

## **CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD**

21 December 2010

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor Cath Hill (Children's Services Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Caroline O'Neill, Assistant Director of Children's Services  
(Performance & Achievement)  
Alan Dobby, Assistant Director (Support Services)  
Lynne Pawley, Senior Schools Improvement Advisor  
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

### **16. Special Educational Needs (SEN) Policy** *(Assistant Director of Children's Services (Performance & Achievement))*

#### **Type of Decision**

Non key

#### **Purpose of Report**

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the updated Local Authority SEN policy which was attached to the report and to seek approval to publish it on the council website.

#### **Issues for Consideration**

The current Local Authority SEN Policy was last updated in 2001. Following the retirement of two senior officers which expertise in this area, the policy had been reviewed. The draft policy had been circulated to all Head Teachers and was agreed by Secondary Heads on 24 November 2010 and by Primary heads on 30 November 2010.

It was highlighted that for the first time, financial information had been made publicly available in relation to the level of funding per school in Hartlepool.

#### **Decision**

The Portfolio Holder approved the updated policy which would be published on the Council's website.

## **17. Children's Services Departmental Plan Quarter 2 Progress Report** *(Assistant Director – Support Services)*

### **Type of Decision**

Non key.

### **Purpose of Report**

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made towards achieving Children's Services Departmental Plan actions, performance indicators (PIs) and risks for the period to 30 September 2010.

### **Issues for Consideration**

The report summarised progress over the second quarter of 2010/11 on the actions, performance indicators and risks within the Children's Services priorities of the Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan 2010/11.

The Portfolio Holder was informed that one action had required intervention and this was in relation to the under 18 conception rate. An Action Plan had been put in place in partnership with health colleagues to tackle the issue through a range of initiatives.

Current Performance Indicators were on track or target achieved however further PIs were reported annually.

In relation to risk monitoring 5 were currently identified as 'red' all in relation to withdrawing of funding. These risks would be reviewed for the next quarter.

### **Decision**

The Portfolio Holder noted:-

- progress made towards completing actions and performance indicator targets during the second quarter of 2010/11
- actions taken in relation to areas of delivery which were seen to be high risk at present

The meeting concluded at 10.08 am.

**P J DEVLIN**  
**CHIEF SOLICITOR**  
**PUBLICATION DATE: 24 December 2010**