

# PLEASE NOTE TIME

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2007

at 4.00 pm

in Committee Room 'B'

MEMBERS: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

Councillors Brash, S Cook, Fleet, Griffin, Laffey, London, Preece, Rogan, Shaw, M Waller and Young

Co-opted Members:

Elizabeth Barraclough, David Relton and Jesse Smith

Leigh Bradley, Kelly Goulding, Cassie Jeffries, Gillian Pounder, Hannah Shaw, Jonathan Simpson, Leon Smith

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge, Evelyn Leck and Michael Ward

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

3. **MINUTES**

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007 (*to follow*)

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

No items.

# PLEASE NOTE TIME

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

No items.

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

6.1 Corporate Plan 2007/08: Proposed Objectives And Actions (*Director of Children's Services/Assistant Chief Executive*)

6.2 Scrutiny of the Progress of the Children and Young People's Plan (*Director of Children's Services*)

## 7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### Scrutiny Investigation into the Provision of Sex and Relationship Education in Hartlepool

7.1 Evidence from Teesside Positive Action (an SRE outside provider):-

(a) Covering Report (*Scrutiny Support Officer*); and

(b) Presentation by Michael Kay, Service Manager from Teesside Positive Action.

7.2 Evidence from PATCH (the Speak Easy Programme):-

(a) Covering Report (*Scrutiny Support Officer*); and

(b) Presentation by Jan Dobson, Training & Development Officer from PATCH on the 'Speakeasy' programme for parents.

7.3 Evidence from Relate (an SRE outside provider):-

(a) Presentation by Relate on their 'Time to Talk' programme (subject to finalisation of arrangements)

7.4 Progress of the Investigation and Timetable for its Completion (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

## 8. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

### ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

i) **Date of Next Meeting 'Focus Group Session' with children from Hartlepool schools and teachers - Thursday 15 March 2007, commencing at 2.00 pm in Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre, Kendal Road, Hartlepool.**

## CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

26 February 2007



**Report of:** Director of Children's Services and Assistant Chief Executive

**Subject:** CORPORATE PLAN 2007/08: PROPOSED OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity for the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum to consider the proposed objectives and actions for inclusion in the Corporate Plan 2007/08.

### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Government introduced the Best Value regime as part of its programme to modernise local government and the Corporate (Best Value Performance) Plan for 2007/8 must be approved and published by the Council by 30 June 2007. This is the Council's top-level corporate plan. It sets out the Council's top priorities and contributions for delivering the Community Strategy aims in 2007/8.
- 2.2 The Corporate Plan is an important document because it formally communicates the council's vision and priorities. The process for producing the plan has been designed to ensure the risk is minimised and that the Corporate Plan is fit for purpose.
- 2.3 The focus of the Corporate Plan for 2007/8 is on priority activities for improvement at a strategic level rather than day to day service delivery objectives. The operational service delivery objectives are picked up through Departmental service plans which are reported to individual portfolio holders.
- 2.4 At a meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee held on 19 January 2006 it was agreed that the Corporate Plan proposals should be considered by each of the Scrutiny Forums. Each Scrutiny Forum will see the proposals relating to the Community Strategy themes that fall under their remit.

- 2.5 The comments/observations of each Forum will be fed back to the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to be held on 19 March 2007 and will be used to formulate the formal Scrutiny response to Cabinet on 16 April 2007.

### 3 THE CORPORATE PLAN

- 3.1 As in previous years the plan will be produced in two parts. Part 1 describes the Council's overall aim, contributions to the Community Strategy aims and organisational development priorities.
- 3.2 Part 2 will continue to contain the detailed supporting information relating to performance statistics which the Council is required to publish. This will include the Best Value performance indicators for 2006/07 and targets for 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10. This information can not be collected until after 31 March 2007, and is therefore not available at present.
- 3.3 **Appendix A** details those objectives and actions that are proposed for inclusion in the 2007/08 Corporate Plan that fall under the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum remit.

### 4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum:-
- (a) considers the proposed objectives and actions for inclusion in the 2007/08 Corporate Plan as attached at **Appendix A**.
  - (b) formulates any comments and observations to be presented to the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to be held on 19 March 2007 to enable a formal response to be presented to the Cabinet on 16 April 2007.

**Contact Officers:-** Andrew Atkin – Assistant Chief Executive  
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Adrienne Simcock – Director of Children's Services  
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### BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

**Appendix A – Children’s Services Scrutiny Forum - Proposed Objectives and Actions for inclusion in 2007/08 Corporate Plan**

**Jobs and the Economy**

Ref	Objective	Actions	Responsible Officer	Associated PIs
JEO5	Achieve Economic Well Being (Children and Young people will achieve the qualifications, develop the skills and be given the necessary life experiences to enable them to lead full and active adult lives)	Connexions service works with other teams and agencies to achieve NEET targets agreed with GONE	Miriam Robertson	BVPI 221a BVPI 221b
		Implement, with partner agencies, the Hartlepool 14-19 strategy and support the 14-19 regional strategy	Tom Argument	
		Promote the development of employability skills and enterprise education in Hartlepool schools	Tom Argument	
		Raise the aspirations of young people from vulnerable backgrounds and increase their participation in education, employment and training	Tom Argument	

### Lifelong Learning and Skills

Ref	Objective	Actions	Responsible Officer	Associated PIs
LLO1	Enjoy and Achieve – raise achievement and standards of children and young people in the early years, primary and secondary phases of education	Implement the Building Schools for the Future project plan for 2007/08 including completion of the Strategy for Change	Paul Briggs	BVPI 38 BVPI 39 BVPI 40 BVPI 41 BVPI 45 BVPI 46 BVPI 50 BVPI 181a BVPI 181b BVPI 181c BVPI 181d BVPI 222a BVPI 222b LAA LLS1-10
		Challenge and support schools to improve performance to national averages and above	John Collings	
		Challenge and support schools in targeting vulnerable children and young people for additional intervention and support so that they achieve in line with or better than expected levels	John Collings	
		Work with partners to extend and improve the quality of services for children and young people which enable them to enjoy their education, improve their well-being and enrich their lives	John Collings	
		Implement the 10 year Childcare Strategy by developing integrated services in Children's Centres/Extended Schools, ensuring sufficient high quality childcare places and continuing to develop a highly skilled workforce	Danielle Swainston	

### Health and Care

Ref	Objective	Actions	Responsible Officer	Associated PIs
HCO2	Be Healthy (Children and young people will be physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy, lead healthy lifestyles and choose not to take illegal drugs)	Work with partner agencies, young people, schools and families to reduce under 18 contraception rate by 55%	Sheila O'Connor	BVPI 197
		Work with schools and other agencies to address childhood obesity through initiatives such as Healthy Schools Programme and Physical Education, School Sports and Club Links Strategy	John Collings	
		Improve arrangements for transition between settings and from children's to adult services	Sheila O'Connor	

### Community Safety

Ref	Objective	Actions	Responsible Officer	Associated PIs
CSO5	Stay Safe (Children and young people will live, grow, and learn in safety, where parents, carers and all adults take responsibility for their safety and well-being and they are free from harm, discrimination, harassment and exploitation)	Increase the number and range of foster and adoptive placements to meet local needs	Phill Warrilow	BVPI 49 BVPI 162 BVPI 163
		Reduce the number of placement moves for looked after children and increase the stability of placements	Phill Warrilow	
		Develop the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board	Phill Warrilow	

### Strengthening Communities

Ref	Objective	Actions	Responsible Officer	Associated PIs
SCO2	Make a positive contribution (Children and young people who live in Hartlepool are provided with the opportunity to participate fully in the life of their community)	Implement the requirements of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 to deliver Positive Activities for Young People	Peter Davies	BVPI 221a BVPI 221b
		Establish the role of commissioner of parenting support and develop a Parenting Strategy for Hartlepool to establish a continuum of services for parents to assist them in promoting positive outcomes for their children	John Robinson	
		Ensure that all children and young people from vulnerable groups (LDD, BME, traveller, asylum seeker and refugee communities) have the opportunity to gain full access to services and have a role in service development	John Robinson	
		Establish the Participation Strategy through the development of standards that support organisations in Hartlepool in its implementation	John Robinson	



### Associated Performance Indicators

Reference	Description
BVPI 38	Percentage of pupil achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSEs
BVPI 39	Percentage of pupil achieving 5 or more A*-G GCSEs
BVPI 40	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 4 or above in KS2 Math tests
BVPI 41	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 4 or above in KS2 English tests
BVPI 45	Percentage absence in secondary schools
BVPI 46	Percentage absence in primary schools
BVPI 49	Stability of Placements for Looked After Children
BVPI 50	Educational qualifications of Looked After Children
BVPI 162	Reviews of child protection cases
BVPI 163	Adoptions of children looked after
BVPI 181a	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - English
BVPI 181b	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - Maths
BVPI 181c	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - Science
BVPI 181d	Percentage of pupil achieving Level 5 or above in KS3 results - ICT Assessment
BVPI 197	Teenage Pregnancies
BVPI 221a	Participation in and outcomes from Youth Work: recorded outcomes
BVPI 221b	Participation in and outcomes from Youth Work: accredited outcomes
BVPI 222a	Percentage of leaders of integrated early education and child care settings funded or part-funded by the local authority with a qualification at level 4 or above
BVPI 222b	Percentage of leaders of integrated early education and child care settings funded or part-funded by the local authority which have input from staff with graduate or post graduate training in teaching or child development
LAA LLS1	Early Years– improve children’s communication, social and emotional development so that by 2008, children reach a good level of development at the end of the Foundation Stage
LAA LLS2	Early Years– increase the percentage of 3 and 4 year olds who attend an early years and childcare place to 96%
LAA LLS3	Key Stage 4: Increase the percentage of young people aged 16 achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C (including English and Maths)
LAA LLS4	Early Years - improve children's communication, social and emotional development so the gap between NRS and Hartlepool is

Reference	Description
	reduced for a good level of development at the end of the foundation stage
LAA LLS6a	Key Stage 2 - reduce the gap between children from NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 4 or above in English
LAA LLS6b	Key Stage 2 - reduce the gap between children from NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 4 or above in Maths
LAA LLS8a	Key Stage 3 - Reduce the gap between children from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 5 or above in English
LAA LLS8b	Key Stage 3 - Reduce the gap between children from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 5 or above in Mathematics
LAA LLS8c	Key Stage 3 - Reduce the gap between children from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 5 or above in Science
LAA LLS8d	Key Stage 3 - Reduce the gap between children from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving Level 5 or above in ICT
LAA LLS10a	Key Stage 4 - Reduce the gap between young people from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving 5+ A*-C
LAA LLS10b	Key Stage 4 - Reduce the gap between young people from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving 5+ A*-G (including English and Maths)
LAA LLS10c	Key Stage 4 - Reduce the gap between young people from the NRS area and Hartlepool to under 5% by 2012 for those achieving 5+ A*-C (including English and Maths)

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM REPORT

26 February 2007



**Report of:** Director of Children's Services

**Subject:** SCRUTINY OF THE PROGRESS OF THE  
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN

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## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform members of the progress in completing the Children & Young People's Plan (CYPP) and the outcomes of the first 6 monthly monitoring exercise.

## 2. BACKGROUND

Hartlepool Borough Council has a duty under the Children Act 2004 to prepare and publish a Children & Young People's Plan in co-operation with key partners. In preparing the Plan there was a strong focus on ensuring meaningful consultation with children and young people, as part of the extensive consultation process that was undertaken.

The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum considered the second draft of the CYPP on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2006. Cabinet considered the Scrutiny Forum's findings in relation to the second draft on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2006 and referred the third draft of the Children & Young People's Plan to full Council for approval. The plan was approved by Council on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

## 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF SCRUTINY FINDINGS

During the meeting of the Forum on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2006 a number of interim findings/conclusions were reached. These included a number of specific actions which the Forum wished to see completed and progress on these is outlined below:

- The Forum agreed that it was better to produce the Plan with separate documents for each of the 5 outcomes (Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy & Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution, Achieve Economic Wellbeing). This was to make it easily accessible to people wishing to focus on specific parts of the Plan. The final version of the Plan has been produced in this format, with additional, separate documents providing an

introduction and executive summary and service management and supplementary information.

- Suggestions were made about a potential format to enhance accessibility of the document for young people. Subsequently, through Hartlepool's participation network, a group of young people were commissioned to produce a children and young people's version of the CYPP. This meant that the young people's version is something that has been produced by young people for young people, rather than being an adult edited version of the full Plan.
- It was suggested that it would be useful to highlight the priorities for young people in the summary section of part one of the Plan. Part one of the final version of the Plan includes a section which gives an overview of the current position, key priorities and main success criteria for each of the Every Child Matters outcomes.
- The forum noted that young people themselves identified a lack of physical activity as a problem. It was recommended that this should be reflected in the 'Be Healthy' section of the Plan. This has been incorporated in activity 1.3 'Action is taken to promote children and young people's physical health'.
- Members recommended that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum should examine the Plan twice yearly. The current report provides members with information about the first 6 monthly monitoring exercise and a full evaluation will be undertaken at the end of the first full year of the Plan. A further report will be provided to the Forum once that exercise has been completed.
- The Forum recommended that a member of the Forum should chair the participation Network. This suggestion will be discussed further with the Forum as part of the development of the Participation Strategy.

#### 4. **ENGAGEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS**

Following approval by Cabinet of the CYPP 2006-09, the Plan was circulated to the following: strategic leads of key partners (e.g. health, police, HVDA), headteachers, libraries, Councillors, regional local authority directors, tourist information centre, outcome leads, senior officers, housing officers, Corporate Management Team and Children's Services Management Team, independent consultant providing support to NQTs in Hartlepool. In addition a summary version of the report was provided to all those listed above plus all governors, Civic Centre reception, Hartlepool Education Development Centre reception, Children's Information Service reception, community centres, health visitors and nurses.

The children and young people's version of the Plan was circulated during the autumn term to all children aged 7 years and over via schools.

Key partners responsible for delivering the outcomes in the Plan are all members of Hartlepool Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, which is chaired by the lead member for Children's Services.

## 5. PROCESS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS ON THE PLAN

Each of the outcome areas for the Children and Young People's Plan has a lead officer who is responsible for ensuring that appropriate action plans are developed to address the priorities. Monitoring the progress of the plan is undertaken twice a year, with outcome lead officers presenting a report on progress to the Children's Services Planning and Evaluation Group. The first 6 monthly monitoring exercise was completed during October by the lead officers for each of the outcome areas. This initial 'health check' on progress was undertaken by means of a traffic light system against each of the specific actions within the five outcome areas. Green is used to indicate achieved or clearly on target, amber to indicate expected to achieve the required milestone and red would indicate failure to make progress/not expected to achieve the target. All 148 individual actions are currently rated green or amber. It should be recognised, however, that this exercise was only the first 6 monthly monitoring of a 3 year plan. At this early stage much of what can be reported represents activities which have been initiated and it is too early to identify outcomes or impact. A report on the 6 monthly monitoring exercise was taken to the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2006. The report provided evidence of specific progress against the key priorities in the Plan. This report is attached as **Appendix A**.

During the first year of the Plan it has also been subjected to detailed scrutiny by means of the Joint Area Review. The inspection team received a copy of the Plan and the Lead Inspector attended the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership on 28<sup>th</sup> November, when the 6 monthly monitoring report was presented. Feedback from the inspection process is currently embargoed until the final inspection report is available but there were no indications that inspectors had any serious concerns about Hartlepool's Children and Young People's Plan.

## 6. EVALUATION

A full evaluation exercise on the first year of the Plan will commence in January 2007 as part of the corporate planning cycle.

## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are recommended to comment on progress during the first 6 months of the Children and Young People's Plan.

## 8. CONTACT OFFICER

Sue Johnson, Assistant Director Children's Services, telephone 523773.

## Hartlepool Children & Young People's Plan 2006 - 2009

### Six monthly monitoring report

Hartlepool Children & Young People's Plan has been in place since April 2006 when it was formally approved by Hartlepool Council. The first six monthly monitoring exercise has now been completed by the lead officers for each of the outcome areas of the plan (Be Healthy, Stay Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution, Achieve Economic Well Being). Monitoring has been undertaken by means of a traffic light system against each of the specific actions within the five outcome areas. Green indicates achieved or clearly on target, amber indicates expected to achieve required milestone and red would indicate failure to make progress/not expected to achieve target. All 148 individual actions are currently rated green or amber. However, it should be recognised that this is only the first six monthly monitoring of a three year plan.

Specific progress against the key priorities in each outcome area is given below .

#### ◆ Be Healthy

##### Further improve the reduction in teenage conception rates

Reference	Evidence of progress
1.1.7	Parentline Plus "Time to Talk" posters and leaflets displayed in relevant community settings.
1.2.4	Five of six mainstream secondary schools have consistently delivered the A PAUSE programme. A whole scheme of work has been developed for Personal, Social and Health Education for primary schools.
1.2.5	Highly visible advertising campaigns. Specialist clinics have been developed in non-clinical settings, eg Connexions, Youth Service.

##### Engage in further discussion with partner agencies regarding Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

1.4.1	Allocation of funding from CAMHS grant to Investors in Children – obtaining views of young people in design and delivery of services by the Trust.
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##### Further explore the opportunity to extend the care co-ordination process beyond the pre-school years

1.6.2	Care co-ordinator now in post.
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**Improve sexual health through better access to Genito Urinary Medicine (GUM) and Chlamydia screening**

1.1.12	Tees-wide Sexual Health Group has developed a local action plan which sets out to achieve a 48 hour access to GUM. Chlamydia screening programme commenced in May 2006.
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**Increase the uptake of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) immunisation**

1.7.5	GPs have been commissioned by the PCT to deliver childhood immunisation programmes. North Tees Immunisation Group set up to share good practice. LAA local targets re MMR take-up in areas of regeneration.
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**◆ Stay Safe**

**Develop partnership arrangements to address the concerns of children and young people about bullying**

Reference	Evidence of progress
2.2.2	A questionnaire has been sent to 20 centres across the town to inform a town-wide strategy.

**Develop a multi-agency training plan to meet the needs of all staff and volunteers who work with children in any setting in Hartlepool**

2.2.1	Actions in place to produce a more coherent training plan initially for Children's Services and Local Safeguarding Children Board.
2.4.2	Proposals for improving LSCB training to be submitted to December Board.

**Develop the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board to encompass the wider remit of safeguarding while maintaining a strong emphasis on child protection**

2.3.1	Hartlepool Intervention Project now in place. Other activities being pursued through IWIS project around information-sharing, common assessment framework and integrated children's system.
2.4.1	New multi-agency Child Protection Procedures completed.

**Improve the way that referrals and core assessments are measured**

2.5.1	IWIS project in place. Project Board arrangements confirmed. Inter-agency training commenced.
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**Explore the reasons why more initial child protection conferences occur in Hartlepool than in similar councils**

2.6.1	All decisions about children becoming looked after are referred to the Looked After Panel.
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**Improve the percentage of looked after children for more than four years who have been in the same foster placements for 2+ years**

2.7.1	New foster carers increased and use of independent agencies monitored and under review .
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**Improve the number of looked after children adopted during the year**

2.7.1	New foster carers increased and use of independent agencies monitored and under review .
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### ◆ Enjoy and Achieve

**Improve the performance of children and young people across all key stages, but in particular Key Stage 1, Key Stage 3 English, science and ICT and Key Stage 4 English and maths**

Reference	Evidence of progress
3.3.1	KS1 performance has improved to national averages (L2+) in 2006. KS2 performance is at or above national, but attainment gaps at KS3 remain. KS3 science and ICT improved in 2006. 5A*-C and 5A*-G including English and maths improved in 2006.

**Improve the performance of boys across all key stages, but especially at Key Stage 3 where the gap is widest**

3.3.4	Analysis of performance carried out. Target groups identified. Looked after children and minority ethnic performance improving. New target groups identified, eg 86% - 90% attendees. Additional capacity to address gender issues identified.
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**Increase the number of excluded pupils who are successfully reintegrated into mainstream settings**

3.5.1	Percentage of excluded children reintegrated has increased but is still too slow. Consultation on future direction and provision underway. Education Improvement Partnership to take responsibility from September 2007.
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**Improve the educational achievement of looked after children and young people**

3.7	80% of looked after children had an up to date PEP in July 2006. LAC Co-ordinator involved in writing 63% of plans. Social workers and schools actively support LAC and their carers, eg school residentials, trips and visits. Systematic monitoring of outcomes now takes place, used to identify additional support. 10% of LAC received additional educational support in 2005/06. Percentage of LAC who missed at least 25 days schooling was 15.6% - above national. Attendance is rigorously monitored. Percentage of permanently excluded pupils who were LAC fell from 7.5% in 2004 to 0% in 2006.
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**Work more closely with partners, including the voluntary sector, in order to improve the quality and range of recreational activities for children and young people in school and other settings**

3.6.2	Voluntary and community sector is increasingly engaged in provision of activities for children and young people, eg West View Project, and via the Extended Schools programme.
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**◆ Make a Positive Contribution**

**Ensure that all children and young people have access to services that support the development of self-confidence, self-worth and emotional resilience**

Reference	Evidence of progress
4.1.1	Continuous and consistent partnership work with colleagues. Support for schools with use of SEAL resource. Eleven schools have achieved new National Healthy Schools status. Youth Service development.

**Improve arrangements for transition between settings and from children's to adult services**

4.2.2	Funding (£168,000) secured from One North East to support Transitions Informed Choice project for three secondary schools and their partner primaries to support KS2/3 transition.
1.6.1 / 5.7.1 / 2.8.1	Transition review takes place for all Year 9 pupils with SEN/ disabilities and a transition plan is produced. Transitions are managed by a multi-agency approach.

**Ensure that all children and young people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BMC), traveller, asylum seeker and refugee communities have the opportunity to gain full access to services and have a role in service development**

4.2.3	A strategy has been developed with Salaam Centre and will be operational in December 2006.
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**Develop further the process for involving looked after children in their reviews and planning for their future**

4.2.4	View point in place.
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**Ensure that children and young people are central to the development of a participation strategy that sets standards and includes involvement in the democratic process**

4.3.1	Schools are engaged and supported via Advanced Skills Teachers for Citizenship. Participation and consultation are a key feature of new NHSS which 11 schools have achieved and the remaining 29 are working towards. Youth Opportunities Fund and Youth Capital Fund – Youth Service engagement with young people to support them as grant givers. Participation strategy moving forward with major milestones being met. Child-friendly version of CYPP produced.
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**Implement the recommendations on participation agreed by Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in March 2006**

4.3.2	Young people to take part in the forum.
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**Reduce anti-social and criminal behaviour through improved prevention and rehabilitation activities**

4.4.1	Range of multi-agency strategies and plans in place with associated activities, eg Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy, Youth Justice Plan, Prolific and Priority Offenders Strategy, Connexions Local Delivery Plan, Homelessness Strategy, Children's Fund Plan 2005/08, HIP, FAST.
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**Research why the issue of bullying is still high on children and young people's agendas despite procedures put in place to tackle it, and develop practice based on this research to ensure that children and young people are not bullied.**

4.4.2	Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator appointed.
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**Continue to develop restorative justice processes and support victims of crime**

4.4.3	Youth Justice Plan in place.
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**We will ensure that children and young people who are looked after are helped to make a positive contribution, in particular those with special needs, placed out of the authority area or involved in the criminal justice system.**

4.6.1	View point in place.
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**We will support and involve children and young people with additional needs in the development of the Participation Strategy.**

4.7.2	Project taking place at primary special school to support participation by children with significant learning difficulties.
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**◆ Achieve Economic Well Being**

**Reduce the number of young people classified as not in education, employment or training (NEET)**

Reference	Evidence of progress
5.3.4	Partners have increased the number of young people engaged in education, employment and training at 16, 17 and 18. There is strong NEET and Not Known reduction strategy.

**Improve the number of young people engaged in education, employment and training from disadvantaged groups**

5.3.3	Range of local intervention approaches have been developed to improve young people’s engagement with post-16 provision from disadvantaged or under-represented groups, including targeted provision and projects – Hartlepool 100 project, ESF Kick-Start project, NRF Hartlepool On Track project.
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**Increase the number of young people having the opportunity to access higher education**

5.3.6	Provision is sufficiently flexible to allow young people choices at 14 or 16; supported by IAG protocols for 14-19 phase of education.
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**Continue to improve the quality of housing to meet the Decent Homes Standard**

5.5.1	Transfer of housing stock from HBC to Housing Hartlepool to ensure achievement of decency targets. Private sector loan scheme to encourage decent homes standards in the private sector.
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**Increase the number of children and their families accessing Direct Payments**

5.7.5	Improvements have been made to the take-up of Direct Payments in 2005/06, including the speed and tracking of the applications process.
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**Ensure that all children with disabilities aged 14+ have a transition plan to support their move to Adult Services**

5.7.1	A transition review takes place for all Year 9 pupils with SEN/ disabilities and a transition plan is produced. Transitions are managed by a multi-agency approach.
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Evaluation on progress over the first year of the plan will take place during the first quarter of 2007 to coincide with the annual self-assessment cycle and the Annual Performance Assessment. Evaluation reports will be presented to the Planning & Evaluation Group to allow them to inform the plan's review and to be considered by the agencies involved. Progress reports will continue to be presented to the Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership to assist it in the promotion of positive outcomes for children and young people in Hartlepool.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
SCRUTINY FORUM**

26 February 2007



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROVISION OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL SCHOOLS – EVIDENCE FROM TEESIDE POSITIVE ACTION (AN SRE PARTNER PROVIDER) –

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To inform Members of the Forum that Michael Kay, Service Manager from Teesside Positive Action has been invited to attend this meeting to provide evidence in relation to the ongoing investigation into the provision of sex and relationship education (SRE) for young people in Hartlepool schools.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 8 January 2007 the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry/Sources of Evidence were approved by the Forum for this scrutiny investigation.

2.2 Consequently, Michael Kay, Service Manager from Teesside Positive Action has been invited to attend this meeting to provide information on the work undertaken by his organisation in Hartlepool, how it interacts/co-ordinates with the local authority's current SRE provision and possible ways, if any, of improving SRE in Hartlepool.

2.3 During this evidence gathering session it is suggested that questions asked should include clarification as to:-

- a) Whether Teesside Positive Action would support a move to make sex and relationship education a compulsory part of the school curriculum?
- b) How effective are Hartlepool's arrangements with outside agencies/bodies for the provision of SRE? Could they be improved?
- c) What are your views on the effectiveness of the provision of sex and relationship education in Hartlepool?

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum consider the evidence provided by Michael Kay, Service Manager from Teesside Positive Action, including any responses to the questions outlined in section 2.3.

**Contact Officers:-** Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Support Officer  
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
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Email: joan.wilkins@hartlepool.gov.uk

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into the Provision of Sexual Health Education for Young People in Hartlepool Schools – Scoping Report' presented to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 8 January 2007.

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
SCRUTINY FORUM**

26 February 2007



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROVISION OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL SCHOOLS – EVIDENCE FROM PATCH (THE SPEAK EASY PROGRAMME)

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To inform Members of the Forum that Jan Dobson, Training & Development Officer from PATCH has been invited to attend this meeting to provide evidence in relation to the ongoing investigation into the provision of sex and relationship education (SRE) for young people in Hartlepool schools.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 8 January 2007 the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry/Sources of Evidence were approved by the Forum for this scrutiny investigation.

2.2 Consequently, Jan Dobson, Training & Development Officer from PATCH has been invited to attend this meeting to provide information on the work being undertaken by PATCH in Hartlepool, in particular the 'Speakeasy' programme for parents. In addition to Jan Dobson a parent who has been participating in the programme is also to attend the meeting to provide a parental perspective.

2.3 Information is also to be provided on how PATCH interacts/co-ordinates with the local authority's current SRE provision and possible ways, if any, of improving SRE in Hartlepool.

2.4 During this evidence gathering session it is suggested that questions asked should include clarification as to:-

a) Whether PATCH would support a move to make sex and relationship education a compulsory part of the school curriculum?

- b) How effective are Hartlepool's arrangements with outside agencies/bodies for the provision of SRE? Could they be improved?
- c) What are your views on the effectiveness of the provision of sex and relationship education in Hartlepool?
- d) How effective are the arrangements in Hartlepool for the provision parental advice and support in relation to SRE? How could they be improved?

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum consider the evidence provided by Jan Dobson from PATCH, and the parental representative present, including any responses to the questions outlined in section 2.4.

**Contact Officers:-** Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Support Officer  
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy  
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### BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into the Provision of Sexual Health Education for Young People in Hartlepool Schools – Scoping Report' presented to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 8 January 2007.



**CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
SCRUTINY FORUM**

26 February 2007



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROVISION OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL SCHOOLS – PROGRESS OF THE INVESTIGATION AND TIMETABLE FOR ITS COMPLETION

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To inform Members of progress on the Forums investigation into the provision of sex and relationship education in Hartlepool schools and seek approval for amendments of the timetable for its completion.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 8 January 2007 the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry/Sources of Evidence were approved by the Forum for this scrutiny investigation.

2.2 Over the course of the investigation the Forum has received evidence on the:

- (a) The sexual health issues effecting young people nationally and regionally;
- (b) The national and regional position relating to the provision of sexual health education for young people;
- (c) The local position relating to the provision of sexual health education for young people, with particular reference to:
  - (i) The sexual health issues effecting young people in Hartlepool;
  - (ii) The history of sexual health education in Hartlepool;
  - (iii) The strategies/practices being implemented in Hartlepool schools for the provision of sexual health education;
  - (iv) The effectiveness of strategies/policies being implemented in Hartlepool; and
  - (v) Sources of advice outside schools and how outside bodies/agencies assist in the provision of sexual health education in Hartlepool.

- 2.3 In order to complete its investigation, in line with the agreed terms of reference, there are a number of pieces of evidence that the Forum needs to receive. These relate to:-
- (d) Examples of best practice in other Local Authorities;
  - (e) A comparison of strategies/practices implements in other Local Authorities, and strategies/models identified nationally, with those being implemented in Hartlepool with a view to identifying possible areas of improvement; and
  - (f) To seek the views of local residents, parents, children/young people and those working in schools on this issue.
- 2.4 Changes to the way in which some of this information is being provided have resulted in the need for a number of amendments to the meeting schedule for completion of the investigation. The Forum's approval is sought for the proposed amendments, as detailed below, in order to facilitate completion of the investigation within the agreed timescale.

**Week Commencing 5 March 2007**

Visit to North Tyneside – Arrangements currently being finalised.

**15 March 2007, 2pm in Belle Vue Community Centre**

This will be a Focus Group session with young people and teachers from schools in Hartlepool. It will provide an opportunity to discuss their views on SRE provision in Hartlepool.

**19 March 2007, 4pm (Venue to be confirmed at the meeting)**

Additional meeting – This will be the final evidence gathering session at which feedback will be received from the visit to North Tyneside and Focus Group session and additional information provided from the Children's Service Department. It will also provide an opportunity for the presentation of any additional information which the Forum feels is needed to enable the formulation of its recommendations.

**2 April 2007, 4pm Venue to be confirmed at the meeting)**

Informal meeting to discuss the draft Final Report.

**16 April 2007, 4pm (Venue to be confirmed at the meeting)**

Additional meeting to approve the Final Report for submission to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 27 April 2007.

- 2.5 It is recognised that Members diaries are very congested at this time of year and apologies are given for adding to this situation. The proposed additional meetings are, however, vital for completion of the investigation and formal notice of the amended arrangements will be given subject to their approval at today's meeting.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum approve the proposed amendments to the meeting schedule for completion of the investigation and give consideration to any additional information they feel would assist in the formulation of their recommendations for the Final Report.

**Contact Officers:-** Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Support Officer  
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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into the Provision of Sexual Health Education for Young People in Hartlepool Schools – Scoping Report' presented to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 8 January 2007.