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Date: 5 July 2011

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

Date: Thursday 14 July 2011
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Council House (Next to Civic Centre)

Members:

Councillor Wildy, Chair.
Councillor Stark, Vice Chair.
Councillors Mrs Beer, Bowie, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bragg, Browne, Delbridge, Haydon, Mrs Nicholson, Singh and Tuohy.

Statutory Co-opted Representatives:

Kevin Willis – Parent Governor Representative.

Co-opted Representatives:

Alderman Purnell – Co-opted Representative
Kerry Whittlesea – Young Person Representative
Jenny Evans – Young Person Representative

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

Members and officers are requested to sign the attendance list at the meeting.

Please note that unless the chair of the meeting agrees, mobile phones should be switched off and speech, video and photographic equipment should not be used in meetings.

Barry Keel
Chief Executive

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

AGENDA

PART I – PUBLIC MEETING

1. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Panel Members.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

3. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 6)

The panel will be asked to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2011.

4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

To receive reports on business that, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. TRACKING RESOLUTIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM MANAGEMENT BOARD (Pages 7 - 14)

The panel will monitor progress on previous resolutions and receive feedback from the management board.

6. PRIORITIES AND CHALLENGES (Pages 15 - 20)

To panel will receive an update on the priorities and challenges for Children Services.

7. BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE REPORT (Pages 21 - 24)

The panel to receive the budget and performance report.

8. IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS (Pages 25 - 26)

The panel to receive a report on in-year admissions.

9. UPDATE FROM PARTNER ORGANISATIONS (Pages 27 - 28)

The panel to note updates received from the Children and Young People's Trust and LSP Wise Theme Group.

10. WORK PROGRAMME

(Pages 29 - 30)

The panel will consider its work programme for 2011/12.

11. EXEMPT BUSINESS

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it (they) involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

PART II (PRIVATE MEETING)

AGENDA

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTE

that under the law, the Panel is entitled to consider certain items in private. Members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

NIL.

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Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Thursday 16 June 2011

PRESENT:

Councillor Wildy, in the Chair.

Councillor Stark, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bowyer, Mrs Bragg, Browne, Murphy, Mrs Nicholson, Singh and Tuohy.

Co-opted Representatives: Mr Kevin Willis and Alderman Purnell

Apologies for absence: Councillors Bowie and Haydon, Jenny Evans and Kerry Whittlesea.

Also in attendance: Viv Gillespie – Principal of City College Plymouth; Mairead Macneil - Assistant Director for Children's Social Care; Gareth Simmons – Programme Director for Learning Environments and Annie Singer – Senior Education Adviser.

The meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.20 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

1. TO NOTE THE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The panel noted the appointment of Councillor Wildy as Chair and Councillor Stark as Vice Chair for the municipal year 2011 – 2012.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, the following declarations of interest were made, as follows –

Name	Minute	Reason	Interest
Councillor Wildy	Minute 5 - Chair's Urgent Business	Partner is a governor at Lipson Community College	Personal
Councillor Stark	Minute 5 - Chair's Urgent Business	Governor at Stoke Damerel and All Saints Academy	Personal
Councillor Mrs Bragg	Minute 5 - Chair's Urgent Business	Director of Marine Academy	Personal
Kevin Willis	Minute 5 - Chair's Urgent Business	Governor at Ridgeway School	Personal

3. **APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES**

The panel considered the appointment of co-opted representatives.

Agreed that –

- (1) Jenny Evans and Kerry Whittlesea, Young Persons Representatives to complete a full year on the Panel with a review to take place at the October meeting;
- (2) Kevin Willis, Parent Governor Representative to continue as a statutory co-opted representative until the end of his term;
- (3) elections to take place shortly to recruit new Parent Governor Representatives onto the panel;
- (4) the Vice-Chair to make contact with the Diocese on faith representation on the panel.

4. **MINUTES**

Agreed that the minutes of the 24 March 2011 were approved as a correct record.

CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

5. **University Technology College**

Viv Gillespie, Principal of City College Plymouth and Gareth Simmons, Programme Director for Learning Environments gave an update to the panel on the University Technology College (UTC). It was reported that –

- (a) the UTC would be set up as an academy and linked with the university and backed by local employers;
- (b) the UTC is aimed at 14 to 19 years olds from across the city;
- (c) the curriculum would focus on 40 percent technical and 60 percent on general education;
- (d) a statement of interest has been submitted to the Baker Dearing Education Trust;
- (e) the UTC would need to fit in with the spread of existing facilities and education across the city;
- (f) the UTC would need to fit with the demographic demand with secondary school numbers initially dropping but would pick up again after 2015.

In response to questions from the panel it was reported that -

- (g) an existing premises in Plymouth would be used to facilitate the UTC and would be located centrally or close to Devonport. The preferred location for the UTC is Piquet Barracks with an options appraisal being undertaken on a further 9 to 10 different sites;
- (h) apprenticeships are still key with the UTC seen as a feeder into the apprenticeship route;
- (i) this is an opportunity for around 455 students with the potential to increase to 520 from a variety of schools from across the city;
- (j) there would be costs involved with the start-up of the UTC and operating costs once the UTC is open and would be supported by grants.

Agreed that a further report on University Technology College to include a detailed breakdown of numbers in nearby schools and demographic patterns across the city to ascertain the potential effect on nearby schools be submitted to the panel in September.

6. **Work Experience**

Annie Singer, Senior Education Adviser submitted a paper on work experience. This item came to the Chair's attention after learning that some schools were not choosing to undertake work experience. It was reported that -

- (a) the issue on work experience not taking place had arisen in one school;
- (b) the Tamar Education Business Partnership (TEBP) co-ordinates work experience for year 10 and 11 pupils;
- (c) in the past TEBP were able to subsidise the cost for work experience undertaken by schools. The Department of Education (DfE) have advised that funding would be withdrawn from the end of the 2010/2011;
- (d) as a result of the funding being withdrawn the cost of work experience had to be increased which led to one school being unable to afford to undertake work experience;
- (e) £100k had been cut from the budget which has led to schools to reconsider work experience in the future.

Agreed that the Assistant Director for Lifelong Learning to report back to the panel in July with facts and figures associated with work experience and to look into how the council ensures every child is given the opportunity to undertake work experience.

7. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Claire Oatway, Lead Officer updated the panel on the terms of reference (TOR). It was reported that –

- (a) some areas of the TOR need to be expanded with more emphasis on policy areas;
- (b) membership of the panel to include co-opted representatives and their rights;
- (c) more emphasis to be given on Equality Impact Assessment;
- (d) monitoring of budget and performance to be included on the work programme.

Agreed that the revised terms of reference to be emailed around to panel members for final approval through the Chair and Vice-Chair.

8. **POLICY UPDATES**

Mairead MacNeil, Assistant Director (Children's Social Care) and Gareth Simmons, Programme Director for Learning Environments updated the panel on policy. It was reported that -

- (a) the recent Adoption Inspection was positive with good inspection outcomes;
- (b) the Munro report looked at all the issues in children's social care with a deep dive look at the systems and challenges children's social care face;
- (c) there is still a need to continue to divert children from care. An intensive support team looking at 15 to 18 year olds and extending it to look at children aged 11 years;

In response to questions raised, it was reported that -

- (d) the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is used by any professional that has contact with a child. The CAF pulls together different agencies to problem solve and to look at alleviating any difficulties a family may be experiencing;
- (e) training is rolled out to 2000 people across the city to help and support other professionals with the management of risk;
- (f) Children's Social Care continually request user feedback on services provided. This information help us to evaluate and make changes where needed to ensure a quality service is provided;

- (g) they ensure the continuity of a social worker assigned to a child or family and all policies such as the Social Care Transfer Policy are reviewed regularly.

Agreed that –

- (1) the reports submitted by Lifelong Learning and Learner Family Support noted and to be discussed further at the next meeting;
- (2) a copy of the Social Care Transfer Policy to be circulated to panel members.

9. **DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2011/12**

The panel noted the draft work programme for 2011/12 and agreed to recommend to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board the following items for inclusion:

- Performance and Budget Reports;
- Locality Review;
- Adoption Inspection.

Agreed that –

- (1) the Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy and Emotional Health of Children items to form part of the Children's Mental Health Task and Finish Group;
- (2) the Children and Young People's Plan will be monitored by the panel at its normal business meeting therefore a task and finish group to monitor the plan is no longer required.

10. **TRACKING RESOLUTIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The panel was informed that there were no tracking resolutions or feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to note.

11. **FUTURE DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS**

The panel noted the dates and times of future meetings as set out in the agenda.

12. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business.

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TRACKING RESOLUTIONS

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date/min number	Resolution	Explanation / Minute	Officer	Progress	Target Date
16.06.11 / Min 3	<p><u>Agreed</u> that –</p> <p>(1) Jenny Evans and Kerry Whittlesea, Young Persons Representatives to complete a full year on the Panel with a review to take place at the October meeting;</p> <p>(2) Kevin Willis, Parent Governor Representative to continue as a statutory co-opted representative until the end of his term;</p> <p>(3) elections to take place shortly to recruit new Parent Governor Representatives onto the panel;</p> <p>(4) the Vice-Chair to make contact with the Diocese on faith representation on the panel.</p>	The panel considered the appointment of co-opted representatives.	Claire Oatway	Lead Officer and DSO to meet with the elections teams and school governor team on the election of new Parent Governors.	<p>(1) October 2011</p> <p>(2) May 2012</p> <p>(3) September 2011</p> <p>(4) July 2011</p>
16.06.11 / Min 5	<p><u>Agreed</u> that a further report on University Technology College to include a detailed breakdown of numbers be submitted to the panel in September.</p>	This item was raised under Chair's Urgent Business	Claire Oatway		08.09.11

Date/min number	Resolution	Explanation / Minute	Officer	Progress	Target Date
16.06.11/ Min 6	<u>Agreed</u> that the Assistant Director for Lifelong Learning to report back to the panel in July with facts and figures associated with work experience and to look into how the council ensures every child is given the opportunity to undertake work experience.	This item was raised under Chair's Urgent Business	Colin Moore	A further report on work experience is attached to the tracking resolutions.	14.07.11
16.06.11/ Min 7	<p>Claire Oatway, Lead Officer updated the panel on the terms of reference (TOR). It was reported that –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) some areas of the TOR need to be expanded with more emphasis on policy areas; (b) membership of the panel to include co-opted representatives and their rights; (c) more emphasis to be given on Equality Impact Assessment; (d) monitoring of budget and performance to be included on the work programme. <p><u>Agreed</u> that the revised terms of reference to be emailed around to panel members for final approval through the Chair and Vice-Chair.</p>	Terms of Reference	Claire Oatway	The Lead Officer and DSO to make the changes to the Terms of Reference as discussed at the last meeting and to circulate to panel members prior to submission to the OSMB on 27.07.11.	27.07.011

Date/min number	Resolution	Explanation / Minute	Officer	Progress	Target Date
16.06.11/ Min 9	<p>The panel noted the draft work programme for 2011/12 and agreed to recommend to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board the following items for inclusion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance and Budget Reports; • Locality Review; • Adoption Inspection. <p><u>Agreed that –</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy and Emotional Health of Children items to form part of the Children’s Mental Health Task and Finish Group; 2. the Children and Young People’s Plan will be monitored by the panel at its normal business meeting therefore a task and finish group to monitor the plan is no longer required. 	Work Programme	Claire Oatway	OSMB agreed the CYP OSP work programme	29.06.11

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

14 July 2011



Grants to Tamar Education Partnership to support work experience

1. Context

- The Tamar Education Business Partnership, a Plymouth City Council business unit, has over the years received income from a variety of sources which have gradually reduced and disappeared
- Two grants are no longer available from this financial year 2011-2012:
 - i. The grant from the Department for Education, based on the number of 14-19 years in Plymouth
 - ii. The grant from PCC

2. Value of grants over the past few years

Financial Year 2004-2005

- Department for Education grant: £201,513.00
- Lifelong Learning Grant: £10,000

Financial year 2005-2006

- Department for Education grant: £199,548.00
- Lifelong Learning Grant: £8,000

Financial year 2006-2007

- Department for Education grant: £147,328.00
- Lifelong Learning Grant: £8,000

Financial year 2007-2008

- Department for Education grant: £139,229.00
- Lifelong Learning Grant: £8,000

Financial Year 2008-2009

- Department for Education grant: £147,662.00
- Lifelong Learning Grant: £8,000

Financial year 2009-2010

- Department for Education grant: £130,682.00
- Lifelong Learning Grant: £8,000

Financial year 2010-2011

- Department for Education grant: £127,122
- Lifelong Learning Grant: £8,000

3. Education Business Partnership Services Funding withdrawn by DfE

- The Department for Education confirmed on 28th March that, from the end of this financial year, the funding for Education Business Partnerships would be withdrawn.
- The decision had been made by the Secretary of State in the context of the spending review settlement. Substantial savings were needed and Ministers had made it clear that the priority for education expenditure would be front line services in schools. Funding for Education Business Partnership did not come within that category. Therefore the £25m a year for commissioning and funding Education Business Partnership was withdrawn at the end of the last financial year on 31st March 2011.
- From now on, it is for schools to decide whether or not to buy in services from Education Business Partnership Organisations locally.
- Schools remain responsible for ensuring that any work experience which takes place meets the current child protection and health & safety requirements.

4. Lifelong Learning Grant

- Historically, the Tamar Education Business Partnership was allocated a small grant by PCC. More recently, this grant was funded through the Department of Education Standards Funds grant, allocated to Local Authorities in order to support the local implementation of the 14-19 reforms
- This Standards fund grant which was made available from the financial year 2006-2007 was withdrawn from this financial year
- There are no other grants available to draw from.

5. Implications (see June briefing paper)

- The Tamar Education Business Partnership will now need to operate on a full cost recovery basis. This is a situation that all Education Business Partnership Organisations are facing nationally.
- The two grants used to subsidise the cost of the work experience.
- Up to March 2011, the cost of the Work Experience Service per pupil was £48. Schools paid £26 per pupil and £22 per pupil was subsidised by the above grants
- In order to help schools manage the financial impact of the loss of government funding, Tamar Education Business Partnership has confirmed that, in the short term, the charge per pupil will be £38. This has been achieved through paring down staff costs and reducing central costs, as a result of the planned move out of Seymour House premises.

6. Future plans (see June briefing paper)

- The government plans to remove the statutory duty to provide every young person at KS4 with work-related learning from September 2012.
- The imperative will be to encourage work experience for 16-19 learners

Name of author

Annie Singer

Job Title & Dept (+ Organisation, if not PCC)

Senior Adviser - Secondary Education

Date paper written

30th June 2011

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL



LIFELONG LEARNING 2011/12 OVERVIEW

Local Authorities have three distinct but overlapping roles and the Lifelong Learning Division contributes strongly across all three:

- **Core Role:** to guarantee the infrastructure of a universal 'school' system – that every child has a school place and changes in the population are planned for.
- **Leadership Role:** local authorities have a unique legitimacy in that they are part of an elected structure. This gives us the authority to lead the local education community, to set a vision for education, and to bring a range of partners together to achieve improvement.
- **School Improvement Role:** where authorities have a duty to offer support to headteachers, governors and teachers as well as monitoring and challenging schools' performance particularly for those schools below floor standards.

The Lifelong Learning division exists to raise aspiration and achievement not only for children and young people but also through opportunities to encourage and deliver lifelong learning within the adult population.

The division is in the process of major realignment in how core business operates. As a consequence of the new Government's Education White Paper "The Importance of Teaching" the division is repositioning in order to provide a significant element of its business through directly traded services to schools. These will range from services which support school governors to a wide range of support to school leaders and managers. At the same time the move towards a stronger emphasis on commissioning services and provision, including school places as opposed to the historic model of direct provider of education provision is well underway.

Through this period of change, a period likely to be approximately ten years, the role of Local Authority Champion for Children and Families will grow larger.

The division plays a critical part in establishing and propagating the bedrock upon which the future citizens of the city will develop the necessary ambition, to translate their aspirations into higher level skills which in turn will create the high wage economy of Plymouth in 2020. Over the past two or three years the division has been remarkably successful in setting the trajectory for some of these changes. We have:

- Narrowed gaps in achievement
- Gained national recognition for innovation and achievement
- Achieved the highest levels of educational attainment at KS4 that the city has ever experienced.

Nevertheless our current overall performance only places us as achieving the national average in educational performance, albeit outperforming our statistical neighbours. For a city with aspirations to be a leading European maritime city we cannot be satisfied with "national average" educational performance. It is vital to the strategic ambition of the city that the highest possible educational outcomes are achieved by our leaders of tomorrow.

The Division will need to also work closely with Learner and Family Support in order to achieve the deployment of professional staff to localities as the Council looks to translate “localism” into a Plymouth context.

RESPONDING TO CITY AND COUNCIL PRIORITIES

We are excited about the opportunities that are created in times of significant change. We believe that we have the right people with the right skills to make a huge contribution to Plymouth’s 2020 vision through active support of the four key priorities.

Our aspirations for the next three years:

- To promote the talents and achievements of Plymouth’s young people so that the city is proud of the next generation;
- To deliver a quality induction programme for those working with children and young people in Plymouth as well as various learning and development opportunities to ensure that children and young people are served by well qualified and highly motivated staff;
- To assist schools in appreciating and capitalising on the amazing educational resource that is Plymouth and its immediate environment;
- Lift all Plymouth’s schools above the escalating floor standards in English and mathematics so that Governing Bodies retain the choice about when and if to change their school’s status;
- Continue to improve the quality and diversity of educational provision in Plymouth so that children and families have a range of options to meet their aspirations;
- Work with partners to strengthen the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) agendas so that students leaving school have the best chance to find highly skilled and sustainable well paid jobs thus contributing to the Plymouth economy;
- Work with our partners to create the conditions necessary to develop sustainable high quality system leadership in Plymouth;
- Deliver a high quality service to motivate and inspire adults to undertake lifelong learning and to increase the numbers of adults with Level 2 qualifications and above;
- To work with a diverse group of partners to ensure a high quality range of universal and targeted services that successfully engage 13-19 year olds;
- Further improve the quality of teaching and learning in English and mathematics, thereby improving the literacy and numeracy skills of the Plymouth population;
- Tailor the services provided through Children’s Centres to ensure reduced health and educational inequalities, reduced child poverty and an improvement in parental capacity to safeguard their children from harm;
- Strengthen systems to share best practice in early years settings, developing peer mentor support for Leaders;
- Improve early years practitioner knowledge on how to develop children’s early language and communication skills;
- Keep the focus on the needs of children and young people;
- Continue to narrow gaps in attainment by further improving outcomes for children in care and other vulnerable groups;
- Deliver the Plymouth Promise within mixed economy of providers;
- Maintain our collaborative ethos whilst introducing primary academy sponsors and teaching schools to the city’s provision;
- Enable Governing Bodies to make informed decisions;
- Increase the number of Young People aged 16-19 participating in education and training, including those from vulnerable groups, thus reducing the numbers of young people who are Not in Education Employment or Training (NEETS).

Departmental and Service priorities

As well as the city and council priorities above the following is a list of our most important departmental and service priorities:

- Restructure Lifelong Learning in-line with the Plymouth 2020 key priorities to add value and accountability to achieving these important outcomes;
- Develop the Plymouth Youth Music Service to ensure that it remains well placed to take advantage of the changing nature of national funding arrangements and can continue to deliver excellent value for money for its clients;
- Ensure the sustainability of the Plymouth Children's University and the Summer mix programme through partnership engagement and the mainstreaming of activity;
- Play a leading role in achieving the outcomes expected within the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14;
- Work with the DfE to deliver a successful phase 3 Raising the Participation Age (RPA) trial in Plymouth as well as in the South West in our capacity as a local leader;
- With multi-agency partners, provide the leadership necessary to coordinate and deliver the outcomes expected within the Early Years Strategic Plan for Plymouth;
- To become the school improvement service of choice for Plymouth's schools.

Name of author

Colin Moore

Job Title

Assistant Director (Lifelong Learning)

Date

6 June 2011

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL



LEARNER AND FAMILY SUPPORT 2011/12

OVERVIEW

The work of the Learner and Family Support Branch focuses on the individual child or young person and the provision of services to them, the schools or settings that they attend and to their families. The majority of our work is with children and young people who are vulnerable because of special educational need or disability and social disadvantage, and we have a range of statutory responsibilities.

As the relationship between schools and the local authority changes as a result of the Education White Paper the role of the local authority in championing the needs of vulnerable children and their families will strengthen in order that Plymouth's vulnerable children and young people and their families can enjoy an outstanding quality of life, and that the city retains a focus on their views and needs. However we will increasingly need to develop a business model of trading services to schools. There are likely to be changes to our statutory responsibilities with new government proposals on Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Admissions due, and services will need to adapt to those changes.

Regardless of these changes we retain our commitment to transforming the way we deliver services to children, young people and families by integration and collaboration across the Department, the Council and with partner agencies and the voluntary sector. We believe that early intervention is the key to prevention of escalation into specialist services. There are still too many children with statements of special educational need in the city compared to national averages and too many children in care. Transformation of services into integrated models of delivery at a locality level will be more efficient and effective, and better for children and families. We know that families of children and young people with disabilities need an integrated approach to the complex needs of their children. We have made great strides, but there is much more to do. Parents tell us that the transition to adulthood is a major issue and we are determined to build on our early work with adult services in the Council and the health community.

Our performance in narrowing the attainment gap for pupils with SEN, in reducing absence and exclusion and in the uptake of school meals, compares well with statistical neighbours. Branch staff have a passion for improving the life chances of Plymouth's children, and staff survey analysis reflects this engagement.

The challenge we face is to adapt whilst retaining our commitment to inclusion and fair access to support the most disadvantaged families in a more commercial climate. We must retain our focus on ultimate customers, but operate more flexibly and responsively as service providers, whilst embracing the benefits that commissioning of services from other providers, particular in the voluntary and community sector can bring.

In times of economic austerity and structural changes in partner agencies, we are likely to see increasing demand for services and so we must hold fast to our commitment to collaborative advantage by working together within the department, within the Council and within the city for **all** Plymouth's children and young people.

DELIVERING COUNCIL AND CITY PRIORITIES

SEN and Disability

- Provide high quality positive opportunities/short breaks to families.
- Meet complex SEN need locally through Special Educational Need/Learning Disability and Difficulties strategic plan, Autism Spectrum Disorder plan, and timely response to SEN Green Paper.
- Improve transition to adulthood for young people with disabilities.
- Providing short break provision for parents and families with disabled children. Providing access to short break opportunities enabling people to live 'ordinary lives'.
- Improve the statutory assessment of SEN to become more streamlined, transparent and targeted to complex needs.
- Implement Disabled Children Strategy to support family focussed/customer facing access to disabled children's services.

Support for Vulnerable Children and Families

- Ensure effective learning by tackling undernourishment and improving family income, taking local children & families out of poverty.
- Train school and early year's staff to promote the development of pro social behaviour and resilience.
- Develop effective approaches to supporting the learning of vulnerable children through developing and sharing evidence based practice.
- Improve access to psychological therapies for vulnerable young people.
- Develop integrated locality based early intervention services for vulnerable children and their families.
- Develop effective prevention and early intervention approaches with families to reduce the need to escalate to specialist services.

School Meals

- Complete the build and creation of full production kitchens in the remaining primary schools and PRU to end transported meals by August 2011.
- Increase spend in the local community and Plymouth for food and ingredients.
- Increase the take up of healthy, nutrient compliant Free School Meals and paid for meals to promote and lead to improved health outcomes for children and families and reduced obesity.

School Organisation

- Expand 5 primary schools in 2011 to meet the growth in the birth rate over the next 4/5 years.
- Set up new Term Dates and school Session Times for 2012/13 and 2013/14.

Name of author Maggie Carter

Job Title Assistant Director (Learner and Family Support)

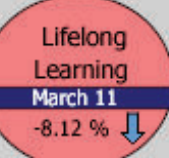
Date 6 June 2011





DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE & FINANCE REPORT**Children's Services****Children's Services Departmental – Actual position (£0.266m) Underspend**

Children's Services net spend of £51.793m represents a 0.5% underspend when compared to the final net budget of £52.059m.

Further explanation is reported in the scorecard.

Children & Young People Services Quarterly Budget & Performance Report

Monthly Service Budget	Performance	Comments
		<p>Responsible Officer: Mairead MacNeil</p> <p>The 4th quarter year end forecast overspend is £1.109m and represents an improved position of (£0.640m) from the previous quarter. This is mainly due to reduced placements and placement costs, notably in the 16+ service. There were also fewer children in care (382 reduced from 397) due to focused effort on diversion from care and on permanency. The number of children with child protection plans has reduced to an all year low of 301 and the number of C&YP placed in residential care remains steady at 15 as does the 60 C&YP in Independent Sector Foster care. (Budgeted 14 and 39 places respectively). Improved performance, particularly initial and core assessment completion within timescales continues to be sustained and cumulative 4th quarter performance is at 71% and 73% respectively. Overall, caseloads and budget pressures within Children's Social Care are under weekly scrutiny and a reducing trend is being facilitated through effective caseload management. This will have a resounding impact on Children's Social Care ensuring that quality and performance improvements continue. Planning/reshaping of Children's Social Care is underway to ensure optimum service delivery in 2011/12.</p>
		<p>Responsible Officer: Claire Oatway</p> <p>The 4th Quarter forecast reports a favourable variation of (£0.454m) and a (£0.111m) improvement from the previous quarter. This is directly attributable to ceasing of all non essential spend, detailed monitoring, the achievement of delivery plans and the drive to achieve departmental savings. The latest official data reports that the rate of Teenage conceptions has dropped from 48.6 (2008) to 44.3 (2009). We report the lowest ever number of conceptions at 194 and we are the best performing partnership when compared to our statistical neighbours.</p>
		<p>Responsible Officer: Colin Moore</p> <p>The 4th Quarter reports a favourable variation of (£1.092m) which results from the achievement of delivery plans and the drive to achieve departmental savings, through detailed monitoring, stopping all non-essential expenditure, and the maximisation of Grant funding. The favourable variation was enhanced by the removal of ringfencing on specific grant funding together with the requirement to repay unspent grant to national bodies.</p> <p>Overall performance compares favourably with national and statistical neighbours. The past year has seen significant improvements in achievement across early years foundation stage as well as a further narrowing of the gap for pupils achieving 5 A*-C (GCSE) in English and Maths. In response to the Secretary Of State's letter we have created a Local Authority plan to support and challenge underperforming schools. This will result in the drawing together of limited resources to target improvements in those schools below or at risk of being below the escalating floor standards.</p>

Monthly Service Budget Performance	Comments 2/2
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Learner & Family Support March 11 -4.40 % ↓</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Learner & Family Support →</p> </div> </div>	<p>Responsible Officer: Maggie Carter</p> <p>The latest 4th quarter forecast reports a favourable variation of (£0.376m) The improved position is a direct result of managed efficiency measures to support departmental savings, detailed monitoring, stopping all non-essential expenditure and the maximisation of grants and changes to care package requirements.</p> <p>Although the efficiency measures have led to a favourable overall position, there remains a specific pressure within SEN Transport. Policy changes are proposed to remove all concessionary fares in 2011/12 and a realistic budget for our statutory requirement to provide SEN transport has been set for 2011/12.</p> <p>Overall, performance has improved and this is due to focused work in key areas and successful delivery of actions plans. There are no RED rated performance measures. Year end performance is positively reflected in the overall number of green rated measures.</p>
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Schools →</p> </div>	<p>The Council receives funding for schools through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which funds expenditure either directly through the Individual Schools Budget (ISB) or incurred by the Council on behalf of schools. Any over or underspends on the DSG are carried forward. The ISB element has been distributed in accordance with the schools funding formula and the overall DSG has been approved by the Schools Forum. The schools budget for 2010/11 was set at £140.037m (estimated DSG of £141.139m after academy recoupment plus £0.350m brought forward from 2011/12 budget less £1.452m deficit brought forward from 2009/10). The final DSG was announced as £141.208m, providing an additional £0.069m. A DSG deficit of £0.216m has been carried forward to 2011/12.</p>
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Funded Programmes March 11 0.00 % →</p> </div>	<p>No variation</p>
<p>Human Resources</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #f4a460; display: inline-block;"> <p>Children's Services Corporate HR reporting</p> </div>	<p>Establishment shows 1201.8 FTE against a budgeted establishment of 1576.6 FTE , a decrease of 2.3 FTE employees and an increase of 20.5 FTE positions from the previous month.</p> <p>Agency Spend was 0.24% of the monthly wage bill, a decrease of 0.05% from last month.</p> <p>Sickness levels are 10.36 working days per FTE for this financial year to date (April 2010 – February 2011) and 11.45 working days per FTE for the last rolling 12 months, a slight decrease of 0.14 days FTE over the rolling 12 months.– the Council has a target of 7 working days per FTE. The council wide sickness statistics excluding schools staff are 11.89 days per FTE for this financial year to date and 13.11 days per FTE for the last rolling 12 months</p>

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY PANEL
IN - YEAR ADMISSIONS**



Background

In September 2010 the responsibility for allocating places for in - year admissions (those pupils applying for places outside of the normal point of entry co-ordinated scheme) moved to the Local Authority. It is therefore illegal; under the Admissions Code of Practice for a school to allocate any school places to parents for their children, all applications are processed through the Admissions Team.

In – year co-ordinated scheme

Since September 2010 the Admissions Team have dealt with 1,770 primary and 711 secondary allocations.

Voluntary Aided, Controlled, Foundation, Trust and Academies are all responsible for their own admission arrangements and in such cases in – year applications are forwarded to the individual schools concerned based on the parents preference. Where a place is available in the year group concerned the place will be allocated following discussion with the school.

Under the terms of the in – year co-ordinated admission scheme all places should be allocated within 20 days. Every effort is made to keep within this timescale, but it can take considerably longer where schools are their own admissions authority.

In the case of maintained schools, the Local authority is the Admission Authority and in such cases where a place is available it will be allocated and the school and parent informed.

Details of the pupil will then be emailed to the school with a copy of the allocation letter, to enable contact to be made concerning the pupil's start date.

Current Position

The Admissions Team currently have a backlog of 2 week, the LA are dealing with applications dated 22 June 2011.

In the primary sector as at 23 June 2011 there are 2,042 places available from Yr R to Yr 6 and of this number there are 47 spaces in Yr R this is based on an overall Planned Admission Number of 20,112.

In the secondary sector as at 23 June 2011 there are 569 places available from Yr 7 to Yr 11 based on a Planned Admission Number of 14,815.

Primary Sector

Due to the increase in the birth rate the Local Authority is expanding 5 primary reception classes in the city in the North West, South West and South East localities in September 2011. These are in Wave 1 of the Primary Basic Need Programme. A report will be presented to Cabinet in September 2011 outlining the plans for expansion from 2012 onwards.

Secondary Sector

Secondary establishments in the city are currently experiencing falling rolls and numbers will be at their lowest in January 2016.

The Future

The DfE are currently consulting on the new admission arrangements for 2013 onwards. Part of the new arrangements if implemented could be to transfer the responsibility for allocating in – year places from the Local Authority to individual schools which could result in further delays in some cases.

Jayne Gorton
School Organisation and Pupil Access Manager

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

14 July 2011



PLYMOUTH
CITY COUNCIL

WISE Theme Group Update

1. Development of the WISE action plan

The WISE theme group has been working to develop its action plan, ensuring it is aligned to the City's four shared priorities: deliver growth, raise aspirations, reduce inequalities and provide value for communities. This action plan has a clear focus on addressing gaps, and promoting Plymouth 2020 targets through collaborative advantage using a partnership approach. Five themes have been agreed:

1. STEM development (*science, technology, engineering and mathematics*)

Key action: to create a multi partner STEM action plan

2. Higher level progression

Key actions: develop strategy to increase participation and to foster retention at higher education level

3. Employability and entrepreneurship

Key actions: To add value to existing 14-19 Service Plan and the key findings of the Skills Review (young people). Summarised as:

- Support WISE Theme Group to develop employability and enterprise skills in young people.
- To encourage wider employer engagement with apprenticeship provision and increase places.
- To develop clear visual signposting and career paths.
- To encourage retention of higher level skills via closer engagement with local employers

4. Lifelong learning

Key actions: Summarised as:

- To develop actions that build on the lifelong learning offer for the city
- To support the activities of wider WISE Theme through for example family learning

5. Maximising city projects and assets

Key actions: Summarised as:

- Coordinate educational partners so that city resources and events benefit from our combined contributions and involvement
- Projects, events and tourist destinations have clear educational benefits for our learning city

Delivery plans, with identified outcomes and leads have already been developed for each workstream.

2. Links with other Theme Groups

Children and Young People's Trust

Closer working links have been made between WISE and the shared objectives within the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14 and actions identified within the delivery plans. This shared ownership promotes further collaborative work across the City. The Chair of WISE is also a member of the Trust Board.

Growth Board

Working links have also been established in terms of addressing the recommendations from the Skills Review. The Chair of WISE is also a member of the Growth Board.

Viv Gillespie, Chair, WISE Theme Group
June 2011

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Topics	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
Task and Finish Groups												
Young Carers Task and Finish Group – review of recommendations (Sept 2011)				8								
Apprenticeships (October)												
Children’s Mental Health to inc Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy and Emotional Health of Children (July 2011)												
Updates												
Policy Updates/Legislative Changes		14		8				5		1		
Quarterly Scrutiny Reports												
Update from Children’s Trust		14		8				5		1		
Update from Corporate Parenting Group				8				5		1		
Update from Local Safeguarding Children’s Board		14		8				5		1		
Update from relevant LSP Theme Groups		14		8				5		1		
Strategies and Plans												
Children and Young People’s Plan (Action Plan) (July 2011)					13							
Youth Justice Action Plan (Review July 2011)												
Training and Development												
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Key:

New Item