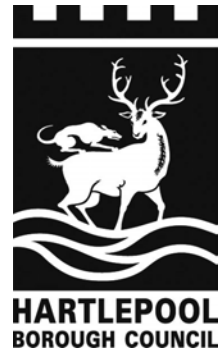


CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Tuesday 19 July 2011

at 4.30 pm

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

Councillors Fleet, Griffin, Ingham, Lauderdale, Maness, Simmons, P Thompson, Wells and Wilcox.

Co-opted Members: Eira Ballingall, David Relton and 1 vacancy

Resident Representatives: Joan Steel, and 2 vacancies.

Young People's Representatives:
Hanna Bew, Ashleigh Bostock, Bianca Gascoigne and Kim Henry

School Council Representatives:
Two vacancies

- 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 22 March 2011.
- 4. RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM**
 - 4.1 Portfolio Holder's response on the:-

- (a) Investigation into 'Think Family - Preventative and Early Intervention Services' - Joint Report of the Director of Child and Adult Services and the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
 - (b) Investigation into 'Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services including the Safeguarding of Young People' - Joint Report of the Director of Child and Adult Services and the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
- 4.2 Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services, including the Safeguarding of Young People - Progress Report - Scrutiny Support Officer
- 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**
 - 6.1 Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011/ 12 – Director of Child and Adult Services
- 7. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**
 - 7.1 Role of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum - *Scrutiny Support Officer*
 - 7.2 Children's Services Scrutiny Forum - Work Programme for 2011/12 - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS) BUDGET CONSULTATION

 - 7.3 CAMHS - Scoping Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT BUDGET CONSULTATION

 - 7.4 Home to School Transport - Scoping Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*
 - 7.5 Home to School Transport Budget Consultation - Setting the Scene:-
 - (a) Covering Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*
 - (b) Presentation - Assistant Director of Performance and Achievement

7.6 Appointment to Outside Bodies – *Assistant Chief Executive*

8. **ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN**

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

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- i) **Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 6 September 2011, commencing at 4.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

22 March 2011

The meeting commenced at 4.30 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Chris Simmons (In the Chair)

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

Co-opted Members:
Eira Ballingall

Resident Representatives:
Joan Steel and Hilda Wales

Young Peoples Representatives:
Ashleigh Bostock, Danielle O'Keefe, Elise Hanna, Millie Allan, Hannah Bew and Robyn Reid

Officers: Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services
John Robinson, Parent Commissioner
Ian Merritt, Strategic Commissioner, Children's Services
Juliette Ward, Participation Worker
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

73. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mary Fleet and John Lauderdale and co-opted member David Relton.

74. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

75. Minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2011

Confirmed.

In relation to minute 67, the Chair clarified that the comment relating to ex-service people joining the teaching profession was meant to highlight that these appointments would not automatically result in discipline problems within schools being solved.

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

None.

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

None.

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

None.

79. Draft Final Report – Youth Involvement/Participation (*Young People's Representatives*)

The young people in attendance presented a report which detailed the findings of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's investigation into 'Youth Involvement/Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services, including the Safeguarding of Young People.

The report highlighted work already being undertaken by the local authority utilising social networking in relation to communicating events and activities to young people in a safe and appropriate way. The report recognised that as there would always be risks when using social networking as a method of communication, the young people felt that it was vital that the Council had a clear policy and guidance in place for all Departments to abide by.

The recommendations from the report were as follows:

- (i) Some clear policy and guidance put in place for all departments within the Council to follow.
- (ii) Have a standard procedure – departments should not go ahead and do this on their own.
- (iii) Closed sites that cannot be commented on or someone to be responsible for the site 24 hours a day. This would include fast and effective takedown procedures.
- (iv) Employers should have basic legal training. If not don't do it.
- (v) Education is a good way of ensuring young people are safe when they

are online. Ashleigh's rules go some way in to supporting this. This could be advertised when each department sets up a site.

- (vi) Take in to consideration examples of good practice. Some Councils may be ahead of others so link with them where possible.
- (vii) Social networking is not for everyone so other methods of communicating such as posters and leaflets will still need to be in place.

Members welcomed the report and thanked the young people for their commitment and hard work during this investigation, the findings of which would prove extremely valuable in helping the Council develop a policy for the use of social networking as a method of communication. The report emphasised the need for joined up working and highlighted the need for a central point to monitor the local authority's use of social networking in line with a Council policy.

Clarification was sought on whether the increasing use of electronic means of communication with young people may disenfranchise the young people who did not have full access to a computer. The young people confirmed that the use of social networking would be used to compliment the methods of communication already established, for example, leaflets, posters and communication within schools. In addition to this, it was noted that there was free internet access in community buildings, such as libraries and Surestart centres and it was hoped that this would encourage the use of such facilities.

The young people were congratulated on undertaking such a thorough investigation and producing a final report which will be utilised to inform the development of a Council policy for the use of social networking as a method of communication.

Recommended

The draft final report into 'Youth Involvement/Participation' be agreed for submission to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 25 March and Cabinet on 18 April 2011.

80. Analysis of Feedback from a Range of Activities undertaken by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum throughout their Investigation into 'Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services' (Scrutiny Support Officer)

Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum had considered the feedback in relation to a range of activities undertaken through the investigation into 'Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services' at their meeting on 31 January 2011. At that meeting Members had requested that all feedback be collated and analysed for inclusion within the draft final report and this was included within the report.

Recommended

The report was noted.

81. **Draft Final Report into Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services** (*Children's Services Scrutiny Forum*)

The Chair presented the draft final report following the Forum's investigation into the 'Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services' highlighting the conclusions and recommendations contained within the report.

The report included terms of reference and methods of investigation. A brief summary of the methods of investigation were detailed below and the evidence provided was set out in the report:-

- (a) Presentations from the Council's Child and Adult Services Department enhanced with verbal evidence;
- (b) Verbal evidence from Iain Wright, MP;
- (c) Group exercises held with:-
 - (i) Partner organisations;
 - (ii) Parents;
 - (iii) Young People; and
 - (iv) Children.
- (d) Verbal and written evidence from parents;
- (e) A presentation from Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council and Durham County Council.
- (f) A presentation from the Department for Education
- (g) A presentation from the Deputy Headteacher of High Tunstall College of Science.

Details of the key findings were set out in the report in terms the Think Family approach and how it worked in Hartlepool.

The Forum had gathered evidence from a wide range of sources to assist in the formulation of a balanced range of recommendations. The Forum's key recommendations to Cabinet were as outlined below:-

- (a) The Council works with partner organisations/agencies to:
 - (i) Identify families with additional needs as early as possible to ensure that individuals/families receive the help and support that meets their specific needs;
 - (ii) Ensure that all services are co-ordinated to avoid gaps in service provision and duplication of services;
 - (iii) Develop stronger partnership arrangements to ensure that all

organisations/agencies are signposting individuals/families to the appropriate services; and

- (iv) Ensure that all services are open and accessible to all families and family members;
- (b) The Council develops and promotes a simplified self-referral route with one point of contact so that individuals/families can refer themselves to a service if needed;
- (c) The Council raises awareness of all the Think Family services available by promoting and marketing the services through the media; 'Hartbeat'; schools, nurseries and children's centres; GP surgeries; community centres and libraries;
- (d) The Council engages with parents and uses their experience to improve/deliver existing services and help develop new services;
- (e) The Council explores options with partner organisations/agencies to secure funding for the continuation of services and the development of new services;
- (f) The Council integrate the Think Family approach into community based services so that families feel comfortable, safe and secure when accessing the services; and
- (g) The Council, as part of the 2012/13 budget process re-examines the allocation of the Early Intervention Grant and the proportion that is allocated to Think Family services.

It was noted that the formatting of the report needed amending and Members were informed that this would be finalised prior to submission to Cabinet.

During the discussion that followed it was emphasised that the Think Family services should be embedded into the budget process over the next year whilst being emphasised that the largest payback on Think Family services would be achieved through the provision of early intervention services.

Recommended

That the draft final report be agreed for submission to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 25 March and Cabinet on 18 April 2011.

82. Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations *(Scrutiny Support Officer)*

Details of progress made on the delivery of the agreed scrutiny recommendations against investigations undertaken by the Forum since the

2005/06 municipal year were presented to Members. The report included a chart which provided the overall progress made by all scrutiny forums since 2005 and Appendix A provided a detailed explanation of progress made against each recommendation agreed by this Forum.

It was noted that since the 2005/06 municipal year, 87% of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's recommendations had been completed with 7% assigned, 2% overdue and 3% cancelled.

A Member sought clarification on the action for a 'crash pad' at Gainford House would be implemented in view of current budgetary pressures. The Strategic Commissioner, Children's Services indicated that there had been budget cuts in the supporting grant but was not aware of any cuts affecting Gainford House. However, an update would be forwarded to Members.

The Chair referred to the recommendations previously submitted to Cabinet by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum and commended Members and the previous Chair of the Forum for their hard work and commitment in progressing the investigations.

Recommended

The progress against the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum agreed recommendations since the 2005/06 municipal year were noted.

83. Forward Plan

None.

84. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Chair noted that this was the last meeting of the Scrutiny Forum within the current municipal year and wished to pass on his thanks to everyone involved in the investigations undertaken during the year. In particular, thanks were forwarded to all the young people and parents for their valuable contributions.

The meeting concluded at 5.08 pm

CHAIR

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Joint Report of Director of Child and Adult Services and the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

Subject: PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S RESPONSE TO THINK FAMILY – PREVENTATIVE AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum with feedback on the recommendations from the investigation into the Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services scrutiny inquiry, which was reported to Cabinet on 18 April 2011.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The investigation into Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services conducted by this Forum falls under the remit of the Child and Adult Services Department and is, under the Executive Delegation Scheme, within the service area covered by the Children's Services Portfolio Holder.
- 2.2 On 18 April 2011, Cabinet considered the Final Report of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum into Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services. This report provides feedback from the Portfolio Holder following the Cabinet's consideration of, and decisions in relation to this Forum's recommendations.
- 2.3 Following on from this report, progress towards completion of the actions contained within the Action Plan will be monitored through Covalent; the Council's Performance Management System; with standardised six monthly monitoring reports to be presented to the Forum.

3. SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXECUTIVE DECISION

- 3.1 Following consideration of the Final Report, Cabinet approved the recommendations in their entirety. Details of each recommendation and proposed actions to be taken following approval by Cabinet are provided in the Action Plan attached at **Appendix A**.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Contact Officer:- Sally Robinson – Assistant Director (Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services)
Child & Adult Services Department
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: - 01429 284144
Email:-sally.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Final Report 'Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services' considered by Cabinet on 18 April 2011.
- (ii) Decision Record of Cabinet held on 18 April 2011.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(a) The Council works with partner organisations / agencies to:				
(i) identify families with additional needs as early as possible to ensure that individuals / families receive the help and support that meets their specific needs;	Continue the development of a think family process based on a sound assessment process and clear service pathways.	Unknown at present due to scoping of Early Intervention Grant	John Robinson	March 2012
(ii) ensure that all services are co-ordinated to avoid gaps in service provision and duplication of services;	Continue to develop the "Team Around" model that engages partners in an integrated intervention process targeted directly at meeting identified need.		John Robinson / Danielle Swainston / Mark Smith	March 2012
	Ensure that all partners use effective assessment processes based on the Common Assessment Framework.		John Robinson / Paul Kelly	September 2011

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(iii) develop stronger partnership arrangements to ensure that all organisations / agencies are signposting individuals / families to the appropriate services; and	Build prevention services based on the development of clear inter related pathways that link services and are easy for families and other stakeholders to navigate.		John Robinson / Danielle Swainston / Mark Smith	March 2012
(iv) ensure that all services are open and accessible to all families and family members.	All commissioned service specifications will have a clause that clearly specifies appropriate access routes that are clear and interconnected.		Ian Merritt	September 2011
(b) The Council develops and promotes a simplified self – referral route with one point of	Provide an early intervention access point to all families through a number of community based hubs such as Children's Centre's,	Unknown at present due to scoping of Early Intervention Grant	John Robinson / Danielle Swainston /	September 2011

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
	contact so that individuals / families can refer themselves to a service if needed;	Schools and third sector buildings.		Mark Smith
(c)	The Council raises awareness of all the Think Family services available by promoting and marketing the services through the media; 'Hartbeat'; schools, nurseries and children's centres; GP surgeries; community centres and libraries;	A range of branded publicity produced by each service that is part of the early intervention network will be made available to advertise services across the full range of appropriate outlets.	John Robinson	March 2012
(d)	The Council engages with parents and uses their experience to improve / deliver existing services and help develop new services;	All services linked to the Think Family initiative will be expected to provide evidence of parental involvement through the service specification. The Children's Fund will provide a one year project to engage with parents and set up a participation	Unknown at present due to scoping of Early Intervention Grant John Robinson / Ian Merritt John Robinson	September 2011 March 2012

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

	RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
		process that takes on the learning from the Aiming High programme.			
(e)	The Council explores options with partner organisations / agencies to secure funding for the continuation of services and the development of new services;	Council Officers will work with partners to identify appropriate grants and funding streams made available by government and other funders. Although this is in the context of a significantly reduced resource base.	Unknown at present due to scoping of Early Intervention Grant	John Robinson / Danielle Swainston / Mark Smith /Regeneration and Planning Team.	March 2012
(f)	The Council integrate the Think Family approach into community based services so that families feel comfortable, safe and secure when accessing the services; and	An early intervention partnership will bring together interested parties to look at the development of a fully integrated early intervention service that is underpinned by the think family philosophy and sound assessment processes.	Unknown at present due to scoping of Early Intervention Grant	John Robinson	March 2012
(g)	The Council, as part of the 2012 / 13 budget process re-examines the allocation of the Early Intervention Grant and the proportion that is	Stakeholders will be given the chance to participate in the rebuilding of Think Family Services and the Early Intervention Grant during 2011/12 that will reflect	Unknown at present due to scoping of Early Intervention Grant	Nicola Bailey	March 2012

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Think Family – Preventative and Early Intervention Services

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
allocated to Think Family services.	current learning, current resources and current policy.			

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Joint Report of Director of Child and Adult Services and the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

Subject: PORTFOLIO HOLDERS RESPONSE TO YOUTH INVOLVEMENT / PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF COUNCIL SERVICES INCLUDING THE SAFEGUARDING OF YOUNG PEOPLE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum with feedback on the recommendations from the investigation into Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People scrutiny inquiry, which was reported to Cabinet on 18 April 2011.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The investigation into Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People conducted by the Young Representatives of this Forum falls under the remit of the Child and Adult Services Department and is, under the Executive Delegation Scheme, within the service area covered by the Children's Services Portfolio Holder.
- 2.2 On 18 April 2011, Cabinet considered the Final Report of the Young Representatives of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum into Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People. This report provides feedback from the Portfolio Holder following the Cabinet's consideration of, and decisions in relation to this Forum's recommendations.
- 2.3 Following on from this report, progress towards completion of the actions contained within the Action Plan will be monitored through Covalent; the Council's Performance Management System; with standardised six monthly monitoring reports to be presented to the Forum.

3. SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXECUTIVE DECISION

- 3.1 Following consideration of the Final Report, Cabinet approved the recommendations in their entirety. Details of each recommendation and proposed actions to be taken following approval by Cabinet are provided in the Action Plan attached at **Appendix A**.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Contact Officer:- Sally Robinson – Assistant Director (Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services)
Child & Adult Services Department
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: - 01429 284144
Email:-sally.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) The Young Representatives of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Final Report 'Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People' considered by Cabinet on 18 April 2011.
- (ii) Decision Record of Cabinet held on 18 April 2011.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People (Use of Social Networking)

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(a) Some Clear policy and guidance put in place for all departments within the council to follow;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report written by C&AS for suggested approach to managing social media use – going to DMT in April 2011. • Same report to be taken to R&N DMT and CEMT. • Recommendation of report is that a council wide policy is created and implemented. • E-safety group in place, with remit that includes use and management of social media tools. • Social networking policy for staff in schools is being completed. • Current Internet & Email policy outlines social media use on a personal level. 	Resources to oversee the use and development of social media are expected to be from existing staff.	Leigh Keeble / Trevor Smith	31-May-2011
(b) Have a standard procedure – departments should not go ahead and do this on their	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Above report gives a suggested framework for overseeing the development and use of social 	Resources to oversee the use and development of	Leigh Keeble / Trevor Smith	31-May-2011

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People (Use of Social Networking)

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

RECOMMENDATION		EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
	own;	media tools for all age ranges.	social media are expected to be from existing staff.		
(c)	Closed sites that can not be commented on or someone to be responsible for the site 24 hours a day. This would include fast and effective takedown procedures!;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approach to be agreed (with policy), but site will not monitored 24 hours a day. 		Leigh Keeble / Trevor Smith	31-May-2011
(d)	Employers should have basic legal training. If not don't do it!;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training course for a range of council staff completed in Jan 2011, which included explanation of legal issues that influence use & development of social media tools. This information to be shared among wider group of staff as use is extended to other areas. 		Leigh Keeble / Trevor Smith	31-May-2011 (and ongoing)
(e)	Education is a good way of ensuring young people are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-safety group in place to ensure children and young people are supported to enjoy the benefits 		Jim Murdoch	31-Mar-2012

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People (Use of Social Networking)

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: 18 April 2011

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
	of new technology, and provide guidance and skills to avoid risk and harm.			
(f)	Take in to consideration examples of good practice. Some Councils may be ahead of others so link with them where possible;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social media group in C&AS has examined good practice and use in other councils and will continue to ensure HBC can learn from more advanced practice elsewhere. 	Leigh Keeble / Trevor Smith	30-Sep-2011
(g)	Social networking is not for everyone so other methods of communicating such as posters and leaflets will still need to be in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing methods of communicating with the public will continue in C&AS as managed through the Development Team. 	Leigh Keeble	31-Mar-2012

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: YOUTH INVOLVEMENT / PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF COUNCIL SERVICES, INCLUDING THE SAFEGUARDING OF YOUNG PEOPLE – PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a progress report in relation to 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 On 18 April 2011, Cabinet considered the Final Report of the Young Representatives of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum into Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People.
- 2.2 At the Cabinet meeting of 18 April 2011, the following decision was made:-
- "That the Young People's Representatives on the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum be asked to explore the identification of specific Council activities that young people would wish to more aware of through the Social Networking Sites they are part of."*
- 2.3 Following the meeting of Cabinet, a Social Media Group was set up involving representatives from the Chief Executive's, Child and Adult Services & Regeneration and Neighbourhood's Departments, chaired by the Assistant Chief Executive.
- 2.4 The Social Media Group is currently finalising details of a Corporate Social Media Policy and will be contacting the Young People's Representatives on the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum to take forward the recommendation made by Cabinet under paragraph 2.2.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum note the content of the report.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Decision Record of Cabinet held on 18 April 2011

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Director of Child & Adult Services

Subject: YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2012

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011-12 (attached as Appendix A) to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum for consideration and comment in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The national Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework includes a range of elements that work together to improve practice and performance. As part of the framework and as a statutory responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 all Youth Offending Services are required to prepare a Youth Justice Strategic Plan and submit this to the Youth Justice Board.
- 2.2 In 2010 the coalition government announced that it intended to lay legislation before Parliament in 2011 to amend the 1998 Act and to abolish the national Youth Justice Board (YJB). Advice from the YJB in respect of the requirement to produce a Plan for 2011– 2012 has been contradictory and it is proposed that a refresh of the 2010-2011 Plan be produced. The plan produced last year was comprehensive and most strategic objectives continue forward into 2011/12.
- 2.3 Whilst the Youth Offending Service (YOS) partnership can develop their own structure and content of the Youth Justice Plan, the Plan should address four key areas and it is these areas that will be refreshed to reflect the position for the service going forward.
- **Resourcing and value for money** - The Plan ensures sufficient deployment of resources to deliver effective youth justice services to prevent offending and reoffending.
 - **Structure and Governance** - The Plan sets out the structures and governance necessary to ensure the effective delivery of local youth

justice services. The leadership composition and role of the multi agency YOS Management Board are critical to this.

- **Partnership Arrangements** – The plan demonstrates that effective partnership arrangements are in place between the Youth Offending Service, statutory partners and other local partners that have a stake in delivering youth justice services and that these arrangements generate effective outcomes for children and young people who offend or are at risk of offending.
- **Risks to Future Delivery** – The Plan demonstrates that the Youth Offending Service has the capacity and capability to deliver effective youth justice services; it identifies risks to future delivery and the Youth Offending Service partnership's plans to address these risks.

2.4 The refreshed Youth Justice Strategic Plan also details the service priorities for 2011-2012 and achievements from 2010-2011.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 The draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2011-2012 has been developed in consultation with partners and stakeholders, including, but not limited to, children and young people in the Youth Justice system, their families, the police, victims of crime, the judiciary, voluntary sector providers and community safety.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 It is recommended that Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum consider and comment on the draft plan. Comments received will be incorporated in a final draft plan submitted for consideration by Cabinet on 15 August 2011 and Council on 15 September 2011.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

5.1 There is currently a statutory obligation to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan.

5.2 The Youth Justice Strategic Plan is part of the Budget and Policy Framework .

Contact Officer:- Rita Taylor – Acting Head of Youth Offending Service
Child and Adults Services Department
Hartlepool Borough Council

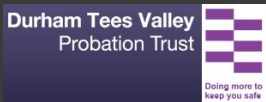
Tel:- 01429 523962

E-mail:- rita.taylor@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPER

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

Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework (England)



Hartlepool Youth Offending Service

Youth Justice Strategic Plan
2011-12



To prevent offending and reoffending by
children and young people in Hartlepool





Hartlepool Youth Offending Service

Youth Justice Strategic Plan
2011 - 2012

Forward



Welcome to the 2011-12 Hartlepool Youth Offending Service's Youth Justice Strategic Plan.

In Hartlepool we have set our ambition and aspirations for the future in our Community Strategy 2008-20:

"Hartlepool will be an ambitious, healthy, respectful, inclusive, thriving and outward-looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential"

The Youth Offending Service (YOS) has a key role in contributing to this by delivering high quality, effective and safe youth justice services.

The good news is that 2010-11 has proved to be a very positive year with:

- Significant reductions in the number of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time. This is a consistent trend over a number of years.
- Overall crime in Hartlepool is falling year on year and is now 37% lower than 6 years ago and 4% lower than last year. In particular the numbers of young people dealt with in the criminal justice system is 21.5% lower than 2009-10.
- Limited use of custodial sentences for young people. Only 10 young people in Hartlepool received some form of custodial sentence. Although slightly higher than last year (six) figures are 33% lower than 2006/7 & 2007/8.
- Improved victim contact and restorative justice services with victims expressing high levels of satisfaction with their treatment.
- The YOS being moved into improved office accommodation where staff are working alongside Hartlepool's new Integrated Youth

Support Services (IYSS) thereby further improving the service to young people.

- The most recent HMI Inspection report on Hartlepool YOS commented that the Service was showing evidence of continuous improvement; a trend we intend to build upon during the forthcoming years.

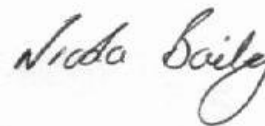
In short the YOS is demonstrating its direct contribution to both improving outcomes for young people and making local communities safer and stronger.

Whilst recognising the tough financial climate ahead, it is essential that we continue to push forward with improvements to the Service in 2011-12.

This plan defines priorities for the YOS in the coming year and highlights areas for improvement.

As always, the Partnership Board is extremely grateful for the skill and dedication of our employees in supporting young people who offend or are at risk of becoming involved in offending in Hartlepool.

On behalf of the YOS Management Board I am pleased to endorse the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2011-12.



Nicola Bailey
Chair - Youth Offending Service Management Board.
Director, Child and Adult Services

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Introduction

Strategic planning is the process by which we define our strategy, or direction, and make decisions on allocating resources to pursue this strategy. The Plan gives the YOS clarity about what it actually wants to achieve and how to go about achieving it.

The Youth Justice System exists to deal with young people who commit crime and help those young people who are in danger of getting involved in it.

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service (YOS) was established in April 2000 following the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. It is a multi-agency service and is made up of representatives from the Council's Child and Adult Services, Police, Probation, Health and Education directed by the YOS Head of Service. Because each agency works as part of one multi-agency team they are better able to tackle young offenders.

Since its inception Hartlepool YOS has been overseen (like all other YOSs in the Country) and had its performance monitored by the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

This year, however, the new coalition government has announced its intention to introduce legislation that will abolish the YJB as part of its commitment to radically increasing transparency, accountability and efficiency. Under the proposals the YJB will cease to function as a non-departmental public body and the leadership of youth justice and functions of the YJB will be transferred into the Ministry of Justice. In addition Local Area Agreements will be discontinued, as will National Performance Indicators.

The YJB will continue to carry out its functions while the transitional arrangements are being worked through, although it is likely that the YJB will be abolished during the period covered by this Plan.

Hartlepool YOS will continue to measure its performance in those areas which it considers to be critical to its success, namely:

1. **Assessment, planning, interventions and supervision (APIS)**
2. **Resourcing and workforce development**
3. **Access to universal and specialist services**
4. **Reductions in first-time entrants to the youth justice system**
5. **Reducing reoffending**
6. **Use of custody**
7. **Risk of serious harm**
8. **Safeguarding**
9. **Victim and public confidence**

Evidence that offending is being effectively tackled will be demonstrated by:

- evidence of fewer young people being drawn into the youth justice system
- reductions in overall re-offending, and also in the frequency and severity of re-offending
- providing a focus for improving the coordination of services on key issues e.g. resettlement and the provision of suitable accommodation e.g. accessing and sustaining Education, Training and Employment.

Hartlepool YOS will continue to work with its funding partners and other agencies which contribute to the work of the YOS including IYSS (Integrated Youth Support Service an amalgamation of Connexions

and the Youth Service), NACRO, local Drug Action Team (DAT), young peoples drug and alcohol team (HYPED) and the voluntary sector.

The Youth Justice Services are a people centred business which directly impacts upon the lives of young people, parents, the community and our staff. In Hartlepool we pride ourselves in having a clear set of values which underpin our service delivery and drive all activities and behaviour in the way we work with young people their parents and families as well as our dealings with colleagues and other organisations. We will continue to work with other agencies to deliver high quality, effective and safe youth justice services and thereby achieve our vision to:

“Prevent offending & re-offending by Children & Young People in Hartlepool”

Hartlepool YOS is a statutory partnership which includes, but also extends beyond, the direct delivery of youth justice services. In order to deliver youth justice outcomes it must be able to function effectively in both of the two key sectors within which it operates, namely:

- ◆ criminal justice services, &
- ◆ services for children and young people.

The YOS contributes both to improving community safety and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and in particular protecting them from significant harm. Working together to Safeguard Children (guidance on how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in accordance with the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004) highlights the need for YOSs to work jointly with other agencies and professionals to ensure that young people are protected from harm and to ensure their needs are met.

Many of the young people involved with the YOS are the most vulnerable children and are at greatest risk of social exclusion. The YOS multi-agency approach to meeting the needs of young people ensures that it plays a significant role in meeting the safeguarding needs of these young people.

In order to generate effective outcomes for children and young people who offend or are at risk of offending the YOS has in place effective partnership arrangements and is an important delivery partner for the Safer Hartlepool Partnership as well as a relevant partner in the Children’s Partnership. This close relationship is embedded in Hartlepool’s ‘Crime, Disorder, and Drugs Strategy’ and ‘Children and Young People’s Plans’.

Safer Hartlepool Partnership

Reporting to the Hartlepool Partnership, (see page 14) the Safer Hartlepool Partnership (Hartlepool’s Community Safety Partnership) is the statutory body charged with coordinating the activities of its members (including the YOS) and aims to be at the forefront of helping to reduce crime and the fear of crime across the town. It does this by funding key community projects, building reassurance within the community, promoting community safety, and ridding the streets of criminal activity. Members include; Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire Brigade, Housing Hartlepool, NHS Hartlepool, YOS, Drug Strategy Team, Anti-social Behaviour Unit, Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust, Harbour and several other community and voluntary groups.

The Partnership has published its three-year Crime, Disorder, and Drugs Strategy (2011-2013) which sets out its objectives for 2011-13, namely;

- 1. Reduce crime and repeat victimisation.**
- 2. Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse.**
- 3. Create confident, cohesive and safe communities.**
- 4. Reduce offending and reoffending.**

Each year since 2007, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership has conducted an annual assessment during December, to enable it to establish annual priorities for action in the following financial year.

The annual priorities for 2011/12 are:

- ✓ Acquisitive crime – specifically domestic burglary and theft
- ✓ Violent crime – including domestic violence and abuse
- ✓ Alcohol treatment, delivery of alcohol strategy and drug dealing and supply
- ✓ Anti-social behaviour – including links to private rented properties and alcohol related youth ASB
- ✓ Criminal damage – specifically damage to dwellings
- ✓ Confidence and cohesion
- ✓ Prevent and reduce offending, re-offending and the risk of offending

Further information about the Safer Hartlepool partnership can be obtained at <http://www.saferhartlepool.co.uk>

Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 – 2020

The Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 – 2020 is a document which has been written on behalf of Hartlepool's Children's Partnership and sets out the vision and the direction of travel for commissioning and service improvements until 2020. The Children's Partnership is a themed partnership of the Hartlepool Partnership and is the main body which brings together organisations (including the YOS) providing services for children, young people and parents and carers. Other themed partnerships address different issues that impact on a child's life and contribute to this plan, these are highlighted in Hartlepool's new Community Strategy

The Children and Young People's Plan is structured around five key priorities:

1. Tackling Inequalities;
2. Narrowing the Gap;



3. Eradicating Child Poverty;
4. Living Safely;
5. Promoting Emotional Well-being.

You can download the Children and Young Peoples Plan at;

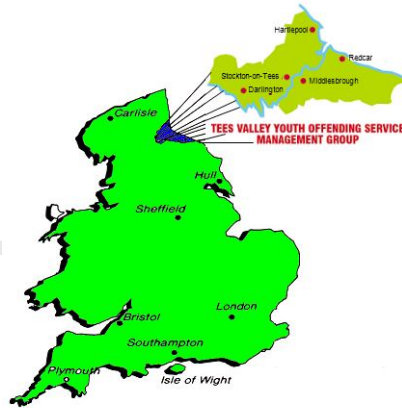
http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/download/4952/children_and_young_peoples_plan

The YOS Board provides a link between the Children's Partnership and the Safer Hartlepool Partnership ensuring the integration of youth justice services and other children's services.

Needs Analysis

Area

The Borough of Hartlepool is situated on the North East coast of England covering an administrative area of 94 square kilometers (9.386 hectares) with a population of 91,900 (population density of 9.7 people per hectare). Approximately 25% of the population



are children and young people (under 18) and 10.6% (9607) are aged 10 to 17, the YOS client group. Originally two towns, the old town known as the Headland and the more recent West Hartlepool amalgamated in 1967 and now consist of 17 wards covering approximately 42,100 dwellings (mid 2009). The town has a wide catchment area with over a million people living within 30 minutes driving time of the Town Centre.

Unemployment in Hartlepool was 7.4% in January 2011 compared to the Tees Valley average at 6.3%. This is a slight increase on 2010 (7.3%) however in common with other areas unemployment rates remain high and Hartlepool has levels at twice the national average of 3.7%. In the Tees Valley only Middlesbrough has a higher level at 7.6%. 31.1% of the unemployed are aged under 25 and 9% are under 20. (Source: National Statistics NOMIS)

The population of Hartlepool is predominantly white British (98.8%), 51.5% are female and 1.2% are from ethnic minority groups. Migration from the east European countries of the newly expanded European Community is a fairly recent phenomenon for which there is not yet definitive data. More detailed data will be available following the 2011 Census.

There are five secondary schools, thirty one primary schools, one nursery school, one pupil referral unit and two special schools.

The YOS boundaries are within those of the Cleveland Police and Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust area. NHS Hartlepool Primary Care and North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trusts provide health services in the area.

Organisation structures are in place to support partnership working across the Tees Valley (Darlington, Hartlepool, Stockton & South Tees YOSs) and a variety of natural links have been developed with other organisations such as 'DISC' and 'The Children's Society'.

Hartlepool has a number of notable demographic characteristics when compared to the national average, they include:

- above average proportion of people with a health problem.
- above average proportion of single parent households.
- above average levels of households without access to a car.
- above average levels of teenage pregnancy (15 to 17 years)
- below average owner-occupiers but above average households renting from local authorities or housing associations.
- a below average proportion of ethnic minorities.

In the Government's Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) published in March 2011 of 326 English districts Hartlepool is ranked 24th most deprived with Middlesbrough being the only other Tees Valley District ranked as more deprived (8th).

Local Youth Crime – Key Characteristics

In 2010/11, Hartlepool YOS dealt with a total of 236 young offenders who committed 492 offences. 193 were male and 43 female. This represents a significant 21.5% reduction in offenders and a 22.1% reduction in offences committed, compared with the previous year. This is the continuation of the trend over recent years.

The table below illustrates the type and number of offences committed by these young people and the trend over the last six years.

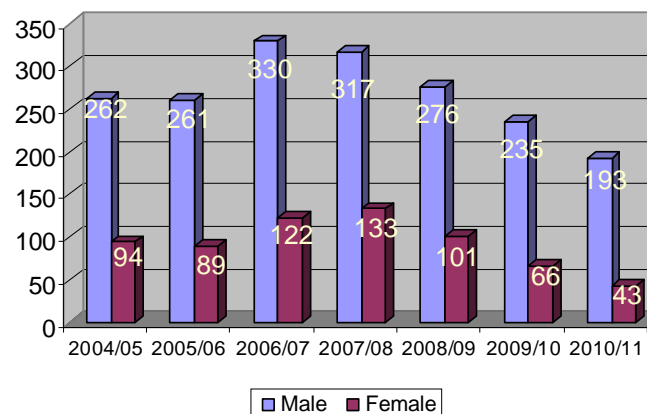
Grouping	Offence	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11
BREACH	Breach of Bail	14	14	11	8	0	6
	Breach of Conditional Discharge	2	5	6	6	3	8
	Breach of Statutory Order	8	45	33	28	38	15
VEHICLE	Death or Injury By Reckless Driving	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Motoring Offences	136	87	74	51	73	21
THEFT & BURGLARY	Theft & Handling	142	215	245	200	140	108
	Vehicle Theft	35	24	30	12	21	12
	Domestic Burglary	22	47	35	22	14	11
	Non Domestic Burglary	11	16	14	25	8	12
	Fraud & Forgery	5	13	2	1	5	4
	Robbery	3	4	0	6	4	1
VIOLENCE	Racially Aggravated Offences	3	8	2	0	3	4
	Sexual Offences	2	2	3	5	1	3
	Violence Against Person	124	187	146	117	128	76
OTHER	Arson	4	9	8	6	1	3
	Criminal Damage	90	140	121	109	103	78
	Drugs Offences	16	13	9	23	22	16
	Other	14	19	18	9	11	25
	Public Order	51	104	101	71	57	89
	TOTAL	682	952	858	699	632	492

In January 2010 Hartlepool introduced a 'Triage' model at the point of arrest for young people who are seen and assessed by a YOS worker (Youth Inclusion and Custody Coordinator) linked to the Police Custody Suite. Young people are offered support and guidance using a multi agency approach and those that have committed less serious offences and are unlikely to reoffend are diverted out of the Youth Justice System and receive a restorative disposal. Hartlepool initially implemented the programme as a pilot for Cleveland and is currently the only YOS delivering Triage within the Tees Valley.

Numbers of young people entering the programme have continued to increase as the corresponding number of first time entrants (FTE's) to the criminal justice system has reduced (see figure - back cover). Robust procedures are in place, ensuring the young people selected to enter the programme are dealt with swiftly within the custody suite.

Clearly the YOS has been successful in reducing the numbers of young people being dealt with in the youth justice system; however those remaining require more intensive work and close supervision if we are to continue to reduce offending and reoffending.

**Young people offending in Hartlepool
2004-2011**



Resourcing and value for money

Resources

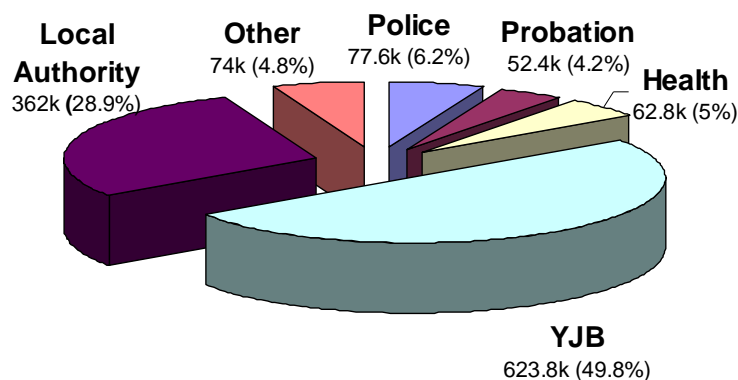
Adequate resourcing and the appropriate use of resources underpin the ability of the YOS to deliver high quality services.

The YOS Budget for 2011/12 has seen a drop in both local authority and YJB funding and as a consequence is 14% less than 2010-11 at £1.2 million. The budget is made up of a central grant from the Youth Justice Board and contributions from statutory partners (Health, Local Authority, Police and Probation). Hartlepool Borough Council is the major funding partner.

This year, with the likelihood that the YJB will be disbanded, the grant allocation from the YJB and the Local Authority has been merged with an overall £200,000 reduction.

YOS Partnership funding settlements are anticipated to continue to be challenging for the foreseeable future given the current political and economic climate.

Youth Offending Service Funding 2011-12



Hartlepool YOS intends to work with its partners to continue to drive efficiency within the Service through the delivery of high quality, lean and efficient practices which make maximum use of resources.

Over the last twelve months the YOS has seen an overall reduction in staff numbers but has been in the enviable position of being able to recruit highly qualified individuals into key posts. The YOS is now in the position of having a high quality team which works to a professional case management model.

Hartlepool YOS currently believes that it has sufficient resources and staff, with the appropriate skills and expertise, to deliver youth justice services in line with National Standards and is committed to having in place a workforce strategy that ensures:

- the needs of YOS staff are met, and their strengths recognised
- the YOS retains its integrity as a successful multi-agency working model and is not diluted in the process of establishing broader multi-agency structures
- the crucial role of the YOS as the balancing point between the children's and criminal justice agenda is asserted
- managers can attract and retain a strong and suitable workforce
- YOS staff can access the development training and opportunities.

The YOS Board has supported workforce development with sufficient resources to ensure staff and volunteers have all the necessary support, training and advice to deliver effective youth justice services and as individuals improve their skills and progress in their chosen careers.

Value for Money (VFM)

Hartlepool YOS VFM Strategy is based around three areas:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Economy | - The price paid for what goes into providing and delivering a service |
| Efficiency | - A measure of productivity, alignment between funding streams to deliver against outcome areas |
| Effectiveness | - A measure of the impact achieved that can be either quantitative or qualitative |

VFM is therefore considered to be delivered when there is an optimum balance between economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

Hartlepool YOS is committed to delivering Best Value in the provision of its services. Best Value means continual improvement in terms of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.



Under Best Value we need to demonstrate that YOS services:

- ➔ meet the needs of our clients and the local community;
- ➔ are being provided to the level and quality desired by the community;
- ➔ are sustainable within allocated budgets;
- ➔ are consistent with available resources;
- ➔ are equal to or better than other comparable YOSs;
- ➔ are capable of securing continuous improvement.

Hartlepool YOS has a track record of entering into partnership in order to draw on the skills and expertise of partner organisations. This approach enables the maximum impact to be made from scarce resources.

Hartlepool YOS intends to work with its partners to continue to drive efficiency within the Service through the delivery of high quality, lean and efficient practices which make maximum use of resources.

Commissioning

The effective and efficient use of resources is also dependent on effective commissioning arrangements. Effective commissioning means ensuring the right services and the right people are in the right place at the right time for children and young people.

Hartlepool YOS is working through the Child and Adult Services commissioning processes to ensure this takes place.

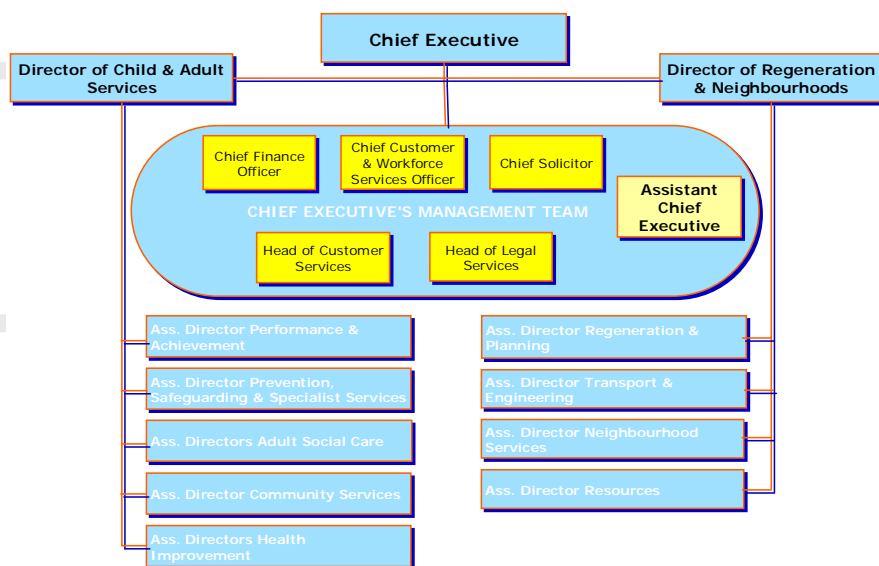
The YOS will review existing commissioned services to ensure that commissioned services provide best value for money.

Structure and Governance

Governance

The YOS is located within the Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services Division of the Child and Adult Services Department. The Management Board is chaired by the Director of Child and Adult Services and has representatives from Child and Adult Services, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services, Police, Probation, Health, Courts and Housing.

Hartlepool Borough Council Structure



Effective integrated strategic partnership working and clear oversight by the Management Board are critical to the success and effective delivery of youth justice services in Hartlepool.

The leadership, composition and role of the Management Board are crucial. The board is directly responsible for:

1. delivery of the principal aim of preventing offending and re-offending and accountability for performance against the youth justice national indicators
2. strategic and performance oversight
3. justice services for children and young people
4. accountability and active youth justice representation.

The Management Board is clear about the priority areas for improvement, and monitors the delivery of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan, performance and prevention work. It is reliably attended and receives comprehensive performance reports.

Members of the Board are knowledgeable, participate well in discussions and also participate in many other related boards, which contribute to effective partnership working at a strategic level. Board meetings are well structured and members are held accountable.

The Youth Offending Head of Service and nominated officers of the YOS are members of a number of groups where strategies need to take into account young people who offend for example Criminal Justice Intervention Managers, Anti-social Behaviour, Family Intervention Project, Parenting Strategy, Substance Misuse, Pupil Referral Unit Management Board, Social Inclusion Strategy Group, Children's Partnership Infrastructure Group, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), Strategic Management Board, Running away, missing from home (MFH) and Care Strategy, Local Children's Safeguarding Board and the Cleveland Criminal Justice Board. The YOS is represented on the Children's Partnership, Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

The membership of Hartlepool YOS Board is as follows:

YOS Management Board

Nicola Bailey (Chair)	Director – Child & Adult Services
Sally Robinson (Deputy Chair)	Ass. Director - Prevention, Safeguarding & Specialist Services
Khalid Azam	Ass. Director – Children’s Services PCT
June Fawcett	Senior Clinical Nurse – Children & Young People
Lucia Saiger	Director of Offender Services - Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust
Jean Bell	Principal Legal Advisor - Hartlepool Magistrates Court
Lynda Igoe	Principal Housing Officer
Lynne Beeston	Chief Inspector - Neighbourhoods, Cleveland Police
Sally Forth	Community Safety Manager - Safer Hartlepool Partnership and Community Safety Team

Structure

The YOS is currently structured into 2 main areas; **‘Pre-court’** and **‘Restorative Justice and Post-court’**. The Pre-court and Restorative Justice Team works with those children and young people requiring support to prevent them becoming involved in crime and anti-social

behaviour and as a consequence entering the criminal justice system. The team also work with those young people who have come to the attention of the Police and have been the subject of a triage intervention, reprimand or final warning. Each worker within the team is attached to a designated secondary school as part of the ‘Team Around the School’ arrangements.

The promotion and introduction of Restorative Justice procedures is a high priority for both YOS Teams. The increased use of the ‘Triage’ early intervention system in partnership with Cleveland Police and the effective use of reparation are just two areas in continual development.

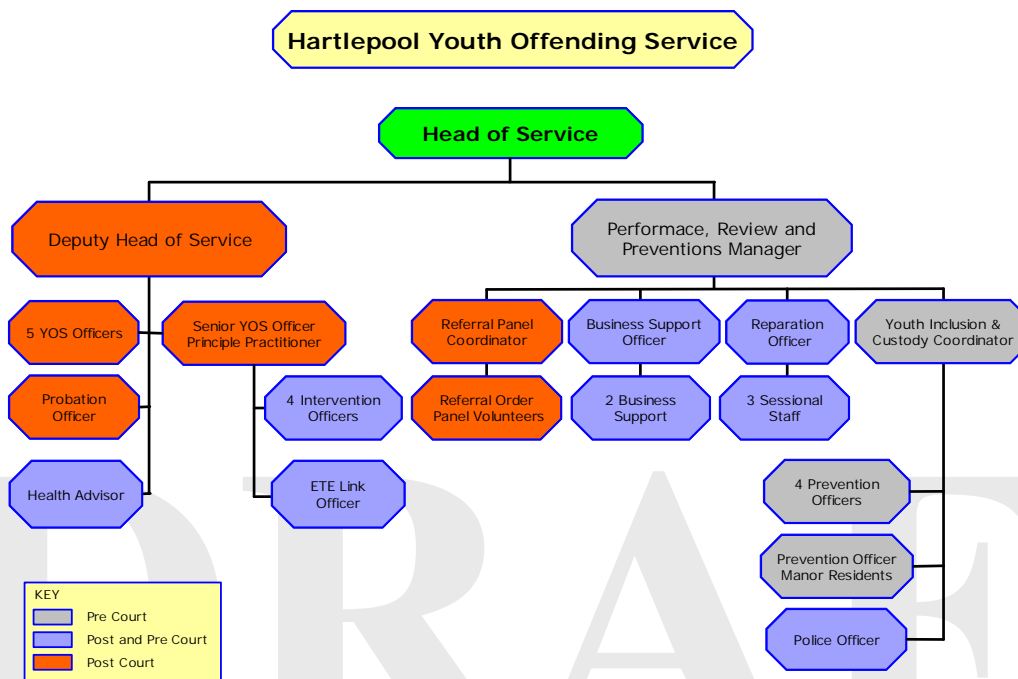
During 2010-11 with the aid of funding from YCAP (Youth Crime Action Plan) the YOS delivered 690 individual sessions of reparation activity to 206 young people, 150 of those young people were given timetables which included a session, or a combination of sessions on either a Friday evening, or on a Saturday or Sunday.

The Post Court work is undertaken with young people aged 10 – 17 who have entered the criminal justice system and are subject to a court order.

The YOS works closely with the Police, Courts and a range of agencies including social care, health, education, housing and the substance misuse team to deliver services to young people and their families to reduce the risk factors associated with their offending.

The Youth Offending Service currently has a staff team of 34 people, which includes 3 seconded staff, 3 outsourced staff and 3 sessional workers.

There is also an existing team of 12 active volunteers who sit as Referral Order Panel members who have recently received refresher training. Plans are in place to recruit and train a further 12 volunteers who will be available to sit on panels by July 2011.



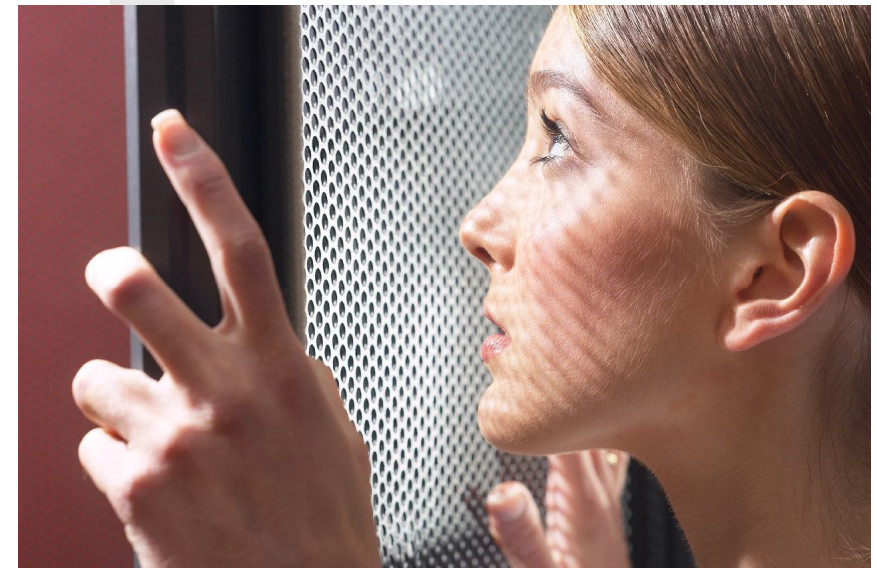
All staff and volunteers are subject to enhanced CRB checks which are renewed every three years.

Hartlepool YOS is committed to workforce development, understanding the need to develop and maintain a competent and skilled workforce able to deliver an effective and efficient Criminal Justice Service.

Hartlepool YOS understands the need to develop and maintain a confident and competent skilled workforce, in order to deliver an effective and efficient local youth justice system and meet any future challenges to youth justice priorities. The YOS is committed to the development of its people and values the contribution they make to provide quality services within a best value framework.

These arrangements compliment the government's vision of a children's workforce that:

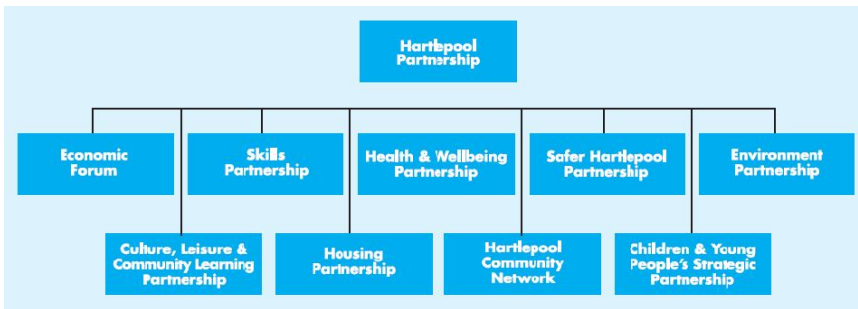
- ♦ is striving to achieve the best possible outcomes for all children and young people and to reduce inequalities between the most disadvantaged and the rest.
- ♦ is competent, confident and safe to work with children and young people.
- ♦ people aspire to be part of and want to remain in, where they can develop their skills and build satisfying careers.
- ♦ parents, children and young people trust and respect.



Partnership arrangements

The Hartlepool Partnership

The Hartlepool Partnership brings together all of the Borough's partnerships delivering local services and is a network of partnerships. It provides opportunities for involvement for a wide range of organisations and individuals in the development and implementation of policy. The Partnership is made up of a series of Themed Partnerships.



The Partnership has worked to prepare a comprehensive Community Strategy.

Community Strategy 2008 – 2020

The updated Community Strategy builds on the 2002 Strategy and provides a revised policy framework for Hartlepool. It describes a long-term vision – Hartlepool's ambition and aspirations for the future:

"Hartlepool will be an ambitious, healthy, respectful, inclusive, thriving and outward-looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential"

The Vision is further articulated through a set of aims, outcomes and associated objectives grouped into eight priorities:

1. Jobs and the Economy
2. Lifelong Learning & Skills
3. Health & Well-being
4. Community Safety
5. Environment
6. Housing
7. Culture & Leisure
8. Strengthening Communities

Hartlepool YOS is a multi-agency team which has responsibility for the geographic area of Hartlepool Borough. Working from our new location at Windsor Offices above Middleton Grange Shopping Centre.

Partnership working across the statutory and voluntary sector is well established and effective. Relevant partners second the appropriate level of staff and contribute funding to the Youth Offending Service pooled budget. Additional sources of income have been achieved through successful partnership bids to the Youth Justice Board and the Youth Crime Action Plan, which supports projects such as prevention, parenting, mentoring, reparation schemes, restorative justice and the Integrated Resettlement Service.

Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) funding which was previously centralised across the Tees Valley has now been devolved to individual Services, and Hartlepool is currently developing ISS in-house, as part of the more integrated case management system.

The YOS is a key member of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, which is the local crime prevention and community safety service, covering anti-social behaviour, prevention of offending and re-offending, drugs and alcohol with a focus upon public reassurance.

Service level agreements and protocols are in place with partner agencies for referrals and delivery of appropriate services to young people and their families to meet their needs.

A protocol is in place which sets out the working arrangements between Children's Social Care and the Youth Offending Service to ensure delivery of effective joint working with young people to achieve positive outcomes.

A Service Level agreement exists between Child and Adult Services and Barnardo's to deliver parenting support and interventions to parents requesting help and to those subject to a parenting order imposed by the court who have not previously engaged with parenting services.

The Children's Society deliver restorative justice interventions including victim offender mediation and work with victims in completing victim impact statements to be used in the work with the offender.

Prevention services have been developed by the multi-agency involvement in 'Team Around the School'.

A good working relationship with the local Police has facilitated the development of 'Triage', first introduced in January 2010, for young people in Police custody who would previously have received a conviction. The Triage intervention addresses the young persons offending and includes a restorative activity. If the young person successfully completes the 'Triage' intervention there will be no further action from the Police. As a result the young person does not have a criminal record, which could affect

their life chances in the future. In addition, the coordinator is also able to identify and alert police to persistent offenders at an early stage, thereby speeding up procedures and ensuring that young person receives an appropriate disposal.

The YOS is represented within the Children's Partnership and is a member of the appropriate sub-groups. It is also represented on the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

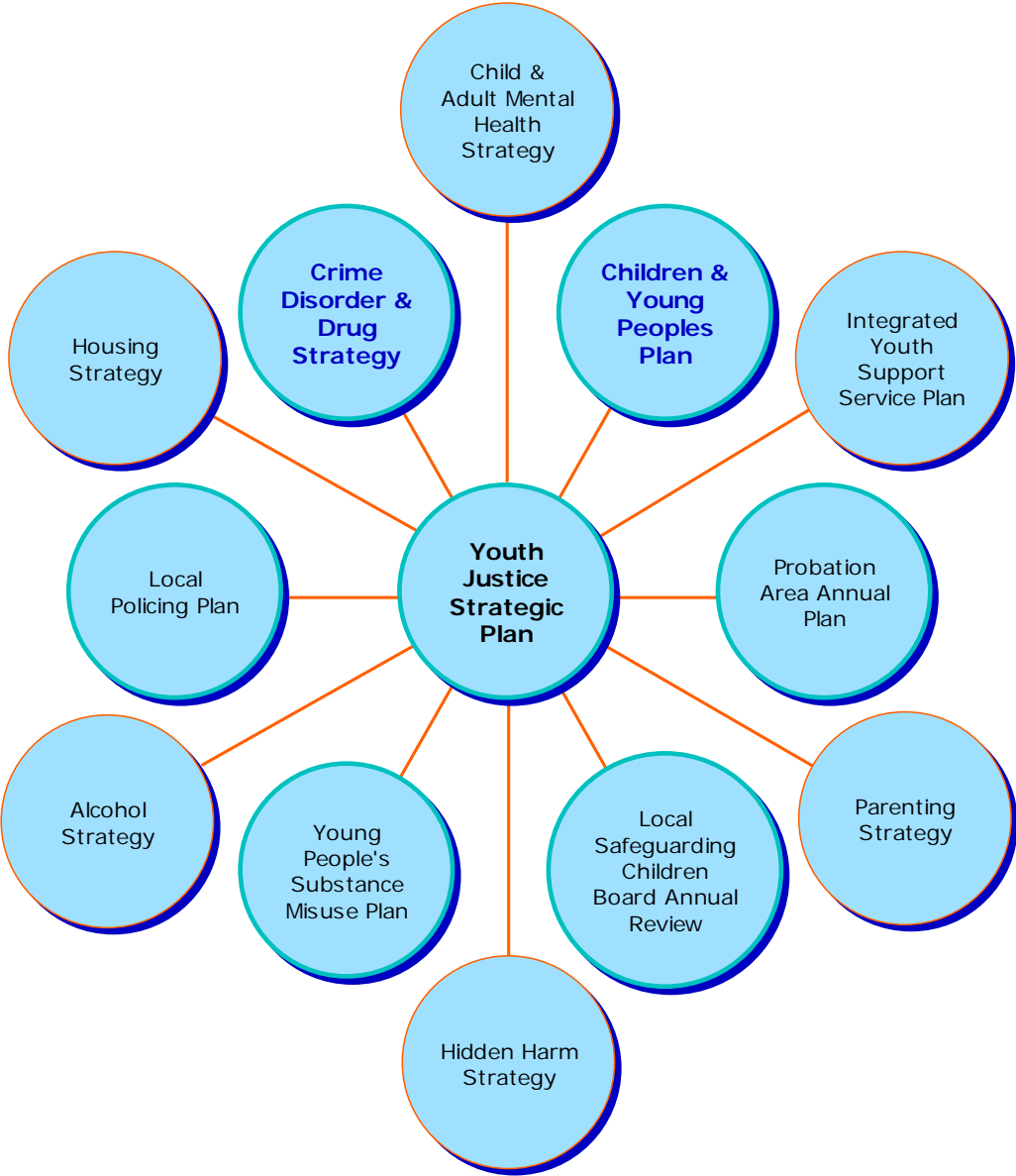
The Positive Contribution element of the Children and Young People's Plan includes the work of the YOS in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour.

Hartlepool YOS also engages with the complex web of priorities and targets from local partners and agencies.

Hartlepool YOS recognises that there is much to be gained from collaborative approaches across the Tees Valley and arrangements are in place, and a variety of natural links have been developed with other YOSs including joint training, shared resources etc.

The YOS has excellent relationships with other agencies and organisations the key aim being to share expertise, skills, knowledge and resources in a commonality of purpose to prevent offending and to ensure the security and prosperity of the people of Hartlepool. The YOS is involved at the highest levels of strategic decision making throughout the Borough. This is illustrated opposite.

YOS Strategic Plan - Linkages to other Plans



Risks to future delivery

The immediate context for this Plan is the recent change to a Coalition Government and the publication (December 2010) of their green paper entitled [*Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders*](#), which outlines their plans for the criminal justice system in 3 areas;

1. punishing offenders,
2. protecting the public and
3. reducing reoffending.

The paper sets out what the government expects from Youth Justice Services in order to:

- ♦ prevent more young people from offending and divert them from entering into a life of crime, including by simplifying out-of-court disposals;
- ♦ protect the public and ensure that more is done to make young offenders pay back to their victims and communities;
- ♦ ensure the effective use of sentencing for young offenders;
- ♦ incentivise local partners to reduce youth offending and re-offending using payment by results models; and
- ♦ develop more effective governance by abolishing the Youth Justice Board and increasing freedoms and flexibilities for local areas.

Hartlepool YOS is confident that it has a structure and the staff with the appropriate skills to meet any future demands placed upon it and that the green paper does not conflict with any of the YOS's existing priorities.

Government announcements designed to reduce public spending will clearly impact upon current and future budget allocations for all public services and the YOS is no exception. Partners will be required to work together with restricted resources in this new climate of 'austerity'.

Potential further reductions in core funding and the lack of clarity around grant allocations, with subsequent loss of specialist staff and difficulties with recruitment are always areas of concern, however, the

YOS has successfully met these challenges in the past and is well placed to overcome any unpredictable future problems with the support of a committed, strong Management Board.

Hartlepool YOS intends to work with its partners to continue to drive efficiency within the Service through the delivery of high quality, lean and efficient practices which make maximum use of resources.

The YOS Partnership will be proactive in addressing risks to ensure it continues to achieve its central aim in it's priorities for 2010-11.

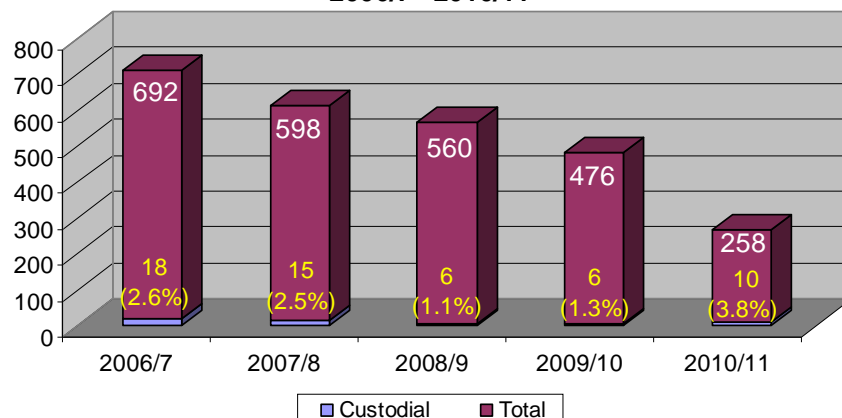


YOS Priorities and Actions for 2010-2011

Priorities

1. Ensure the YOS is a good place to work focusing on staff training, support and development.
2. Ensure effective risk and vulnerability management of all young people.
3. Maintain and improve compliance and performance in accordance with National Standards.
4. Sustain and deliver excellent partnership arrangements particularly with the Integrated Youth Service.
5. Provide high quality Restorative Justice Services that support victims of crime and provide confidence to both community and Youth Justice Services.
6. Sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system and the reduction of further offending by young people already in the system.
7. Ensure the safe and effective use of custodial and remand sentencing. (see below)

**Number of disposals and % of which were custodial
2006/7 - 2010/11**



Actions

- ✓ Continue to ensure the efficient and effective use of resources by streamlining processes.
- ✓ Participate fully in any funding reviews undertaken in 2011-12 aimed at defining future budgets.
- ✓ Develop, review and improve current interventions particularly those associated with parenting and victim procedures.
- ✓ Promote the work and success of the YOS in local communities and with key stakeholders.
- ✓ Work effectively to increase the engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) of young people in the youth justice system.
- ✓ Improve our data recording procedures and performance management by ensuring regular data auditing and reporting procedures are in place.
- ✓ Develop a team which has a 'quality' culture at its centre.
- ✓ Develop and build upon the success of the 'Triage' system.
- ✓ Work more closely with the new management of the Attendance Centre to introduce and improve the interventions we can provide.
- ✓ Introduce additional data processing auditing, training and data surgeries to improve accuracy of recording procedures.
- ✓ Review existing commissioned services to ensure that commissioned services provide best value for money.
- ✓ Update our website to reflect recent changes in legislation and local arrangements.
- ✓ Review our operational procedures to ensure we are working within guidance issued by MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements).

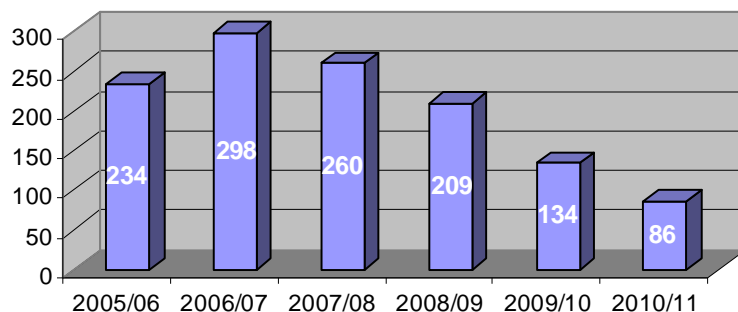
Details of the progress of actions are contained in the YOS Action Plan which is updated on a monthly basis.

Significant Achievements

During 2010/11 the YOS made a number of significant achievements, including:

- ✓ Successfully developing the pilot 'Triage' model at the point of arrest with our partners Cleveland Police and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).
- ✓ The successful development of our 'Crime Prevention' approach which the HMI Inspection Team noted was one of the best structured schemes it had seen.
- ✓ Development of a professional highly qualified case management team.
- ✓ Improved court team arrangements.
- ✓ Increase in the number of reparation projects undertaken by young people and increased week-end and evening work.
- ✓ Improved performance against key indicators particularly the reduction in the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system. (see below)

Young People entering the Criminal Justice System for the first time 2005/6 - 2010/11



- ✓ Introduction of a 'learning style' assessment for all young people dealt with by the YOS.
- ✓ Improved health screening for young people.
- ✓ Introduction of scheduled risk and vulnerability multi agency meetings.
- ✓ Significant improvements in victim confidence and satisfaction levels.
- ✓ Successful disaggregation of Intensive Supervision and Surveillance without disruption to services.
- ✓ Significant reductions in both the numbers of young offenders (21.5%) and the offences committed by those offenders (22.1%) being dealt with in the criminal justice system; compared with 2009-10.

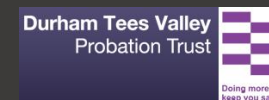
Further information about Hartlepool Youth Offending service can be obtained from

**Youth Offending Service
Windsor Offices
Unit 24**

**Middleton Grange Shopping Centre
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 7RJ**

Or visit our Website
at

http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/a_to_z/service/1214/youth_offending_service



CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: THE ROLE OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES
SCRUTINY FORUM

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To give an overview of the role and functions of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council's approach to Overview and Scrutiny has been informed by government guidance, best practice nationally and experience of what works locally to ensure that the Scrutiny Forum's operate in an optimum scrutiny structure that will enable the Forums to add value and improve services for the residents of Hartlepool.
- 2.2 The role of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is briefly discussed in the following section. Following this in Section 4, there is a more detailed description of the roles and functions of this Forum.

3. ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The membership of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee reflects both the Council's political make-up and the five standing Scrutiny Forums (which are equally represented on the Committee). A total of sixteen Elected Members serve on the Committee, consisting of the Chair (appointed by Council), Vice-Chair and one other Member from each of the five standing Forums. In addition to this, three Resident Representatives are also co-opted onto the Committee, one from each Neighbourhood Consultative Forums.
- 3.2 This approach enables the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to draw on the experience of a variety of Members, represent a cross-section of political views and equally represent each of the five standing Forums. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is responsible for the overall management of Overview and Scrutiny within the Authority. Other authorities' experience of

scrutiny appears to have benefited from the establishment of such a body. Given the increasing importance of the scrutiny role under the new arrangements and the likely increase in workload of the scrutiny function the role of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is invaluable. The main roles and functions of the committee are as follows:-

- (i) To work with the five Forums to decide an annual Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, including the programme of any ad-hoc Forum that it appoints, to ensure that there is efficient use of the Forums and that the potential for duplication of effort is minimised;
- (ii) To lead the involvement of Overview and Scrutiny in the development of the budget and the plans and strategies that make up the policy framework and to delegate issues for consideration to the Forums;
- (iii) Where matters fall within the remit of more than one Overview and Scrutiny Forum, to determine which of them will assume responsibility for any particular issue and to resolve any issues of dispute between Overview and Scrutiny Forums;
- (iv) To receive requests from Members, the Executive and/or the Full Council for items (including those referred via the Councillor Call for Action mechanism) to be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Forums and to allocate them, if appropriate to one or more Overview and Scrutiny Forum;
- (v) To put in place and maintain a system to ensure reports from Overview and Scrutiny to the Executive are managed efficiently and do not exceed any limits set out in the Constitution (this includes making decisions about the priority of reports, if the volume of such reports creates difficulty for the management of Executive business or jeopardises the efficient running of the Council business);
- (vi) To exercise the power of call-in in relation to Executive decisions made as set out in Section 21 (3) of the Local Government Act 2000, or allocate them to the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Forum for consideration; and
- (vii) Assessing, monitoring and advising on the role of the Council's central support services in supporting the Council's progress towards the Community Strategy's priority aims, including:-
 - General policies of the Council relating to the efficient use of resources (people, money, property, information technology); and
 - District Auditor performance reports, the District Auditor's Annual Audit Letter, Best Value Performance Indicators and health and safety issues.

4. FUNCTIONS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FORUMS

4.1 The five standing Overview and Scrutiny Forums have three main functions and these are set out in the following paragraphs:-

(a) Policy Development and Review

Overview and Scrutiny Forums may:

- (i) Assist the Council and the Executive in the development of the budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- (ii) Conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
- (iii) Consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;
- (iv) Question members of the Executive and Chief Officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area; and
- (v) Liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.

(b) Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny Forums may:

- (i) Review and scrutinise the decisions of the Executive and Chief Officers both in relation to individual decisions and their overall strategic direction;
- (ii) Review and scrutinise the work of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
- (iii) Question members of the Executive and Chief Officers about their decisions, whether generally in comparison with the service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects;
- (iv) Review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area, requesting them to attend and address relevant scrutiny forums to speak about their activities and performance;
- (v) Investigate other issues of local concern, outside the control of the Council and other public bodies in the area, and make recommendations to the Council, the Executive and / or other organisations arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process;

- (vi) Question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent); and
- (vii) Make recommendations to the executive and / or the council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.

(c) Finance

Overview and Scrutiny Committees may exercise overall responsibility for the finances made available to them. This presently consists of a dedicated overview and scrutiny budget of 50k. Applications for funding must be made through Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.

5. THE REMIT OF THIS FORUM

- 5.1 The strategic direction of the Scrutiny Forums will be to assess, monitor and advise on the Council's progress towards the 7 priority aims of the Community Strategy whilst the operational direction of the individual Scrutiny Forums will be governed by the remits outlined in the Constitution.

The remit of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum is as follows:-

'To consider issues relating to specialist (intervention), targeted (prevention) and universal services for children and young people.'

- 5.2 There will be, however, from time to time, issues that could be considered by more than one Forum and it will be for the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to determine which Forum should examine a particular issue. It is also open to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to appoint ad hoc forums. For example, where an issue comes within the remit of two scrutiny forums, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee could decide to establish an ad hoc forum made up of four Members from each of those two Forums.

6. SCHEDULE OF FORUM DATES FOR 2011/12

- 6.1 Detailed below, for Members information, are the meeting dates scheduled for the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in 2011/12. Please note that all scheduled meetings will commence at 4.30pm, in the Civic Centre, with the capacity for additional meetings to be arranged where required to accommodate the needs of individual inquiries.

Tuesday 19 July 2011
 Tuesday 6 September 2011
 Tuesday 18 October 2011
 Tuesday 1 November 2011
 Tuesday 17 January 2012
 Tuesday 31 January 2012
 Tuesday 27 March 2012

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 No specific action is required as a result of this report; however Members may have questions about the role of the Forum.

Contact Officer:- Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523087
Email: laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- i) Hartlepool Borough Council Constitution.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM -
WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2011/12

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To confirm the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's work programme for 2011/12.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 24 June 2011 (to which all Members of the Forum were invited) the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Work Programme was agreed for 2011/12 and is as follows:-

Forum Investigation

Provision of Support and Services to Looked After Children / Young People

Budget Items

Budget 2012/13
Play Opportunities Pool
Youth Service Headland Futures
Children's Social Care Commissioning Year 3 SDO
Reduce the Number of Looked After Children
Review Allowance
Child Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
Home to School Transport
Review of Youth Offending Service Admin and Support Services

- 2.2 It has been agreed that budget items relating to youth justice will now be considered by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum given the relevance of these items to the work of this Forum.

- 2.3 Following discussions with the Chair of the Forum, the young people's representatives have decided that they would like to investigate a topic of their choice. The topic that the young people would like to investigate is 'Young People's Access to Transport'.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum is requested:-

- (a) to note the work programme as approved by Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on 24 June 2011; and
- (b) to approve the young people's topic of investigation

Contact Officer:- Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523087
Email: elaine.hind@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Minutes of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of 24 June 2011.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM
CONSIDERATION OF 2012/13 BUDGET ITEMS –
CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES (CAMHS) - SCOPING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To make proposals to Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum regarding their consideration of the 2012/13 budget items chosen as part of the Work Programming process on the 24 June 2011.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At the meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 24 June 2011 Members determined their work programme for the 2011/12 Municipal Year. It was decided that each Scrutiny Forum would focus its attention on preparations for the 2012/13 budget during the current Municipal Year, given the extremely challenging financial situation facing the authority.
- 2.2 Each Scrutiny Forum was requested to consider the budget proposals identified in relation to the remit of that Forum, to formulate a view on those proposals and / or to suggest ways of achieving the required savings.
- 2.3 It was agreed at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee work programming meeting on 24 June 2011 that the following budget proposals would be considered by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum:-
- Play Opportunities Pool
 - Youth Service Headland Futures
 - Children's Social Care Commissioning Year 3 SDO

- Reduce the Number of Looked After Children
 - Review Allowance
 - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
 - Home to School Transport
 - Review of Youth Offending Service Admin and Support Services
- 2.4 In accordance with the timetable agreed at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 24 June 2011, consideration is to be given to the below proposal / project at today's meeting:-
- CAMHS

3. OVERALL AIM OF SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET ITEMS

- 3.1 To provide views and / or alternative suggestions for savings, regarding the 2012/13 budget proposals presented to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in relation to CAMHS.

4. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF 2012/13 BUDGET PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The following Terms of Reference are proposed:-
- (a) To gain an understanding of the service areas in relation to:
 - i) The current budget (as detailed in the budget book);
 - ii) Staffing information;
 - iii) Budgetary and operational pressures / challenges / priorities and statutory responsibilities (where applicable);
 - iv) The level of savings required.
 - (b) To explore the budget requirements in relation to:-
 - i) The required savings (including areas where provision of services could be ceased, reduced or changed to improve efficiency);
 - ii) The potential impact of proposals / options on future service provision; and
 - iii) How the provision of service could look in the future.
 - (c) To formulate the Forum's comments on the budget proposals to feed in to the decision making process;
 - (d) To provide details of, and consider, any alternative suggestions the Forum may develop to achieve the required savings in the areas identified.

5. POTENTIAL AREAS OF ENQUIRY / SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- 5.1 Members of the Forum can request a range of evidential and comparative information throughout the budget process. However, Members may wish to be mindful of the need to deal with budget proposals in an efficient and timely manner and the impact on the department responsible for the budget area, when considering such requests.
- 5.2 The 2012/13 budget will be discussed at a number of public meetings including Scrutiny Forums, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, Cabinet and Council. Elected Members, representatives of groups who provide and use services, residents and members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings, where consideration will be given to their views in relation to the budget proposals.
- 5.3 Evidence to be provided:
- (i) Details of the current budget (as detailed in the budget book);
 - (ii) staffing information;
 - (iii) Details of budgetary and operational pressures / challenges / priorities and statutory responsibilities (where applicable);
 - (iv) The level of savings required; and
 - (v) Details of potential options identified for the delivery of required budget savings.

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. Paragraph 5.2 identifies the budget process route. Further details regarding the public meetings to be held to discuss the 2012/13 budget can be found on the Council's website.

7. PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE BUDGET PROCESS

- 7.1 Detailed below is the proposed timetable for the budget consultation to be undertaken in relation to the areas identified in paragraph 2.3, which may be changed at any stage:-

19 July 2011

To consider the Scoping Report on CAMHS

6 September 2011

Setting the scene and evidence gathering in relation to CAMHS budget proposals including:-

- (i) A detailed overview of services currently provided in relation to CAMHS;
- (ii) Details of the amount of required savings;
- (iii) Details of how the required efficiencies may be delivered; and
- (iv) The potential effect of efficiencies on future service provision / what the service will look like in the future.

Formulation and consideration by the Forum of suggestions to achieve the required savings.

Formulation of comments by the Forum to feed into the 2012/13 budget decision making process.

October 2011 – Consideration of the CAMHS budget proposals by Cabinet (tentative date).

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 Members are recommended to agree the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's remit of consideration of the 2012/13 budget proposals as outlined in paragraph 4.1.

Contact Officer: - Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: - 01429 523087
Email:- laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper(s) was/were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Presentation by the Assistant Chief Executive entitled 'Budget Position 2012/13' - delivered to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of 24 June 2011.
- (ii) Report of the Assistant Chief Executive entitled 'Selection and Timetabling of Project / Service Areas to feed into the 2012/13 Budget Process' – delivered to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of 24 June 2011
- (iii) Minutes of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee 24 June 2011.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM
CONSIDERATION OF 2012/13 BUDGET ITEMS –
HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT - SCOPING
REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To make proposals to Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum regarding their consideration of the 2012/13 budget items chosen as part of the Work Programming process on the 24 June 2011.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At the meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 24 June 2011 Members determined their work programme for the 2011/12 Municipal Year. It was decided that each Scrutiny Forum would focus its attention on preparations for the 2012/13 budget during the current Municipal Year, given the extremely challenging financial situation facing the authority.
- 2.2 Each Scrutiny Forum was requested to consider the budget proposals identified in relation to the remit of that Forum, to formulate a view on those proposals and / or to suggest ways of achieving the required savings.
- 2.3 It was agreed at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee work programming meeting on 24 June 2011 that the following budget proposals would be considered by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum:-
- Play Opportunities Pool
 - Youth Service Headland Futures
 - Children's Social Care Commissioning Year 3 SDO
 - Reduce the Number of Looked After Children

- Review Allowance
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Home to School Transport
- Review of Youth Offending Service Admin and Support Services

2.4 In accordance with the timetable agreed at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 24 June 2011, consideration is to be given to the below proposal / project at today's meeting:-

- Home to School Transport

3. OVERALL AIM OF SCRUTINY CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET ITEMS

3.1 To provide views and / or alternative suggestions for savings, regarding the 2012/13 budget proposals presented to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in relation to Home to School Transport.

4. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF 2012/13 BUDGET PROPOSALS

4.1 The following Terms of Reference are proposed:-

- (a) To gain an understanding of the service areas in relation to:
 - i) The current budget (as detailed in the budget book);
 - ii) Staffing information;
 - iii) Budgetary and operational pressures / challenges / priorities and statutory responsibilities (where applicable);
 - iv) The level of savings required.
- (b) To explore the budget requirements in relation to:-
 - i) The required savings (including areas where provision of services could be ceased, reduced or changed to improve efficiency);
 - ii) The potential impact of proposals / options on future service provision; and
 - iii) How the provision of service could look in the future.
- (c) To formulate the Forum's comments on the budget proposals to feed in to the decision making process; and
- (d) To provide details of, and consider, any alternative suggestions the Forum may develop to achieve the required savings in the areas identified.

5. POTENTIAL AREAS OF ENQUIRY / SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- 5.1 Members of the Forum can request a range of evidential and comparative information throughout the budget process. However, Members may wish to be mindful of the need to deal with budget proposals in an efficient and timely manner and the impact on the department responsible for the budget area, when considering such requests.
- 5.2 The 2012/13 budget will be discussed at a number of public meetings including Scrutiny Forums, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, Cabinet and Council. Elected Members, representatives of groups who provide and use services, residents and members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings, where consideration will be given to their views in relation to the budget proposals.
- 5.3 Evidence to be provided:
 - (i) Details of the current budget (as detailed in the budget book);
 - (ii) staffing information;
 - (iii) Details of budgetary and operational pressures / challenges / priorities and statutory responsibilities (where applicable);
 - (iv) The level of savings required; and
 - (v) Details of potential options identified for the delivery of required budget savings.

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. Paragraph 5.2 identifies the budget process route. Further details regarding the public meetings to be held to discuss the 2012/13 budget can be found on the Council's website.

7. PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE BUDGET PROCESS

- 7.1 Detailed below is the proposed timetable for the budget consultation to be undertaken in relation to the areas identified in paragraph 2.3, which may be changed at any stage:-

19 July 2011

- (a) Scoping Report; and
- (b) Setting the scene presentation to include:-

- (i) A detailed overview of services currently provided in relation to Home to School Transport;
- (ii) Details of the amount of required savings;
- (iii) Details of how the required efficiencies may be delivered; and
- (iv) The potential effect of efficiencies on future service provision / what the service will look like in the future.

6 September 2011

Consideration of any further evidence requested at the 19 July 2011 meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

Formulation and consideration by the Forum of suggestions to achieve the required savings.

Formulation of comments by the Forum to feed into the 2012/13 budget decision making process.

October 2011 – Consideration of the Home to School budget proposals by Cabinet (tentative date).

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 Members are recommended to agree the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's remit of consideration of the 2012/13 budget proposals as outlined in paragraph 4.1.

Contact Officer: - Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: - 01429 523087
Email:- laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper(s) was/were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Presentation by the Assistant Chief Executive entitled 'Budget Position 2012/13' - delivered to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of 24 June 2011.

- (ii) Report of the Assistant Chief Executive entitled 'Selection and Timetabling of Project / Service Areas to feed into the 2012/13 Budget Process' – delivered to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of 24 June 2011
- (iii) Minutes of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee 24 June 2011.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 July 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: BUDGET CONSULTATION – HOME TO SCHOOL
TRANSPORT – COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that the Assistant Director of Performance and Achievement has been invited to this meeting to provide information in relation to the Home to School Transport budget consultation item.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on Friday 24 June 2011, it was agreed that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum would consider the following budget item at its meeting of 19 July 2011:-

- Home to School Transport

- 2.2 Consequently the Assistant Director of Performance and Achievement has agreed to attend this meeting to provide a presentation in relation to the budget area outlined above.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum consider the information provided and seek clarification on any relevant issues where required.

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

Tel:- 01429 523087

E-mail:- laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk

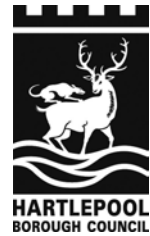
BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Report of the Assistant Chief Executive entitled 'Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2011/12 – Selection and Timetabling of Project / Service Areas to feed into the 2012/13 Budget Process' delivered to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 24 June 2011.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM REPORT

18 July 2010



Report of: Assistant Chief Executive

Subject: APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Member nominations to the following Outside Body from the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As part of the Executive Appointments to Outside Bodies, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor considered the issue of appointments to a number of outside bodies. Several of these outside body appointments were referred to other meetings for appointment, and of these, one was referred to this Scrutiny Forum for consideration.
- 2.2 The outside body referred for Member appointment is the Schools Admissions Forum.

3. APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

- 3.1 School Admissions Forum – 5 members

The Schools Admissions Forum considers existing and proposed admission arrangements and how they serve the interests of local children and parents; aim to reach local agreement on any new or controversial issues; consider the comprehensiveness and accessibility of the Children's Services Authority's admissions literature and information for parents; consider and approve local co-ordinated arrangements; promote more modern and parent-friendly admissions processes.

The Forum are asked to note that the following six nominations have been received for five places. The Forum is therefore requested to select five nominations to be appointed from the following:

Councillors Fleet, Griffin, Ingham, Simmons, Wells and Wilcox

For Members' information, the representatives on the Schools Admissions Forum for 2010/11 were:

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Fleet, Griffin, Maness and Simmons.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Forum considers the above nominations for the School Admissions Forum and selects five nominations from within its membership for submission to the Executive for approval.