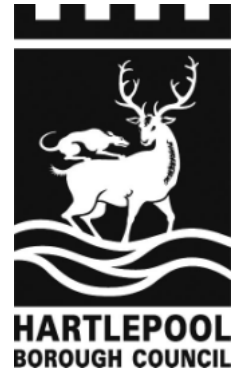


CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Tuesday 6 September 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 19 July 2011

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

No items

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

No items

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

No items

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS) BUDGET CONSULTATION

7.1 CAMHS Budget Consultation:-

- (a) Covering Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*
- (b) Presentation - *Assistant Director of Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services*

PLAY OPPORTUNITIES POOL BUDGET CONSULTATION

7.2 Play Opportunities Pool - Scoping Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

7.3 Play Opportunities Pool Budget Consultation:-

- (a) Covering Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*
- (b) Presentation - *Assistant Director of Performance and Achievement*

YOUTH SERVICE HEADLAND FUTURES BUDGET CONSULTATION

7.4 Youth Service Headland Futures - Scoping Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

7.5 Youth Service Headland Futures Budget Consultation:-

- (a) Covering Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*
- (b) Presentation - *Assistant Director of Performance and Achievement*

7.6 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT BUDGET CONSULTATION

7.7 Home to School Transport Budget Consultation:-

- (a) Covering Report - *Scrutiny Support Officer*
- (b) Additional Information - *Assistant Director of Performance and Achievement*

8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN

8.1 Executive's Forward Plan – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- i) **Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 18 October 2011, commencing at 4.30pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

19 July 2011

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

Present:

Councillor: Chris Simmons (In the Chair)

Councillors: Mary Fleet, Sheila Griffin, Peter Ingham, and Angie Wilcox.

Co-opted Member: David Relton.

Resident Representative: Joan Steel.

Young Peoples Representatives: Hannah Bew, Bianca Gascoigne, Kim Henry and Robyn Reid.

Also Present: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.2 Councillor Brenda Loynes as substitute for Councillor Ray Wells.

Officers: Caroline O'Neill, Assistant Director, Performance and Achievement.
Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services
Paul Robson, Integrated Transport Manager
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer
Laura Stones, Scrutiny Support Officer
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officer

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Maness and Wells and Co-opted Member Eira Ballingall.

2. Declarations of interest by Members

Councillor Chris Simmons declared a private and prejudicial interest in Minute numbers 14 and 15 and therefore left the meeting during its consideration.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2011 were confirmed.

4. Portfolio Holder's response on the 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)*

The report provided 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. 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 were set out in the Action Plan submitted as an appendix to the report.

Recommended

That the report and the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plan, appended to the report, be noted.

5. Portfolio Holder's response on the 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)*

The report provided 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. 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 were provided in the Action Plan submitted as an appendix to the report. The Chair thanked the young people who had conducted the investigation and presented the report to Cabinet.

Recommended

That the report and the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plan, appended to the report, be noted.

6. Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services, including the Safeguarding of Young People - Progress Report *(Scrutiny Support Officer)*

The Scrutiny Support Officer reported on progress in relation to the investigation into 'Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services, Including the Safeguarding of Young People'. It

was highlighted that matters had moved forward quite quickly following the approval of the report by Cabinet.

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.”

Following the meeting of Cabinet, a Social Media Group was set up involving representatives from the Chief Executive’s, Child and Adult Services and Regeneration and Neighbourhood’s Departments, chaired by the Assistant Chief Executive. The Social Media Group was currently finalising details of a Corporate Social Media Policy and would be contacting the Young People’s Representatives on the Children’s Services Scrutiny Forum to take forward the recommendation made by Cabinet.

The Chair welcomed the report and indicated that the Mayor had been very impressed and grateful for the investigation undertaken by the young people’s representatives and felt it essential that they were included in the development of the council policy.

Recommended

That the report be noted.

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

No items.

8. Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011/12 *(Director of Child and Adult Services)*

The Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services presented the draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011-12 to the Forum for consideration and comment in accordance with the Council’s Budget and Policy Framework. It was highlighted that in previous years this report had been forwarded to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum but would now and in future be reported to this forum.

Members questioned if the strategic plan addressed the concerns that had arisen during the recent inspections. The Assistant Director indicated that the service had been re-inspected in January and there had been an upturn in performance. This plan did address the inspection concerns but there was also a separate plan specifically designed to address the key areas highlighted in the inspections.

Members expressed their concern at the government’s withdrawal of grant

support for Sure Start which was leading to its closure. Long term experience in America showed that withdrawing such early intervention had an effect on young people's offending rates. The Assistant Director indicated that officers were looking at early intervention services for 0 to 19 year olds. There was generally a reduction in youth offending and the numbers referred into the youth service. The Chair commented that the figures included in the report showed an increase in public order offences among young people and questioned if there was any particular reason for this.

The Assistant Director commented that early interventions could have huge impacts on eventual outcomes for young people. The services to young people 0 to 19 years, were being reviewed and it was believed that through targeted intervention at the earliest opportunity these services to vulnerable young people would continue to have the same positive impact as at present. The service was still targeting the most prolific offenders. Some of the variations in figures may be down to how the figures were collected and published. There was a new Police District Commander who may have a different approach to his predecessor which may lead to some of the variations.

Recommended

That the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2011-12 as submitted be approved.

9. Role of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer presented a report giving an overview of the role and functions of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum. As well as setting out the general functions of scrutiny, the report included the specific terms of reference of this Forum together with the proposed meeting dates for 2011/12. It was highlighted that there would be an additional meeting on 23 November 2011.

Recommended

That the report be noted.

10. Children's Services Scrutiny Forum - Work Programme for 2011/12 (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer reported that at the meeting of the Scrutiny Coordinating 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

It was agreed that budget items relating to youth justice would now be considered by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum given the relevance of these items to the work of this Forum.

It was reported at the meeting that the young people's representatives had chosen 'Evening and weekend public transport availability'. There was significant concern among young people that the recent changes to the bus timetables following the withdrawal of local authority support for unprofitable and contracted services meant that it was almost impossible for young people to attend after school events and evening clubs, events due to the lack of transport.

Recommended

That the report and the work programme be noted.

11. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) - Budget Consultation- Scoping Report (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer reported that at the meeting of Scrutiny Coordinating 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.

It was agreed at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee work programming meeting on 24 June 2011 that a series budget proposals would be considered by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum. In this first of those budget consultation items, the Forum was asked 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. The report set out proposed terms of reference for budget investigations, and areas of enquiry and the timetable for this particular investigation. It was intended that a report on CAHMS would be submitted to Cabinet in October 2011.

The Assistant Director indicated that at this time it looked feasible to reduce the budget by the required amount without overly affecting the front line

service. Members expressed their strong support for the retention of services for looked after children. The Assistant Director commented that much of this service provision was aimed at early interventions to ensure children didn't come into the looked after system. The authority would have to look at how it utilised the early Intervention Grant and the packages of support given to families.

Recommended

That the remit for consideration of the 2012/13 budget proposals as outlined in the report in relation to CAHMS be approved.

12. Appointment to Outside Bodies (*Assistant Chief Executive*)

The Principal Democratic Services Officer reported that 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. The outside body referred for Member appointment is the Schools Admissions Forum.

The Forum are asked to note that the following six nominations had been received for the five places on the Schools Admission Forum. The Scrutiny Forum was therefore requested to select five nominations to be appointed from the following:

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

For Members' information it was indicated that the representatives on the Schools Admissions Forum in 2010/11 were Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Fleet, Griffin, Maness and Simmons.

Councillor Wilcox indicated at the meeting that she would wish to withdraw her nomination.

Recommended

That Councillors Fleet, Griffin, Ingham, Simmons, and Wells be appointed as the representatives to the Schools Admission Forum for 2011/12.

13. Issues Identified from the Forward Plan

No items.

COUNCILLOR ANGIE WILCOX IN THE CHAIR**14. Home to School Transport - Budget Consultation- Scoping Report** (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer reported that at the meeting of Scrutiny Coordinating 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.

It was agreed at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee work programming meeting on 24 June 2011 that a series budget proposals would be considered by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum. In this second of those budget consultation items, the Forum was asked 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. The report set out proposed terms of reference for budget investigations, and areas of enquiry and the timetable for this particular investigation. It was intended that a report on Home to School Transport would be submitted to Cabinet in October 2011.

Recommended

That the remit for consideration of the 2012/13 budget proposals as outlined in the report in relation to Home to School Transport be approved.

15. Home to School Transport - Budget Consultation- Setting the Scene (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Assistant Director, Performance and Achievement gave a presentation to the Forum on the Home to School Transport service. The Assistant Director highlighted to the Forum that this was not a discretionary local service but one where policy was set in Westminster. What was discretionary, however, and a change that a growing number of authorities had opted to utilise was that local authorities were not obliged to support transport to faith schools. The presentation went on to outline the current entitlement/eligibility, the budget (£1.6m in Hartlepool for both statutory and non-statutory student transport), the targeted savings of £150,000, the current services, how the review was expected to achieve the savings target and the timetable for the process and the consultation process. Members requested that as part of the investigation it would be helpful to have a breakdown of all statutory and non statutory services provided.

Members were surprised to learn that the transport to faith schools was not included in the legislation but only through local 'custom and practice'. The level of transport costs associated with children and young people with special

needs was also a concern. The Integrated Transport Manager indicated that over 50% of the total budget was associated with these services, a level which was higher than the national average. Members requested that as part of the investigation it would be helpful to have detailed costs broken down for this service area.

The Assistant Director commented that for special needs children, there could be the cost not only of the transport but an escort to assist child depending on the needs of the individuals. One of the potential savings could be to reduce the level of escort assistance provided but only if it was considered safe to do so. Pick up points was also an area where there could be potential savings. There was also the need to look to developing the independence of some of the young people who received transport. Members were concerned to ensure that such moves were done in an appropriate manner with all the appropriate reviews and safeguards put in place.

In relation to consultation, members commented that it would in the future be helpful if there was a young people's representative on the Transport Champions Group. Members were also concerned that parents would have plenty of notice of any changes. The Assistant Director commented that any changes agreed through the review would not be implemented until the start of the new school year in September 2012.

The Assistant Director also referred to the authority's moves to increase the number of families registered to receive free school meals. There were still a large number of families in the town that were not claiming free school meals when they were eligible. Part of the advice being given to parents was that even if they did not take up the free school meals, being registered would mean that they were also eligible for free school transport and also assistance with post 16 education transport. With the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) being withdrawn and replaced by bursaries for the young people from low income families, being registered for free school meals prior to leaving secondary education may assist in their gaining some support for tertiary education.

Recommended

1. That the Assistant Director be thanked for her informative presentation.
2. That a breakdown of all statutory and non statutory services be provided.
3. That further information be supplied on the breakdown of costs for the provision of home to school transport particularly in relation to transport for children with special needs.

The meeting concluded at 5.35 p.m.

CHAIR

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: BUDGET CONSULTATION – CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS) – COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that the Assistant Director of Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services has been invited to this meeting to provide information in relation to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) 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 6 September 2011:-

- CAMHS

- 2.2 Consequently the Assistant Director of Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services 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

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM
CONSIDERATION OF 2012/13 BUDGET ITEMS –
PLAY OPPORTUNITIES POOL - 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:-

- Play Opportunities Pool

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 the Play Opportunities Pool.

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:-

6 September 2011

- (a) Scoping Report; and

(b) Setting the scene presentation to include:-

- (i) A detailed overview of services currently provided in relation to the Play Opportunities Pool;
- (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.

18 October 2011

Consideration of any further evidence requested at the 6 September 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.

November 2011 – Consideration of the Play Opportunities budget proposals by the Portfolio Holder (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

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: BUDGET CONSULTATION – PLAY
OPPORTUNITIES POOL – 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 Play Opportunities Pool 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 6 September 2011:-

- Play Opportunities Pool

- 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

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM
CONSIDERATION OF 2012/13 BUDGET ITEMS –
YOUTH SERVICE HEADLAND FUTURES -
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:-

- Youth Service Headland Futures

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 Youth Service Headland Futures.

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:-

6 September 2011

- (a) Scoping Report; and

(b) Setting the scene presentation to include:-

- (i) A detailed overview of services currently provided in relation to Youth Service Headland Futures;
- (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.

18 October 2011

Consideration of any further evidence requested at the 6 September 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.

November 2011 – Consideration of Youth Service Headland Futures budget proposals by the Portfolio Holder (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

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: BUDGET CONSULTATION – YOUTH SERVICE
HEADLAND FUTURES – 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 Youth Service Headland Futures 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 6 September 2011:-

- Youth Service Headland Futures

- 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
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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

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

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

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 In November 2007 the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee approved the introduction of the Scrutiny Monitoring Database, an electronic database, to monitor the delivery of agreed scrutiny recommendations since the 2005/06 Municipal Year.
- 2.2 In March 2010 Scrutiny Chairs noted and agreed for the movement of the Scrutiny Monitoring Database into the Covalent, which is the Council's Performance Management System. Members are asked to note that during May 2011 all call-in's and referrals since the 2005/06 Municipal Year were added to Covalent, therefore, although actions may have been completed as far back as 2005/06 they will appear in Appendix A.
- 2.3 In accordance with the agreed procedure, this report provides for Members details of progress made against each of the investigations undertaken by the Forum. **Chart1** overleaf is the overall progress made by all scrutiny forums since 2005 and **Appendix A** provides a detailed explanation of progress made against each scrutiny recommendation agreed by this Forum since the last six monthly monitoring report presented in March 2011.

Chart1: Progress made by all Scrutiny Investigations Undertaken since 2005

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members:-

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

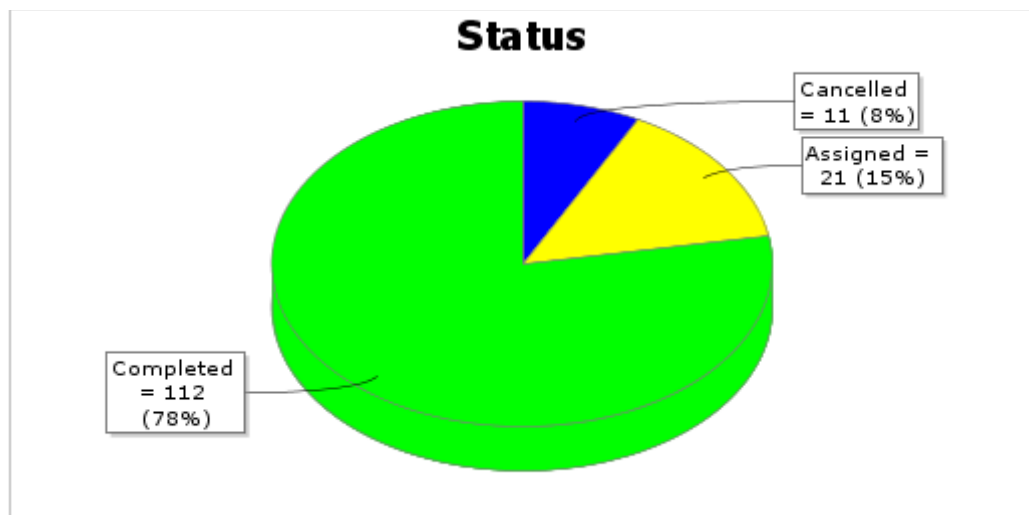
Contact Officer:- Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
 Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
 Hartlepool Borough Council
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Children's Services Scrutiny Forum - All

Generated on: 24 August 2011



Year 2005/06

Investigation Adult Learning Inspection

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|--|-------------|-------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| SCR-CS/11a That Members note the contents of this draft final report, and agree the findings outlined in section 3.1, for submission to Scrutiny Co- | SCR-CS/11a In response to the Scrutiny Forum's recommendations the Portfolio Holder: (a) agreed the findings and recommendations of the report; and (b) asked it to be noted that in light of | | 28-Feb-2007 | 28-Feb-2007 | 03-May-2011 Approved by the Portfolio Holder for Adult & Public Health Services on 12/12/05. | <div><div>100%</div></div> Completed |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|-----------------------|--------|---|-------------|-------------------|----------|------|----------|--|
| ordinating Committee. | | the impending announcement from the Learning and Skills Council, in the form of the document "Future of Post 19 Funding", Scrutiny may wish to look at the future configuration of Adult Learning services. | | | | | | |

Year 2008/09

Investigation Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason

| Recommendation | Action | | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|---|--------------|---|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---|---|--|
| SCR-CS/7b That support is given to assist young people in the transition into independent living. | SCR-CS/7b/iv | The viability of the jointly funded Young Person's Accommodation Officer (currently temporary) being reviewed as a permanent appointment. | Jane Young | 31-Oct-2009 | 31-Oct-2010 | <p>10-Mar-2011 Post has been permanently established as a joint post across Youth Offending & Children's Social Care.</p> <p>18-Oct-2010 Additional funding has been identified so that an extension of a temporary post has been possible until permanent funding has been identified within the current financial circumstances.</p> <p>12-Jul-2010 It has not yet been possible for the funding streams to be agreed on a permanent basis but further work is continuing to identify how it might be</p> | <div> <div></div> 100% </div> Completed | |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|---|-------------|-------------------|-------------|--|---------------------------|
| | | | | | <p>achieved. In the meantime, some of the work is being done by the Through Care Team.</p> <p>09-Apr-2010 It has not yet been possible for funding arrangements to be clarified - due to the Business Transformation work within the department. A recent decision about the responsibility for the Youth Offending Service moving to the Child & Adult Department will help in this matter as budgets will be within the same department.</p> <p>23-Feb-2010 A detailed report is being considered by Senior Managers currently. A central difficulty is converting the post to a permanent one while it is funded by grants and at a time when Business transformation is happening.</p> | |
| SCR-CS/7d/ii That during the planning stages for new housing developments in Hartlepool:- (ii) Young people are consulted about accommodation that would be appropriate for their needs. | SCR-CS/7d/ii In addition to 7d/ii and as part of recommendation 7a, that consideration will be given to the training of young people to be involved in the conversion of existing Council buildings to supported accommodation provision. | Jane Young | 31-Mar-2011 | 31-Mar-2011 | <p>10-Mar-2011 Consultation has been completed and the views of children and young people will be fed into any future development of supported accommodation provision. As these arise, young people will</p> | <div>100%</div> Completed |

7.6
Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|---|----------|
| | | | | | be involved fully in the development process. | |
| | | | | | 19-Jan-2011 The successful consultaion process remains in place and will be initiated whenever, there is an opportunity to consider options. | |
| | | | | | 18-Oct-2010 The successful consultaion process remains in place and will be initiated whenever, there is an opportunity to consider options. | |
| | | | | | 12-Jul-2010 The consultation system continues to be used for other issues e.g. Supported Lodgings Scheme that started in July 2010 and could easily be used for any Housing developments in future. | |
| | | | | | 09-Apr-2010 A well established mechanism for consultation with young people on other issues will provide an easily used mechanism whenever a suitable housing development is being considered. | |
| | | | | | 23-Feb-2010 Preliminary work with young people has identified a willingness to participate in this | |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|--|
| | | | | | piece of work by them. | | |

Year 2008/09 Investigation Call-In: Service Specifications for Children's Centres Outreach Package

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|---|--|-------------|-------------------|-------------|------|---|--|
| SCR-CS/12a The Forum concluded that the Portfolio Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | SCR-CS/12a Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972. | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <input type="text" value="0%"/> Cancelled | |
| SCR-CS/12b The Forum concluded that the Portfolio Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | SCR-CS/12b Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972. | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <input type="text" value="0%"/> Cancelled | |
| SCR-CS/12c The Forum concluded that the Portfolio Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | SCR-CS/12c Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972. | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <input type="text" value="0%"/> Cancelled | |
| SCR-CS/12d The Forum concluded that the Portfolio Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | SCR-CS/12d Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972. | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <input type="text" value="0%"/> Cancelled | |
| SCR-CS/12e The Forum concluded that the Portfolio | SCR-CS/12e Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <input type="text" value="0%"/> Cancelled | |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|---|------------|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | | Government Act 1972. | | | | | |
| SCR-CS/12f The Forum concluded that the Portfolio Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | SCR-CS/12f | Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972. | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <div><div>0%</div></div> Cancelled |
| SCR-CS/12g The Forum concluded that the Portfolio Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | SCR-CS/12g | Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972. | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <div><div>0%</div></div> Cancelled |
| SCR-CS/12h The Forum concluded that the Portfolio Holder be asked to re-consider the decision made on 13 November 2008. | SCR-CS/12h | Recommendation details are exempt under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972. | | 31-Mar-2020 | 31-Mar-2020 | | <div><div>0%</div></div> Cancelled |

Year 2009/10

Investigation Targeted and Detached Youth Work Provision in Hartlepool

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|--|-------------|--|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| SCR-CS/8b That the provision of a larger bus on a shared (time) basis with partner organisations/bodies be explored. | SCR-CS/8b/i | Complete needs analysis with potential partners in relation to shared use. | Steve Sproston; Beth Storey | 30-Sep-2010 | 30-Sep-2011 | 02-Mar-2011 Potentail partnerships have been put on hold due to the current funding situation internally and externally. This will be reviewed as | <div><div>100%</div></div> Completed |

7.6
Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|---------------------------|
| | | | | | <p>circumstances change.</p> <p>01-Oct-2010 Needs analysis has been delayed due to a change in economic circumstances and partners uncertainty about financial sustainability. Meeting held with partners september progress with one partner (families first). Childrens Trust in January. Action deferred until then.</p> <p>18-Aug-2010 Conference into mobile provision has been attended and dates for meetings with local partners have been sceduled.</p> | |
| SCR-CS/8b That the provision of a larger bus on a shared (time) basis with partner organisations/bodies be explored. | SCR-CS/8b/iii Seek to address resource implications through additional funding and partnerships. | Steve Sproston; Beth Storey | 31-Mar-2011 | 31-Mar-2011 | <p>12-Jan-2011 At present moment action on hold due to economic circumstances</p> <p>01-Oct-2010 Have developed potenial partnership with families first in relation to mobile provision. Have formed partnership with STV around NCS pilots and have dawn together a 'youth work group' involving partners in the town to look at joint commissioning.</p> <p>08-Jul-2010 Have made</p> | <div>100%</div> Completed |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|-----------------|-----------|
| | | | | | initial enquiries with local partners who have mobile provision. | | |
| SCR-CS/8f That ways of improving advertising of youth services be explored further, including the use of advertising space in & on council property or buildings. | SCR-CS/8f/ii Review 13 to 19 advertising on Families Information Service website. | Daniel Cleary; Beth Storey | 30-Sep-2010 | 30-Sep-2011 | <p>11-Aug-2011 \Review is complete - awaiting corporate policy website and social networking in development</p> <p>01-Oct-2010 A full scrutiny investigation is currently taking place with young people to look at the best way to advertise opportunities to young people while taking into consideration safeguarding issues.</p> <p>18-Aug-2010 Progress to date has been slow although some consultation has taken place.</p> | <div>100%</div> | Completed |

Year 2010/11 Investigation Refurbishment of Exmoor Grove Children's Home

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|--|--|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---|-----------------|-----------|
| SCR-CS/13a After consideration of the information and an examination of the costs, the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum agreed that the refurbishment of Exmoor Grove should go ahead. | SCR-CS/13a That the Capital Works Programme to refurbish Exmoor Grove short break care centre, scheduled to commence during early November 2010, be approved. | | 01-Nov-2010 | 01-Nov-2010 | 13-May-2011 Recommendation agreed by the Children's Services Portfolio Holder at their meeting of 26/10/10. | <div>100%</div> | Completed |

Year 2010/11
Investigation Think Family - Preventative and Early Intervention Services

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|---|---|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| SCR-CS/10a/iv The Council works with partner organisations / agencies to: (iv) Ensure that all services are open and accessible to all families and family members. | SCR-CS/10a/iv All commissioned service specifications will have a clause that clearly specifies appropriate access routes that are clear and interconnected. | Ian Merritt | 30-Sep-2011 | 30-Sep-2011 | 10-Aug-2011 All services are open and accessible for children & families. | <div><div>100%</div></div> Completed |

Year 2010/11
Investigation Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| SCR-CS/9a Some Clear policy and guidance put in place for all departments within the council to follow | SCR-CS/9a 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 | Leigh Keeble; Trevor Smith | 31-May-2011 | 31-May-2011 | 11-Aug-2011 New policy and procedure has been drafted. Those sites in the department to be closed down and new content added to the corporate sites. New process to be piloted from 1st September for 3 months. 04-Jul-2011 Report presented to DMT. A corporate group has met and a council policy drafted. Proposals on the structure of the use of social media to be rolled out by August 2011. | <div><div>100%</div></div> Completed |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|---|----------------------------|-----------|
| | on a personal level. | | | | | | |
| SCR-CS/9b Have a standard procedure – departments should not go ahead and do this on their own | SCR-CS/9b Above report gives a suggested framework for overseeing the development and use of social media tools for all age ranges. | Leigh Keeble; Trevor Smith | 31-May-2011 | 31-May-2011 | 11-Aug-2011 Report has been completed and went to both C&AS and R&N DMT's. This was then adopted as a basis for the corporate group (which was formed to coordinate the council-wide approach to the use of social media) which has progressed the recommendations. | <div><div>100%</div></div> | Completed |

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

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|---|--|-------------|-------------------|-------------|---|---------------------------|----------|
| SCR-CS/4c That pending the outcome(s) of the joint Steering Group (recommendation (a) refers) immediate consideration be given to providing assistance to those schemes that are likely to encounter future sustainability issue. | SCR-CS/4c After business plans and financial forecasts have been prepared and agreed with schools it will be possible to identify sustainability issues and quantify the level of any subsidies that may be required from the LA in future years. Any bids will then be submitted as part of the Council's annual budget cycle. | Paula Hunt | 31-Oct-2008 | 31-Oct-2011 | 09-Mar-2011 Only one school based community facility has immediate sustainability concerns. St John Vianney is currently operating as a deficit, which has been addressed in year. The deficit carried forward from 2009/10 will be offset from the contingency budget of £102,000 held within Children's Services Department. These facilities will become self funding from 2011/12 onwards, or will have to | <div><div>30%</div></div> | Assigned |

7.6
Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|--|----------|
| | | | | | <p>be subsidised by the individual schools budget.</p> <p>21-Apr-2010 Only two school based community facilities have immediate financial sustainability concerns. Brierton Sports Centre is experiencing funding shortfalls due to the school closure - this will be alleviated when Dyke House school decants in September 2010. St John Vianney early years facilities continue to operate at a deficit - this is currentky being reviewed with the school and early years manager.</p> <p>23-Feb-2010 A contingency provision of up to £100,000 per year was secured by the Children's Services Department as part of its 2009/10 budget submission. This will be made available to subsidise those facilities who have demonstrated that, despite taking all appropriate actions, they are unable to break even financially. Following closure of the 2008/09 accounts no schemes carried forward deficits but there are at</p> | |

7.6
Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|--|----------|
| | | | | | least 2 schemes which may require funding this year. | |

Year 2008/09

Investigation Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|---|--|-------------|-------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| SCR-CS/7a/i That supported accommodation providers be encouraged to set up more facilities in the Town. | SCR-CS/7a/i/1 Discussions take place as part of the Business Transformation Programme to explore the viability of converting existing Council owned property into appropriate supported accommodation for young people. | Jane Young | 31-Mar-2011 | 30-Apr-2012 | <p>24-Aug-2011 The Supported Housing review is progressing, in addition, exploration and feasibility assessments are being undertaken with regards to properties that have become available through the Business Transformation programme.</p> <p>08-Jul-2011 A supported housing review is ongoing, we continue to consider all options to improve access to appropriate supported accommodation for young people.</p> <p>10-Mar-2011 No interest from national organisation to progress. Option has been given full consideration to date no suitable properties have been identified.</p> | <div> <div>25%</div> Assigned </div> |

7.6
Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|--|----------|
| | | | | | 19-Jan-2011 No progress has been possible yet on confirming the continuing interest by the national organisation and the overall review of council property has not identified any viable options to pursue. Efforts will continue to be made to increase the range of accommodation required. | |
| | | | | | 18-Oct-2010 No progress has been possible yet on confirming the continuing interest by the national organisation and the overall review of council property has not identified any viable options to pursue. Efforts will continue to be made to increase the range of accommodation required. | |
| | | | | | 09-Apr-2010 A large national organisation have been in discussion with Housing Aid Staff with a view to opening a new supported accommodation facility. However, discussions on finance have not been | |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|---|----------|
| | | | | | concluded. 23-Feb-2010 Despite efforts to attract potential providers, none have so far expressed an interest. It is still too early to identify any possible Council owned property that may become vacant and hence be considered for use as supported accommodation for young people. | |

Year 2008/09 Investigation Hartlepool Borough Council's Foster Care Service

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|---|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|--------------|
| SCR-CS/6d That the Foster Care Service Section on the Council's website be redesigned to make it a more accessible and comprehensive source of information. | SCR-CS/6d Consultation undertaken with foster carers about what would be required from a web page. Benchmark national best practice examples. Web pages to be updated and redesigned taking above into consideration and seeking advice and guidance on 'what works' from web designers. Work to be undertaken with departmental website representatives in conjunction with additional corporate advice to explore ways to promote a short | Jacky Yeaman-Vaas | 01-Jun-2009 | 05-Sep-2011 | 11-Aug-2011 There is now a fostering and adoption microsite linked to the HBC website which provides general information regarding both services. We are also in the process of enabling the foster carers to access the Practice Guidance for social workers which would allow them to electronically access the policies and procedures relating to fostering. All foster carers are also members of Fostering | 95% Assigned |

7.6
Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--|-------------|-------------------|----------|--|----------|
| | cut link to fostering pages, and upload information packs and application forms. | | | | <p>Network and are able to access their website for information.</p> <p>07-Mar-2011 Progress has been made in identifying people to assist in updating the web pages within the Hartlepool Borough council website which pertain to fostering and adoption. The fostering team will be canvassing the views of the foster carers regarding what they would require of the web pages initially through their support group meeting and then a postal survey</p> <p>04-Oct-2010 Meeting took place with web site provider, & quote obtained, however it was felt that it would be better value for money to create web-site in-house . this is still in progress therefore no consultation has yet taken place with foster carers.</p> <p>23-Feb-2010 Issue identified within service development plan and work on-going to develop areas identified in action. Hartlepool Borough Council website to be re-launched by end of 2009 and will</p> | |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|--|----------|
| | | | | | inform further development of web pages. | |

Year 2009/10

Investigation Targeted and Detached Youth Work Provision in Hartlepool

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|---|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| SCR-CS/8c There is no 'one size fits all' method of providing services and consideration needs to be given to how services can be provided for young people to 'chill out' with friends in an environment where they are not moved on by other agencies. | SCR-CS/8c/i Re-assessment of myplace data. | Beth Storey | 30-Sep-2010 | 30-Sep-2011 | 02-Mar-2011 Work on the youth offer to be undertaken due to change in local provision. Work scheduled to be completed by September 2011. | <div> <div>50%</div> Assigned </div> |
| | | | | | 12-Jan-2011 A review of youth work and its geographical spread is/has been conducted in relation to budget implications | |
| | | | | | 01-Oct-2010 The new youth work group will also inform this process. | |
| | | | | | 08-Jul-2010 A review of youth work provision is taking place as part of the development of the youth offer in Hartlepool | |
| SCR-CS/8c There is no 'one size fits all' method of providing services and consideration needs to be given to how services can be | SCR-CS/8c/ii Assessment of generic/youth club/drop in/mobile provision for young people aged 13-19 on a geographical basis including 3rd sector delivery.-Seek to address | Mark Smith; Beth Storey | 31-Mar-2011 | 10-Oct-2011 | 02-Mar-2011 Work on youth offer will complete this process by September 2011. | <div> <div>03%</div> Assigned </div> |
| | | | | | 24-Jan-2011 Recent savings and efficiencies | |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|--|-------------|-------------------|----------|---|----------|
| provided for young people to 'chill out' with friends in an environment where they are not moved on by other agencies. | via prioritisation of areas with gaps in commissioning/partnership work. | | | | <p>have necessitated assessment of generic/youth club/drop in/mobile provision for young people aged 13-19.on) geographical basis including 3rd sector delivery. Thus far we have been able to protect front line provision.</p> <p>01-Oct-2010 This has been identified as an ongoing function within the youth work group.</p> <p>08-Jul-2010 to be addressed as part of youth offer</p> | |

Year 2010/11

Investigation Think Family - Preventative and Early Intervention Services

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|--|---------------|-------------------|-------------|---|-------------------------|
| SCR-CS/10a/i 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 | SCR-CS/10a/i Continue the development of a think family process based on a sound assessment process and clear service pathways. | John Robinson | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 08-Jul-2011 The Common Assessment Framework has been identified as an area for development by ofsted and as a consequence a working group has been established to promote its development. This group is currently reporting back to the local children safeguarding board with a range of recommendations. | <div>25%</div> Assigned |




7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|--|---|---|-------------------|-------------|---|----------------------------|----------|
| SCR-CS/10a/ii The Council works with partner organisations / agencies to: (ii) Ensure that all services are co-ordinated to avoid gaps in service provision and duplication of services; | SCR-CS/10a/ii/1 Continue to develop the "Team Around" model that engages partners in an integrated intervention process targeted directly at meeting identified need. | John Robinson; Mark Smith; Danielle Swainston | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 06-Jul-2011 Early Intervention strategy currently being developed which includes the Team Around approach. | <div><div></div></div> 25% | Assigned |
| SCR-CS/10a/ii The Council works with partner organisations / agencies to: (ii) Ensure that all services are co-ordinated to avoid gaps in service provision and duplication of services; | SCR-CS/10a/ii/2 Ensure that all partners use effective assessment processes based on the Common Assessment Framework. | Paul Kelly; John Robinson | 30-Sep-2011 | 30-Sep-2011 | 08-Jul-2011 The Common Assessment Framework has been identified as an area for development by ofsted and as a consequence a working group has been established to promote its development. This group is currently reporting back to the local children safeguarding board with a range of recommendations. | <div><div></div></div> 55% | Assigned |
| SCR-CS/10a/iii The Council works with partner organisations / agencies to: (iii) Develop stronger partnership arrangements to ensure that all organisations / agencies are signposting individuals / families to the appropriate | SCR-CS/10a/iii 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; Mark Smith; Danielle Swainston | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 06-Jul-2011 Developing early intervention strategy involving all partners - pathways being developed and tested as part of the process. | <div><div></div></div> 24% | Assigned |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|--|---------------|---|---|-------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| services | | | | | | | |
| SCR-CS/10b 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 | SCR-CS/10b | Provide an early intervention access point to all families through a number of community based hubs such as Children’s Centre’s, Schools and third sector buildings. | John Robinson; Mark Smith; Danielle Swainston | 30-Sep-2011 | 30-Sep-2011 | 06-Jul-2011 Developing early intervention strategy involving all partners - pathways being developed and tested as part of the process. | <div><div></div></div> 27% Assigned |
| SCR-CS/10c 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 | SCR-CS/10c | 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 | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 08-Jul-2011 Due to the need to establish new services through the Early Intervention Grant this action will need to be delayed. | <div><div></div></div> 7% Assigned |
| SCR-CS/10d The Council engages with parents and uses their experience to improve / deliver existing services and help develop new services | SCR-CS/10d/i | All services linked to the Think Family initiative will be expected to provide evidence of parental involvement through the service specification. | Ian Merritt; John Robinson | 30-Sep-2011 | 30-Sep-2011 | 08-Jul-2011 The procurement of the parent participation project is nearly completed and this work will start on August 1st. | <div><div></div></div> 13% Assigned |
| SCR-CS/10d The Council engages with parents and uses their experience to improve / deliver existing services and | SCR-CS/10d/ii | The Children’s Fund will provide a one year project to engage with parents and set up a participation process that takes on the learning from the Aiming | John Robinson | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 08-Jul-2011 The procurement of the parent participation project is nearly completed and this work will start on | <div><div></div></div> 22% Assigned |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|---|--|---|-------------------|-------------|---|---|----------|
| help develop new services | High programme. | | | | August 1st. | | |
| SCR-CS/10e The Council explores options with partner organisations / agencies to secure funding for the continuation of services and the development of new services | SCR-CS/10e 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. | John Robinson; Mark Smith; Danielle Swainston | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 08-Jul-2011 At present officers are working with a number of organisations across the "into work" agenda, the citizenship programme and the early intervention grant. |  25% | Assigned |
| SCR-CS/10f The Council integrate the Think Family approach into community based services so that families feel comfortable, safe and secure when accessing the services | SCR-CS/10f 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. | John Robinson | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 08-Jul-2011 This work is currently being led by the Early Intervention Grant development group made up of senior children's services officers. |  75% | Assigned |
| SCR-CS/10g 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. | SCR-CS/10g 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 current learning, current resources and current policy. | Nicola Bailey | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 16-Aug-2011 A structured timetable of consultation began on the 11th July 2011 seeking to establish how best the Local Authority could allocate and prioritise resources according to local needs and invest in early intervention to improve outcomes for local children, young people and families, to allow for a series of recommendations to be submitted to Cabinet for decision in October |  25% | Assigned |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|-------|----------|
| | | | | | 2011. | |

Year 2010/11

Investigation Youth Involvement / Participation in the Development and Delivery of Council Services Including the Safeguarding of Young People

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|---|--|
| SCR-CS/9c 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! | SCR-CS/9c Approach to be agreed (with policy), but site will not monitored 24 hours a day. | Leigh Keeble; Trevor Smith | 31-May-2011 | 30-Nov-2011 | 11-Aug-2011 C&AS group has met and has agreed to adopt the corporate approach which will mean the phasing out of current individual sites, towards a corporate single site that will allow multiple contributors across the council (from different areas/depts) to monitor and update responses, as well as keep the site 'fresh looking'. This new approach is being piloted from 1st September 2011. | <div><div style="width: 50%;">50%</div></div> Assigned |
| SCR-CS/9d Employers should have basic legal training. If not don't do it! | SCR-CS/9d 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 | 31-Mar-2012 | 11-Aug-2011 A training course delivered to C&AS and R&N staff in Jan 2011. Current planning underway to roll out this approach to a wider group - specifically to the group of people who have been identified across the council who will be regularly updating the relevant social media sites. | <div><div style="width: 25%;">25%</div></div> Assigned |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress | |
|---|---|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|---|------------------------|----------|
| SCR-CS/9e 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 the each department sets up a site | SCR-CS/9e E-safety group in place to ensure children and young people are supported to enjoy the benefits of new technology, and provide guidance and skills to avoid risk and harm. | Jim Murdoch | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 18-Jul-2011 A new eSafety Strategy and set of associated Standards were accepted by the Board on 12th July 2011. Work on disseminating both will continue throughout the year. 18-Jul-2011 -- enter new status update -- | <div><div></div></div> | Assigned |
| SCR-CS/9f Take in to consideration examples of good practice. Some Councils may be ahead of others so link with them where possible | SCR-CS/9f 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 | 31-Mar-2012 | 11-Aug-2011 We have looked at a range of other council sites to examine their approach to the use of social media to interact with the public, including visits to Sunderland and Stockton councils. We will continue to look at other sites, particularly aimed at children and young people to better engage with them, including links to the e-safety group to ensure cross fertilisation of ideas generates a better and safer approach. | <div><div></div></div> | Assigned |
| SCR-CS/9g Social networking is not for everyone so other methods of communicating such as posters and leaflets will still need to be in place. | SCR-CS/9g Existing methods of communicating with the public will continue in C&AS as managed through the Development Team. | Leigh Keeble | 31-Mar-2012 | 31-Mar-2012 | 11-Aug-2011 All existing methods of communication with the public will continue to be used, e.g. leaflets, press releases, service user engagement events, Hartlepool Now web site, council web site, surveys, | <div><div></div></div> | Assigned |

7.6 Appendix A

| Recommendation | Action | Assigned To | Original Due Date | Due Date | Note | Progress |
|----------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|----------|--|----------|
| | | | | | consultations etc. This is ongoing and the core of our public engagement strategy. | |

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: BUDGET CONSULTATION – ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION ON THE HOME TO SCHOOL
TRANSPORT BUDGET ITEM – 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 additional information in relation to the Home to School Transport budget consultation item as requested at the meeting of the Forum on 19 July 2011.

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 items at its meetings of 19 July 2011 and 6 September 2011:-
- Home to School Transport
- 2.2 Following discussion of the budget item at the meeting of the Forum on 19 July 2011 Members requested that the following additional information be provided to the Forum:-
- (a) Breakdown of statutory and non-statutory services
 - (b) Figures / percentage spent on special needs transport
- 2.3 The additional information is attached as item 7.7(b) of today's agenda.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum consider the additional information provided and seek clarification on any relevant issues from the Assistant Director of Performance and Achievement 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.
- (ii) Minutes of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum 19 July 2011.

Statutory Transport

| Area | Budget Code | Buses | Taxis | Tickets | Total Expenditure | Comments |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Primary Mainstream | 22250 | £23,464.00 | £12,625.00 | £0.00 | £36,089.00 | |
| Secondary Mainstream | 22251 | £188,822.72 | £13,133.80 | £119,276.50 | £321,233.02 | includes £176735 Eng Martyrs denom? |
| Dyke House Decant | 22251 | £206,260.50 | £0.00 | £3,060.00 | £209,320.50 | |
| Prim Mstrm Special | 22252 | £42,167.00 | £9,594.00 | £0.00 | £51,761.00 | |
| Sec Mstrm Special | 22253 | £12,972.00 | £95,408.18 | £0.00 | £108,380.18 | |
| SEN | 22254 | £337,560.01 | £82,638.50 | £0.00 | £420,198.51 | |
| | | | | | £1,146,982.21 | SEN transport equates to 50% |

Non Statutory Transport

| Area | Budget Code | Buses | Taxis | Tickets | Total Expenditure | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|---------|-------------------|--|
| Post 16 | 22247 | | | | £9,623 | 2011/12 reserve held for additional £20,000 |
| Denominational Trpt Eng Mtyrs | 22251 | | | | £176,735 | Currently meets statutory entitlement under current policy. A review of admission policy or transport policy could generate efficiencies |
| Medical Short Term Support | 22251 | | | | 0 | Discretionary Power to assist those who need short term assistance This tends to be accomodated with current routes with no additional cost On occasion when this does arise this cost is paid from Home & Hospital Teaching |
| Looked After | 17465 | | | | £924 | Non PTS Budget Control |
| Home & Hospital Teaching | 22207 | | | | £404 | Non PTS Budget Control |
| Vulnerable Children | 22209 | | | | £271 | Non PTS Budget Control |
| | | | | | | |

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6 September 2011



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity for the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum to consider whether any item within the Executive's Forward Plan should be considered by this Forum.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 One of the main duties of Scrutiny is to hold the Executive to account by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Executive's Forward Plan) and to decide whether value can be added to the decision by the Scrutiny process in advance of the decision being made.
- 2.2 This would not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 As you are aware, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee has delegated powers to manage the work of Scrutiny, as it thinks fit, and if appropriate can exercise or delegate to individual Scrutiny Forums. Consequently, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee monitors the Executive's Forward Plan and delegates decisions to individual Forums where it feels appropriate.
- 2.4 In addition to this, the key decisions contained within the Executive's Forward Plan (September – December 2011) relating to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum are shown below for Members consideration:-

DECISION REFERENCE: CAS98/11 HARTLEPOOL SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2013/14

Nature of the decision

To give permission to go out to consult on Admission Arrangements for Hartlepool Schools 2013/14.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

Timing of the decision

The decision is required by September 2011 to allow the consultation to take place over the Autumn 2011.

Ward(s) affected

All Wards

Who will be consulted and how?

All HBC schools will be consulted via their governing body meetings, neighbouring local authorities, the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle will receive copies of the proposed arrangements via e-mail and the public consultation documents will be on HBC website.

Information to be considered by the decision-makers

Statutory requirement to consult on and publish Admission Arrangements.

How to make representations

Representations should be made to Sue Beevers, Admissions, School Place Planning and Support Services Manager, Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone (01429) 523672, e-mail sue.beevers@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information on this matter can be sought from Sue Beevers as above or the Admissions Team on 01429 523765

DECISION REFERENCE: CAS99/11 EARLY INTERVENTION STRATEGY**Nature of the decision**

To approve the Early Intervention Strategy which will provide the Local Authority and partners with the framework for the redesign, restructure and commissioning of local services to secure better results for children, young people and families.

Who will make the decision?

Cabinet.

Timing of the decision

24 October 2011.

Ward(s) affected

All wards.

Who will be consulted and how?

Local Authority Staff (Child and Adult Services) affected by Early Intervention Strategy via Staff Briefings

Partner Organisations via a series of Early Intervention Seminars

Partner Organisations via presentations to established groups and boards including:

- Safer Hartlepool Partnership

- 0 - 11 Partnership
- 11 - 19 Partnership
- Hartlepool Safeguarding Children's Board
- Children's Partnership
- Directors meeting with Primary Heads
- Directors meeting with Secondary Heads
- Health and Wellbeing Partnership
- Teenage Pregnancy Partnership Board
- North Forum
- Central Forum
- South Forum
- Substance Misuse Commissioning Group
- Parenting Forum

Parents via a series of Early Intervention Seminars

General Service Users via an invitation to comment on the Early Intervention Strategy via Local Press and Survey Monkey.

General Service Users via consultation exercises led by individual services (who are currently funded via the Early Intervention Grant) with their respective user groups.

Information to be considered by the decision-makers

In December 2010, the Secretary of State for Education announced the creation of a new Early Intervention Grant which would provide Local Authorities with greater flexibility and freedom to respond to local need.

The grant effectively replaces a number of funding streams that have historically funded specific services such as Children's Fund, Young Peoples Substance Misuse Services, Children's Centres, Connexions, the Teenage Pregnancy Service and the Youth Crime Action Plan and instead provides local authorities and partners with the impetus to act more strategically to pool and align this funding to target disadvantage more effectively, avoid duplication and invest in early intervention to produce better results for local children, young people and families.

This reduction in national prescription regarding how services for children, young people and families are configured and delivered has enabled local partnerships to begin to review local need and the suitability of existing services with a view to restructuring/commissioning services to achieve improved outcomes and best value.

A structured timetable of consultation began on the 11th July 2011 seeking to establish how best the Local Authority could allocate and prioritise resources according to local needs and invest in early intervention to improve outcomes for local children, young people and families, to allow for a series of recommendations to be submitted to Cabinet for decision.

Work to date has already highlighted that, in spite of all our efforts, the gap between our most vulnerable children and their peers continues to widen and that this disadvantage is felt most keenly across a number of key geographical areas wherein the town's most vulnerable families and problematic households are concentrated.

If we are to have a significant and lasting impact there appears to be a clear need to develop and commission services that are able to identify and address the needs of whole families at the earliest opportunity and to focus resources on those areas of the town where they are needed most.

A target date for the first phase of implementation is in place for the 1st of April 2012 and it is anticipated that further reports will follow regarding proposals relating to service structures and commissioned services pending agreement from Cabinet to progress with the developing Early Intervention Strategy.

How to make representations

Representations to be made to Mark Smith, Head of Integrated Youth Support Services, Child and Adult Services, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone (01429) 523405. E-mail mark.smith@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be sought from Mark Smith, Head of Integrated Youth Support Services as above.

- 2.5 A summary of all key decisions is attached as **APPENDIX A** to this report.
- 2.6 Copies of the Executive's Forward Plan will be available at the meeting and are also available on request from the Scrutiny Team prior to the meeting.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum:-
 - (a) considers the Executive's Forward Plan; and
 - (b) decides whether there are any items where value can be added to the decision by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in advance of the decision being made.

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 was used in preparation of this report:

- (a) The Forward Plan – (September – December 2011)

TIMETABLE OF KEY DECISIONS

Decisions are shown on the timetable at the earliest date at which they may be expected to be made.

1. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN SEPTEMBER 2011

CAS 98/11 (page 14) Hartlepool School Admission Arrangements for 2013/14 Portfolio Holder
RN 13/09 (page 22) Disposal of Surplus Assets Cabinet / Portfolio Holder
RN 53/11 (page 25) Sustainable Construction Strategy Cabinet / Portfolio Holders
RN 55/11 (page 27) Hartlepool Compact / Voluntary Sector Strategy Action Plans Cabinet
RN 60/11 (page 34) Hartlepool Housing Strategy 2011-2015 Cabinet
RN 61/11 (page 36) Selection of Preferred Developer for Sites in Seaton Carew Cabinet
RN 62/11 (page 38) Seaton Carew Coastal Strategy Northern Management Unit Phase 2 Cabinet / Council
RN 66/11 (page 42) Future Approach to Neighbourhood Management Cabinet
RN 67/11 (page 44) Purchase of Focus Unit Lynn Street and Sale of Land at Tanfield Road adjoining Stranton Cemetery Cabinet / Council
RM 69/11 (page 49) Flexible Support Fund Cabinet
RN 70/11 (page 50) Innovation Fund Cabinet
RN 71/11 (page 51) Families with Multiple Problems Cabinet
RN 72/11 (page 53) Selective Licensing of Privately Rented Houses Cabinet
RN 73/11 (page 55) Nature Improvement Areas Portfolio Holder(s)
RN 75/11 (page 59) Furniture Solutions Project Portfolio Holder
RN 76/11 (page 61) Raby Road Corridor – General Vesting Declaration Cabinet

2. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN OCTOBER 2011

CE44/11 (page 6) Workforce Arrangements Cabinet
CE45/11 (page 7) Strategy for Bridging the Budget Deficit 2012/13 – ICT, Revenues and Benefits Services Cabinet
CE 46/11 (page 9) Review of Community Involvement and Engagement (Including LSP Review): Update on Decisions taken in principle Cabinet/Council
CAS 99/11 (page 15) Early Intervention Strategy Cabinet
RN 57/11 (page 29) Dog Control Orders Portfolio Holder
RN 58/11 (page 31) Allotments Portfolio Holder
RN 65/11 (page 40) Review of Waste Management Services Cabinet

3. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN NOVEMBER 2011

CAS 97/11 (page 13) Community Services Budget Reductions Cabinet
RN 68/11 (page 47) Community Cohesion Framework Portfolio Holder
RN 74/11 (page 57) Former Leathers Chemical Site Cabinet

4. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN DECEMBER 2011

CE47/11 (page 11) Customer and Support Services – Service Review Cabinet
RN 29/10 (page 24) Hartlepool Domestic Violence Strategy Cabinet

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6 September 2011



Report of: Young People's Representatives

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO TRANSPORT – SCOPING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum of the suggested way forward for the investigation into Young People's Access to Transport.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The young people on the Forum decided that they wanted to investigate their own scrutiny topic this year and picked Young People's Access to Transport.

3. AIM OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

- 3.1 To explore ways of making transport more accessible for young people.

4. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

- 4.1 The following Terms of Reference for the investigation are proposed:-
- (a) To gain an understanding of what transport is available across the town that young people can access at night.

- (b) To examine the transport times, areas, costs covering all positive and negative aspects. The young people will examine examples of good practice and how we could build on these.

5. POTENTIAL AREAS OF ENQUIRY / SOURCES OF EVIDENCE

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

- (a) Young people from Town Wide Projects including BME, Deaf Youth Project, Hart Gables, LDD Young People.
- (b) Local Authority Officers responsible for transport
- (c) Mayor
- (d) Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
- (e) School Representatives (school council)

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

- (a) Questionnaires completed by young people
- (b) Meet with Transport Companies
- (c) Meet with School Councils
- (d) Research other areas transport systems
- (e) Relevant Websites and internet documents
- (f) Research Bus timetables, areas, costs
- (g) Mapping of youth projects (including time) and popular areas for young people across the town.
- (h) Contact United Kingdom Youth Parliament to discuss transport issues facing young people nationally.

6. PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

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

6th September 2011 – 'Setting the Scene' - Young people to present Scoping Report to Scrutiny and explain methods on how they will do it.

TBC November 2011 (additional meeting) – Update on the investigation – explain what methods have been investigated, people consulted.

31st January 2012 – progress update on the investigation

27th March 2012 – Consideration of Draft Final Report

7. RECOMMENDATION

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

Contact Officer: - Young People's Representatives / Juliette Ward
Participation Worker
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: - 01429 523422
Email:- Juliette.ward@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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