

PLEASE NOTE TIME

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Monday 19th March 2007

at 4.00 pm

**in the Conference Suite,
Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth Centre,
Kendal Road, Hartlepool**

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 12th February 2007 (*attached*)

PLEASE NOTE TIME

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

No items.

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

No items.

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

No items.

7. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

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

7.1 Additional Information – *PSHE and Healthy Schools Co-ordinator/ Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator*

7.2 Evidence from South Tyneside Council:-

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

(b) Presentation by David Messinger, SRE Co-ordinator, South Tyneside Council

7.3 Focus Group Feedback – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

7.4 Feedback from the young people co-opted on the Forum on the results of their informal survey – *Young People's Representatives*

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

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of Next Meeting:-

(i) Monday, 16th April 2007 at 4.00pm at Owton Manor Community Centre.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

12th February 2007

The meeting commenced at 4.00pm in Ow ton Manor Community Centre,
Wynyard Road, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Jane Shaw (In the Chair)

Councillors: Shaun Cook, Mary Fleet, Sheila Griffin, Pauline Laffey, Arthur Preece and Maureen Waller

Co-opted Members:

Elizabeth Barraclough
Cassie Jeffries, Gillian Pounder and Jonathan Simpson

Resident Representatives:

John Cambridge and Evelyn Leck

Also Present: Ronnie Rowbotham, Barnardos

Deborah Gibbin, Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator
Sandra Saint, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator
Cynthia Alder, School Nurse

Officers:

John Robinson, Children's Fund Manager
Joan Wilkins, Scrutiny Support Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

66. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jonathan Brash and resident representative Micheal Ward.

67. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

68. Minutes

None.

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

None.

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

None.

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

None.

72. Scrutiny Investigation into the Provision of Sex and Relationship Education in Hartlepool – Sex and Relationship Education Lesson Demonstration (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer informed Members that the Healthy Schools Co-ordinator and Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator had been invited to this meeting to provide a demonstration of primary and secondary school activities undertaken as part of sex and relationship education for young people in Hartlepool. Also in attendance was a school nurse who also undertakes these lessons within schools in Hartlepool.

The Healthy Schools Co-ordinator had brought a set of the Lucinda and Godfrey books which were used in schools for sex and relationship education from Reception through to Year 6. Members were informed that a request had been received for Hartlepool officers to show case the partnership working undertaken throughout the sex and relationship education in the town at the regional Active Citizenship Conference. Members asked what preparation was provided for parents. The Healthy Schools Co-ordinator indicated that letters and leaflets were sent to parents several weeks prior to the lessons commencing. Support was also provided for parents through sessions being organised for them to attend and a Speak Easy Accreditation course was being piloted by PATCH (Parent and Toddler Care in Hartlepool). The Healthy Schools Co-ordinator informed Members that positive feedback had been received from parents in relation to the briefing sessions. Members were then invited to participate in two activities currently used within schools as part of the sex and relationship education lesson.

The officers involved and the school nurse were thanked for their attendance and participation in this meeting and for answering Members questions. Members felt it was a very informative session which would help formalise

their recommendations for this inquiry.

Decision

The lessons demonstrated and discussions would be used to inform Members during this inquiry.

73. Any Other Business

The Chair of the Scrutiny Forum informed Members that the recently held Team Building session for Members and the newly co-opted young people representatives on the Forum had very enjoyable. The feedback from the young people had proved very useful and would be incorporated into future meetings wherever possible.

JANE SHAW

CHAIRMAN

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 March 2007



Report of: PSHE & Healthy Schools Coordinator
Teenage Pregnancy Coordinator

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROVISION
OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL SCHOOLS –
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an opportunity for the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum to consider additional information regarding the investigation into the provision of sex and relationship education in Hartlepool schools

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The latest figures for under 18 conception rates were published on 22 February 2007. The under 18 conception rate for Hartlepool for 2005 is 78 per 1000 females aged 15 – 17. This compares with the under 18 rate for England which is 41.1. This demonstrates a 3% rise in the rate from the base line in 1998 which was 75.6, this increase in the under 18 conception rate highlights the importance of accelerating the implementation of our local Teenage Pregnancy Strategy.
- 2.2 As reported at a previous meeting considerable progress has been made to improve: Sex and Relationship Education in the school, non school setting, for parents and access to Contraception and Sexual Health Services.
- 2.3 In order to strengthen the delivery of SRE in secondary schools a new programme is currently being developed that will begin in Year 7, (as both a progression of the spiralling primary curriculum and to facilitate smooth transition), and will end in Year 11. The programme is based on evidence from OFSTED which demonstrates that comprehensive and early SRE empowers and encourages young people to have sex later and use contraception when they do so. OFSTEDs report into Sex and Relationships Education stresses the importance of comprehensive approaches to facilitate effective SRE that enables young people to gain the skills to make informed,

healthy choices about relationships and to be able to resist pressure to have sex.

- 2.4 OFSTED also highlight the difference in the quality of teaching in SRE by specialists and non-specialist tutors demonstrating that the quality of teaching is unsatisfactory in twice as many lessons taught by tutors as by specialist teachers. This picture is not new and it has been stated that 'the most effective teaching was by teachers with a special interest and expertise in SRE, while nearly all the poor teaching was by form tutors'. At present 2 out of the 6 mainstream secondary schools use a specialist team approach to delivering SRE.
- 2.5 The APUASE programme which is currently delivered in Hartlepool secondary schools provides important data from a Year 11 questionnaire which reflects young people's views over time in terms of their knowledge about sexually transmitted infections and contraception (table 1) and how they felt about their sex and relationship education (table 2). In addition there is important evidence regarding young people's sexual activity (table 3)

2.5.1 (Table 1: % of correct knowledge questions over time)

	Boys				Girls			
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2003	2004	2005	2006
STI Questions	58	66	62	67	67	73	76	78
Contraception Questions	62	59	65	66	71	72	76	77

2.5.2 (Table 2: % of how did you feel about your sex education?)

	Boys				Girls			
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2003	2004	2005	2006
It is ok as it is	72	64	73	72	48	59	61	68
Boring	40		37	39	33		37	39
Learnt a lot	83	82	71	78	82	83	72	77
Enjoyed it	66	68	64	60	62	69	57	58

2.5.3 Table 3: % of Year 11 students sexually active over last 5 years

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Boys	35	41	34	38	39
Girls	46	56	55	51	49

- 2.6 Sex and relationship education in secondary schools is currently funded by individual schools and the Primary Care Trust. It is important that schools continue to see the value of SRE and invest in staff to enable them to deliver high quality teaching and learning in SRE. There is a place for external agencies to support schools in the delivery of SRE and where this is most effective, it is planned to add value to the existing planned programme.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum note the evidence provided.

Contact Officers:- Sandra Saint – PSHE & Healthy Schools Coordinator
Performance & Achievement Team
Children's Services
Hartlepool Borough Council
- Telephone: 01429 284256
- Fax: 01429 27111
- E-mail: sandra.saint@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) The Annual Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools 2004/05
- (ii) Sex and relationship education (HMI 433), Ofsted, 2002
- (iii) APA USE Year 11 Reports, Peninsular Medical School, Universities of Exeter & Plymouth, 2006.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 March 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 SOUTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members of the Forum that David Messinger, SRE Co-ordinator, South Tyneside Council 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 As part of the approved timetable for the investigation, it was intended that three members of the Forum would visit South Tyneside Council to observe their strategies/practices. During the course of discussions to identify a suitable date, officers from South Tyneside Council indicated that they would be available to come to Hartlepool and present the required information directly to the full Children's Services Scrutiny. Thus removing the need for the proposed visit and making best use of Members valuable time.
- 2.3 Chair's approval has been obtained for provision of the required information to the full Forum and consequently, David Messinger, SRE Co-ordinator, from South Tyneside Council has been invited to attend this meeting to provide details of the Council's strategies and practices with a view to identifying possible areas of improvement in Hartlepool.

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

- a) How is SRE provided in South Tyneside? Do teachers provide the service or are specialist providers used?
- b) How effective is SRE provision in South Tyneside and how is this measured?
- c) Has the effectiveness of SRE in South Tyneside has improved? How much by and how has it been achieved?
- d) How could SRE provision in South Tyneside be further improved?
- e) When does SRE provision start in South Tyneside schools?
- f) If SRE education begins in primary schools is there gap in provision at any point?
- g) How does South Tyneside Council work with outside agencies/bodies to provide SRE?
- h) What is the staffing structure and size of the division/section responsible for the provision of SRE in South Tyneside?

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members of the Forum consider the evidence provided by David Messinger, SRE Co-ordinator, from South Tyneside Council, 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

19 March 2007



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROVISION OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION (SRE) FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL SCHOOLS – FOCUS GROUP FEEDBACK

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To facilitate a discussion amongst Members of the Forum in relation to the focus group session held on 15 March 2007 with a selection of year 10 pupils, and teachers, in connection with the ongoing investigation into the 'Provision of Sex and Relationship Education 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.
- 2.1 As part of the approved timetable for the Forum's investigation a Focus Group session has been arranged to obtain the views of a selection of year 10 pupils, and teachers, on the provision of SRE education in Hartlepool schools. The session will be held on the 15 March 2007 and further details of the outcome of discussions will be circulated in due course.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum consider the issues raised at the Focus Group session on the 15 March 2007.

Contact Officers: - Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
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The following background paper was used in the preparation of this report:-

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CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

19 March 2007



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROVISION OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HARTLEPOOL SCHOOLS – FEEDBACK FROM YOUNG PEOPLE CO-OPTED ON TO THE FORUM IN RELATION TO THEIR INFORMAL SURVEY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that Leigh Bradley, Gillian Pounder, Hannah Shaw and Kelly Goulding, co-opted members of the Forum, have been invited to present the findings of their informal survey of young people's views on the provision of sex and relationship education (SRE) 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 As part of the approved timetable for the investigation, it was agreed that an informal survey would be undertaken by young people co-opted on to the membership of the Forum. The purpose of the survey being to obtain the views of young people on SRE provision in Hartlepool.
- 2.3 The results of this survey have now been compiled and are to be presented to the Forum at this meeting by Leigh Bradley, Gillian Pounder, Hannah Shaw and Kelly Goulding. During consideration of the presentation it is suggested that questions asked should include clarification as to:-
- a) How effective is SRE provision in Hartlepool?
 - b) How could SRE provision in Hartlepool be further improved?

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum consider the evidence provided during the course of the presentation, including any responses to the questions outlined in section 2.3.

Contact Officers:- Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Support Officer
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Hartlepool Borough Council
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Email: joan.wilkins@hartlepool.gov.uk

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