

UNACCOMPANIED ASYLUM SEEKING YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE

APPENDIX B

The action plan set out below has been developed to respond to the recommendations of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel Task and Finish Group report.

	Recommendation	Proposed Action	Lead Officer	Time Scale	Proposed Outcome
1	A protocol must be established for facilitating the participation of groups of young people and adults in member-led meetings to aid communication, e.g. more use should be made of the corporate parenting leaflet	Recruitment of a participation worker in partnership with the Voluntary Sector (Routeways) Role Profile Complete	Service Manager, 16+ Service	By 1 st September 2011	Appropriate engagement of Young People with Support
2	PCC should more widely disseminate the existing policy and procedure to all sections of the children's workforce and store these documents in a way that facilitates ready access	Re-launch policy and procedures through a service wide communication, bulletins on the Plymouth City Council Staff room web pages and Children's Trust Websites, containing Hyperlinks to current documentation Briefing to be prepared for use in employee inductions	Service Manager, 16+ Service	By 1 st August 2011	Staff across the children's workforce are familiar with the content of policies and procedures relating to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children
3	A review is conducted of the range of services for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, including services provided by Youth Services, those funded by the Social Inclusion Unit and any services provided by partners	The requested review is completed	Commissioning Manager, Services for Children and Young People	By 1 st September 2011	A map of services will be available to staff working with this group of children and young people. Any gaps in service identified, will be addressed through changes in service delivery or commissioning as required

4	The Director of Children's Services should establish closer working arrangements between children's social care and other elements of the children's workforce that work with unaccompanied asylum seeking children to meet the needs of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children	Extended Directorate Management Team to address any shortfalls in shared understanding	Service Manager, 16+ Service	By 31 st September 2011	A shared understanding of the needs of this group of children and young people as well as an understanding of other agencies contribution to work with this group
5	The Director of Children's Services should improve training and understanding of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and asylum seekers and refugees issues for staff working with these groups	Extended Directorate Management Team will commission training to ensure that the Children's Workforce has a broad understanding of the needs of this group and other refugees	Service Manager for professional development, Children's Social Care	By October 2011 Then annually within the staff development and training programme	Staff working with these children and young people have a fuller understanding of the needs and issues that Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children may face in this country. Staff are able to assess the needs this group of children and young people and make appropriate plans to meet identified needs
6	The Director of Children's Services should clarify and make explicit professional boundaries between individual workers and Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children. This should be monitored through supervision	All Staff in Children's Services are to be reminded of their obligations, through briefings, inductions, and communications	Service Manager for professional development, Children's Social Care	Briefing note to be sent out via general communications by 1 st September 2011 Ongoing in induction programme Ongoing in supervision sessions	Staff are reminded of their responsibilities. Supervision used to ensure staff are fulfilling these responsibilities

7	A report should be prepared on how professionals across the Children & Young People's Trust work together to support the health and wellbeing of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, including where there are concerns.	Report prepared following the review of services that will identify any gaps in service development which can be de addressed through service development or commissioning	Commissioning Manager, Services for Children and Young People	By 1 st September 2011 Reshaping completed by 31 st December 2011 Re-commissioning would commence from 1 st April 2012 if required	A framework for service developments and commissioning activity will be identified and acted upon
8	The Corporate Parenting Group should regularly monitor outcomes for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children.	Officers to agree with the Corporate Parenting group on the areas to be reported upon and the reporting cycle, e.g. The numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, The countries of origin, The suitability of accommodation, Access to education, Access to Health services	Head of Service, Children and Young People in Care	By 1 st September 2011	Members are kept appraised of the numbers of young people and the issues facing them, thus being able to provide challenge and support to officers and other agencies with responsibilities towards this group