

# AUDIT COMMITTEE

27 June 2011



**PLYMOUTH**  
CITY COUNCIL

## **Diversion of Children from Care - Efficiency Theme**

We are currently developing a strong project plan for making efficiencies through diverting more children from care. It is built around four work streams: improving shared safeguarding intelligence; early intervention and child protection; intensive adolescent support services and placements, where we have a good recent track record in making efficiencies. A project team is in place with key work leads and risks have been assessed in accordance with the council's corporate approach, in what is a challenging working environment.

In terms of alternative efficiency options, as a statutory service our room for manoeuvre is not as elastic as some areas, with the non statutory activity tending to be around preventative work - which is of course extremely important for reducing the likelihood of children becoming at risk. We are, however, reasonably confident that we can make the required efficiencies over the next three years.

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