CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA



Tuesday 13 September 2016

at 4.00 pm

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillors Beck, Clark, Hall, Hamilton, Harrison, Lauderdale and Moore.

Co-opted Members: Vacancy (C of E Diocesan representative) and Michael Lee (RC Diocesan representative).

School Heads Representatives: Mark Tilling (Secondary), David Turner (Primary).

Six Young Peoples Representatives.

Observer: Councillor Thomas, Chair of Adult Services Committee.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

- 3.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting held on date 12 July 2016 (previously circulated and published).
- To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Children's Strategic Partnership held on 23 February, 2016.

4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS

No items.



5. **KEY DECISIONS**

No items.

6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 6.1 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2015/16 *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 6.2 Delivering Differently Activities for Young People *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 6.3 School Term and Holiday Dates 2017-18 *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 6.4 Suitability Projects Update *Director of Child and Adult Services*

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Adoption Service 6 Month Interim Report April September 2016 Director of Child and Adult Services
- 7.2 Fostering Service Interim Report 1 April 2016 30 June 2016 *Director of Child and Adult Services*
- 7.3 OFSTED Inspection Outcomes January 2016 July 2016 *Director of Child and Adult Services*

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

FOR INFORMATION: -

Please note the date of the next meeting has changed.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 4 October**, **2016 at 4.00pm** in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool. Please remove the meeting on 11 October from your diaries.



CHILDREN'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

23 FEBRUARY 2016

The meeting commenced at 4.15 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Chris Simmons (In the Chair)

Sally Robinson, Director of Child and Adult Services
Danielle Swainston, Assistant Director, Children's Services
Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health
Chief Superintendent Gordon Lang, Cleveland Police
Jo Heaney, Commissioning and Delivery Manager, NHS Hartlepool and
Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group
Dave Wise, WVARC, (Voluntary and Community Sector
Representative)
John Hardy, Head Teacher Representative, Primary Schools
Alan Chapman, Head Teacher Representative, Special Schools
Claire Naylor, Hartlepool Partnership and Social Justice Manager, Job
Centre Plus

Young People's Representatives: Lauren Howells, Daniel Measor, Jack Palmer, Callum Reed and Abbey Wallace.

Also Present: Martin Todd, Changing Futures North East

Officers: Jacqui Braithwaite, Principal Educational Psychologist

Louise Allen, Head of Service (SEND)

Helen White, Participation Manager

David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

20. Apologies for Absence

Ali Wilson, Chief Officer, NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group

Lindsey Robertson, Professional Lead Nurse, Out of Hospital Care, Hartlepool and North Tees NHS Foundation Trust

21. Declarations of Interest

None.

22. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 January, 2016

Confirmed.

23. SEND (Children with Special Education needs and Disabilities) Strategy (Director of Child and Adult Services)

The Assistant Director, Children's Services reported that over the last few years there had been significant reforms to legislation and policy in relation to children with special educational needs and disabilities. In September 2011 Hartlepool was asked to be a pathfinder to trial and pilot the reforms before the changes became legislation for the reforms. Hartlepool initially worked with Darlington to pilot new ways of working and more recently have rolled out the changes as required by Children and families Act 2014 and subsequently the New Special Education Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0-25 years.

The Assistant Director indicated that the LDD/SEN group was previously a multi agency group set up to oversee the development of an action plan which was a multi agency group. However the group did not report to any governance structures and it was proposed, therefore, that in order to ensure that all partners have oversight of the progress of this strategy and plan that the group reports to the Children's Strategic Partnership biannually. It is also proposed for the group to be renamed SEND group to ensure that all partners understand the role and aim of the group. Terms of reference had been drafted for the SEND group and were submitted as an appendix to the report. The terms of reference had been compiled by all the partners attending the meeting.

The Assistant Director indicated that the SEND group had recently developed a strategy to ensure that all partners were meeting the requirements of the new reforms. The draft strategy together with a one year action plan was also submitted with the report. The Assistant Director also informed the Partnership

The Assistant Director also reported that Ofsted and CQC would undertake joint inspections of local areas assessing their ability to implement the reforms. The inspection would be area based and cover the local authority, health commissioners and providers, together with all of the area's early year's settings, schools and post 16 further education sector. These inspections were expected to begin in May 2016. Local areas would be expected to provide a self evaluation on how effectively it meets its responsibilities for SEND.

The Chair sought the Partnership's approval to the re-constituted SEND Group and particularly its membership. This was approved by the group. In relation to the operation of the new SEND the Chair commented that the governance arrangements through this Partnership were an improvement that gave the SEND group a formal footing. The Chair welcomed the

strategy document and action plan and congratulated the officers involved in its development. The Director of Child and Adult Services stated that this was a challenging agenda and as part of the drive towards integrating services with partners the Director recommended referral of the Strategy and Action Plan to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Chair supported the proposal and commented that as the Partnership was a 'sub-group' of Health and Wellbeing Board it was essential it was aware of the work being undertaken in this area.

Decision

- 1. That the terms of reference for the SEND Group and the revised governance processes be approved.
- 2. That the SEND Strategy and Action Plan be approved and referred to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 3. That the information on the forthcoming SEND Inspections be noted.

24. Delivering Differently (Director of Child and Adult Services)

The Assistant Director, Children's Services reported that in September 2015 there had been an opportunity to bid for some funding within the government's Delivering Differently programme. This programme is available to local authorities and partners to rethink the way they provide services for young people and to support their positive outcomes. In discussions with the chair of the Children's Strategic Partnership and the children and young people's entitlement group it was agreed to submit a bid to the programme.

Hartlepool were successful in gaining this funding and the children and young people's entitlement group have been developing a service specification over the last month to set out the requirements of the programme. This service specification will be advertised this month with the expectation that an organisation is appointed by the end of March to undertake a full options appraisal. It is expected that this piece of work would be completed by June 2016 to inform future service planning.

In addition to the funding available through the programme the Cabinet Office has recently delivered a "Theory of Change" workshop for the children and young people's entitlement group. The purpose of the workshop was to help local partners understand the process of developing a Theory of Change model and know how it can support service re-design and to then be able to apply this to our local context. The information collated within this workshop has been used to inform the service specification.

Decision

That the work being undertaken by the Children and Young People's entitlement group through Delivering Differently be noted.

25. Hartlepool Transformation Plan 2015-2020 For Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing (Director of Child and Adult Services)

The Principal Educational Psychologist and the Commissioning and Delivery Manager, NHS Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group, jointly presented to the Partnership the Tees CAMHS Transformation Strategy.

The Tees CAMHS Transformation Group had been established in 2012/13, and involved representatives from each local authority area, the Clinical Commissioning Group, TEWV and the voluntary and community sector.

The key focus of the group was to develop a Tees CAMHS Transformation Strategy in response to the national 'No Health Without Mental Health' strategy. Over the last 12 months, each area in the Tees Valley has been working on the joint strategy and local plans to develop provision and support to improve the emotional wellbeing and mental health for children and young people in the area.

Last year, a report was published by the Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce entitled 'Future in Mind', a copy of which was submitted as an appendix to the report. The report identified a number of proposals the government wishes to see in place by 2020 and established a clear direction with key principles about how to make it easier for children and young people to access high quality mental health care when they need it. The key drive was to establish a whole system approach focusing on prevention of mental ill health, early intervention and recovery.

At Children's Services Committee on 6 October 2015 the plan was approved and it was agreed that the strategic governance for the implementation of the plan would sit with the Children's Strategic Partnership and the Joint Commissioning Executive reporting to the Health and Wellbeing Board. Periodic updates would also be brought to the Health and Wellbeing Board in line with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The plan was also subsequently approved by NHS England in December 2015.

The plan has been developed to ensure full co-ordination with the Better Childhood Programme, Healthy Relationships Project and the Education Commission's recommendations. Where additional and new investment is required, this has been highlighted and costed as part of the submission.

A Multi Agency Implementation Group (MAIG) had been established to take

forward the delivery of the programme, with the first meeting scheduled for 11 January 2016. The group included partners from CCG, local authority, Tees and Esk Wear Valley (TEWV) mental health trust, schools, voluntary and community sector. A further update will be provided to the Children's Strategic Partnership in six months as agreed by Children's Services Committee.

The Commissioning and Delivery Manager commented that the actions within the plan cut across the whole of the CCG area. In response to young people's feedback, there would be an emphasis on accessing services much quicker for those with eating disorders. The initiation of self referral would also bring a significant change for young people as would the integration of more digital technology not just for information but also in treatment programmes.

One of the young people's representatives commented that following a useful meeting with staff in the Educational Psychology team, young people were looking to develop a handout outlining the services available and aimed at children and young people at Key Stages 2, 3 and 4. The Principal Educational Psychologist commented that effort had been made not to duplicate the work already undertaken by the young people but to develop on it and there was funding available to assist in the development of links with the young people through the plan.

The Vice-Chair commented on the links between mental health issues and poverty and queried the work being undertaken. In the Stranton Ward 60% of all the children were classed as living in a family in poverty; across the town as a whole it was a third of all children in this situation. The Principal Educational Psychologist indicated that much of the work with families was around building resilience not specifically with mental health issues. It was a difficult area to address in many ways when much of the data available was ten years old. The information that was coming direct from the young people was much different to the statistical models which didn't, for example, include the anxiety being experienced by primary school children.

The Assistant Director, Children's Services indicated that the Transformation Plan was a fundamental part of a much wider collective approach to addressing the causes of family problems. Much of the work so far had drawn out the need to address issues of emotional wellbeing. Families tended not to have one issue but many and much of the future work of partners need to be centred on collectively addressing these multiple issues.

The Chair stated that national statistics indicated that one in four people would have some sort of mental health issue in their life; that meant one in four children as well. While some were easily identifiable, there were many that were not, such as those living in homes with domestic violence. It was indicated that there had been over a thousand reports through Operation Encompass back into schools of family issues of domestic violence. Hartlepool also had one of the highest incidents of domestic violence in the

country.

The Chair added that the world for children and young people was much different now with significant new pressures through social media that had pushed bullying behind closed doors with the consequent effects on mental health. A School Headteacher representative commented that some of the mental health issues affecting children and young people were now preventing some from accessing full learning opportunities. The Head Teacher commented that his school had recently adopted the 'Thrive' approach through training of teachers to assist these pupils. The Principal Educational Psychologist commented that there were several different 'models' around this area which did cause some confusion for schools and some of these were expensive to implement.

The Chair commented that schools should be focussed on teaching. He had great sympathy with those running schools who seemed often to be blamed for all the ills in society and then expected to address them as well. Some issues schools were well placed to address and teachers appropriately trained; but this was not always the case. There needed to be a multi-agency approach to tackling the mental health issues of children and young people and the Transformation Plan encapsulated that clearly. One of the most important findings from the Education Commission was that good communication between agencies was essential and this was a key element of the Transformation Plan. The regular update reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board would be a key element in maintaining that communication.

Decision

That the Hartlepool Transformation Plan 2015-2020 for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing, the governance structure for implementation and the update on current progress be noted.

26. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

26. Chair of Children's Strategic Partnership

The Chair addressed the Partnership indicating that this was his last meeting as he was standing down from the Council in May. The Chair thanked the Members of the Partnership and all the officers that had supported its work during his chairmanship for the valuable input and assistance in undertaken the important work of the Partnership.

The Vice-Chair proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor Simmons for his hard work and dedication during his chairmanship and wished him on behalf of all the Members of the Partnership a long and well earned retirement from civic duty.

The meeting concluded at 5.05 pm

CHAIR

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13 September 2016



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT 2015/16

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To provide members with the latest findings of The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2015-2016 attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 For members to approve the publication of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2015/16 attached as **Appendix 1**.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Childcare Act 2006 and subsequent 'Early education and childcare: Statutory guidance for local authorities (September 2014)' provides the framework for local authorities to discharge their duties in relation to free nursery entitlement and childcare.
- 3.2 Much of The Childcare Act 2006 has recently been repealed however the following duties still remain in place for local authorities:
 - Secure sufficient childcare for working parents;
 - Secure early years provision (this is in relation to 3 and 4 year old childcare provision and 2 year olds for those that are eligible) free of charge;
 - Information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents;
 - Information, advice and training to childcare providers;
 - Report annually to Members on how we are meeting our duties.
- 3.3 Government consultation is underway to revise and update the statutory guidance and a new edition is due later this year.

4. CHILDCARE IN HARTLEPOOL

- 4.1 The childcare market is overseen by The Children's Hub (formerly First Contact and Support Hub). The Hub receives overnight data downloads from Ofsted on all registered childcare providers in Hartlepool together with any changes to their registration. The Hub has a duty to publish this information for parents and this is available via The Directory http://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk.
- 4.2 The Hub undertakes an annual assessment of childcare. This takes place in October each year and uses census information from early years providers so that an accurate picture of 2, 3 and 4 year old early education take up can be obtained. In addition, all providers (childminders, private day nurseries, playgroups) are contacted to collect information which is included in the annual assessment and uploaded onto The Directory. The assessment can be found as *Appendix 1*.
- 4.3 In October 2015 there were –

53 registered childminders offering 319 places at a cost of between £3.50 and £6.00 per hour. 36 providers reported over 61% vacancy availability.

16 day nurseries offering 775 places at a cost of between £30 and £36.50 per day. 11 providers reported over 61% vacancy availability.

8 holiday schemes offering 345 places at a cost of between 18.50 and £36.50 per day. 3 providers reported over 61% vacancy availability.

26 before school clubs offering 780 places at a cost of between 50p and 18.55 per session. 16 providers reported over 61% vacancy availability.

20 after school clubs offering 673 places at a cost of between 50p and 18.55 per session. 12 providers reported over 61% vacancy availability.

- 4.4 83% of providers have been judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.
- 4.5 Hartlepool continues to perform well in its take up of 2,3,4 year old early education with participation by eligible 2 year olds at 87% and by 3 and 4 year olds at over 95%.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

Funding from government continues to pose some risks to the participation rate for early education. The local authority is paid on three census dates per year and is not funded for children that become eligible in between these dates. If the council decides to place a child before census date then they incur a cost that is not reimbursed by government.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The government is currently consulting on a proposed National Funding Formula for early education and they expect 'some winners and some losers'. It is not known yet how this will affect Hartlepool.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no legal considerations within this report.

8. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Childcare forms an essential aspect of Hartlepool's Child and Family Poverty Strategy. Childcare is essential to support parents and carers into training and employment. A good and/ or outstanding childcare setting can support children to thrive in school.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 All childcare should be fully inclusive and Ofsted oversees this as part of their registration and inspection process.

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 There are no staff considerations within this report.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 There are no asset management considerations within this report.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 Members are asked to note the contents of the report.
- 12.2 Members are asked to approve the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment for publication.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 The local authority is required to publish a Childcare Sufficiency as a duty within the Childcare Act 2006.

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 Early education and childcare: Statutory guidance for local authorities (September 2014) https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-education-and-childcare--2

15. CONTACT OFFICER

Penny Thompson Head of Service – Children's Hub and Partnerships The Children's Hub 01429 284878 penny.thompson@hartlepool.gov.uk



Hartlepool Borough Council

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

2015 - 2016

Acronyms List

CSA Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

FCSH First Contact and Support Hub

FNE Free Nursery Entitlement

FSD Family Service Directory

FTE Full time equivalent

HMRC Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

LA Local Authority

NEET Not in Education, Employment or Training

PVI Private Voluntary and Independent sector

SEND Special Educational Need Disability

List of Definitions

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

Approved childcare: childcare run by a school on school site which does not have to be registered with Ofsted

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

Childcare provider: registered, unregistered or approved provider of childcare

Childminder: registered childcare provider that operates childcare in their own home on a self employed basis catering for a wide age range of children

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

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

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

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

Free nursery entitlement: statutory provision of 570 hours of free nursery education per year for all eligible children aged 2/3/ 4 years, often offered by schools as an am or pm session (term time only) and by private providers as part of their full daycare offer

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

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

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

Tax credit: administered by HMRC, a preferential tax rate offered to eligible individuals depending on a number of factors including hours worked and gross income earned; can include a Childcare Element with funding for up to 70% of registered childcare for parents that meet eligibility criteria

Unregistered childcare: childcare that operates for less than 2 hours per session or for a limited number of sessions in a year or cares for children aged over 8 years and therefore cannot be registered with Ofsted

Contents

- 1. Introduction and Local Authority Legal Requirements
- 2. Methodology
- 3. Context
- 4. Childcare supply
- 5. Occupancy
- 6. Quality
- 7. Extended School provision
- 8. Comparison of childcare places
- 9. Free Nursery Entitlement
- 10. Priorities for the Local Authority
- 11. Final comments

Tables

- Table 1 Carescheme types, available childcare places, cost of care, October 2015
- Table 2 Childcare outside of the 9am to 5pm, October 2015
- Table 3 Carescheme types by ward, October 2015
- Table 4 Carescheme occupancy levels, October 2015
- Table 5 Ofsted Carescheme Inspection Results, October 2015
- Table 6 Comparison of childcare places 2007 2015
- Table 7 Current and Proposed 2 year old Free Nursery Entitlement provision, October 2015
- Table 8 Comparison of Free Nursery Entitlement places 2007 2015

Appendices

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Childcare Audit 2015-2016

1. Introduction and Local Authority Legal Requirements

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) is a measurement of the nature, extent and supply of childcare within the borough. It is intended to help the Local Authority (LA) identify where there are potential gaps in the childcare market and plan how to support the market to address them. It remains a legal duty for the LA to undertake an assessment at least every three years and to keep their current assessment up-to-date with a published copy available for parents, carers and elected members.

A range of legislative changes have taken place since the last CSA including The Children and Families' Act 2014 (which repealed certain aspects of The Childcare Act 2006) and The Childcare Act 2016 making LAs responsible for 30 hours of free early years entitlement to eligible children.

In summary the LA remains responsible for a number of key duties including (but not limited to) -

- Securing prescribed early years provision free of charge
- Securing sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0 -14 or up to 18 for disabled children
- Providing information, advice and assistance to parents and carers
- Providing information, advice and training to childcare providers.

Childcare information is available to parents and carers via Hartlepool's 'Family Service Directory' (FSD) which can be accessed at http://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk. Parents and carers that do not have access to the internet can contact First Contact and Support Hub on 01429 284284 for all their childcare information needs.

The process of managing the childcare market is a difficult one not least because the LA does not control the schools or the private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sector that provides the majority of childcare in the town. This report therefore provides the LA with essential detail on the supply of childcare in Hartlepool and makes clear any actions the LA needs to take to effectively manage the market.

2. Methodology

In order to prepare the 2015-16 assessment the following research methodology was used:

- An analysis of Ofsted childcare data was undertaken in October 2015. This data includes all childcare that is
 registered on the Early Years Register and on the Compulsory and Voluntary part of the Childcare Register.
 The LA has access to this information via a daily information feed from Ofsted into the First Contact and
 Support Hub (FCSH)
- An analysis of the availability and take up of Free Nursery Entitlement (FNE). October is a key headcount period for PVI and maintained early years providers with information collected on under 5s participation in FNE
- Collection of vacancy information from childcare providers in order to understand their occupancy levels compared to their available places.

It should be noted that this analysis represents a brief snapshot in time and the childcare market is constantly changing. Providers tend to have low take up of places in the Autumn term (September) as children take up their full time school places but build their capacity as the year progresses.

3. Context

Hartlepool is a small unitary authority on the North East coast of England. The overall population is c92,090 of which c17,775 are children aged 0-15 years (19.3%). Despite significant regeneration over the past twenty years the town continues to experience high levels of deprivation. According to the Government's Child Poverty Unit 31% of our 0-15 year olds live in poverty and 8% of young people are NEET.

4. Childcare supply

The following tables provide a snapshot of Hartlepool's childcare supply in October 2015. It should be noted that childcare providers, available childcare places and vacancies change on a regular basis. There is often a difference between the numbers of registered/ approved childcare places compared to those that the childcare provider actually makes available to the public. This is often due to staffing availability or by provider choice in order to maintain levels of quality.

Table 1 Carescheme types, available childcare places, cost of care, October 2015

Carescheme	Number of	Number of	Number of places	Range in cost of care
type	active	registered/ approved	actually offered by	
	carescheme	childcare places	the childcare	
	providers		providers	
Childminder	53	319	270	£3.50 - £6.00 per hour
Daycare (day	16	775	720	£30.00 - £36.50 per day
nursery)				
Holiday care	8	345	345	£18.50 - £36.50 a day
(excludes ad hoc				
play schemes)				
Before school	26	780	780	50p - £9.50 per session
After school	20	673	647	50p - £18.55 per session
Sessional (ie	1	12	12	£7.00 per session
playgroup)				
Total	124	2,904	2,774	

In 2015 the number of daycare settings remained the same however the number of childminders decreased from 59 to 53. During the same period the number of before school clubs increased from 22 to 26 and the number of after school clubs from 19 to 20. The number of sessional settings has remained static.

Table 2 Atypical childcare, October 2015

	Weekend care	Pre 7.30am	After 6pm	Overnight care	Bank Holiday	Professional Dev (PD) days
Total number of care scheme providers	11	10	8	4	29	79

Some childcare providers are working hard to improve the flexibility of their childcare. 19% of childcare providers open before 8am and 29% of providers offer care on an evening and weekend. A high proportion of childcare providers take children to and pick up from local schools.

Table 3 Carescheme types by ward, October 2015

Ward	Childminder	Daycare	Before School	After School	Holiday	Playgroup
Hart	10	0	2	1	0	0
De Bruce	1	1	3	2	1	0
Jesmond	4	2	3	3	1	0
Victoria	6	4	3	3	2	0
Burn Valley	9	1	1	0	1	0
Rural West	4	1	1	1	0	0
Foggy Furze	4	1	2	3	1	0
Manor House	4	3	3	3	2	0
Fens and Rossmere	9	1	4	2	0	0
Headland and Harbour	1	1	2	1	0	1
Seaton	1	1	2	1	0	0
TOTAL	53	16	26	20	8	1

The childcare market has shown a high level of resilience throughout turbulent economic times. Based on enquiries into FCSH the geographical spread of places reasonably matches families need.

5. Occupancy

Careschemes that are registered by Ofsted have an agreed number of childcare places that can be made available. Some providers choose to offer less places than Ofsted allows. The following table provides a snapshot of Hartlepool's childcare occupancy levels in October 2015 and gives an indication of available vacancies. It should be noted that carescheme vacancies change on a regular basis and that not all providers responded to the survey.

Carescheme	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%
type	occupancy	occupancy	occupancy	occupancy	occupancy
	level	level	level	level	level
Childminder	4	1	7	7	29
Daycare	0	1	4	8	3
Holiday care (excludes ad hoc play schemes)	0	0	5	2	1
Before school care	0	3	5	5	11
After school care	1	2	5	6	6
Wraparound care	0	1	1	3	1
Sessional (i.e playgroup)				1	

Table 4 Carescheme Occupancy Levels, October 2015

6. Quality

Ofsted inspects relevant schools and childcare settings. The following table shows the available inspection results as at October 2015. Table 5 Ofsted Carescheme Inspection Results, October 2015

	Table of Clotton Call Cooling Inspection (100 and), Colonic, Colonic,										
Setting type	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory*	Meets	Requires	Only					
				Requirements	Improvement**	registration					
						visit carri					

octaing type	Outstanding	Good	OdtiSidotoi y	Miccis	Requires	Omy
				Requirements	Improvement**	registration
						visit carried
						out
Childminders	5	40	0	1	3	4
Daycare	3	9	0	0	0	4
Sessional care	0	0	1	0	0	0
Holiday care	3	4	0	0	0	1
Before school	4	18	0	0	3	1
After school	4	13	0	0	1	2

There is no longer a 'satisfactory' Ofsted grading therefore this relates to inspections carried out before recent legislative changes.

^{**} Before and after school provision that requires improvement in schools.

In some settings there has been an improvement in quality. The market has a higher proportion of good and outstanding providers. The evidence indicates:

- 9.5% of registered childminders are graded outstanding
- 75.5% of registered childminders are graded good
- 19% of registered daycare providers are graded outstanding
- 56% of registered daycare providers are graded good.

7. Extended School provision

There are 5 secondary schools (of which 2 are academies), 30 primary schools (of which 4 are academies), the Pupil Referral Unit and 2 special schools in Hartlepool. The majority of schools in Hartlepool are Extended Schools providing services to children, families and in some cases the wider community beyond the school day. 18 primary schools in the town provide childcare including before, after, holiday and/or integrated care. In addition a wide range of extended services are available outside of the school day and many parents take advantage of this provision in order to support their childcare choices.

8. Comparison of childcare places

The table below shows the development of the market from 2007 through to 2016. In summary there has been a reduction in careschemes in 2015-16 however the number of places remains relatively stable.

	No. of active care – schemes	Total number childcare places	No. of child- minders/ no of places	No. of daycare providers/ no of places	No. of holiday providers/ no of places	No. of before school providers/ no of places	No. of after school providers/ no of places	No. of sessional care providers/ no of places
2007/2008	157	2,538	97/414	16/759	8/252	20/331	10/656	1/66
2008/2009	136	2,342	67/346	13/698	14/231	15/331	22/626	2/66
2009/2010	139	2,799	55/304	13/698	11/334	27/640	25/701	4/68
2010/2011	144	2,692	64/354	13/691	7/280	27/594	26/699	1/16
2011/2012	147	2,596	77/462	16/879	9/256	19/413	18/478	1/16
2012/2013	120	2,593	59/315	15/809	9/350	19/553	17/556	1/10
2013/2014	132	3,212	63/363	14/839	7/309	27/918	20/773	1/10
2014/2015	125	3,045	59/288	16/815	8/355	23/724	19/602	1/12
2015/2016	124	2774	53/270	16/720	8/345	26/780	20/647	1/12

Table 6 Comparison of childcare places 2007 - 2016

9. Free Nursery Entitlement (FNE)

Two Year Old Free Nursery Entitlement

Hartlepool has been delivering free nursery entitlement places for the past seven financial years to the most vulnerable two year old children. The statutory duty to deliver two year old places commenced on the 1st September 2013. In 2013/14 eligible children were from the 20% most income deprived families – this was

estimated to be approximately 400 eligible children in Hartlepool using this criteria. In 2014/15 eligibility was extended to the 40% most vulnerable families which included those on a low income. Places are now available to families that are working but on a low income, children in foster care, children looked after, children under special guardianship, adopted children, children with additional needs (DLA) bringing the total estimated number of eligible two year old places in Hartlepool to 648. Places must be allocated to eligible two year old children the term *after* their second birthday.

Table 7 Current and proposed two year old free nursery entitlement provision, October 2015

WARD	No. of care	eschemes cu	rrently taking 2 ye	ar old funded	No of	Proposed	No of
		childre	n (October 2015)		2 year	new two year	proposed
					olds	olds	new
					placed	careschemes	places
						providers	
	SCHOOLS	DAYCARE	CHILDMINDERS	SESSIONAL			
Hart			1		1		
*De Bruce	1	1			54		
*Jesmond		2	1		66		
*Victoria	2	4			129	1	4
*Burn Valley	1	1	3		69	1	4
Rural West		1			5	1	4
*Foggy		1	4		20	1	16
Furze							
*Manor	2	3			92	1	4
House							
*Fens and	1	1	2		46		
Rossmerre							
*Headland		1		1	27	1	16
and Harbour							
Seaton		1			33		
TOTAL	7	16	11	1	542	6	48

Wards marked * have higher levels of disadvantage and therefore may have a higher demand for two year old places. Hartlepool has responded well to the offer of free early years entitlement for two year olds and has the best take up across the country. Participation is currently at 88%.

Three and Four Year Old Free Nursery Entitlement

Every eligible 3 or 4 year old child has access to 570 hours of FNE across the year in either a maintained or approved setting. This is universal provision that is not affected by the circumstances of the parent or child, including their parents' income. Children are eligible for a place the term *after* their third birthday. In October 2015 15 schools were fully flexible in delivering their FNE and 11 offered flexi sessions where parents can adjust their nursery care to suit their family needs.

The table below shows the take up of free nursery entitlement in both the maintained and PVI sectors. Traditionally parents have used maintained providers for FNE as attendance at a school nursery is thought to aid transition into full time school, however some parents prefer PVI providers to provide the service as they can top up their free hours with paid for care.

	Table o Companson of Free Nursery Little in	ent places 2007 - 2015
	No of children taking up an FNE place in the maintained sector	No of children taking up an FNE place in the PVI sector
2007-2008	*1,383	*135
2008-2009	977	88
2009-2010	1,010	80
2010-2011	1,002	92
2011-2012	1,037	86
2012-2013	1,073	82
2013-2014	1,126	109
2014 -2015	1,075	106
2015-2016	1.250	108

Table 8 Comparison of Free Nursery Entitlement places 2007 - 2015

The Childcare Act 2016 has legislated for an *additional* 570 hours of free 3 and 4 year old childcare for qualifying children of working parents. The government expects the extended entitlement to be available across England by September 2017. Work is underway to determine how this new commitment will be delivered in Hartlepool.

10. Priorities for the Local Authority

Legislative changes will require action by the LA. Based on enquiries into FCSH together with knowledge and experience of Officers working in the early years and childcare sector the following priorities have been identified:

Funded places for two, three and four year olds

Take up and demand for early years places needs to be closely monitored. Where providers begin to reach capacity, the opportunity to increase provision needs to be explored.

Action – work with existing and new providers to develop provision where there is evidence of demand.

Extended early years entitlement

Some three and four year old children will be eligible for an additional 15 hours of entitlement from September 2017.

Action – develop a plan to ensure that providers can meet demand and ensure parents are aware of the new offer.

^{*}High numbers during 2007-2008 include 4 year old children that were still accessing FNE. This later changed so that 4 year old children are now in full time school in the September after their 4th birthday. 3 and 4 year old participation levels continue to be good with take up reaching 95-100% depending on the term.

Early Years Pupil Premium

Some children are eligible for additional funding which is paid to their early years provider to support children to reach their full potential.

Action - ensure eligible children are identified early and funding is awarded to providers in a timely manner. Ensure funding follows the child (where appropriate) throughout their statutory education.

Costs of childcare for SEND

Generally, there are enough childcare places to match parental demand. However, the cost of care for a disabled child remains above the cost of standard care and finding suitable ways to fund this continues to prove challenging.

Action – identify potential funding sources from relevant partners to support SEND children's access to childcare.

Childcare costs

Whilst HMRC Tax Credits offer up to 70% funding and Universal Credit up to 85% funding of childcare costs to eligible parents, national figures show that there are still a significant number of parents not getting the childcare money they are entitled to. New legislation has introduced tax free childcare for some parents.

Action – ensure parents aware of the help available towards childcare costs and are fully informed of their options.

Impact of welfare reform

Welfare reforms continue and more and more families will see their benefit entitlements reduced. This may result in an increase in the number of children eligible for a free two year old place. In addition the extended entitlement offer of an extra 15 hours for working parents with children aged 3 and 4 may see more parents take up employment and therefore increase demand for places.

Action - carefully track take up of 2,3,4 year old places and keep abreast of legislative changes that impact on families and their demand for places.

11. Final Comments

Childcare in Hartlepool continues to be a strong market and fulfils a vital role for parents that train and work. 124 carescheme providers are registered to deliver 2,904 childcare places. Whilst it is impossible to ensure every parent is accommodated according to their specific needs, generally childcare in Hartlepool meets the needs of parents and their children. Where it does not FCSH works hard to come up with practical solutions.

For more information about the childcare market in Hartlepool contact Penny Thompson or Lorraine Hutchinson. If you would like copies of any of the previous CSAs please contact FCSH on 01429 284284 alternatively email fcsh@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Contact Officers

Penny Thompson, First Contact and Support Hub Manager Hartlepool Borough Council, Child and Adult Services Department 01429 284878/ 284284 penny.thompson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Lorraine Hutchinson,
Business Support
Hartlepool Borough Council, Child and Adult Services Department
01429 523195
lorraine.hutchinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Appendices

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Childcare Audit 2014-15

Hartlepool Borough Council has a duty to undertake an annual childcare audit. The purpose of the audit is to gain comprehensive information on the supply of childcare in Hartlepool. Please complete the survey below. **If you offer more than one childcare service then you need to fill in a separate form for each.** Your responses will be used to update The First Contact and Support Hub database and The Directory. Your response will remain anonymous and you will not be named within the childcare sufficiency report. It will also be included in the next Childcare Sufficiency Assessment. Please return completed surveys using the prepaid envelope enclosed no later than **8**th **November 2014**. For more information on childcare sufficiency contact Lorraine Hutchinson Business Support Officer, 01429 523195 / email lorraine.hutchinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Please	check the label b	elow and make	e any necessa	ary amendments.
	Insert mailing	g label here		
1. Please tell us what type of	childcare you of	fer (circle all t	hat apply) -	
after school club	day nursery holiday club other	-		ed care
2. Your OFSTED grade is:		a 🗆		
3. Registered/ approved to d4. For a number of reasons			_	e places.
5. We/ I offer childcare in the	he following age	ranges:		
By age range	0–2 years	3-5 years	5-8 years	8+ years
Total number of registere approved childcare place				

6. We/ I offer childcare at the following times:

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Open							
Close							

I am/ we are open -

school PD days
weekends
term time only
Bank Holidays
overnight
week days only

- 7. We/ I estimate our occupancy levels to be approximately \square %.
- 8. We/ I currently have a waiting list. Yes / No
- 9. We/ I currently have vacancies. Yes / No

By age range		–2 ars	3-5	years	5. yea			+ ars
Vacancies	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Monday								
Tuesday								
Wednesday								
Thursday								
Friday								
Saturday								
Sunday								

^{*}please amend this table as appropriate

10.	Charges	for	childcare	are as	follows -

£ per hour	f per session	f per day	f per weel
z per nour	£per session	£per day	£per week

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire – your input is appreciated. Completed questionnaires should be returned by 8^{th} November 2014 using the reply paid envelope enclosed.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13th September 2016



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: DELIVERING DIFFERENTLY – ACTIVITIES FOR

YOUNG PEOPLE

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non key

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 For Children's Services Committee to note the findings and recommendations within the Delivering Differently report.
- 2.2 For Children's Services Committee to agree for officers to support the development of a Young People's Foundation in partnership with local voluntary sector providers.

3. CURRENT SERVICES

- 3.1 The Youth Service is an internal council funded service. It operates across the town and offers drop in sessions for young people (13-19) and also offers specific groups with some of these being themed e.g. music and others to meet identified needs e.g. Hart Gables session. The Youth Service Offer can be found at *Appendix A*.
- 3.2 The council currently commissions a 5-19 activities service which is offered across the town. This offers drop in sessions and also a referred one to one service to support children who need extra support. The commissioned service offer is attached as *Appendix B*. This service has been commissioned since the development of the Early Intervention Strategy in 2012 and the contract ends at the end of March 2017.
- 3.3 Hartlepool has a wide range of services available to children and young people with a large proportion of them being supported by volunteers from local communities. There are some examples attached as *Appendix C*. This list is not exhaustive and only highlights different types of activities, it does

- not specify all providers of these activities. A full list of activities known to the council is listed on the Families Service Directory http://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk
- 3.4 All schools offer extracurricular activities which cover a range of different themes including arts, sports, homework support to name a few. It is not possible to list all of these as schools oversee these and the council only knows about a small proportion. Schools often change these activities depending on the time of the year e.g. sporting activities.

4. BACKGROUND TO DELIVERING DIFFERENTLY

- 4.1 Approximately two years ago, the Children's Strategic Partnership discussed concerns that funding for services to support young people was potentially at risk due to the large cuts councils and partners needed to make from the austerity measures. The partnership felt that a task and finish group needed to be established to explore potential solutions to ensure that young people's services could be sustained in the longer term.
- 4.2 This resulted in a Children and Young People's Entitlement Group being set up made up of members of the activities consortium and council officers including West View Project, Wharton Trust, Changing Futures NE, Belle Vue, HBC Youth Service and Lead Member for Children's Services.
- 4.3 The group initially identified that they needed to work together to benchmark what their services did to improve outcomes for children and young people. This was with a view to promote this evidence with organisations that may go on to commission them. However it became evident over time that this was not going to be a long term sustainable solution due to reduced funding across public sector organisations.
- 4.4 At the same time, the Government, through the Cabinet Office, launched Phase 2 of 'Delivering Differently'. This was an opportunity to access funding for local areas to rethink the way local authorities provide services to young people aged 13-19 with professional support to help local areas to review all available options. If successful the local authority was expected to appoint specialist support organisation to undertake an independent options appraisal.
- 4.5 The council submitted a bid in Autumn 2015 which was successful. Subsequently the council went through a procurement exercise and appointed Metavalue to work with the Council and the voluntary and community sector providers to develop proposals for the local area.
- 4.6 Metavalue were asked to review all local service and options and make recommendation on a preferred model taking into account current provision and with acknowledgement of associated risks and opportunities for all partners.

5. FINDINGS

- 5.1 The report produced is attached as *Appendix D*. The executive summary quotes the following:
 - Recognition within the Consortium and the council youth service team
 of the diversity of services, strong links with the local community and
 the opportunity for collaboration.
 - However, despite the desire to develop co-working, apply for new funding opportunities together and develop a network to share information and resources, we did not see much evidence of this being achieved.
 - There is a recognition of common challenges with reducing public funding, however no clear strategy to mitigate against the impact.
 - Lack of trust was noted as a key barrier to collaborative working.
- 5.2 Metavalue held a workshop at the beginning of their work and the following principles of collaboration were agreed:
 - Equitable;
 - Financially stable;
 - Needs based;
 - Integrated;
 - Clearly defined roles and scope of service delivery;
 - Autonomy.
- 5.3 As set out in the attached report the options considered were:
 - Keep traditional youth service without commissioned service;
 - Public Sector Mutual:
 - Back the winner approach;
 - Develop current consortium;
 - Independent Young People's Foundation.
- 5.4 The recommended option is the development of a Young People's Foundation as detailed in the attached report. Metavalue proposed that a Young People's Foundation would:
 - Be a newly registered charity;
 - Be a membership organisation for any group that works with Children and Young People in the relevant area;
 - Have a Trustee Board and wider steering group that will include representation from relevant organisations in the area.

The four main strands of work for the Young People's Foundation would be to:

- Work as a strong consortium to fundraise collectively:
- · Organise sector specific capacity building including training events;
- Share venue spaces and develop a venue bank;
- · Co-ordinate sector networking opportunities and support services.
- There are a number of Young People's Foundations that have been set up in London. These have been funded through the John Lyon's Charity. This charity is a London based charity and can only fund local foundations. However they are working with a group of funders across the country that wants to support young people's services outside London and it is anticipated that through this work an organisation can be identified to support the local area.
- Following the production of the report, Metavalue led a session with the children and young people's entitlement group to discuss the preferred option for Hartlepool. It was agreed at this session that this model should be pursued and Metavalue were tasked with developing a business case that organisations can then discuss with their respective boards. The current situation is that there are a number of organisations commissioned by the council to provide young people's services and other organisations that are not commissioned but still provide activities to young people. A Young People's Foundation would be a membership group and therefore any children's services provider could become a member and if providers did not want to join they would not need to.
 - 5.7 The recommendation of the development of a Young People's Foundation was discussed at the Children's Strategic Partnership in June. The partnership discussed potential strengths/ opportunities and concerns about the proposed model. Concerns included attracting funding for the foundation without diverting existing funds. This will be explored in the development of a business case and investment strategy.

6. NEXT STEPS

- 6.1 Extensive research was carried out in the summer of 2015 which identified that 15 year olds are the 2nd largest group within the Looked After Children cohort. It is therefore critical to target resources to young people struggling in their teenage years who are coming into care because families cannot cope. It is essential that the development of a Young People's Foundation is integrated with the Better Childhood in Hartlepool to ensure a partnership approach to improving outcomes without duplicating resources.
- 6.2 It is therefore recommended to move to the next stage of Delivering Differently which is the development of a business case and investment strategy. This will ensure that capacity across the youth sector can be strengthened. The next stage of development of the Young People's Foundation will be reported to committee at the beginning of 2017.

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 In the context of the budget deficit and Medium Term Financial Strategy, Children's Services within Child and Adult Department has the following budget savings to find over the three period 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19:
 - £1.45 million from Service Reviews across the division;
 - £1.25 million from Demand Management

In addition the division is currently managing a £1.4 million in year budget pressure due to the demand for services particularly in relation to looked after children.

- 7.2 The proposed savings need to be considered within the context of current demand and there is a significant risk that the demand management related savings will not be fully achieved. The number of looked after children has increased steadily for the last 15 months and these savings rely on this number being reduced.
- 7.3 The council previously received a ringfenced Early Intervention Grant to deliver locally determined early intervention services. This grant was previously used to fund the 5-19 activities contract, however in 2014 the grant was included within the main council revenue grant and substantially reduced.
- 7.4 The current budget for the Youth Service is £469k this excludes building costs that sit within corporate building budgets.
- 7.5 The current 5-19 activities contract totals £375,000. £352,000 is funded from children's services budgets £23,000 is funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner for the delivery of assertive outreach work in accordance with the priorities of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no legal implications in relation to this report.

9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no child and family poverty considerations within this report at this time. However this will need to considered in any change to service delivery.

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 There are no equality and diversity implications within this report.

11. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 There are no staff implications in relation to this report.

12. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

12.1 There are no asset management implications in relation to this report.

13. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 For Children's Services Committee to note the findings and recommendations within the Delivering Differently report.
- 13.2 For Children's Services Committee to agree for officers to support the development of a Young People's Foundation in partnership with local voluntary sector providers.

14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1 The development of a Young People's Foundation is a potential opportunity to sustain young people's activities at a time of reducing council budgets.

15. BACKGROUND PAPERS

15.1 None

16. CONTACT OFFICER

Danielle Swainston, Assistant Director, Children's Services, Danielle.swainston@hartlepool 01429 523732

Mobile & Detached

(Age Group: 13 - 19)

Offers young people the opportunity to engage with workers at venues of their own choosing so that they have access to the same services as centred based youth work including fun/issue based activities; residential and access to information; advice & guidance.

West Hartlepool Area Monday & Wednesday, 6:30pm - 9:00pm

North Hartlepool Area Tuesday & Thursday, 6:45pm - 9:15pm

> Seaton Front Area Friday, 5:45pm - 8:15pm

Contact Sue Skelton - (01429) 284875

Holocaust Memorial Group

@ Throston Youth Project

For young people aged 13 to 19 who are interested in history, campaigning and educating others. The group organise educational visits and events.

Thursdays, 4:30pm - 6:30pm Contact Beth Major - (01429) 523900

Deaf Youth Project

Middlesbrough Deaf Centre North Ormesby (Age Group: 13 - 19)

(Transport can be arranged)

Offers young people with either full loss or restricted hearing the opportunity to meet and socialise with other young people in a safe environment, learn and develop social and personal skills, take part in off site activities during school holidays as well as undertaking fun and issue based activities.

Wednesdays, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Contact Sue Skelton - (01429) 284875

Arts4Teens

@ Rossmere Youth Centre (Age Group: 13 - 19)

For young people who are interested in developing the cultural offer to young people in Hartlepool. This includes looking for funds, organising activities and direct participation in the Arts and Heritage projects.

Tuesday, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Contact Sarah McCluskey - (01429) 265810

Exchanging Notes Music Project

(Age Group: 11 - 16)

Music and vocal workshops; Singing, Drums, Guitars, Keyboards, Garage Band and song writing.

@ Throston Youth Project Wednesday, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

@ Rossmere Youth Centre Thursdays, 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Contact Tim Coyte - (01429) 523900

One Stop Shop (OSS)

Middleton Grange Shopping Centre TS24 7RJ (Above Argos) (Age Group: 13 - 19)

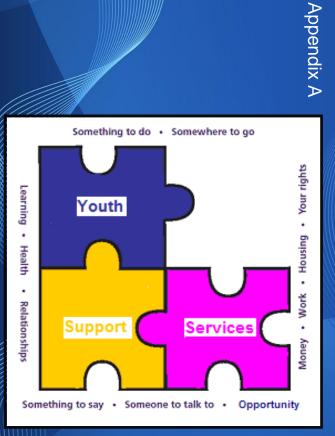
A dedicated young person's facility where you can receive information, advice and support from dedicated professionals in a range of topics including education, employment, sexual health, training, volunteering, housing/

Activities including Arts and Crafts, team building and life skills are supplied. Internet access also available.

Open Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm

Contact Zoe McKenna - (01429) 523926

Young People's Out of School Activities



Tel: 01429 523762 beth.major@hartlepool.gov.uk

			7777777						
Centre(s)	Days /	<u>Time</u>	<u>Age</u>	Contact (01429)	<u>Description</u>				
Rossmere Youth Centre Rossmere Way TS24 5EB	Sunday, Monday, Thursday & Friday	7:10pm - 9:10pm	13 - 19	Derek Minton 273741	Offers young people social & personal development through informal education & working towards their goals. We also offer a range of projects for young people to access such as fun activities or issue based work around identified need. Residential work leading to information advice & guidance.				
Duke of Edinburgh (Rossmere Youth Centre)	Tuesday	7:10pm - 9:10pm	14 - 19	Sue Skelton 284875	Offers young people the opportunity to progress through the award on Bronze, Silver & Gold levels in an informal environment—this includes advice & support on sections support of expedition & team building / sport.				
Rozzy Plaza – Rossmere Skatepark	Monday - Sunday	9am - 9pm	13 - 19	Michael Eastwood/ Peter Robinson 273741	A unique environment supporting & encouraging young people with a passion and interest in extreme sports such as BMX, Skateboarding & Roller-Blading. Supporting young peoples personal & social development through informal educational activities.				
Throston Youth Project Wiltshire Way TS26 0TB	Monday - Thursday	7pm - 9pm	13 - 19	Sarah McCluskey 265810	Offers are range of fun, challenging & creative activities where you will be supported by experienced & helpful youth workers. Hang out space, arts & crafts, sports, trips, internet access, information & support. We encourage you to share ideas & get involved in the planning & organising of future activities.				
Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender or Questioning Young People Hart Gables York Road TS26 9EB	Monday - Right to Be	5:00pm - 7:00pm	16 - 25	Sarah McCluskey 265810	If you are LGBT or Q we encourage you to come along where you will be supported by experienced and helpful youth workers. Hang out space, arts & crafts, sports, trips, internet access, information & support. We encourage you to share ideas & get involved in the planning & organising of future activities.				
Café Clavering St. Marks Hall Clavering Road TS27 3QY	Monday and Wednes- day	7pm - 9pm	13 - 19	Sarah McCluskey 265810	Offers are range of fun, challenging and creative activities where you will be supported by experienced and helpful youth workers. Hang out space, arts & crafts, sports, trips, internet access, information & support. We encourage you to share ideas & get involved in the planning & organising of future activities.				
Seaton Carew Youth Club Methodist Church Seaton Lane	Monday & Wednesday	6:30pm - 8:30pm	11 - 19	Sue Skelton 284875	Learn and develop personal & social skills through a range of fun and issue-based activities. Also the opportunity to undertake a wide range of accredited programmes; off-site activities and residential access to information; advice & guidance.				
Changing face of Hartlepool Project	ТВА	ТВА	13—19	Jo Hislop 523900	If you are interested in your family heritage, the heritage of Hartle- pool, arts, photography or film production then this is the project for you. With lots of opportunities to get involved in a range of activi- ties and influence the way the project develops. If you are inter- ested please see advertisements on specific sessions or ring Jo.				
Greatham Greatham Village Hall TS25 2ES	Wednesday & Thursday	7pm - 9pm	11 - 19	Sue Skelton 284875	Learn and develop personal & social skills through a range of fun and issue-based activities. Also the opportunity to undertake a wide range of accredited programmes; off-site activities and residential access to information; advice & guidance.				
Red Dreams (Music Group) TS24 7LP	Saturday	2pm - 4pm	13 - 19	Sue Skelton 284875	Sessions offer young people the opportunity to learn and develop music skills including writing own original music on a wide range of instruments.				

5-19 Activity Centre's Opening times

West View Project

5-7 years

- Tuesday (Girls Club) 3.15pm-4.45pm
- Thursday (Boys Club) 3.15pm-4.45pm

8-11 years- 5-7 pm

- Monday (mixed)
- Tuesday (girls club)
- Wednesday (mixed)
- Thursday (boys club)
- Friday (mixed)

11-19 Years

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7pm-9pm

Drop in sessions for 16-19 year olds at West View Project, appointments can then be made for further support from West View Project staff and West View Advice Centre

Changing Futures North East

<u>5-11s</u>

Monday 4.15-6.15 pm

Tuesday 4.15-6.15pm

Wednesday 4.15-6.15pm

11-13s

Wednesday 6.30pm-8.30pm

Thursday 4.30-6.30pm

14-19s

Monday 7-9pm

Tuesday 7-9pm

Thursday 7-9pm

Belle Vue

5-11 year olds

- Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri 5.00-6.30pm
- Sat 10am 11.30am

11-19 year olds

• Mon, Thurs, Fri- 7-9pm

Kilmarnock Road Children and Young Peoples Family Centre

5-11 year olds

Mon-Fri-4.30-6.30pm

11-19 year olds

• Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7-9pm

Wharton Trust

5-11 Year olds

- Monday Boys club 4.15 6pm
- Tuesday Girl's club 4.15 6pm

8-11 Year olds

Thursday mixed group – 4.15pm – 6pm

12-19 Year olds

- Tues-Fri -7-9pm
- Wed's 3pm 5.30pm Family Club. (Parents and children to attend together)

Additional parent groups/coffee mornings are offered in addition to the hours offered for children and young people as part of the 5-19s contract.

Overview

All centres plan, deliver and evaluate age appropriate activities.

Sessions for those 11+ will focus upon transitions, the new academic challenges faced along with realising their own limitations. The younger children will take part in activities planned to increase emotional resilience, healthy relationships with peers and family and encouraged to

Appendix B

talk about their feelings. We aim to build and improve positive mental and physical health in all accessing, and will ensure planning is focussed upon this.

Activities include arts and crafts, cooking, creative play, sports, opportunities for outdoor adventure and tournaments between centres.

This is a universal service with a targeted element. Children and young people referred to the service will be offered the support of a keyworker and complete an individual personal plan which will be regularly reviewed with this worker.

Appendix C

The following are examples of activities for children and young people in Hartlepool (this list is not exhaustive as there are a large number of activities taking place and it is impossible to list them all). For a list of activities available to children, young people and families please go to: https://hartlepool.fsd.org.uk/kb5/hartlepool/fsd/home.page

Football clubs
Rainbows, Brownies and Guides
Boys Brigade
Girls Brigade
Beavers, Cubs and Scout groups
Air training corps/ sea cadets
Community groups run by local of

Community groups run by local churches e.g St Lukes

Community groups run by local volunteers e.g Central Correctors, Rifty project

Activities for children with additional needs – Families First, Special Needs Inclusion Group

Dance groups

Music groups

Sports clubs – swimming, tennis, karate

Activities at sports centres

Art projects

Princes Trust

Duke of Edinburgh awards

Sessions at the libraries

Sessions at Children Centres

Outdoor venues offering activities e.g Summerhill

Performing Arts groups

Charity run sessions - St John Ambulance,



Children & Young People Services – Options Appraisal

Hartlepool Borough Council

10th June 2016











Table of contents

1.	Executive Summary	3
2.	Introduction	6
3.	Our Approach	7
4.	As Is Service Review	9
5.	As Is Production Review	12
6.	As Is Income Review	15
7.	SWOT Analysis	18
8.	Market Analysis – Best Practice Models	21
9.	Delivery Model Options and Recommendation	24
10.	Next Steps	30

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Part Time Staff Workshop

Appendix 2 – Service Definition

Appendix 3 - Production Definition

Appendix 4 – Income Definition



1. Executive Summary

Hartlepool has a diverse and vibrant children and young people offer for 5-19 year olds, delivered by the Local Authority and voluntary and community sector organisations (VCS).

Like most other areas in the country, Hartlepool is seeing a reduction in budgets for children and young peoples' services. Hartlepool Borough Council (HBC) is however committed to retain the very best of both the Local Authority provision and VCS provision. The Children and Young People's Entitlement Group has looked at options to develop a sustainable offer and appointed MetaValue in March 2016 to carry out an Options Appraisal to review and recommend potential models.

The review has focussed on agreeing a common vision and aligning interests from an early stage. All key stakeholders had an opportunity to input their views during the process including front line staff.

Given the nature of Hartlepool's children and young people's service offer, any new model will need to allow for:

- Ability to generate income independent of the Council
- Effective collaboration
- Strengthening the local offer
- Increased impact
- Quick implementation and sustainability

Review – headline findings

The Local Authority Youth Services team is focussed on provision for 12-19 year olds while a consortium of VCS organisations are commissioned to deliver services for 5-19 year olds on a universal and referral basis. All VCS organisations commissioned to deliver the above offer operate as a Children & Young People's Consortium, in addition to the Children and Young People Entitlement group.

Currently the *Council* funds £928K of the service costs (net of income) which accounts for 91% of the total cost of the service. This includes all costs (youth services, 5-19 service and building costs held by other council departments). In common with other council budgets across the country this amount is likely to be subject to funding reductions in the foreseeable future, however the likely reduction is not yet known. Therefore in the medium term this will need to be mitigated by growing other income streams, or services must be reduced.



The council youth service raises £95K income from sources other than the Council. This accounts for 9% of total funding. We have worked with a number of local councils delivering youth services and have seen a range for other income of between 5-19%, with an average of 12%. We also looked at income streams across the Consortium. Across all partners the total reliance on HBC for income was 27%. Overall therefore approximately 50% of income across all partners was reliant on public sector funding whether from HBC or other bodies. This poses a potential risk to future sustainability due to cuts within the public sector which are expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

Overall the Consortium and HBC have, in different ways and to varying degrees, already engaged in diversifying income streams however there remains significant levels of income from government funding which is likely to be subject to further cuts. We believe there is potential to further diversify income and build on existing successes. In addition there are potential income streams such as private sector (individuals, corporates) which have not yet been explored or exploited.

There is recognition within the Consortium and the council youth service team of the diversity of services, strong links with the local community and the opportunity for collaboration. However, despite the desire to develop co-working, apply for new funding opportunities together and develop a network to share information and resources, we did not see much evidence of this being achieved. There is recognition of common challenges with reducing public funding, however no clear strategy to mitigate against the impact. Lack of trust and 'tribalism' were noted to be the key barriers to collaborative working.

In a joint workshop with management representatives from the Consortium and the council youth service, we agreed the basic principles that any new model of collaboration should be based on. These were:

- 1. Equitable Provides an equal voice for all with an equal "balance of power"
- 2. Financially stable Is economically viable and has the ability to be financially stable in the future
- 3. Needs-based Is led by the needs of young people and the community and not by individual interests
- 4. Integrated Allows to have a greater impact through a well integrated approach
- 5. Clearly defined roles and scope of service delivery
- 6. Autonomy Does not hinder the autonomy of any of the organisations



Recommendation

Based on the review of the as-is position and our research into innovative new models and best practice examples in the sector, our recommendation is that forming an independent Young People Foundation (YPF) provides the best option for children and young people's services in Hartlepool.

A YPF will be a membership organisation open to any group that works with children and young people in Hartlepool. It will be a newly registered charity that will work to safeguard the existing provision and to grow the sector and services in Hartlepool. It will be the most effective way to mitigate the current challenges and allow the Council to retain and develop the best of both the VSC provision and the in-house services. The three initial YPFs have each been awarded grants by John Lyon's Charity and City Bridge Trust for core funding of £200,000 per annum. The budget of is typically being deployed on:

- CEO's salary
- Development Director/ Chief Fundraiser salary
- Administrator salary
- Small Grants allocation (typically around £40,000)
- Office accommodation; set up costs; training, IT and publicity

The YPF model has been developed in partnership with a variety of local interested parties, other funders as well as broader CYP sector organisations with specific expertise including London Youth, Partnership for Young London, National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education, Youthnet, Scout Association and London Funders. There is an increasing number of funders interested in the development of the model and the learning that it could afford.

Hartlepool could look at getting a grant from any of these funding partner organisations through John Lyon's Charity.

Next steps

- Presentation of the Options Appraisal to the Consortium and the council youth service team – June 2016
- Discussion and Q&A on the Young People Foundation model with Brendan O'Keefe (MetaValue youth services expert and MD, EPIC CIC) – June 2016
- Updates as per feedback June 2016
- Presentation of the Options Appraisal to the Children's Services Committee Meeting 12th July 2016
- Phase 2 Implementation Planning



2. Introduction

"Hartlepool has a proud heritage of providing local children and young people with positive, enriching activities and informal learning opportunities outside of school time alongside access to information, advice and support" (Report for children's and young people's strategic partnership, 2015). The borough has a diverse and vibrant children and young people offer for 5-19 year olds, delivered by the Local Authority and voluntary and community sector organisations (VCS). The Local Authority Youth Services team is focussed on provision for 12-19 year olds while a consortium of VCS organisations are commissioned to deliver services for 5-19 year olds on a universal and referral basis.

Like most other areas in the country, Hartlepool is seeing a reduction in budgets for children and young peoples' services. Hartlepool Borough Council (HBC) is however committed to retain the very best of both the Local Authority provision and VCS provision. In 2015 Hartlepool Children's Strategic Partnership set up a Children and Young People's Entitlement Group to look at options to develop a sustainable children and young people's offer. The entitlement group bid for the Cabinet Office's Delivering Differently for Young People programme (DDYP) which they were successful. Subsequently the Council appointed MetaValue in March 2016 to carry out an Options Appraisal on potential models to improve the service offer and financial sustainability of the services.

MetaValue is a public sector specialist consultancy. We have worked with a number of Councils to evaluate, redesign and develop new models for public services. This includes children and young people's services (our largest area of focus), libraries and adult learning, sports partnership, language and translation services among others. We are a leading supplier to the Cabinet Office DDYP Programme and have carried out options appraisals for the Councils of Surrey, Telford & Wrekin and Birmingham to produce options of alternative delivery models with supporting business case and implementation plan.

This review focuses on council funded services which includes the Council Youth Service and the 5-19 commissioned services. The aim of the review was to develop options appraisals that was inclusive of other providers to ensure a diverse offer could be offered to children and young people across Hartlepool.



3. Our approach

Given the nature of Hartlepool's children and young people's service offer, any new model will need to allow for effective engagement and co-working at the same time maintaining the diversity and cost-effectiveness of the offer as a whole. So our approach has focussed on agreeing a common vision and aligning interests from an early stage. We ensured all stakeholders had an opportunity to input their views during the process including front line staff. This has included:

- Kick off sessions with Beth Major (Council's Youth Work Manager) and Lindsay Hildreth (5-19 Activities Contract Manager) and Danielle Swainston (Assistant Director, Children's Services)
- Baselining workshop with representatives from the LA Youth Services team and each of the VCS organisations
- One-to-one meetings with management teams of West View Project, Belle Vue, Changing Futures and Wharton Trust
- Workshop with LA Youth Services team full time staff to understand their views on their current offer, opportunities for improvement and co-working, barriers to improvement as well as ideas for addressing those barriers
- Similar workshop as above with part-time staff from all the organisations within the 5-19 activities consortium in scope of the review and the LA part time youth services staff
- Similar workshop as above with management representatives from organisations within the 5-19 activities consortium and Local Authority Youth Services team with more focus on developing common opportunities and making the services more sustainable.

For HBC to maintain the best of its in-house and commissioned voluntary sector provision, the ability to find additional income will be key for any new delivery model. Reduction in public funding for children and youth services has sparked innovation in the sector as it has been forced to look for creative ways of generating new income. As a result, several new delivery models that have developed over the last few years, which we have looked as part of our Market Research exercise to understand what success looks like in the Youth Services sector. This has involved interviews with:

- Onside North West (Charity behind six successful Youth Zones including Bolton Lads & Girls and Wigan Youth Zone among others, visited by over 350,000 young people every year)
- Award-winning Youth Charities such as IntoUniversity and The Clement James Centre.



John Lyon's Charity that have successfully developed a grassroots, inclusive model to mitigate the impact of the current challenges facing the voluntary sector

We have reviewed the alternative funding and income streams that are available specifically to social enterprises and into sources of potential funding and grants.

Key factors considered:

In our view, any successful alternative must possess, at a minimum, the following characteristics:

- Ability to generate income independent of the Council: Currently £375K of Council funding (2015-16) generates a further £1.2 million of additional income for children and young people services in Hartlepool. Although the level of reliance on Council funding varies for each of the VCS organisations, there is certainly scope to improve the collective ability of the sector to raise more. Typically, there are two main routes to additional income: the first route is to attract funding from the private sector and individuals. Best practice in this area demonstrates that private sector donations can represent an additional £1.50 of revenue on top of every £1 of Council spend. The second route is to secure funding from new sources (e.g. Big Lottery and European Social Fund) into the local area. Also, substantial funding in the shape of social impact bonds is coming on-stream for organisations that are willing to improve (mainly targeted) services beyond an existing baseline. We have explored the potential for all these routes through our research and are set out in Market Analysis, below.
- Childhood Programme call for a fully integrated workforce and approach to early intervention and support as well as stronger relationships and simpler interfaces with partners. The new model will need to allow for effective engagement and co-production with the voluntary, community and faith sectors as well as the broader network of partners such as police, local schools, CCGs, uniformed groups, health visitors, community nursery nurses as well as the corporate sector and the Hartlepool community itself. We have also looked at the potential to bring all these stakeholders together in the provision of a stronger offer for children and young people that is also in line with the Integrated Localities model.
- Strengthen the local offer: Hartlepool has strong local VCS organisations and a high quality Local Authority youth service team. The services are well embedded in the community and delivered by staff and volunteers who understand the unique needs of



Hartlepool. There is a diverse range of activities and projects supporting 5-19 year olds in the areas of most need. However, there are common challenges around working more collaboratively in an environment of reducing funding and competition for new sources of income. A new model will need to address these challenges without losing what's good and already working well.

- Increased impact: A model which is inclusive (i.e. involves not just the current members of the Partnership but also VCS organisations that are small, young or in nascent stages of development as well as any other groups that are working with children and young people in Hartlepool) is much more likely to address real needs and succeed over the long term. Doing more with less will also require staff to be innovative in ways that young people are reached, engaged and impacted. The new model must be able to accurately identify needs, and react quickly to changing needs of young people and in fact of families.
- Quick to implement, and sustainable: We recognize that the new model must be quick to implement to respond to immediate priorities and planned budget cuts as well as be robust and resilient to serve the longer term vision.

4. As-is Service Review

The current youth service offer in Hartlepool is diverse, with a range of services for those aged 5-19 spread across the borough. Sessions delivered by the Council's Youth Service and the commissioned 5-19 activities service are currently counted and this totals 58 centre based sessions (25 sessions for 5-11 year olds, 33 sessions for 12-19 year olds) offered weekly across 12 centres. Additional work is conducted by detached and outreach teams and a dedicated skate park that is open 7 days per week, along with a number of special interest groups.

The council youth service and commissioned 5-19 activities service currently reaches 36% of the 5 to 19 age group in Hartlepool. Attendance is by voluntary participation at age appropriate sessions, however, an additional targeted element is provided to ensure children and young people with additional needs are supported to participate. Referrals come from a range of partners including social care, health, education and the First Contact and Support Hub. This is delivered in such a way that referred participants avoid stigma with their peers.

It needs to be noted that there are a large number of VCS organisations that offer a wide range of activities for children and young people across Hartlepool that are not included in the above



information. The number of sessions these organisations offer is not counted by the council and can therefore not be included within the figures above.

To understand the service delivery structure, a Service Definition (Appendix 2) was created through a collaborative workshop with the representatives from the 5-19 activities consortium in scope of the review and the Local Authority Youth Services team representatives. The aim of creating a Service Definition is to succinctly capture:

- the key elements of the offer available to children and young people in Hartlepool
- which providers deliver what part of the offer and
- who the recipients/beneficiaries of this offer are

Below is a summary of the all services that are funded through the Council's Youth Service and Commissioned service:

Ha	irtlepool Par	tners - As Is	Service D	BOROUGH COUNCIL			
Services:	Providers:	Local Authority Youth Services	West View Project	Belle View Centre	Changing Futures	Wharton Trust	Kilmarnock Road
Safe Space		✓		✓			
Volunteering Opportu	nities	✓					
Youth Clubs		✓					
Young People's Fund	raising	✓					
Project Work		✓					
lssues-based Work		✓					
Spots Projects		✓					
Alternative Education	Projects	✓					
YoungPeople Support	t	✓					
Play Work		✓					
Sexual Health Service	es	✓					
Independent Living Sk	dlls	✓					
Residentials		✓					
participation		✓					
Accreditation		✓					
Referral to Young Car	rers Project	✓					
Pool	•	✓					
Performing Arts		✓					
Outdoor Activities		✓					
NEETs Projects		✓					
Re-engagement		✓					
International Exchang	е	✓				✓	
Mobile & Detatched V	Vork	✓					
LGBT Targeted Work		✓					
Special Needs Suppo	ort	✓					
Heritage Projects		✓					
Employment						✓	
Civil Engagement						✓	
Breakfast Clubs							
Assertive Outreach							
Children's Counsellin	g						
Mentoring							



The key customers for these services are listed below. [Note: We define customers as anyone who is a recipient of a service, a revenue generator (or someone who can pull away a revenue stream), a judge/opinion former who may influence the perception of service and hence impact the ability to grow.]

- Children & young people
 - 5-11 year olds
 - 12-19 year olds (25 with disabilities)
- Parents
- Foster Carers
- Social Workers
- Teachers
- Community
- Schools
- Colleges
- Partnering Agencies (Police, Health etc.)
- Housing Associations
- Agencies outside Hartlepool
- Government Departments
- Awarding Bodies
- Grant-making Bodies
- Local Businesses
- Local Authority
- VCSE

All VCS organisations commissioned to deliver the above offer operate as a Children & Young People's Consortium. In addition a Children and Young People's entitlement group has been set up which also has representation from the Local Authority. West View Project co-ordinates all contracts and sub-contracts of the commissioned provision. The aim of the Children and Young People's Entitlement Group is to develop co-working, apply for new funding opportunities together and develop a network to share information, best practise and training and development opportunities. There is a monthly co-ordinators' meeting and a bi-monthly managers' meeting.

There is however limited engagement on a day-to-day basis. Changing Futures have sub contracted Belle Vue to deliver Relationship Centre work; there were a few joint funding bids made in the past and a joint proposal to deliver services to local schools, which did not result in any concrete projects. When we asked front line staff teams about their experience of the



Consortium (please see Appendix 1 Part-time Staff Workshop Outputs), most had no experience of working together on any joint projects with other providers.

There is certainly anxiety around funding reductions. However we did not see any evidence of a concrete strategy to make the Children and Young People's Entitlement Group financially sustainable in the face of expected cuts to Local Authority budgets. Neither is there a clearly defined service offer or vision for the future. However staff and management teams agreed that working collaboratively would greatly improve the offer for children and young people in Hartlepool and also help them deliver their work better through better sharing of information and resources (such as venues, training opportunities etc.).

The common view among management representatives of the VCS organisations within the 5-19 activities consortium and the LA Youth Services team was that for any collaborative arrangement to work, there needs to be a new and formalised structure that allows for a fresh start. It was also noted that there seems to be a lack of trust and 'tribalism' when it comes to joint working. This is further exacerbated by the fact that not all partners believe they have a fair share of voice in the Children and Young People's Entitlement Group decision-making and control. Having one lead organisation within the consortium has taken the neutrality out of the consortium and in our view is a barrier to unlocking its full potential.

Hartlepool has a long and strong history of having a diverse and vibrant provision for children and young people. It has strong local VCS organisations that have been delivering services for many decades in some cases. Despite public spending reductions, some of the partners have shown extraordinary resilience and have adapted very quickly to bring in income from new sources and continue the provision for the young people they support. There is a rich bank of venues that support families and not just young people. The Local Authority Youth Service has a strong track record in delivering, measuring and reporting outcome based work for young people. Most importantly, there is a passionate group of people – whether as managers, front line staff (full time and part time) or volunteers – who have not allowed changes, declining budgets, reducing resources and an uncertain future to get in the way of what they do best.

In our view, Hartlepool has all the service components to continue making a positive and enriching impact on children and young people. What it needs is a model that gives it the structure and strong foundation of workability based on trust so each partner can contribute their strengths to a real Partnership that can be greater than the sum of its parts.

5. As-is Production Review



The As-is Production Definition looks at the key groups (resource classes) delivering youth services, and the costs involved (where known).

Hartlepool Borough Council

Set out below is a summary of the costs for the Council in delivering both the in-house and commissioned services in Hartlepool:-

Summary of Council Costs		2015/16	%age		2016/17	%age
Staff Costs	£	440	49%	£	443	48%
Staff FTE		16.5			16.5	
Non-Staff Costs	£	68	8%	£	64	7%
Subtotal Council Youth Services	£	508	57%	£	507	55%
Commissioining						
5-19 Contract	£	345	39%	£	345	37%
Other Grants	£	38	4%	£	65	7%
Subtotal Commissioning	£	383	43%	£	410	44%
Total Youth Services Costs	£	891	100%	£	917	99%
Income	-£	67		-£	30	
Grant Income	<u>-£</u>	38		-£	65	
Subtotal Income	-£	105		-£	95	
Net Youth Services Costs	£	786		£	822	
Building Costs (Other Departments)	£	106	12%	£	106	11%
Total Net Council Costs	£	892	100%	£	928	100%
Variance				-£	36	
%age Saving on 2015/16					-4%	

Internal council **staff costs** account for £443K based on the As Is payroll position which is around 50% of total costs. There are 16.5 FTEs delivering youth services, of which 3 are youth service management and administration and the remainder are frontline youth workers. The majority of frontline staff are part-time with currently 44 staff engaged in service delivery. Staff are absolutely dedicated and skilled in the work they do for young people in Hartlepool, however they feel considerable uncertainty around the future of the service.

After staff costs, the other key expenditure is *commissioned service funding*. In 2016/17 £375k is provided to the Partnership under the 5-19 contract to deliver services in Hartlepool. This includes an additional £30k of funding from that shown in the Table above, funded from a contribution from the Police and Crime.



In addition, there are two fully grant funded projects relating to the Cultural Projects and Exchanging Notes programmes. The costs and corresponding grant income are identified separately in the above Table. The above Table includes the premises costs (ie. utilities, rates, building cleaning and maintenance) for the 2 main centres identified separately as these costs do not form part of the Child & Adults budget. They fall under the Corporate and Regeneration and Neighbourhoods budgets as part of the Council's centralisation of premises budgets. The

Consortium

We also looked at costs across the VCS consortium to the extent that costs were available from the latest accounts and a summary of costs is shown below:-

Caveat: analysis based on latest publicly available accounts (year end date is shown in the table) and classification of income and costs was subject to interpretation which may not be accurate. Figures are historic and may not reflect the up-to-date picture for each entity. Some organisations deliver outside of Hartlepool and therefore income and costs also include other areas. Each partner was given the opportunity to make changes to figures.

Partner	We	est View	В	elle Vue		hanging Futures	Ki	marnock Road		/harton Trust			
Year End		Mar-15		Mar-15		Mar-15		Sep-15		Dec-14		Total	%age
Staff Costs	£	220	£	376	£	354	£	35	£	157	£	1,143	69%
Heads		17.0		33.0		14.0		5.0		8.0		77.0	
Other People Costs					£	14					£	14	1%
Subtotal People Costs	£	220	£	376	£	368	£	35	£	157	£	1,157	70%
As a %age of Total Partner Costs		78%		74%		66%		56%		64%		70%	
Volunteers						50.0						50.0	
Delivery Costs	£	30	£	23	£	101	£	-	£	46	£	201	12%
As a %age of Total Partner Costs		11%		5%		18%		0%		19%		12%	
Buildings	£	9	£	24	£	16	£	-	£	7	£	57	3%
Running & Other Costs	£	24	£	82	£	70	£	28	£	35	£	240	15%
Total Costs	£	284	£	506	£	556	£	63	£	245	£	1,655	100%
As a %age of Total Partner Costs		100%		100%		100%		100%		100%		100%	
Grant Pot	£	217									£	217	
Total after Grant Pot	£	501	£	506	£	556	£	63	£	245	£	1,871	
As a %age of Total Partner Costs		27%		27%		30%		3%		13%		100%	

People costs account for 70% of the total costs including payroll staff and sessional workers in other people costs. In addition, Changing Futures added that they have 50 volunteers although note there is a cost to managing this including a part-time member of staff co-ordinating. (Other organisations may also make use of volunteers.)

Delivery costs are direct costs in delivering youth services.

In total then staff costs and delivery appear to account for approximately 82% of the cost base with 18% being *building* and *other running costs*. Whilst it is possible that the partnership



could achieve savings in overheads through sharing resources – and this idea has been put forward at workshops – there does not appear to be a significant issue with duplicated overheads.

The West View project are the recipient of the £375K 5-19 *commissioned service funding* from the Council which is then passed on to other partners.

6. As-is Income Review

The As-is income review looks at how services are funded by the Council and the different income streams generated by the Partnership.

Hartlepool Borough Council

Set out below is a summary to show how services are funded in 2016-17 within the Council.

		91%		6%	3	8%	0%		100%	
otal	£	928	£	65		30 £		£	1,023	100%
								£	-	
								£	-	
								£	-	
								£	-	
								£	-	1
oung People								£	-	1
ocal Community								£	-	1
Other Organisations						£	0	£	0	0%
Housing Associations								£	-	
Colleges								£	-	
Schools					£ 3	0		£	30	3%
rivate Sector								£	-	
rusts & Charities			£	65				£	65	6%
Other Public Sector								£	-	
ouncil	£	928						£	928	91%
Income Sources										
Income Type	Govern Fund		Grants		Space Hiring		Training & Courses	Т	otal	
Hartlepool Borough	Council Y	outn :	services	- A		еυ		U16-	·17 (£	K)
	0 :: .						BOROUGH CO	UNC	IL 🔨	M)
						-	HARTLEP	00	L 🔏	1

Currently the *Council* funds £928K of the service costs. This includes all costs (youth services, 5-19 service and building costs held by other council departments). In common with other council budgets across the country this amount is likely to be subject to funding reductions in the foreseeable future, however the likely reduction is not yet known. Therefore in the medium



term this will need to be mitigated by growing other income streams, or services must be reduced.

Other income currently in accounts for 9% of total funding. We have worked with a number of local councils delivering youth services and have seen a range for other income of between 5-19%, with an average of 12%.

This includes **space hiring** to local schools which accounted for £30K or 3% of funding.

The youth services has also been successful in applying for grant income of £65K (6%). This included Cultural Projects and the Exchanging Notes programme.

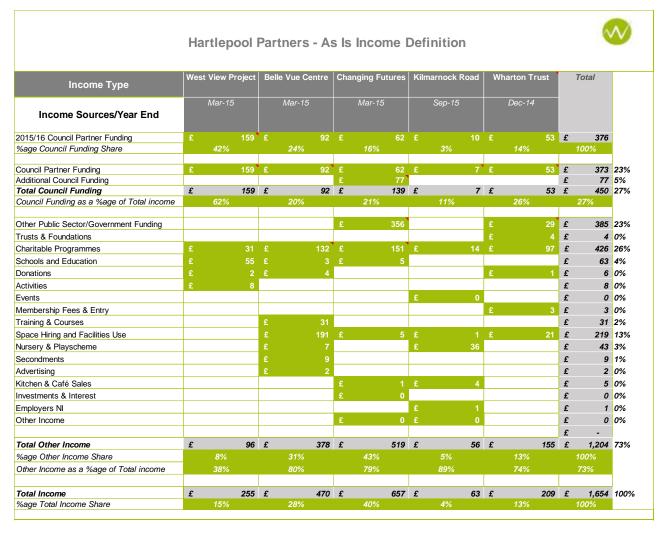
The council also provides *training* although there is no figure for this.

The Consortium

We also looked at income streams across the VCS consortium

Caveat: analysis based on latest publicly available accounts (year end date is shown in the table) and classification of income and costs was subject to interpretation which may not be accurate. Figures are historic and may not reflect the up-to-date picture for each entity. Some organisations deliver outside of Hartlepool and therefore income and costs also include other areas. Each partner was given the opportunity to make changes to figures.





Firstly we looked at the 2015-16 *council funding* and how this was split between the partners. The West View Project receive the largest share of the funding (42%) followed by Belle Vue (24%).

We then looked at the latest publicly available accounts for each partner to see how income is generated across the partnership.

Overall the HBC had provided *total council funding* of £450K including the 5-19 contract and the mentoring project with Changing Futures.

We calculated the %age of each partners' total income which came from HBC. The West View Project appears to have the largest reliance on council funding which equates to 62% of their total income with others in the range of 20-16%. The exception was Kilmarnock Road with only 11% of income from HBC; this is mainly due to the fact that they receive income for their nursery provision so essentially a different commercial/funding model.



Across all partners the total reliance on HBC for income was 27%.

Note: due to different year ends the council 2015/16 funding may not equate to the figures in each partners' latest accounts.

After Council funding the largest income stream across all partners was *charitable programmes* which equated to 26% or £426K of total income. The Belle Vue Centre, Changing Futures and Wharton Trust each generate close to or in excess of £100K of income.

At least 23% of total income comes from *other public sector funding*. (It is possible there are other small grants in this area which we have not identified.) The vast majority of this was for the Changing Futures DWP contract (£355K).

Overall therefore approximately 50% of income across all partners was reliant on public sector funding whether from HBC or other bodies. This poses a potential risk to future sustainability due to cuts within the public sector which are expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

This reliance may well have fallen since the latest accounts were published. For example, Changing Futures shared draft income figures for the most recent year which, before taking into account other partners, mean that the reliance on public sector funding may now have fallen to 40%. However this still represents the largest income stream.

A further key update provided was by Belle Vue who shared that they have now been awarded a £400K project for the Youth Employment Initiative, of which £267K is grant funding.

Space hiring accounts for £219K or 13% of total funding, the majority of which is £191K from the Belle Vue centre.

Other notable income streams include £63K of 4% from **schools**, £55K of which is with the West View Project and £43K (3%) from **nursery/play schemes** from Kilmarnock Road (£36K) and Belle Vue Centre (£7K).

Overall the partners and HBC have, in different ways and to varying degrees, already engaged in diversifying income streams however there remains significant levels of income from government funding which is likely to be subject to further cuts.

We believe there is potential to further diversify income and build on existing successes. In addition there are potential income streams such as private sector (individuals, corporates) which have not yet been explored or exploited. We look at some best practise examples of how others have done this below.



7. SWOT Analysis

The SWOT Analysis below has been compiled from input from 3 separate sessions:

- 1. Workshop with management representatives from the Local Authority, Changing Futures, West View Project, Belle Vue, Wharton Trust and Kilmarnock Road.
- 2. Workshop with Local Authority full time youth services team
- Workshop with part-time staff representatives from the Local Authority, Changing Futures, West View Project, Belle Vue, Wharton Trust and Kilmarnock Road. (For further details on the outputs of this workshop, please see Appendix 1 Part-time Staff Workshop Outputs)

Strengths:

- Buildings
 - Number of well-equipped centres
- People
 - local knowledge, embedded in the community and passionate about children and young people's service
 - highly skilled staff who are committed to the work they do and are good at identifying needs
 - Variety of skills and experience
- Quality of service
 - LA service respected by OFSTED
 - Very high standards of safeguarding policies
 - Variety of services and diverse projects
 - Issues-based skills available
- Positive links with the communities people know where to go for help
- Services valued by the community
- Good links with schools, national programmes and with alternative education
- Vast provision for 5 to 19 year olds
- Strong training
- Resilient services (and organisations)
- Independent
- Culture of accountability
- Innovative VCS organisations that are willing to form organic partnerships
- Size of the VCS organisations that makes them nimble and able to respond faster
- Community based services with a focus on family approach



- Ability to raise income from other sources (e.g. Big Lottery, Big Local Money, DWP, Comic Relief, Children in Need) as well as through paid-for services (e.g. nursery, breakfast clubs, after-school provision, training courses space hire etc.)
- 'Hartlepool Factor!' strong local VCS providers
- Partnerships that have formed organically
- Long established services that are now well embedded in the community
- Good spread of locations in the areas of most need (a few exceptions)

Weaknesses:

- Tribalism
- Resistance to exploit opportunities to work together "very territorial"
- Not all partners feel the Partnership operates on an equitable basis and see Councillors in Board roles as a conflict of interest
- Limited information sharing
- Independence
- No consistency in how impact and outcomes are measured and reported
- Contractual arrangements by region
- Buildings reliance and costs
- No dedicated development role in the partnership
- Limited provision for 13-19 year olds
- Common struggle with young people that can't be reached
- Website (Council) not young people friendly
- High-need young people may not have the necessary services
- Limited and reducing (local authority) funding
- Uncertainty about the future of services having a knock-on impact on staff morale

Opportunities:

- Opportunity to make an impact (as such high need)
- Reduce duplication and also to reduce competition
- To evolve and to be more efficient
- To maximise resources
- Engage the private sector
- Diversified income streams to share costs and create economies of scale e.g. purchasing
- Collaborative working funding, delivery etc.
- Opportunity to better address youth unemployment and child poverty



Threats:

- Realities of partnership working and conflict cultural and political challenges
- 40-50% reliance on public sector funding
- Power issues
- Changing funding environment
- Uncertain futures
- Competing with the big boys

8. Market Analysis – Best Practice Models

So what does success look like? As part of our market research to understand what success looks like in the Youth Services sector we have looked at the funding models of three organisations. This has included interviews with OnSide Northwest (the charity behind six successful Youth Zones, and born out of Bolton Lads & Girls, and visited by over 350,000 young people every year), award-winning youth charity IntoUniversity and the John Lyon's Charity that has

Onside North West: Unlocking private sector and individual giving

The OnSide model has been identified as a sector leading model for youth services delivery focused around a youth centre. Their model brings together the whole community – Council, local people, businesses, young people – in creating sustainable youth services and significantly reduces the reliance on council funding. Onside youth centres target £1million total income per centre with only 40% of the income provided by the local Council. Set out below is the OnSide best practice commercial model:

Best Practice Commercial Model

		Annual Budget		
Income				
Council	£	400	40%	Council funding
Donations	£	500	50%	Principally from business, individuals and grants
Trading/Other	£	100	10%	Commercial income
Total Income	£	1,000	100%	



In order to ensure success, OnSide put in place a delivery and governance model in each centre that prioritises fundraising and growth and has the right skills and network to attract new funding streams. This includes dedicated fund-raiser(s) and a Board with a heavy bias towards successful business people from the private sector, both for their leadership qualities and their networking ability. Although it is unlikely that the OnSide model can be transported in its entirety to Hartlepool (the Onside model assumes a vibrant private sector which justifies a new, state of the art youth centre, which in turn is attractive to business leaders), it does demonstrate that engaging the right kind of private sector business leaders can unlock substantial additional funding.

IntoUniversity:

IntoUniversity is an award-winning youth charity that supports young people from the ages of 7-18 to achieve a university place or another chosen aspiration. Its activities include establishing centres where young people come for mentoring and homework support after school, as well as other events and activities.

It has grown nationally from one centre in 2006/7 to 19 by 2014/15 through an innovative partnering approach which has allowed it to establish new centres at a low-cost through universities who provide space at low/no cost as well as funding and volunteers. In 2014/15 university partners provided £1.5m of income/benefits. A key part of their funding and support also comes from corporates (24% or £1.1m in 2014/15) who as well as income also support their work by providing volunteers, mentors and holding employability events for young people.

In 2013/14 of 1,515 volunteers, 637 (42%) came from corporate partners/funders with a further 601 (40%) from university partners and 277 (18%) from local communities. In 2014 79% of Into University school leavers achieved a University place compared to 34% national average for state schools and 23% national average for children on free school meals. A further 7% applied to HE or enrolled in an Access course and 10% were in work/apprenticeships.

Into University grew originally from their sister charity, the Clement James Centre in North Kensington, one of London's most deprived boroughs, which developed the original Into University programme and also runs community support, literacy and numeracy, English language, employability and support and personal development programmes for adults. Separating the programme into a new charity facilitated the national roll-out while Clement James could continue to focus on the specific needs of the local community it serves. Clement James, itself an award-winning charity, raises income predominantly through local government funding and trusts and foundations. Some years ago in order to diversify income streams and



attract more donations and private sector funding, it created a Development Board made up of local people with the specific remit to engage local businesses and individuals. This has been successful in raising the local profile and increasing donor income and volunteering. Part of this includes a lively events programme – recent examples include a "Music, Magic and Mayhem" concert which was able to raise funds of £12.5K in one evening with no costs through the support and organisation skills of the Development Board.

John Lyon's Charity: Strengthening the local offer through a grassroots approach

John Lyon's is a 400 year old charity that gives grants to benefit children and young people up to the age of 25 across nine boroughs in North West London. Since 1992, the Charity has distributed over £90million to a range of services for young people, including youth clubs, arts projects, counselling initiatives, childcare and parental support schemes, sports programmes and academic bursaries. As a response to the current pressures on the Children and Young People (CYP) sector, the Charity developed a new model – the Young People's Foundation (YPF) model – to safeguard existing CYP provision and grow the sector in the local area. A YPF is a local organisation that is set up as a registered charity and is a membership organisation for any group that works with children and young people in the respective area. It has a local Trustee Board and wider steering group that includes representation from relevant local organisations – VCS organisations, the Local Authority, police, CCGs, housing associations, local schools, faith groups, uniformed groups football clubs and sports organisations, the corporate sector and funders etc.

Three YPFs have been created to date: Young Barnet Foundation, Young Brent Foundation and Young Harrow Foundation. Each have been awarded grants by John Lyon's Charity (£100K) and City Bridge Trust (£100K) for core funding of £200K per annum, which is typically deployed on:

- CEO's salary
- Development Director/Chief Fundraiser Salary
- Administrator Salary
- Small Grants allocation
- Office accommodation, set-up costs, training, IT and publicity

Each YPF is working as a strong consortium to:

Fundraise – YPF is the prime contractor holding the grant and commissions the deliver to the member organisations. It does not compete with its members and works to benefit the whole membership based on the needs of children and young people in the area



- Organise sector specific capacity building e.g. training events, advice sessions and a forum to share ideas and best practise
- Share spaces through a 'venue bank'
- Coordinate sector networking opportunities and support services

This has allowed for an inclusive, diverse and collaborative set-up that is cross-sector and builds on the strengths of the existing provision in a financially sustainable way. Over 25 funding

organisations have signed up with John Lyon's Charity to support the development of the model and the learning that it could afford.

9. Delivery Model Options and Recommendation

HBC wishes to retain the best of both – voluntary sector provision and the Local Authority Youth Services. Given the strengths of each and the different needs they serve, this ambition is not just a nice-to-have, but essential to ensure there is a responsive offer for children and young people who need it most. Moreover, there is recognition of the fact that collaboration rather than competition is what is required to respond to the current financial pressures and further funding reductions on the horizon.

Agreed principles of collaboration

In a joint workshop with management representatives from the Consortium and the council youth service, we looked at what everyone believed were the barriers to unlocking the full potential of the Partnership, making it to some extent unworkable. We then agreed the basic principles that any new model of collaboration should be based on. These were:

- 1. **Equitable** Provides an equal voice for all with an equal "balance of power"
- 2. *Financially stable* Is economically viable and has the ability to be financially stable in the future
- 3. **Needs-based** Is led by the needs of young people and the community and not by individual interests
- 4. *Integrated* Allows to have a greater impact through a well integrated approach
- 5. Clearly defined roles and scope of service delivery
- 6. **Autonomy** Does not hinder the autonomy of any of the organisations



MetaValue then evaluated the following delivery model options:

Traditional (reduced) Council Youth Service without commissioned service

Superficially, the most attractive element of this option is that it is a simple and easy response to the immediate budget cuts. However, given the cuts that are expected in the next few years, an in-house service provides a high degree of financial risk which cannot easily be offset by an ability to generate external revenue. In particular, the Traditional Youth Service option would be unable to access other forms of funding (grants and private sector donations) that are available to other options. It will be a short-term sticky plaster solution that does not address the long term financial sustainability of the service. More importantly, it can potentially decimate the local VCS provision and/or severely restrict the ability of the sector to bring in funding from other sources into Hartlepool. For these reasons, we discounted this option.

Public Sector Mutual

The Local Authority Youth Service team has strong skills and track record in youth service. Spinning it out as a Mutual with core funding from the Council for 3-5 years and with a new charitable status could help raise income from other sources such that there can be reducing reliance on Council funding. However, there is no appetite within the Youth Service team to form an entity separate from the Council – the most essential pre-requisite for an employee-led Mutual. Also, forming another organisation to deliver youth work will not address all of the current challenges and opportunities. We therefore discounted this option.

Back-the-winner approach

Some of the VCS organisations in the Partnership have clearly done better than others in terms of expanding services and generating income from other sources—delivering better return per £ spent by the Council. The Council could rebalance the commissioning such that higher funds are invested to back one or more VCS organisations delivering higher returns (financial and service). This will however be to the detriment of those providers with higher reliance on Council funding and could potentially make the service narrow and less responsive to any changing needs, which is why we don't recommend this approach.

Develop current Consortium

There were a number of areas of potential collaboration that were identified during the workshops in terms of both increasing income and reducing costs, such as sharing spaces



and venues, shared back offices, joint funding bids etc. to respond to the funding reductions. Although there is merit in developing the current Partnership with increased focused on developing these areas, there is historical baggage and no driver to change the current dynamics or to address the principles agreed (above).

Independent Young People's Foundation

Our recommendation is that forming an independent *Young People Foundation* (YPF) provides the best option for children and young people's services in Hartlepool. A YPF will be a membership organisation open to any group that works with children and young people in Hartlepool. It will be a newly registered charity that will work to safeguard the existing provision and to grow the sector and services in Hartlepool. It will be the most effective way to mitigate the current challenges and allow the Council to retain and develop the best of both the VSC provision and the in-house services. It will also allow for:

- Inclusivity membership will be open to any group working with children and young people and as many groups as possible should be encouraged to join. An equal voice will be given to all organisations, no matter their size.
- **Diversity** YPFs value the multitude of organisations that deliver youth and children's work as it helps better meet the needs of as many young people as possible. It will allow to retain and develop the diverse range of projects and activities in Hartlepool.
- Collaboration YPFs will be non-competitive and encourage collaboration between members. The YPFs will work to fundraise, coordinate and network to benefit their whole membership. They will not compete against their members nor will they build up a large central workforce. They will remain outward facing for the benefit of their members. It will help give a new form and new dynamic to the Partnership in Hartlepool.
- Cross sector the needs of children and young people should be addressed by the public, voluntary and private sectors as a group rather than individually. It will help better respond to the 'Better Childhood' programme priorities.
- Grassroots the YPFs will work for, and with, local organisations and will retain their local focus and autonomy.



Essential Components

In order to be recognised as a 'Young People's Foundation' an organisation needs to meet certain criteria, be quality assured by London Youth and adopt the following essential core components. They will:

- be a newly registered charity
- be a membership organisations for any group that works with Children and Young People in the relevant area
- have a Trustee Board and wider steering group that will include representation from relevant organisations in the local area. This might include the local voluntary sector, the local authority, police, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Housing Associations, local schools, faith groups, uniformed groups, football clubs and sports organisations, the corporate sector and funder representation.

How it works

A YPF focuses on four main strands of work:

- work as a strong consortium to fundraise collectively to
 - secure funding from new sources (e.g. Big Lottery and European Social Fund) into the local area
 - w successfully secure commissions from the local authority
 - attract corporate and individual funding streams. The YPFs should be a practical and simple way for the corporate sector to engage with CYP organisations
- organise sector (and location) specific capacity building including training events, advice sessions and a forum for organisations to share ideas and best practice
- share venue spaces and develop a 'venue bank'
- coordinate sector networking opportunities and support services.

Once they have established their four key strands of work, Young People's Foundations could develop to provide other services to the CYP sector, including:

- the distribution of small grants to member groups (where funds allow)
- developing local giving programmes
- centralised accountancy and pension services for member organisations

These are desirable but not essential components of the YPF Model.

Costs

The three initial YPFs have each been awarded grants by John Lyon's Charity and City Bridge Trust for core funding of £200,000 per annum. The budget of is typically being deployed on:



- CEO's salary
- Development Director/ Chief Fundraiser salary
- Administrator salary
- Small Grants allocation (typically around £40,000)
- Office accommodation; set up costs; training, IT and publicity

The YPF model has been developed in partnership with a variety of local interested parties, other funders as well as broader CYP sector organisations with specific expertise including London Youth, Partnership for Young London, National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education, Youthnet, Scout Association and London Funders. There is an increasing number of funders interested in the development of the model and the learning that it could afford.

Hartlepool could look at getting a grant from any of these funding partner organisations through John Lyon's Charity.

10. Next Steps

- Presentation of the Options Appraisal to the Consortium and the council youth service team – June 2016
- Discussion and Q&A on the Young People Foundation model with Brendan O'Keefe (MetaValue youth services expert and MD, EPIC CIC) – June 2016
- Updates as per feedback June 2016
- Presentation of the Options Appraisal to the Children's Services Committee Meeting 12th July 2016
- Phase 2 Implementation Planning

---END---



For more information:

Please visit www.metavalue.co.uk

@metavalue

Meeta Thareja

Suzie Campbell

<u>meeta.thareja@metavalue.co.uk</u>

<u>suzie.campbell@metavalue.co.uk</u>

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13th September 2016



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2017-18

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non-key.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To seek agreement of the Children's Services Committee to the pattern of school term and holiday dates for the school year 2017-18 for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools.
- 2.2 To seek agreement of the Children's Services Committee in recommending these dates to governing bodies of Aided and Foundation schools and Academies in Hartlepool.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As the local authority (LA), the Council has the responsibility for setting the school term and holiday dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in Hartlepool. Voluntary Aided and Foundation schools' governing bodies and Academies are responsible for setting their own school holiday pattern within the agreed national framework of working days. Traditionally the LA and the governing bodies of all of the Voluntary Aided and Foundation schools work together to ensure a consistent pattern across the town in respect of school term and holiday dates, though in the case of Roman Catholic schools in particular, some variation does occur in some years.
- 3.2 Five training or professional development (PD) days are provided for in the teachers' conditions of service and can be taken in combinations of part-day "twilight" sessions at the direction of individual schools. The pattern proposed for 2017-18 provides for an "envelope" of 193 days, with two days designated in a combination of part day twilight sessions at the direction of the individual school.

3.3 Local authorities for a number of years have tried with some success to agree a unified calendar of term dates across the northern region from Yorkshire to Northumberland based on guiding principles agreed by the regional group in 2012-13.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 In the spring term 2016 north east representatives consulted on a pattern for 2017-18 based on the guiding principles and agreed to consult on this pattern within their own authorities as shown in **Appendix 1.** The proposed pattern enables schools to begin the academic year on Monday 4th September 2017 and end the year on Friday 20th July 2018.
- 4.2 Following discussions, arrangements were made to consult all head teachers in Hartlepool and also the relevant associations / unions through the Director's termly meetings on the school year pattern for 2017-2018. On the completion of local consultation in the region, the general consensus from the local authorities is to adopt the model attached as **Appendix 1.**

5	RISK	IMPI	IC A	FIONS
ົວ.	NISN	IIVIFL	ICA	IIONS

None.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

8. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

None.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

None.

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

None.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

None.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

- To approve the scheduled term dates and holiday dates for 2017-18 for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools as shown in **Appendix 1**.
- 12.2 To recommend the scheduled of term and holiday dates for 2017-18 to governing bodies of all Voluntary Aided, Foundation Schools and Academies in Hartlepool.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The proposals seek to achieve common term dates across Yorkshire and the north-east based on guiding principles enabling continuity for parents, carers, other schools, local authority staff and other agencies.

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

15. CONTACT OFFICER

Ann Turner
Governor Support Manager
Child and Adult Services
Civic Centre
Hartlepool
Telephone 523766

Email: ann.turner@hartlepool.gov.uk

HARTLEPOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

6.3 APPENDIX 1

2017		Aug	just				Septe	ember	•				Oct	ober				No	vem	ber			De	cem	ber	
Monday		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25
Tuesday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26
Wednesday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27
Thursday	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28
Friday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29
Saturday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30
Sunday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31

2018		Janı	Jary				Fe	brua	ry			N	/larc	h				Ap	ril					May	,				June	е	
Monday	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Thursday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Friday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Saturday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Sunday	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	

2018			Jι	ıly		
Monday		2	9	16	23	30
Tuesday		3	10	17	24	31
Wednesday		4	11	18	25	
Thursday		5	12	19	26	
Friday		6	13	20	27	
Saturday		7	14	21	28	
Sunday	1	8	15	22	29	

193 DAY ENVELOPE

Bank Holiday Holiday

The last day of the 2017-18 academic year is Friday 20th July 2018. The number of term days shown in this calendar is 193. Pupils in maintained schools should be in school for 190 days. Therefore, three days within the above school terms are to be used for teacher training activities. Teachers are entitled to a total of five day equivalents of training each year, therefore a further two days will be taken as twilight sessions or from the holiday periods marked above. There may be slight variations to the pattern above from school to school. **Please check individual school websites.**

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13 September 2016



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: SUITABILITY PROJECTS - UPDATE

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 No key decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to seek retrospective approval for two school's capital suitability schemes. Further details relating to these schemes are outlines in Appendix 1 of this report. This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the meeting of 12 July 2016 Children's Services Committee (Forward Plan Reference No. CAS 048/16) agreed a number of schemes that had been selected for progression by School's Capital Sub Group using Suitability Funding.
- 3.2 Since the submission of the 12 July 2016 Children's Services Committee report further schemes were requested for Ward Jackson Primary to improve disabled access to a classroom and, to rectify noise issues at West Park Primary.
- 3.3 Approval to progress these two schemes, in hope to have them completed during the 2016 summer break were requested from and granted by Adult Services and Councillor Alan Clark, Chair of Children's Services Committee and Sally Robinson, Director of Child on 15 July 2017.

3.4 A budgetary update, including these two schemes, was also presented to Finance and Policy Committee at their meeting of 5 September 2016.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 WARD JACKSON PRIMARY
- 4.2 Provide an access ramp to classroom 5 to allow this space to be used by disabled young people.
- 4.3 WEST PARK PRIMARY
- 4.4 The school have been experiencing sound issues from the roof of a classroom extension. The school have requested funding to investigate and resolve the issue.
- 4.5 As detailed in appendix 1 an amount of funding was allocated to this project which has allowed some specialist investigative work to be undertaken. This has highlighted that, in order for the issue to be resolved, a substantially higher budget will be required. This scheme therefore needs to be reconsidered by Schools' Capital Sub Group and the school itself.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The scheme at Ward Jackson Primary was highlighted in order to provide disabled young people with safe access to a required classroom space.
- 5.2 The scheme at West Park Primary was highlighted as one classroom space, an extension to the main school building, has significant noise issues due to the fabric and design of the roof.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The current budgetary position is detailed in Appendix 1 of this report.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Nothing to consider.

8. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Nothing to consider.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Disabled access to a classroom at Ward Jackson Primary will be DDA compliant.

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 Nothing to consider.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 Asset management is critical for each school to deliver educational activities to children.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 It is recommended that Members support the approval given in July by Councillor Alan Clark and Sally Robinson in respect of Ward Jackson Primary's access improvements.
- 12.2 It is recommended that Members note the approval given in July by Councillor Alan Clark and Sally Robinson in respect of West Park Primary's noise issues and acknowledge that the required funding should be reconsidered by Schools' Capital Sub Group.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 The scheme at Ward Jackson Primary will allow an additional classroom to be available to disabled young people.
- 13.2 Schools' Capital Sub Group and West Park Primary need an opportunity to consider the budgetary implications of a solution based on specialist advice.

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Children Services Committee – 12 July 2016

15. CONTACT OFFICER

Mark Patton
Assistant Director - Education

Tel: 01429 523733

Email: mark.patton@hartlepool.gov.uk

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13 September 2016



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: ADOPTION SERVICE – 6 MONTH INTERIM

REPORT APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2016

1. TYPE OF DECISION / APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Children Services Committee with information relating to the work of the Adoption Service from 1 April to 30 September 2016. The adoption service is a regulated service and as such is required to provide the executive side of the council with regular performance information.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Hartlepool Adoption Service is managed in accordance with the Adoption and Children Act 2002. The National Minimum Standards for Adoption and the Adoption Regulations form the basis of the regulatory framework for the conduct of adoption and adoption support agencies.
- 3.2 In order to comply with the National Minimum Standards (2011) the Local Authority is required to produce progress reports on the adoption service which is considered by the executive side of the Council every 6 months.
- 3.3 This Interim Report provides details of the staffing arrangements in the service, the constitution of the Fostering and Adoption Panel, activity in relation to the recruitment, preparation and assessment of prospective adopters.

4. ADOPTION ACTIVITY

- 4.1 Hartlepool Adoption Service has taken on the lead role in relation to the Regionalisation of local authority adoption services within the region. There are five regional local authorities who have initial funding to look at the feasibility and creation of a regional adoption agency. This work is taking place across Hartlepool, Middlesborough, Redcar and Cleveland, Darlington and Stockton and is exploring the regionalising of services from Advertising, Recruitment, Training and Assessment through to the provision of After Adoption Support services. The benefits of this are potentially very positive offering greater placement choice for social workers placing children with adopters, a centralised place for prospective adopters, a reduction in the need for children to be placed outside of the area and a reduced need for interagency placement fees.
- 4.2 In May 2015 the Government announced the introduction of the Adoption Support Fund (ASF). Nationally £1.9 million was available to provide therapeutic support to children and young people who have an adoption order, dependent upon the outcome of an assessment. The Adoption Service has successfully raised awareness of the ASF to all known adopters and is available to provide information to those who may be eligible to receive services. The Post Adoption Support Worker has received training and support in accessing the fund and has made several successful applications on behalf of families who have adopted.

In April 2016 Central Government announced the continuation and extension of this fund which will now include support to those subject to Special Guardianship Orders. For the financial year 2016-17 the fund will be increased substantially from £1.9 to £21 million and £28 million or the year after. This is an area where there is an opportunity for growth and development. The ASF is now becoming more widely known with applications for assessments increasing.

- 4.3 Hartlepool Adoption Service has invested their remaining Adoption Reform Grant in a number of initiatives designed to strengthen local performance and practice namely:
 - Improving publicity and marketing information and activity with the aim of recruiting an increased number of adopters;
 - Continuing the Family Finder Post dedicated to finding adopters for children who are waiting for adoption and ensuring best practice in planning placements and introductions;
 - Strengthening the role of the Post Adoption Support Worker taking into consideration the introduction and continuation of the Adoption Support Fund.
 - Continuing the role of the Post Box Coordinator and the delivery of post adoption support services particularly to adults who have been adopted;
 - Effective management of the computerised Post Box Contact which is now fully compatible with the Integrated Children's System module

- making the process more efficient and the arrangements more manageable.
- To continue delivering the two stage assessment process for adopters focusing on maintaining the reduced timescales for training and assessment.
- To continue to utilise the Inter-agency fee grant to claim refunds of procured placements which meet the criteria and timescale as dictated by the Department of Education Guidance.

5. STAFFING

5.1 In the last 6 months the Adoption team has remained relatively stable with only one change relating to the role of the Family Finder who is currently taking maternity leave. To maintain consistency for this role another member of the Adoption Team has taken on this role alongside her other duties with no effect upon the services provided to children needing placements of adaptors looking to be matched. This has also provided consistency in terms of recruitment and support to approved adopters.

A slight under spend and careful use of the Adoption Reform Grant has allowed the continuation of the part time post of Family Finder for a further 12 months allowing us to continue our focus on finding adoptive families for those children who have complex needs, sibling groups and children difficult to place. This role of Family Finder has been crucial in allowing us the opportunity to family find for the increasing number of siblings groups who have a plan for adoption.

The adoption team consists of a Team Manager who has responsibility for the fostering and adoption service, an Assistant Team Manager also covering both services, there are three full time Adoption Social Workers, a part time Family Finding Post and 0.7 Team Clerk support.

6. MARKETING AND PUBLICITY ACTIVITY

6.1 In the last six months there has been a renewed focus on marketing and publicity to attract prospective adopters to Hartlepool. This has included adverts in local press and Primary Times magazine; information distributed to schools and G.P. services and the inclusion of Hartlepool's details on the newly introduced National Gateway for Adoption 'First4Adoption' website and a distribution of marketing materials in selected key areas where historically there has been an interest.

7. RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

7.1 Between 1 April and 30 September the service has received 11 enquiries from prospective adopters, 6 of which have been invited to attend a preparation group. We also had 2 more adoptive households who were second time

adopters and as such were not expected to attend the preparation training group.

- N.B. In the previous six months the service received 12 enquires with 4 enquires progressing to attend the preparation group.
- 7.2 Hartlepool Adoption service continue to use the two stage preparation and assessment process intended to reduce the timescale for the approval of adopters to a maximum of 6 months inclusive of consideration at Panel and Agency Decision and this format is now fully embedded. It is pleasing to report that the adoption service has implemented this process confidently and all assessments undertaken have continued to be completed within this timescale.
- 7.3 Adopters attend four days of modular training which meets the needs of the 2 stage assessment process. An initial one day training event takes place with a further three days taking place at a later stage. This allows adopters to join the training at either stage and maintain the timescale of assessments of less than six months. In accordance with working together with other agencies and in preparation for the Regionalisation of adoption services we have been able to offer places to other authorities when they have not had training planned.
- 7.4 Between 1 April and 30 September 2016 there has been 1 one day preparation event which took place in July with a further 3 days of training taking place in September. This has resulted in 3 adopter assessments commencing.
- 7.5 Preparation training also took place in January and March 2106 and resulted in three adopter assessments commencing.
- 7.6 The team has also held a half day training session for second time adopters to prepare them and their child to adopt a second time and to manage the dilemmas around this.

8. POST APPROVAL SUPPORT GROUPS

- 8.1 Due to the reduced number of adopters we have not been in a position to run the evening support groups, however all waiting adopters are encouraged to attend the regional forum and we have also purchased places for identified adopters to attend the Full Circle training with an adjacent authority.
- 8.2 From September 2016 we will be offering approved adopters places on our 8 week attachment training which is facilitated by Dr Ollie O'Mara, Specialist Clinical Psychologist, alongside a member of the adoption team.

9.1 PANEL ACTIVITY

- 9.1 Panel has continued on a fortnightly basis and agenda items include both fostering and adoption matters. Since 1 April and 30 September 2016, 13 Panel Meetings have taken place.
- 9.2 Panel membership has remained relatively stable and during the course of the previous year, only one panel member (our elected member) has resigned. We now have a newly elected member who has joined us recently.
 - We have also recruited two Heads of Service as Agency Social Workers alongside two young people who have previously been looked after and a representative from a Voluntary Adoption Agency. These additions would enhance the cohort of panel and expand the variation of panel members to call upon.
- 9.3 Panel members have attended the 'Effective Panels' training. This was delivered buy an external provider. The training was well received and extremely positive.
- 9.4 Matters considered and recommended by Panel in relation to adoption include:
 - The approval of adopters;
 - The match of approved carers with children whose plan is for adoption;
 - Reviews of adopters who have been approved for more than 6 months.
- 9.5 Between 1 April and 30 September 2016, Panel has considered the following business:
 - Two adoptive couples and two female single adopters have been approved;
 - The matches of eight children (including 2 sibling groups of two children) with adopters.
- 9.6 There are effective processes in place for the recommendations made by panel to be considered by the Agency Decision Maker and the timescale for this is within 10 working days of the Panel meeting taking place. This timescale is adhered to robustly.

10. FAMILY FINDING GOOD PRACTICE

10.1 The Adoption Team continues to benefit from the Family Finding post. The worker who has taken on this role on a temporary basis has been able to continue with the timetabled monthly Family Finding Meetings for those children waiting for adoptive placements. These meetings build upon the current planning for permanence arrangements and focus on identifying and matching children with potential adopters, reducing any delay or drift and ensuring that children are placed more swiftly in their adoptive placements.

- 10.2 The Family Finding social worker has also been fully involved in identifying adoptive placements for those children who have been difficult to place. Effective and positive working relationships have been established with the voluntary sector and other local authorities, both regionally and nationally, resulting in us being able to identify adoptive families for sibling groups whilst supporting any court decisions and reducing and delay for the children once court processes have concluded.
- 10.3 The Family Finding social worker has been instrumental in working positively with placing Social Workers to improve the quality of Child Permanence Reports and Matching Reports. We are now using the revised CoramBAAF Adoption Placement Plan (APR) and this has been commented on by panel as a much improved document and report. In addition to this the Family Finder has been able to assist in the completion of pieces of work to support their preparation again strengthening timeliness of the reports being prepared and considered by Panel.

11. SUMMARY

- 11.1 There are new and exciting opportunities ahead for the Adoption Service. Hartlepool has been part of the successful regional bid to secure funding to look at the prospect of the five neighbouring authorities and voluntary agencies working together to become a larger Regional Adoption Agency. This will provide greater placement choice for children's social workers and more opportunities for adopters to be matched with children from the same cultural background, with opportunities for reduced waiting time for children to be matched with their adopters.
- 11.2 The Family Finding post has ensured that there have been timely and appropriate matches and reduced the level of drift and delay for children being placed with adopters.
- 11.3 The service has achieved its target to have the Post Box system transferred to an electronic system leading to this being managed more effectively and securely. There are no outstanding needs in this area and the system is successful in that post box information is up to date and accessible.
- 11.4 There is a worker who has an identified role to offer Post Adoption Support to any adopters needing this service and this ensures that any arising needs are responded to promptly with the aim of preventing these from escalating. The Post Adoption Support Worker has attended training delivered by the Adoption Support Fund (ASF) and has been successful in making numerous applications to the fund for therapeutic support for children and young people who have been adopted. In April 2016 Central Government announced the continuation and extension of this fund which will now include support to those subject to Special Guardianship Orders. For the financial year 2016-17 the fund increased to £21 million and £28 million or the year after. This is an area

- where there is an opportunity for growth and development. The ASF is now becoming more widely known with applications for assessments increasing.
- 11.5 The Adoption Team is in a strong position. There is the capacity within the team to meet the timescales for all assessments that are in process and the service has reorganised its adoption preparation training modules to fit in with the new two stage assessment process. Over the last six months there has been a consistent level of need in the number of children needing adoptive placements. We are aware that the number of sibling groups in need of an adoption placement is increasing steadily and as a service we need to be in a position to respond swiftly to any need for adoptive placements. We are therefore targeting our recruitment on finding adoptive families for sibling groups and children with more complex needs, however, we recognise that there is a need to search nationally for the right family for some of these children.
- 11.6 The service remains eager and enthusiastic to recruit new adopters to meet the needs of children needing adoption.

12. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

12.1 The service continues to recruit and assess adopters to provide placement choice.

13. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

13.1 There are no financial implications within this report.

14. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

14.1 There are no asset management implications within this report.

15. RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 Children's Services Committee is asked to note the Adoption Agency Interim Report and action plan update for April to September 2016.

16. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

16.1 The Adoption Agency is a Regulatory Service of the Council and as such Children's Services Committee require information about how services are delivered and their effectiveness.

17. BACKGROUND PAPERS

17.1 Adoption Regulations and National Minimum Standard 2011.

18. CONTACT OFFICER

Christine Croft
Team Manager
8 Church Street
Hartlepool
TS24 7DJ

Telephone: 01429 287216

INTERIM ACTION PLAN

ACTION:	
a) To work collaboratively and effectively with the Regional Adoption Agency members in or to develop and deliver plans for the smooth transition for a Tees wide adoption agency in accordance with the Government agenda to regionalise adoption services.	 a) Hartlepool Adoption Service has taken on the lead role for the Regional Adoption Agency and have utilised the services of IMPOWER to help support in completing Business proposals and applications for funding. In addition we have attended regional meetings involved with the planning of the Regional Adoption Agency. Members of the Adoption Service have been kept fully informed of all developments as the project progresses. b)
b) To continue to respond to any adoptive enquiries including those received via the National Gateway.	c) The Adoption Service has a duty worker who is available to respond promptly to any enquiries made. An initial visit by 2 Adoption Social Workers takes place within 5 – 10 working days, dependent upon the availability of the enquirer.
c) The Post Adoption Support Worker will continue to raise awareness of the introduction of the Adoption Support Fund (ASF).	d) The Adoption Service has a Post Adoption Support Worker and when requested an assessment of need will be completed. If the criteria for therapeutic support is met an application to the fund will be made on behalf of the adoptive parent. In addition to this we have completed a small number of applications to the Fund in respect of SGO support.
e) To continue with the 2 stage assessment process.	b) The Adoption Service has fully implemented the two stage assessment process. Changes have been made to the delivery of the preparation training, the completion of statutory checks and the assessment of adopters. To date all assessments have been completed within the maximum assessment period of 6 months.

c) To proceed with the Departments plans for early permanency for very young children with a plan for adoption.	c) The Family Finder is invited to attend permanency planning meetings for all children with a plan for adoption. Her involvement allows us to begin provisional family finding at the earliest opportunity reducing any delay and ensuring that children are placed more swiftly in their adoptive placements.
d) To support placing Social Workers in completing factual and informative Child's Permanency Reports.	d) Part of the Family Finder's post is to assist in supporting Social Workers in completing Child's Permanency Reports, improving the quality of these reports and strengthening the timeliness of reports being prepared and considered by panel.
 e) To utilise the existing Family Finding post to identify children needing adoptive placements earlier and using our own resources, established links and new research to positively match with adopters within timescales. 	 e) The Family Finder has established positive links with other Local Authorities and voluntary organisations. The Adoption Service is part of the Regional Consortium meetings, where children's profiles are shared routinely.
f) To work positively and proactively with the child's Social Worker to improve the quality of Life Story work.	f) The Family Finder offers support to Social Workers in completing life story work and there are plans to deliver further training aimed specifically at Social Workers who are recently qualified. 'Bitesize' training sessions re. Life Story work have been delivered to social work teams.
g) To provide those who have adopted with ongoing post adoptive support.	g) The Adoption Service has a dedicated, experienced Social Worker who is able to offer post adoptive support upon completion of an assessment.
	The Post Adoption Support Worker has attended training held by the ASF and has made several successful applications for funding on behalf of parents who have adopted.
	This worker is also responsible for supporting adults who have been adopted in tracing birth family records.

	The Adoption Service has a contractual arrangement with 'After Adoption' and following assessment can refer individuals for more specialised and individual support where needed.
h) To continue to develop and utilise the new electronic post box system.	h) The transfer of the manual post box system to an electronic database is now complete. This provides an effective and secure process and system of recording post box communication. This system is working efficiently.
 i) We will also be targeting our current advertising campaign to look specifically at recruiting adopters for older children and siblings group. 	,
	In 2016 we have continued to focus our energies and resources on recruiting adopters for sibling groups and older children, recognising the changing needs of children needing adoptive placements.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13th September 2016



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: FOSTERING SERVICE INTERIM REPORT

1 APRIL 2016 - 30 JUNE 2016

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Children Service's Committee with information relating to the activity of the Fostering Service for the first quarter of 2016/17. The Fostering Service is a regulated service and as such there is a requirement to provide the executive side of the Council with performance information on a quarterly basis.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The work of the Fostering Service is subject to National Minimum Standards applicable to the provision of Foster Care for children looked after. The National Minimum Standards, together with regulations for fostering and the placement of children looked after, form the basis of the regulatory framework under the Care Standards Act 2000 for the conduct of Fostering Agencies.
- 3.2 The report provides details of the staffing arrangements in the service, training received by both staff and Foster Carers, the constitution of the Fostering and Adoption Panel, activity in relation to the recruitment, preparation and assessment of prospective Foster Carers and progress in relation to the priorities set out in the Fostering Annual Report.
- 3.3 The Fostering Services Minimum Standard 25.7 requires Fostering Services to ensure the executive side of the Local Authority:

- Receives a written report on the management, outcomes and financial state of the agency once every 3 months;
- Monitors the management and outcomes of the service in order to satisfy themselves that the agency is effective and achieving good outcomes for children;
- Satisfies themselves that the agency is complying with the conditions of the registration.

4. RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- 4.1 The fostering team continues to recruit and assess prospective foster carers to minimise the dependency and need to source costly external placements for children.
- 4.2 There are currently 110 foster carers (including 21 of those approved as Connected Persons). These carers provided placements for 163 children and young people, including 8 young people in Staying Put placements and 25 children/young people in Connected Care foster placements. This represents an increase of three fostering households since the previous quarter and an increase of 9 children placed from the previous quarter.
- 4.3 Of the 110 approved fostering households, there is currently one foster carer who is currently on hold due to the individual circumstances of the carer, equating to 2 placements.
- 4.4 The fostering team has continued the recruitment collaboration with the four neighbouring local authorities within the Tees Valley, Tees Valley Fostering, the initiative shares resources and strategies to enable increased recruitment activities to take place across the sub region. We continue to focus this recruitment on specifically recruiting more foster carers for sibling groups and teenagers. A radio campaign and a further Television advertisement are planned for later in the year.
- 4.5 The table below provides details of the recruitment activity which has taken place in the first quarter of 2016/17.

Initial Enquiries – including survey of where did people hear about the	Initial Enquiries 17
service	Source
	Internet 3
	Own volition 5
	Hartbeat 0
	Facebook 8
	Friend recommendation 1
	Hartlepool Mail 0
	TV advert 0
Information packs sent out between	
1/04/16 and 30/06/16	17

Initial Visits How many proceeded?	5 3
Preparation Group	A preparation group has not been held in this first quarter, this is planned for September 2016.
How many prospective carers are in the assessment process?	There are currently 3 prospective fostering households in stage 1 of assessment. There are 2 prospective fostering households in stage 2 of the assessment.

5. FAMILY PLACEMENT PANEL

- 5.1 The Family Placement Panel continues to be held on a twice monthly basis and agenda items include both fostering and adoption matters. Between 1 April and 30 June 2016, six panel meetings have taken place. The panel has a full cohort of members now available. Any new appointments continue to receive induction training and ongoing training throughout the year. Yearly appraisals of panel members are also undertaken.
- From 1 April to 30 June 2016 the Panel has made recommendation to the Agency Decision Maker on the following fostering matters:
 - Five Foster Carer approvals, 4 of which are Connected Foster Carers;
 - The matches of three children with a long term Foster Carer;
 - Seven foster care reviews.
 - Two foster carer resignations
 - The best interest decision for 4 children for Long Term Foster care.
- 5.3 There are effective processes in place for the recommendations made by Panel to be considered by the Agency Decision Maker and the timescale for this is within 10 working days of the Panel meeting taking place.

6. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The Fostering Team consists of a Team Manager who has management responsibility for the Fostering and Adoption Service, an Assistant Team Manager and six social work posts. We have had a period of stability in relation to staffing, with the only significant change being that the temporary position within the team has been re- appointed to with an experienced social worker on a 12 month temporary contract who commenced employment at the beginning of February 2016. This post is to cover the

- post held by the current family finder. A permanent Social Worker remains on maternity leave.
- The Fostering Team continues to benefit greatly from the support of a team clerk. The role of this worker is to continue to offer admin support to the Fostering Team and she is responsible for the planning, preparation and smooth running of Fostering and Adoption Panel.
- 6.3 In addition the Fostering Team continues to benefit from the ongoing role of Family Finder who continues to be instrumental in family finding for those children and young people in need of permanency via long term fostering, this post has been extended for a further 12 months.
- The Family Finder has been instrumental in developing links with independent agencies and ensuring processes work efficiently between the local authority and the independent agencies.
- 6.5 The Family Finder worker has ensured that plans for permanence are identified as early as possible and that a Permanency Planning meeting is closely followed by a process meeting to minimise delay for children and ensure that social workers are supported in producing quality timely matching reports.

7. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT

- 7.1 The Fostering Services action plan is attached as **Appendix A**. The number of children becoming looked after in the first quarter has increased minimally, however this continues to be in line with an increase in connected carer foster carers. We are continuing to recruit, assess and approve new carers consistent with an aim to be able to offer placement choice to placing social workers. We continue to need placements for sibling groups of 3 or more and older teenagers which will be the focus of ongoing targeted recruitment campaigns.
- 7.2 As part of their development and progression, all new foster carers are encouraged to complete the Children's Workforce Development Council Standards for Foster Carers Portfolio within a 12 months post approval timescale. All approved Connected Person's Carers have an increased timescale of two years to complete the portfolio. Support in completing the portfolio is available from both supervising Social Workers and existing approved carers wishing to reach progression level Band 4 where there is a requirement to provide mentoring and support. We continue to have a high proportion of our carers who achieve their CDWC qualification within the required timescale.
- 7.3 All foster carers are required to complete a record of the training they have attended for the year of their approval. The four mandatory courses are child protection, first aid, attachment and E-Safety. There is a requirement

that these courses are completed within one year of approval and updated every three years.

In addition to this we held our first Foster Carers Annual Conference in June. The conference delivered 3 workshops and topics included: Attachment, Managing Self Harm and Risk, and Staying Put. Over 80 Fostering households attended this training which was well received. Evaluation and Feedback forms were unanimously positive and it is planned that a further conference will take place in 2017.

- 7.4 Foster carers are provided with bespoke training specific to their needs whilst caring for looked after children. The bespoke training is reviewed annually and reflected on during the foster carers annual reviews.
- 7.5 Foster carer support groups have continued to take place bi-monthly. Groups are usually attended by 20+ foster carers and offer an element of training, usually provided by a guest speaker delivering information which is of interest to carers and an informal Support Group Session towards the end of the evening.
- 7.6 The Support Groups are arranged and facilitated by at least two members of the Fostering Team who are available to discuss any issues raised by individual carers or the group as a whole.
- 7.7 The fostering team also facilitate a bi- monthly coffee morning for foster carers, which is an informal support meeting.
- 7.8 Foster Carer retention is an essential part of the Fostering service and as such a great emphasis is placed upon this. Within this quarter a foster carer celebration event was held to recognize the achievements and commitment of foster carers.

8. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no financial considerations within this report.

9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There no child and family poverty considerations within this report.

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 The service continues to recruit and assess prospective Foster Carers to provide placement choice. The fostering service will continue to work in collaboration with the Tees Valley local authorities in respect of fostering recruitment. In addition to this the team will continue to respond to requests for Connected Person's assessments.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 The Children's Service Committee is asked to note the report in relation to the work of the Fostering Service in the first quarter of 2016/17.

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 12.1 The Fostering Service is required to fulfill its statutory responsibilities to children looked after by the local authority and provide regular reports to the Children Services Committee to enable the Committee to satisfy themselves that the agency is complying with the conditions of the registration.
- 12.2 Children's Services Committee has an important role in scrutinising the activities of the fostering services to ensure that performance in this area is robust.

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Fostering National Minimum Standards Services 2011;
- Fostering Regulations 2011;
- Fostering Annual Report 2015/2016

14. CONTACT OFFICER

14.1 Christine Croft
Team Manager
8 Church Street
Hartlepool
TS24 7DJ

Email: <u>Christine.croft@hartlepool.gov.uk</u>

Telephone - 01429 287216



Fostering Services Action Plan April 2016 - April 2017

Priority	Progress Achieved Quarter 1	Lead Officer	Target Date
Target recruitment to attract foster carers for older children and sibling groups and those with more challenging behaviours.	 Recruitment strategy in place Bus Shelter and Billboard campaign completed. Fostering advert on Argos till receipts throughout Tees Facebook advertising focussing on teenagers TV advert planned to air in January 2016 Leaflets redesigned to feature teenagers 	Jacqui Dixon	Review quarterly 2016 Completed Completed Completed Completed Completed
To continue to offer and deliver an extensive training programme to our carers to ensure that all of our fostering households have achieved the CWDC qualification within the allocated timescales and can demonstrate continued professional development as foster carers.	 All foster carers who have been approved for more than a year have completed the standards, those recently approved are working towards. A support group is in place where experienced carers support new carers to complete the standards 	Christine Croft	April 2016 Review quarterly 2016
To continue with family finding post enabling children and young people to have 'permanency' in their lives as early as possible	 Family finding post has been secured for a further 12 months. Procedures are in place and proving effective to ensure early matching and permanence. 	Emma Howarth/ Angi Simmonds Christine Croft	April 2016 Review quarterly 2016

7.2 APPENDIX A

To hold life appreciation events for all children where permanency is the option.	 Life appreciation events have taken place. Family finder post supporting this. 	Emma Howarth/ Angi Simmonds	Review quarterly 2016
To continue to demonstrate our appreciation of the commitment provided by our foster carers.	 Annual celebration event held in February 2016 . Fostering families fun sports day planned for July 2016. Fostering Christmas party to be planned 2016 	Jacqui Dixon/ Christine Croft	Completed Completed Review quarterly 2016 Completed
To continue to strive to support our carers to engender stability within placements for our looked after children.	 Monthly evening support groups held Supervising social workers provide regular supervision and support visits. Supporting mentoring of new carers by experienced carers Placement support team continue to work with carers and young people to support and maintain placements 	Supervising social workers Christine Croft Margaret Hennessey	Completed Completed Completed Completed
To ensure that carers have the skills, knowledge and experience to care for children with attachment and emotional difficulties and those moving on to Staying Put	 To plan/organise and facilitate the first Hartlepool Foster Carers Conference Conference to be held in June 2016 	Christine Croft Margaret Hennessey Suzanne Brennan CAHMS	Completed

7.2 APPENDIX A

		Young People/CICC	
To consult foster carers in relation to the performance of the Local Authority in relation to support, training and retention of foster carers and to use this information to develop future priorities.	 Annual consultation survey sent to carers Feedback forms reviewed during annual foster care reviews. 	Christine Croft Jacqui Dixon	Review quarterly 2016 Completed
To review the Staying Put policy and guidelines to ensure that they are fit for purpose and meets the needs of the Young People of Hartlepool	 Stating Put Policy to be reviewed Staying Put workshop to be delivered within FC annual conference To ensure that all young people have a Living Together License and Agreement in place before reaching 18 years of age. 	Christine Croft Suzanne Brennan Conference Facilitators	Completed Completed Review quarterly 2016
Continue to facilitate sons and daughters group for children of foster carers.	 Regular meetings and activities have taken place Specific training planned for children and young people Sons and daughters of Foster Carers to be invited to attend preparatory training. 	Placement Support team Christine Croft	Review quarterly 2016 Review quarterly 2016
To further improve the quality of the care provided to children and young people to ensure better outcomes are achieved for children and young people in all aspects of their lives	 Carers have attended the Foster Carers Annual Conference June 2016 All carers have a personal development plan highlighting training requirements. 	Christine Croft	Completed Completed

7.2 APPENDIX A

To review the approval ages and status of the more experienced carers with a view to encouraging them to provide placements for older children with more complex needs.	 Consultation with carers has taken place at a support group meeting Training planned 	Christine Croft Jacqui Dixon	Review quarterly 2016
To continue to work within the the BAAF 2 stage assessment process providing timely assessments, recruitment and training.	 The BAAF 2 stage process is proving effective Work has been undertaken with ICT staff to ensure that the current ICS system is updated to reflect this change and enable foster carer recruitment and training to be recorded appropriately . 	Christine Croft	Review quarterly 2016 Completed
To continue to work collaboratively with the neighbouring authorities to share resources and expertise in foster carer recruitment.	 Tees Valley Fostering holds regular meetings attended by Hartlepool Joint recruitment activities planned for 2016 	Jacqui Dixon	Review quarterly 2016

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

13th September 2016



Report of: Director Child and Adult Services

Subject: OFSTED INSPECTION OUTCOMES:

JANUARY 2016 – JULY 2016

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 This report is for information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To provide a summary of the outcomes of Ofsted inspections of Hartlepool schools in the spring and summer terms of the 2015-16 academic year.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The report follows on from the summary provided in the Report to Committee in February 2016.

4. OUTCOMES SUMMARY

4.1 Hartlepool Pupil Referral Unit, February 2016, judged to be GOOD

What the school does well:

- The headteacher and staff have created a highly positive culture for learning. This is helping pupils raise their aspirations for what they can achieve in education and life.
- The headteacher has acted with determination to improve the quality of teaching and has a clear vision for further developments.
- School leaders ensure that most Key Stage 3 pupils successfully return to mainstream education.
- Most pupils make good progress during their time at the school. Pupils in Key Stage 4 gain a wide range of qualifications and skills to enable them to

- successfully take their next step in life.
- Members of the management committee use their knowledge and expertise very effectively to monitor, challenge and support the work of the school.
- Effective teaching is helping many pupils to fill gaps in their knowledge, skills and understanding which have arisen due to previous interruptions in their education.
- Well-planned learning activities engage and capture pupils' interest, helping them to increasingly take an active part in their learning.
- Pupils are taught an exciting range of subjects in school with additional vocational courses offered by alternative providers. These reflect and meet the needs and abilities of pupils.
- Teachers and teaching assistants are highly skilled at supporting pupils to manage their behaviour and engage in their learning.
- Pupils say they feel safe as they are well cared for and given support that meets their individual needs.

Areas for improvement:

- Ensure that the school continues to improve, by:
 - the management committee and the local authority resolving funding issues that are presently preventing clarification of the school's vision for the future
 - the management committee and the local authority promptly clarifying their future vision for the school.
- Further improve the progress pupils make by:
 - encouraging pupils to become more independent in their learning and behaviour, especially when they are finding an activity challenging
 - continuing to broaden the skills of staff to meet the complex social, emotional and mental health needs of pupils.

4.2 Catcote Academy (special school), March 2016, judged to remain GOOD

- 4.2.1 Catcote Academy was subject to a short (section 8) inspection because it already held an overall effectiveness judgement of GOOD from its previous inspection. The outcome from a short inspection takes the form of a letter to the headteacher, rather than a formal Ofsted report like those from a section 5 inspection. This letter is freely available on the Ofsted website.
- 4.2.2 The following are some extracts from the letter to the headteacher:

This school continues to be good.

The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection. Your high expectations and ambition for every pupil to have a 'great future' are at the heart of the school's work. The impact of your principled leadership and strong values can be seen everywhere in the school. You and your senior leaders are tireless in your pursuit of the best life chances for your pupils.

The actions taken by you, senior leaders and governors demonstrate strong capacity to secure further improvement.

Safeguarding is effective.

The leadership team has ensured that all safeguarding arrangements are fit for purpose and records are detailed and of high quality. Pupils and learners say that they feel well supported and safe. They trust you and the other adults who care for them, and know that you listen and help them to 'sort things out'.

Next steps for the school

Leaders and those responsible for governance should ensure that:

- pupils know how well they are doing and how to improve the standard of their work
- rates of progress in English improve and match those in mathematics.

4.3 Hart Primary School, April 2016, judged to be OUTSTANDING

What the school does well:

- The inspirational and determined leadership of the headteacher, ably supported by the skilful deputy headteacher, ensures that an uncompromising drive for continual improvement pervades every area of school life. It has improved dramatically since the last inspection.
- The extremely able governing body and leaders at all levels have led a highly successful drive to improve the quality of teaching and assessment, which is now outstanding. Leaders' high ambition for excellence means the school still continues to improve.
- Governors consistently challenge the school and hold senior leaders to account. They know the school inside out because of the quality of information they receive and because of their involvement in the day-to-day life of the school.
- Outcomes for pupils are now outstanding, with pupils making rapid and sustained progress. Pupils clearly enjoy their work, tackling learning with great enthusiasm and a sense of fun. Pupils show fluency in writing, and high standards of presentation. The quality of pupils' handwriting is now good.
- Children in the early years quickly develop skills that allow them to learn and play happily together. They make a fast start in their reading, writing and understanding of number.
- Pupils' progress from their individual starting points in Year 1 has accelerated rapidly across all subjects and all year groups in school. It is now outstanding.
- Teaching is outstanding. Pupils learn quickly and are able to apply their skills across all subjects. Teachers have high expectations of what pupils can achieve, and create a vibrant, colourful, exciting environment in which pupils thrive.
- Teaching assistants are skilled in supporting the learning and development of individuals and groups of pupils, and are a vital part of the teaching team.
- The behaviour of pupils is outstanding. They are always polite, have excellent manners and display exemplary attitudes in their learning.
- Pupils' consideration of others and pride in their work and in their school ensure that their personal development and welfare are outstanding.

Areas for improvement:

- Ensure leaders maintain the drive to improve teaching still further so that all pupils reach the highest standards of which they are capable and sustain the rapid progress they are making in their learning.
- Increase the opportunities pupils have to justify and explain their reasoning in mathematical problem solving.

4.4 High Tunstall College of Science, June 2016, judged to be GOOD

What the school does well:

- Good leadership and high ambition have successfully brought about improvements in pupils' outcomes and the quality of teaching, learning and assessment across the college.
- The management of teachers' performance focuses successfully on improving pupils' outcomes. It supports a well-developed, planned training programme that is valued by teachers and that is making a positive difference to pupils' learning experience and their progress.
- The headteacher, governing body and leaders at all levels work effectively to ensure that teaching continues to improve and enables pupils to make better progress than previously.
- Pupils currently in the college are making strong and sustained progress across a wide range of subjects over time.
- The college has a very effective pupil tracking system which enables leaders and also governors to monitor pupils' progress and to identify which pupils require extra support.
- Pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the college is good. Low-level disruption is uncommon and where it does occur, it is dealt with swiftly.
- Programmes to support pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness are impressive and a real strength of the college.
- Pupils are very well cared for and feel safe and secure in the college. They trust the teachers and adults who support them.

Areas for improvement:

- Improve teaching so that all pupils reach the highest standards that they are capable of by making sure that:
 - pupils' literacy skills are developed so that they can use punctuation, spelling and grammar correctly in order to improve their extended writing accurately and precisely
 - pupils have a sense of pride in the quality of work that they produce in lessons and in their exercise books
 - teachers' questioning challenges pupils to deepen their understanding and draws out what pupils know and understand before moving learning on.
- Strengthen leadership and management by:
 - improving attendance, especially for disadvantaged pupils
 - ensuring that teachers follow the college's marking and feedback policy consistently to enable pupils to make greater progress.

4.5 **Overall summary**

4.5.1 Five schools were inspected this year: one primary school and four secondary schools. A summary of any changes to the *Overall Effectiveness* grade for each school is presented in the following table.

School	Change	Prin	nary	Secondary			
		Prev	Now	Prev	Now		
Dyke House	Ψ			Outstanding	Good		
PRU	^			Req Impr	Good		
Catcote	→ ←			Good	Good		
High Tunstall	^			Req Impr	Good		
Hart	^	Req Impr	Outstanding				

4.5.2 Proportions of schools* in each Ofsted category at the end of 2015-16

Ofsted	Primary				Secondary			Overall				
category	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Outstanding	16%	13%	22%	26%	17%	17%	20%	0%	16%	13%	22%	22%
Good	66%	72%	66%	65%	33%	33%	40%	83%	61%	63%	62%	68%
Good or better	81%	84%	88%	90%	50%	50%	60%	83%	76%	79%	84%	89%
Req Impr	19%	16%	13%	10%	50%	33%	40%	17%	24%	18%	16%	11%
Inadequate	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	17%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%

^{*} including special schools and PRU, but not Manor Academy (see paragraph 4.5.9 below)

- 4.5.3 Schools judged to Require Improvement or to be Inadequate under the revised September 2012 Ofsted framework are supported by a local authority officer-led group, as well as by a nominated HMI (Her Majesty's Inspector).
- 4.5.4 Schools judged Good or Outstanding are supported through the School Improvement Partner (SIP) Programme, or equivalent.
- 4.5.5 In line with national trends, the overall performance of Hartlepool schools is being 'bunched' around Grade 2 (Good).
- 4.5.6 The proportion of outstanding schools in Hartlepool is one percentage point above the latest national figures: 22% in Hartlepool, 21% nationally (March 2016).
- 4.5.7 The overall proportion of Hartlepool schools judged to be good or better has increased and is now 89% which is three percentage points <u>above</u> the latest national figure of 86% (March 2016). The proportion of good or better primary schools in Hartlepool is <u>above the national average</u>: Hartlepool 90%, national 87% (March 2016). The proportion of good or better secondary schools in Hartlepool is <u>above the national average</u>: Hartlepool 83%, national 76% (March 2016).
- 4.5.8 The proportion of schools not yet judged to be good has **decreased** to 11% and is now below the national figure of 14% (March 2016). Inspection methodology means that the remaining four Hartlepool schools currently graded as Requires

Improvement (RI) are due for re-inspection by the end of the autumn term 2017. All indicators show that these schools are on track to be graded as Good at their next inspection.

4.5.9 Manor College of Technology closed in March 2015 and converted to Manor Community Academy. Manor Community Academy, as a sponsor-led academy, is a new legal entity and does not retain the predecessor school's inspection grade profile. In terms of school inspections, the new academy has yet to be inspected. This will happen for the first time during 2016-17. As such, Manor Academy has not been included in the figures above. This is the methodology Ofsted uses.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no risk implications.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 There are no financial considerations.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no legal considerations.

8. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no child and family poverty considerations.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no equality and diversity implications.

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 There are no staff considerations.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 There are no asset management considerations.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 Committee to note the contents of this summary report which reflect the continually improving quality of education in Hartlepool schools.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 There are no decisions required from this report.

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 There are no background papers to this report.

15. CONTACT OFFICER

Mark Patton
Assistant Director: Education, Learning and Skills (0-19)
Child and Adult Services
Hartlepool Borough Council
(01429) 523 736
mark.patton@hartlepool.gov.uk