilities to children and young people aged 0-19 years. This is done through a range of media including the new school holiday booklets which advise what's on.	 Completed
SCR-CS/5e That, in recognition of the availability of transport as a barrier to access, the introduction of free bus passes to young people be supported and the practical feasibility of such a scheme explored.	The Integrated Transport Team has established an Integrated Transport Sub Group and Theme Group which reports to the Integrated Transport Steering Group. All matters relating to transport are discussed at the Children's Services Themed meeting which will lead on this action and report progress back to scrutiny.	Mike Blair	31 Mar 2009	31 Mar 2009	27 Apr 2010 Work has identified that Children with Special Needs are particularly disadvantaged. The review of alternative provision such as Dial a Ride & the development of Independent Travel Training is being considered as a solution to the current difficulties.	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/5f That the Local Authority works in partnership with organised groups to ensure that they are fully aware of the funding / assistance available to them, and how it can be accessed, to improve their long term sustainability.	We will work with Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency to ensure that a process is in place to ensure that all voluntary and community sector groups have access to support.	John Robinson	31 Mar 2009	31 Mar 2009	27 Apr 2010 Now in place and target achieved. HVDA and Community Network sit on the Children's Trust and have a place in strategic planning. A commissioning forum is in place with third sector providers and the grant givers programme is well established to support young people with funding.	 Completed

Year 2007/08**Investigation** Sustainability of Externally Funded Community Initiatives in Schools

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/4a That a joint Steering Group between the Children Services Department and the Adult and Community Services Department be established to further explore the proposed recommendations of the Independent Sports Consultant.	<p>Rather than establish a new joint Steering Group, in light of the wide reaching nature of community facilities, and the current schools transformation programme, it is suggested that this is referred to the Schools Transformation Extended Project Team.</p> <p>This team meets regularly and has representatives from all departments and a separate "Extended Services Work stream", a sub group of the main project team, has recently been established. This should</p>	Steve Haley	31 Dec 2008	31 Dec 2008	<p>21 Apr 2010 The position regarding all school based Community Facilities has been reviewed and budgets are being prepared as part of the annual school budget setting process.</p> <p>23 Feb 2010 The position regarding existing schemes has been stabilised following reports to the Schools Forum in October 2008. The Council's imminent restructuring will create a "Peoples Department" and issues regarding the sustainability of existing and any new school based community facilities will be reviewed as part of the Business Transformation Service Delivery Review process.</p>	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	ensure that a Borough wide view is formed regarding all community facilities.					
SCR-CS/4b That all schools that currently operate community initiatives undertake a three year financial forecast and business plan of the viability of each facility that outlines charging policies, usage levels and scheme objectives.	<p>The Children's Services Finance team has commenced preparatory work to establish the current financial position for each scheme. Each school which operates a community facility will then be visited to discuss financial viability over the short/medium term.</p> <p>In addition, the relevant section of the local scheme for financing schools which covers the set up and operation of community facilities is being reviewed in line with latest DCSF guidance and best practise. The scheme will be re-launched via the Schools Forum.</p>	Steve Haley	30 Sep 2008	30 Sep 2008	<p>27 Apr 2010 Each school operating a facility has been visited and 3 year financial plans have been drawn up which assess sustainability. A review of the legislative background has been undertaken and relevant guidance was issued to the 10th October Schools Forum. School Finance Officers are currently reviewing 2009/10 community facility budgets which have been submitted to the LA along with the school budgets agreed by Governors.</p>	 Completed
SCR-CS/4c That pending the outcome(s) of the joint Steering Group (recommendation (a) refers) immediate consideration be given to providing assistance to those schemes that are likely to encounter future sustainability	After business plans and financial forecasts have been prepared and agreed with schools it will be possible to identify sustainability issues and quantify the level of any subsidies that may be required from the LA in future years.	Steve Haley	31 Oct 2008	31 Oct 2008	<p>21 Apr 2010 Only two school based community facilities have immediate financial sustainability concerns. Brierleyton Sports Centre is experiencing</p>	 Overdue

funding shortfalls due to the school closure - this will be alleviated when Dyke House school decants in September 2010. St John

LEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
issue.	Any bids will then be submitted as part of the Council's annual budget cycle.				<p>Vianney early years facilities continue to operate at a deficit - this is currently being reviewed with the school and early years manager.</p> <p>23 Feb 2010 A contingency provision of up to £100,000 per year was secured by the Children's Services Department as part of its 2009/10 budget submission. This will be made available to subsidise those facilities who have demonstrated that, despite taking all appropriate actions, they are unable to break even financially. Following closure of the 2008/09 accounts no schemes carried forward deficits but there are at least 2 schemes which may require funding this year.</p>	
SCR-CS/4d That the findings of this investigation be brought to the attention of school governing bodies to raise awareness of the issue and the proposed way forward.	Agreed. This will also be reported to the Schools Forum and a training package will be developed by the Children's Services Finance Team covering the financial implications of Community Facilities.	Steve Haley	30 Apr 2009	30 Apr 2009	<p>21 Apr 2010 Schools have been setting separate COMFAC budgets during 2009/10 and are advised on this by School Finance Officers.</p> <p>23 Feb 2010 Following the School Forum's acceptance of the LA's guidance at the 8th October meeting individual letters have been sent to relevant Headteachers clarifying actions required. The local scheme for financing schools has been updated.</p>	<div>100%</div> Completed



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					The requirement for schools to prepare medium term financial forecasts for community facilities along side main school budgets is being embedded this year by School Finance Officers.	



Year 2008/09

Investigation Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason




Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/7a/i That supported accommodation providers be encouraged to set up more facilities in the Town.	Discussions take place as part of the Business Transformation Programme to explore the viability of converting existing Council owned property into appropriate supported accommodation for young people.	Jim Murdoch	31 Mar 2011	31 Mar 2011	09 Apr 2010 A large national organisation have been in discussion with Housing Aid Staff with a view to opening a new supported accommodation facility. However, discussions on finance have not been concluded.	<div>25%</div> Assigned
					23 Feb 2010 Despite efforts to attract potential providers, none have so far expressed an interest. It is still too early to identify any possible Council owned property that may become vacant and hence be considered for use as supported accommodation for young people.	
SCR-CS/7a/i That supported accommodation providers be encouraged to set up more facilities in the	Advice and guidance on recommended consultation methods to be developed and supplied to supported accommodation	Jim Murdoch	31 Jan 2010	31 Jan 2010	12 Jul 2010 The national provider is still involved in consultation and has used the advice of the council and that advice would be available to every future	<div>100%</div> Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
Town.	providers prior to the development of a scheme.				potential provider.	
					09 Apr 2010 Recent discussions with a national provider that is considering opening a facility accepted advance advice on consultation methods offered by Housing Advice Team.	
					23 Feb 2010 Joint work by the Housing Advice Team & Commissioning staff of Child & Adult Services department should produce guidance within the time scale.	
SCR-CS/7a/ii That supported accommodation providers be encouraged to set up more facilities in the Town, although before this occurs: - (ii) Any scheme should include the provision of at least one if not two emergency beds or 'crash pads'.	The success of the 'crash pad' at Gainford House will be reviewed as part of the Supporting People review and evidenced as good practice for existing / future schemes to encourage further provision.	Lynda Igoe	30 Apr 2012	30 Apr 2012	<p>09 Apr 2010 The crash pad at Gainford has been well used since being developed and provided much needed assistance in homeless prevention particularly in providing respite whilst mediation with family is ongoing. However more often it has been used for longer periods than was originally envisaged and as temporary accommodation whilst the young person is waiting for a vacancy in a suitable supported accommodation scheme.</p> <p>23 Feb 2010 Discussions with Centrepoin, the national youth homelessness charity, are ongoing with a view to them developing a direct access supported accommodation unit for homeless young</p>	<div> <div>50%</div> Assigned </div>

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					people in Hartlepool. If successful this will include at least one 'crash pad'. The 'crash pad' at Gainford House has been well used since it opened in March 2009 and a full analysis report will be produced after 12 months of operation and be available in April 2010.	
SCR-CS/7b That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living.	Specific housing needs will be identified for each young person leaving care via their Pathway Plan.	Jim Murdoch	31 Jul 2009	31 Jul 2009	27 Apr 2010 This is being achieved currently by staff of the Leaving Care Team.	 Completed
SCR-CS/7b That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living.	Trends of need to be reported and used in planning for new provision.	Jim Murdoch	30 Sep 2009	28 Feb 2010	<p>12 Jul 2010 A Supported Lodgings Scheme has been commissioned and placements were made available from 1st July 2010 thus expanding the range of placements for Care Leavers. Specific guidance has been prepared for all Care Leavers and is used with them during the transition to independent living.</p> <p>09 Apr 2010 The annual report of the Leaving care Team was received by the Corporate Parent Forum in February 2010. They also received a separate report on the Housing needs of young people including care leavers and homeless 16 & 17 year olds. A quarterly report is prepared on the same issues for the Business Unit.</p>	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					23 Feb 2010 The trends will be reported to the Corporate Parenting Forum at their meeting in February 2010 along with the rest of the Leaving Care Annual Report.	
SCR-CS/7b That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living.	Create and maintain a directory of all housing providers.	Jim Murdoch	31 Dec 2009	31 Dec 2009	27 Apr 2010 Supporting People section have completed this task	 Completed
SCR-CS/7b That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living.	The viability of the jointly funded Young Person's Accommodation Officer (currently temporary) being reviewed as a permanent appointment.	Jim Murdoch	31 Oct 2009	31 Oct 2010	12 Jul 2010 It has not yet been possible for the funding streams to be agreed on a permanent basis but further work is continuing to identify how it might be achieved. In the meantime, some of the work is being done by the Through Care Team.	 Assigned
					09 Apr 2010 It has not yet been possible for funding arrangements to be clarified - due to the Business Transformation work within the department. A recent decision about the responsibility for the Youth Offending Service moving to the Child & Adult Department will help in this matter as budgets will be within the same department.	
					23 Feb 2010 A detailed report is being considered by Senior Managers currently. A central difficulty is converting the post to a	

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					permanent one while it is funded by grants and at a time when Business transformation is happening.	
SCR-CS/7b That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living.	Provide out of hours telephone access for urgent advice to Care Leavers.	Jim Murdoch	30 Sep 2009	30 Sep 2009	27 Apr 2010 This service has already started.	<div><div>100%</div></div> Completed
SCR-CS/7c/i That the Children's Services and the Regeneration and Planning Services Departments examine Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's 'Homelessness Strategy 2008-2011'	Hartlepool's Homelessness Strategy is currently being reviewed and will be produced for 2009-12 presented to Cabinet for approval by March 2010. The prevention of homelessness amongst young people is key within our existing strategy and will continue to be a high priority, any identified good practice will be incorporated.	Lynda Igoe	31 Mar 2010	31 Mar 2010	<p>21 Jul 2010 Draft Strategy and Action Plan approved by Cabinet in June, recommendation for Action Plan to be produced as a separate document and updated annually, final minor amendments to be made to documents prior to publication will be approved by Portfolio holder. Documents to be finalised and published by September.</p> <p>09 Apr 2010 Delays with the consultation process has pushed the completion of the Strategy back and this is now in the Forward Plan to be presented to Cabinet for approval in June.</p> <p>23 Feb 2010 Work on the Homelessness Strategy is progressing well and will produce a Strategy document for the next 5 years, 2010-15. Formal consultation on the draft document will take place during January and February 2010 with the final</p>	<div><div>95%</div></div> Overdue



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					Stratgey document being presented to Cabinet for approval in March 2010.	
SCR-CS/7c/ii That the Children's Services and the Regeneration and Planning Services Departments examine Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's 'Homelessness Strategy 2008-2011'	Funding will be applied for from Supporting People and the Council's budget process as appropriate.	Penny Garner-Carpenter	31 Jan 2012	31 Jan 2012	27 Apr 2010 Done as and when, eg Centrepont proposal for supported housing includes SP funding	 Completed
SCR-CS/7d/i That during the planning stages for new housing developments in Hartlepool: - (i) Consideration be given to appropriate accommodation for young people.	The Strategic Housing Market Assessment was completed in Hartlepool in 2007 and throughout the sub region in January 2009, and the needs and aspirations of young people are specifically taken into account. This will be a key feature in future assessments which are carried out approximately every three years.	Penny Garner-Carpenter	31 Jan 2011	31 Jan 2011	27 Apr 2010 Included in all assessments eg currently major element of Homelessness Strategy - including consultation with young homeless people.	 Completed
SCR-CS/7d/ii That during the planning stages for new housing developments in Hartlepool: - (ii) Young people are consulted about accommodation that would be appropriate for their needs.	In addition to 7d/ii and as part of recommendation 7a, that consideration will be given to the training of young people to be involved in the conversion of existing Council buildings to supported accommodation provision.	Jim Murdoch	31 Mar 2011	31 Mar 2011	<p>12 Jul 2010 The consultation system continues to be used for other issues e.g. Supported Lodgings Scheme that started in July 2010 and could easily be used for any Housing developments in future.</p> <p>09 Apr 2010 A well established mechanism for consultation with young people on other issues will provide an easily used</p>	 Assigned






Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					mechanism whenever a suitable housing development is being considered.	
					23 Feb 2010 Preliminary work with young people has identified a willingness to participate in this piece of work by them.	


Year 2008/09

Investigation Hartlepool Borough Council's Foster Care Service

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/6a That the current review of Hartlepool Borough Council's Foster Care Service be completed as a matter of urgency in order to stabilise recruitment and retention difficulties.	Team Manager has been appointed, new manager will take up post in January 2009. Once social work post has been filled, further advert will be posted January 2009. Upon taking post, team manager will produce a detailed service development plan.	Jim Murdoch	31 Jan 2009	31 Jan 2010	12 Jul 2010 The Looked After Strategy included the review of the fostering service. The implementation of the changes are underway.	<div>100%</div> Completed
					09 Apr 2010 The development plan has been agreed and started to be implemented. The recent freeze on recruitment has now been lifted and the last part time post is about to be advertised. The team appear settled with recent additions settling in well.	
					23 Feb 2010 Interviews for Social Worker posts are on 27th July. Draft service development plan will be circulated for consultation with stakeholders w/c 20th July 2009. Two staff appointed internally in July	


Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					but their transfer was delayed due to difficulty in recruiting their replacements. The draft Service development Plan has been included in the revision of the Looked After Strategy document being prepared by the whole Division and is due to be produced by January 2010.	
SCR-CS/6b That innovative approaches in the future marketing of the foster care service be further explored.	Matching Needs and Services exercise to be completed profiling children becoming looked after to identify gaps in existing provision.	Keith Munro	31 Dec 2009	31 Dec 2009	27 Apr 2010 Matching Needs to Services" exercises completed for Sept 07/March 08 & April 08/March 09. The Templates for collecting quantitative & qualitative data have been established for future years. Quantitative and Qualitative data is being used to improve service delivery e.g. role of support workers. (original deadline 31 March 09)	 Completed
SCR-CS/6b That innovative approaches in the future marketing of the foster care service be further explored.	Updated recruitment strategy to be produced benchmarking best practice nationally and exploring new ideas and mediums for advertising.	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas	01 Jun 2009	01 Jun 2009	27 Apr 2010 Issue highlighted within service development plan. Programme of advertising through local press (Hartlepool Mail (including website), Hartlepool Star, Street, Hartbeat) arranged. Consultation with Council's PR Department led to article in Hartlepool Mail for Fostering Fortnight. Joint publicity event held with preferred provider. Advertising on parking tickets arranged. Stand	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					manned at Dockfest. Meeting held with Hartlepool Radio to discuss opportunities. (original deadline 31 March 09)	
SCR-CS/6b That innovative approaches in the future marketing of the foster care service be further explored.	Targeted recruitment campaign to be undertaken.	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas	30 Apr 2009	31 Dec 2009	23 Feb 2010 Information has been collected and a draft Recruitment Strategy written. Finalised version to be produced by the end of December 2009 and become part of the overall Looked After Children's strategy.	 13% Overdue
SCR-CS/6c That the delivery of future training programmes for New Foster Carers.	Review of foster care training programme to be completed and new training programme and schedule produced.	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas	01 Jun 2009	01 Jun 2009	27 Apr 2010 Training plan and schedule complied.	 100% Completed
SCR-CS/6c That the delivery of future training programmes for New Foster Carers.	Meeting to be held with preferred provider partner to explore joint foster carer training arrangements.	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas	01 Jun 2009	01 Jun 2009	27 Apr 2010 Meeting held with preferred provider on 26 June 2009.	 100% Completed
SCR-CS/6c That the delivery of future training programmes for New Foster Carers.	Tees Valley fostering managers group to revisit opportunities for new foster carers to access training courses across the authorities.	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas	01 Jun 2009	01 Jun 2009	27 Apr 2010 On-going communication between neighbouring authorities and Sahara regarding training opportunities for foster carers.	 100% Completed
SCR-CS/6d That the Foster Care Service Section on the Council's website be redesigned to make it a more accessible and comprehensive source of information.	Consultation undertaken with foster carers about what would be required from a web page. Benchmark national best practice examples. Web pages to be updated and redesigned taking	Jacky Yeaman-Vaas	01 Jun 2009	01 Jun 2010	23 Feb 2010 Issue identified within service development plan and work on-going to develop areas identified in action. Hartlepool Borough Council website to be re-launched by end of 2009 and will inform further development of web pages.	 13% Overdue

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	above into consideration and seeking advice and guidance on 'what works' from web designers. Work to be undertaken with departmental website representatives in conjunction with additional corporate advice to explore ways to promote a short cut link to fostering pages, and upload information packs and application forms.					
SCR-CS/6e That where a child is placed within his/her family, support services be made immediately accessible, including the provision of financial support, prior to the formalisation of a Kinship Care Arrangement.	Practice Manual currently in development to incorporate this recommendation as part of family support procedures.	John Robinson	31 Jan 2009	31 Jan 2009	27 Apr 2010 Implemented and achieved	 Completed

Year 2009/10

Investigation Targeted and Detached Youth Work Provision in Hartlepool

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/8a That officers be commended on the provision of detached and targeted youth work in Hartlepool.	The recommendations of the scrutiny investigation are disseminated to the youth work team at the next opportunity.	Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	08 Jul 2010 Due for completion during training week (first week in September)	 Assigned

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-CS/8b That the provision of a larger bus on a shared (time) basis with partner organisations/bodies be explored.	Complete needs analysis with potential partners in relation to shared use.	Steve Sproston; Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	18 Aug 2010 Conference into mobile provision has been attended and dates for meetings with local partners have been scheduled.	<div><div></div></div> 7% Assigned
SCR-CS/8b That the provision of a larger bus on a shared (time) basis with partner organisations/bodies be explored.	Complete feasibility study into the provision of larger bus and assess cost	Steve Sproston; Beth Storey	31 Dec 2010	31 Dec 2010	08 Jul 2010 Progressing well - have gained information from other local authority providers and are attending a mobile youth provision conference on 24th July. Have also met with LA transport officers.	<div><div></div></div> 9% Assigned
SCR-CS/8b That the provision of a larger bus on a shared (time) basis with partner organisations/bodies be explored.	Seek to address resource implications through additional funding and partnerships.	Steve Sproston; Beth Storey	31 Mar 2011	31 Mar 2011	08 Jul 2010 Have made initial enquiries with local partners who have mobile provision.	<div><div></div></div> 11% Assigned
SCR-CS/8c There is no 'one size fits all' method of providing services and consideration needs to be given to how services can be provided for young people to 'chill out' with friends in an environment where they are not moved on by other agencies.	Re-assessment of myplace data.	Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	08 Jul 2010 A review of youth work provision is taking place as part of the development of the youth offer in Hartlepool	<div><div></div></div> 7% Assigned
SCR-CS/8c There is no 'one size fits all' method of providing services and consideration needs to be given to how services can be provided for young	Assessment of generic/youth club/drop in/mobile provision for young people aged 13-19 on a geographical basis including 3rd sector delivery.-Seek to	Mark Smith; Beth Storey	31 Mar 2011	31 Mar 2011	08 Jul 2010 to be addressed as part of youth offer	<div><div></div></div> 25% Assigned

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
people to 'chill out' with friends in an environment where they are not moved on by other agencies.	address via prioritisation of areas with gaps in commissioning/partner ship work.					
SCR-CS/8c There is no 'one size fits all' method of providing services and consideration needs to be given to how services can be provided for young people to 'chill out' with friends in an environment where they are not moved on by other agencies.	Redeployment of detached/mobile provision at appropriate intervals. (Fens)	Steve Sproston; Beth Storey	28 Feb 2011	28 Feb 2011	08 Jul 2010 A review of current deployment has taken place that takes into account the current trends of where young people are (King George playing fields and Seaton Carew) and provision has been moved accordingly. This has also taken account of other youth provision developments such as the facility at Wharton Annexe. This will be completed when the staff team are up to capacity.	<div><div>41%</div></div> Assigned
SCR-CS/8d That as a means of developing working relationship/routes of communication between young people, police and partner agencies the introduction of formal 'get togethers' to let both sides to come to a better understand each other to be explored.	Deliver actions on Anti Social behaviour Unit Young Inspector report.	Beth Storey; Juliette Ward	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	19 Aug 2010 Inspection completed 28/1/10. 5 main recommendations -one being around young people's consultation, informing young people of their rights in relation to legislation, a different entrance other than the police station, prominent sign outside so it is clear to young people and work with PCSOs in relation to the visibility of young people in communities. This relates to other actions under the scrutiny action plan. A progress report from the anti social behaviour is due.	<div><div>77%</div></div> Assigned
SCR-CS/8d That as a	Review police	Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	18 Aug 2010 Provision of	<div><div>53%</div></div> Assigned

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
means of developing working relationship/routes of communication between young people, police and partner agencies the introduction of formal 'get togethers' to let both sides to come to a better understand each other to be explored.	involvement in Youth Service provision.				training through IYSS to PCSO's is in the process of being developed.	
					08 Jul 2010 Some development has occurred with meeting on a local basis. A full review will be completed on target dates.	
SCR-CS/8d That as a means of developing working relationship/routes of communication between young people, police and partner agencies the introduction of formal 'get togethers' to let both sides to come to a better understand each other to be explored.	Explore the feasibility of further training to Police and Community Support Officers (PCSO's) in working with young people.	Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	18 Aug 2010 In the process of being developed.	<div><div></div></div> Assigned
SCR-CS/8e That in the changing economic climate, ways be explored to encourage partner organisations/bodies and the wider community to support the provision and development of services that are sustainable beyond any possible budgetary cuts.	Offer training opportunities through service programme to support the development of skills in the third sector (including management development programme).	Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	18 Aug 2010 Programme is developed and has been disseminated to the voluntary sector. Hard copies will go out during training week.	<div><div></div></div> Assigned
					08 Jul 2010 Programme is currently in development and will be published to the service and third sector by September	
SCR-CS/8e That in the changing economic climate, ways be	Offer volunteers placement opportunities and	Andrew Hebron; Sue Skelton; Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	18 Aug 2010 A review of placements and monitoring process in the IYSS has	<div><div></div></div> Assigned

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
explored to encourage partner organisations/ bodies and the wider community to support the provision and development of services that are sustainable beyond any possible budgetary cuts.	review arrangements with Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency (HVDA).				taken place. Presentations to working links and other providers has produced another cohort of volunteers. Support to volunteers both in statutory and voluntary sectors via training book.	
SCR-CS/8e That in the changing economic climate, ways be explored to encourage partner organisations/ bodies and the wider community to support the provision and development of services that are sustainable beyond any possible budgetary cuts.	Offer support to voluntary groups in relation to quality assurance and professional support.	Beth Storey	31 Mar 2011	31 Mar 2011	<p>18 Aug 2010 Quality assurance has been completed on the weekend working projects with all projects receiving an observation.</p> <p>08 Jul 2010 In discussions with commissioned groups around qa and support. They will be included in Peer inspection. Organisations from third sector receiving support through weekend working will be scheduled for observation and offered the appropriate support.</p>	<div> <div></div> 50% </div> Assigned
SCR-CS/8e That in the changing economic climate, ways be explored to encourage partner organisations/ bodies and the wider community to support the provision and development of services that are sustainable beyond any possible budgetary cuts.	Development of coordinating positive activities group.	Daniel Cleary; Beth Storey	30 Jun 2011	30 Jun 2011	08 Jul 2010 Capacity issues have led to this development being delayed. Will look to start group in September.	<div> <div></div> 1% </div> Assigned
SCR-CS/8f That ways of improving advertising	Appointment of weekend working	Beth Storey	30 Apr 2010	30 Apr 2010	08 Jul 2010 Worker appointed and inducted.	<div> <div></div> 100% </div> Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
of youth services be explored further, including the use of advertising space in & on council property or buildings.	coordinator to publicise weekend offer.				Currently working on publicity offer through schools and wider publicity networks.	
SCR-CS/8f That ways of improving advertising of youth services be explored further, including the use of advertising space in & on council property or buildings.	Review 13 to 19 advertising on Families Information Service website.	Daniel Cleary; Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	18 Aug 2010 Progress to date has been slow although some consultation has taken place.	<div><div></div></div> Assigned
SCR-CS/8f That ways of improving advertising of youth services be explored further, including the use of advertising space in & on council property or buildings.	Review effective methods of publicising to young people and the wider community.	Daniel Cleary; Beth Storey	30 Sep 2010	30 Sep 2010	18 Aug 2010 Leaflets produced on weekend working and distributed to schools, through council buildings and in Hartbeat for weekend and wider offer.	<div><div></div></div> Assigned

Who are Young Inspectors?

- Young inspectors are a group of young people who get together on a regular basis. We decide on a service which we think is suitable to inspect which young people use and try to make that service better.
- In the past year we have inspected a number of services including; anti social behaviour unit, mill house swimming baths, summer hill, CAMHS and connexions.
- When we go to a service we look around, take notes and interview members of staff. The group then meet up to talk about the service, and write a report showing, strengths and areas for development, and recommendations which we noticed whilst being there. When we have finished the report it then goes back to the service so that they can put the recommendations in place and be able to make their service more welcoming and more young people friendly.
- We then re-visit the services after six months to check if the recommendations have been put in place. If the service is still in poor condition, we would warn the manager that if it is not corrected as soon as possible, any future funding could be jeopardised and they will have to explain to the National Children's Bureau there reasons for this .

United kingdom Youth Parliament

- UKYP, is the United Kingdom Youth Parliament.
- MYP – stands for Member of Youth Parliament. This person is voted in by other young people. As an elected member of the group they get the chance to represent and give a voice to the young people throughout the town.
- Deputy MYP -Is the person who has the second highest amount of votes. They work along side the MYP in giving a voice to young people in Hartlepool.
- Together as a group from different schools, and different age groups, we came up with what we feel are important topics for young people in Hartlepool as well as having some FUN along the way!

Aims of the report

We have chosen social networking because we think it is an important topic for young people. A lot of young people use social networking as a way of communicating with each other and sharing important information.

Its not only used by young people though, adults also use it!

For those of you who are not familiar with what social networking is, here are some examples; facebook, twitter, my space, msn, email, texting etc.

One of the most popular and cost effective ways of social networking for young people is probably facebook and we have created a test page to show you what it is all about > www.facebook.com.

Who will be involved in our report

The main focus of our report will be other young people, we want to find out their thoughts and ideas about social networking. These will include young people from the bme projects, hart gables and other town wide youth projects.

We will also be contacting councillors, school's and other services that have used social networks in the past to gain there views and experiences.

We would like to question the mayor and portfolio holder on what they think about social networking and how safe it is to use.

Above all we will be using our own experiences and examples as young people who have used social networking in the past.

Sources we will use

- DCFS
- Facebook
- Twitter
- My Space
- MSN
- St Hild's cyber survey
- relevant websites and internet documents
- Hartlepool borough council safe guarding document
- NSPCC.

Safe guarding

Our overall aim is to use social networking as a way to encourage and inform young people of council services that can be useful to them and how they can become involved in the shaping of these services.

However, we understand the need to have some safe guarding procedures in place if we are to use social networking safely for young people.

We hope by the end of our investigation into social networking we can come up with a suitable way to use sites like facebook as a way to inform young people what services are out there in the safest way possible.