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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MONDAY 24 JANUARY 2011 7.00 PM

Bourges/Viersen Room - Town Hall

	AGENDA	
		Page No
1.	Apologies for absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations	
	At this point Members must declare whether they have an interest, whether personal or prejudicial, in any of the items on the agenda. Members must also declare if they are subject to their party group whip in relation to any items under consideration.	
3.	Minutes of Meeting Held on 15 November 2010	1 - 8
4.	Call In of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions	
	The decision notice for each decision will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision may then be implemented on the expiry of 3 working days after the publication of the decision (not including the date of publication), unless a request for call-in of the decision is received from any two Members of a Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Commissions. If a request for call-in of a decision is received, implementation of the decision remains suspended for consideration by the relevant Scrutiny Committee or Commission.	
5.	Making a Positive Contribution - Reducing NEETS	9 - 12
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8.	Portfolio Progress report from Cabinet Member relevant to the Committee	57 - 60
	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	
9.	Opening of a New Secondary School - Reeves Way, PE1 5LQ	61 - 64
10.	Forward Plan of Key Decisions	65 - 80

12. Date of Next Meeting

21st March 2011



There is an induction hearing loop system available in all meeting rooms. Some of the systems are infra-red operated, if you wish to use this system then please contact Paulina Ford on 01733 452508 as soon as possible.

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Committee Members:

Councillors: P Thacker (Chairman), J Wilkinson (Vice-Chairman), S Day, Y Lowndes, B Saltmarsh, and M Jamil

Substitutes: Councillors:, C Burton, J R Fox and N Khan

Education Co-optees: Jane Austen (Roman Catholic Church Representative), Mr Frank Smith (Church of England Representative), Alastair Kingsley (Parent Governor Representative), The Revd Canon Tim Elbourne, (Director of Education & Training), Diocese of Ely

Further information about this meeting can be obtained from Paulina Ford on telephone 01733 452508 or by email – paulina.ford@peterborough.gov.uk



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD AT THE BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOM - TOWN HALL ON 15 NOVEMBER 2010

Present: Councillors P Thacker, J Wilkinson (Vice-Chairman), S Day, Y Lowndes,

B Saltmarsh and M Jamil

Also present Alastair Kingsley Parent Governor Representative

Nathalia Silva Young Persons Kerrianne Wilson Michael Billings

Louise Ravenscroft Chair of Family Voice
Wendy Hackton Secretary of Family Voice

Officers in John Richards Executive Director - Children's Services

Attendance: Denise Radley Executive Director of Adult Social Services

Helen Edwards Solicitor to the Council

Andrew Brunt Assistant Director of Safeguarding, Families and

Communities

Darren Williams Strategic Participation Officer

Paulina Ford Performance Scrutiny and Research Officer

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received.

2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations

Councillor Thacker declared a personal interest in Item 7, Peterborough Carers Strategy and Action Plan Update as she was a member of the following groups: Transitions Group, NHS Forum Group and Learning Disability Partnership Board.

3. Minutes of meeting held on 20 September 2010

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2010 were approved as a correct record subject to Alistair Kingsley being added as present.

4. Call In of any Cabinet, Cabinet Member or Key Officer Decisions

There were no requests for call-in to consider.

5. Children's Trust – Make a Positive Contribution Partnership

The report informed the Committee on how the Children's Trust set out to meet its outcome of Making a Positive Contribution. The Director of Children's Services introduced three young people who had been employed through the Future Jobs Fund and had been working on a project which had looked at the impact of poverty in Peterborough. The Director

informed the committee that he would take questions on the whole report and then spoke in further detail on the child and family poverty aspect of the outcome including giving a short presentation. The Child Poverty Act had gained Royal Assent on 25 March 2010 and had placed a number of duties on Local Authorities to reduce child poverty. In Peterborough 25.3% of children lived in poverty compared to 16.4% in the East of England and 21.6% nationally. 22% of these children lived in families who were not working but 29% of these children lived in families where either one or both parents were working but on a low income. In determining and tackling child poverty there were several themes that needed to be taken into consideration:

- Vulnerable Groups newly arrived families, ex-offenders, young people 16+, black and minority ethnics (BME), families with a disability (child or parent), lone parents, lone parents, mental health issues, teenage parents, elderly, young couples, HIV
- **Vulnerable Lifestyles** substance misuse, at risk of homelessness, rough sleepers, anti-social behaviour and offending, worklessness or broken employment, domestic violence and abuse, not in education, employment or training (NEETs), gangs
- **Vulnerable Settings** houses of multiple occupation (HMOs), deprived areas, children in care (CiC), private rented accommodation, temporary accommodation, rural locations, hidden populations, households with limited aspirations / work modelling
- Vulnerable Moments redundancy, birth, change of tenure, job loss, eviction, moving home, re-possession, release from prison, moving into work, take up of new accommodation, family breakdown, bereavement, change in income levels, point of diagnosis, exams (i.e. GCSEs)

A draft Child Poverty Strategy would be presented to the Committee for scrutiny in March 2011.

The young people attending gave a presentation on Poverty in Peterborough which was a snapshot of their views through a series of photographs. The photographs depicted areas of Peterborough through a young person's eyes that represented poverty in Peterborough. Alongside the pictures they had written the following captions:

- Poverty is not having the means to have a basic standard of living
- Not having enough the lack of basic things for people, could cause them various types of health issues
- Poverty to me means not being able to provide basic resources for you, your family or area
- Not having the money to make educated choices beyond daily survival
- Poverty is the inability to afford necessities and fully integrate with society

Observations and questions were raised around the following areas:

- Did you think that people did not know about the coping strategies and support services available to them? Child poverty was not just about the children but was as much about the environment in which they grew up and was about breaking the cycle and getting the education and information to them.
- What were we doing to make sure the money we had was being used more wisely than in the past? One of the things that we were trying to do was attract more businesses to the city. Children's services were helping by making sure educational attainment was improved. It was also about retaining young people in the city so they could contribute to the local economy. There was also a need to ensure that the right benefits were being received. Benefit realisation and worklessness were key to the strategy.
- The statistics showed that people who were working were still living in poverty which
 indicated a low skilled workforce. If we did not attract the right type of jobs Peterborough

would be known as a place for low skilled, low paid jobs. What was being done to address this? The change would take time but Cabinet through the growth agenda were working hard to change the situation. Children's Services were fully engaged with the growth agenda.

- How had you consulted with people on the subject of poverty? A variety of groups were consulted through workshops. Children, young people and people who provided services across the city including Health, social workers, police and probation officers were involved. The strategy would come from a combination of views from all of these groups who worked with families who were deemed to be in relative poverty. Over 100 different adults have been consulted so far. Once the strategy was drafted it would be consulted on again and then be brought to the Committee for scrutiny.
- There were a number of different strategies mentioned in the report which would be ready for consultation in March 2011. Were there any measures in place to ensure that they would be ready by then? Practices were changing all the time and would need to be reflected in the strategies. Processes were being put in place while the strategies were being formed.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee agreed that the draft Child Poverty Strategy was to be presented to the Committee at the meeting in March 2011 to allow scrutiny and make any recommendations prior to it going to Cabinet.

6. Translation and Interpretation Policy

Helen Edwards, Solicitor to the Council introduced the report which was presented to the Committee for consultation. Members were advised that the Policy was not recommending a new policy but was confirming the practice that was already established and in place. It was clarified that the report had incorrectly stated that the Cabinet meeting would be held on 8 December but should have stated 13 December. Members were asked for their views and comments on the policy prior to being presented for adoption at Cabinet.

Observations and questions were raised around the following areas:

- Had any software packages been considered for use across the Council for translation into different languages? Some work had been done in Children's Services on this but it would not help with face to face interpretation. The biggest single area of spend was in the Children's social care area and much of that was in relation to court processes and documents. Translation by software packages would not be of an acceptable standard for use in court processes. All directorates were looking at reducing the costs where possible by using web based packages where appropriate.
- The report mentioned 'without being in breach of its statutory duties' but it also said that we were not legally obliged to have a policy and this seemed a contradiction in terms. There was no legal obligation to have a policy in place however it was not possible to seize the provision of translation and interpretation costs without being in breach of statutory duties. All directorates were aware of the statutory duties they were under and it differed in every case. It would be very difficult to list all of the statutory duties as there were so many. It would not be possible for us not provide translation and interpretation services at all otherwise we would not be able to fulfill a number of statutory duties across the council services.
- It would be useful to have a breakdown of what had been spent in past years and what it had been spent on. This would provide clarity as to how the figure of £154,000 was arrived at. That could be provided. It did vary from year to year and no Director had a specific budget for translation and interpretation therefore the spend was kept to a minimum.
- What would happen if we refused to supply an interpreter? What action could someone take against the Council? It would depend on the circumstances but in the worse case

scenario if we refused to provide an interpreter for a case in the court we would be found in breach of duties to assist the court with enquiries. There were a lot of cases where we provided translation and interpretations services for our own purposes and not for the benefit of the customer. For example helping people understand how to use the three bin system, making sure people got all the benefits they were entitled to, children's services cases. As a council we had committed to ensuring that all our citizens could access all of our services.

- How did we as a council compare to other councils with regard to the £154,000 in spend? How did other countries compare with the UK in the translation and interpretation services we provided? We did not have the statistical information for either but had checked the websites of other councils but could not find any who charged. The majority of them made the point that if translation was needed it was provided free of charge. In terms of the amount they spend it would depend on the demographics. Translation and interpretation tended to be needed with new arrivals as they tended not to be able to communicate. The longer they stayed the less they needed these services. We did not know about other countries but we were working to English Law.
- Councillor Jamil felt that the policy was required and quoted examples of use in his ward.
- The Chair wanted to know if the policy was not accepted was there an alternative. At the moment the policy stated what was currently being done and was recognized as good practice. If the policy was not accepted departments would continue to carry on what they were already doing on a day to day basis. If the Committee wanted to make alternative recommendations or suggest that Cabinet looked at something differently you were entitled to do that. You could accept it as a policy and let it go through Cabinet and then do some work on monitoring how much was spent at a later date.
- Could we make a small charge for the service? In certain circumstances we probably could as the council had the power to charge for discretionary services but the problem would be separating the discretionary services from the essential core statutory services. Often this was not clear until the translation had been completed. The majority of the spend was in children's social care and we could not charge for that. It was something we could look at further.
- This was a budget without a cap so potentially the budget could be larger and may grow as it was based on need. What was the definition of essential services and could this be encompassed in the policy? Was there a threshold we had before using translation services? We did not translate everything as a matter of course and it was case specific and then the absolute minimum. We could attempt to put some guidelines together for officers so that they understood what might be an essential service or not.
- The policy did not mention anything about schools and were we making use of our current staff with interpreting? It did not mention schools as it was an internal council policy which did not cover schools. We did not pay supplements to members of staff who had an additional language but we did make full use of them wherever we could. There were circumstances where you could not use your own staff as they had to be independent for example the translation of a court report.
- Why could you not use computer based systems? They were less accurate than individual interpreters.
- As we were not legally obliged to have a policy could we perhaps call the document guidance?
- John Richards advised Members that if he could not have access to translation and interpretation services he would not be meeting his statutory responsibilities on behalf of the council and there could be serious consequences for that. The bulk of the money spent in children's services was on languages but that also included British sign language, Braille and other types of translation. The policy provided checks and balances to ensure that only those things that were critical to council services were translated.
- Helen Edwards proposed that in the report to Cabinet she noted the Committee's concerns about the level of spend and that it was uncapped and would include more detailed information about the spread of spend across the departments.

- Helen Edwards wished the committee to note that the report asked the committee to approve the basic approach to providing translation and interpretation services not the amount of spend.
- Who decided when the policy was used? *Members were referred to the section of the policy which stated how to identifying the issue / need for an interpreter.*
- Could you identify when you brought the report back in March how many times people did not show up for an appointment when an interpreter had been provided. *If the information was recorded then it would be included.*

Councillor Jamil proposed that the policy be recommended to cabinet for adoption. Councillor Wilkinson seconded the proposal with the proviso that there was some mechanism for monitoring the costs so that they did not escalate out of control. Helen Edwards proposed that a full detailed report be brought back to the Committee at a later date detailing costs to March 2011 and how it had been spent. The Committee agreed with the proposal.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee:

- I. Endorsed the proposed Translation and Interpretation Policy; and
- II. Recommended the adoption of the Translation and Interpretation Policy to Cabinet with the proviso that;
 - a. In the report to Cabinet it is noted that the Committee had concerns with regard to the level of spend on translation and interpretation services and that it was uncapped. The Cabinet report to include more detailed information about the spread of spend across the departments.
 - b. The policy to include guidelines for officers on what were essential services.
 - c. That a report be brought back to the Committee at a later date to monitor the ongoing costs of the translation and interpretation services. The report to detail cost by department and how it was spent.

7. Peterborough Carers' Strategy and Action Plan Update

The Executive Director of Adult Services presented the report and explained that the report was in response to a request made by the Committee a year ago to return with an update on the progress made with the implementation of the 2009-2011 Peterborough Carers' Strategy.

Members were advised that the performance indicator to which all Local Authorities were measured against was NI 135 which measured the proportion of carers receiving a service as a percentage of clients receiving community based services. Peterborough exceeded its target for 2009-2010 with a figure of 34.3% against a target of 32%. That percentage represented 1829 carers who had an assessment with a follow up service. The target for 2010-2011 was set at 36% and the performance as of September 2010 was 32.14% with the expectation that the target would be achieved by the end of the year. Members were advised that progress on the action plan had been driven by key work streams, involving partners to deliver the overarching objectives of the strategy which were:

- Staff training to help them understand, respect and work with carers as expert partners
- Engaging carers in the planning, commissioning and managing of services
- Engaging with hard to reach carer groups
- Developing a greater range, diversity and volume of services
- Supporting carers to get back into employment
- Young carers

- Developing appropriate support services for carers
- Meeting carers needs for emergency respite care
- Provision of emotional support to carers to support them in their caring role
- Providing information, support and advice
- Using information on un-met needs of carers to improve outcomes
- Carers and the adult social care personalisation agenda

The Carers' Awareness Programme was ongoing and there had been a growing number of carers identified. The Carers' Partnership Board had been running for over a year and was thriving with some very good work achieved. More choice into social care had been introduced and more work was still needed to support carers to get back into employment. Work with black and minority groups had started and would continue to develop. Considerable work had been done on the Young Carers' Strategy and there was a new provider in place for delivering the Young Carers Service. Numbers registered with the respite service had continued to increase. The carers leaflet had been re done. It was estimated that there was approximately 15,000 carers in Peterborough with about 3,000 giving a substantial amount of time caring for someone. The hospital discharge pack was currently being piloted at the hospital. The National Carers' Survey had indicated some favourable results for Peterborough. An area that the Carers' Partnership Board identified for further work was the availability of breaks to support carers; development of which had been impacted by the Primary Care Trust's financial situation.

The Carers' National Strategy was currently being refreshed by the new Government and there had been some high profile changes including the cessation of funding for the Caring with Confidence Course. A watching brief would be kept on the proposed changes to the benefits system which may have a significant effect on carers.

Observations and questions were raised around the following areas:

- Was the emergency respite care targeted at a specific subset of carers? It tended to be carers who were providing the higher level of support but it was available to every carer.
- Two carers were invited by the Chair to approach the committee. Louise Ravenscroft, a parent carer of two children with disabilities and Chair of Family Voice and Wendy Hackton parent of four children, two of which had disabilities and Secretary of Family Voice. They informed the Committee that the emergency respite scheme was in place for people who cared for someone over the age of 18 but wanted to know what was in place to support families with children. John Richards informed them that the respite services for children and families were being reviewed and this had led to a rethink as to how the services would be provided in the future with regard to overnight residential care, link carers and community based respite services that were not overnight. Part of the review was to look at how a rapid response service to carers and young people could be developed so that it was part of the portfolio of services offered. There would be consultation with parents and young people about this and if found to be required would be part of the service from next year.
- Louise Ravenscroft informed Members that it was sometimes difficult to identify carers as so many do not see themselves as carers but as a parent.
- Denise Radley advised that the term carer was much better known and used in this
 country but was not often easily translatable in some languages as the role of the carer
 was not recognised in some countries. It was a complex issue when trying to raise
 awareness.

ACTION AGREED

That the Committee:

- 1. Receive a progress report at a future meeting on the availability of breaks of more than 24 hours to support carers.
- 2. Receive a further progress report on the Carers' Strategy in one year's time.

8. Progress Report on Children's Service Development Plan

The Executive Director of Children's Services presented the report which detailed the progress made in addressing the recommendations made by Ofsted following their inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care services. He advised that the full action plan requested at the last meeting would not be available until January 2011 as it was being presented to Government in December and therefore could not be presented to the Committee before then.

Observations and questions were raised around the following areas:

- Members felt that it was a positive report with significant progress. It was noted that the
 social worker vacancy rate was still improving and Members wanted to know if the target
 would still be achieved by March. The Assistant Director of Safeguarding, Families and
 Communities responded that they were still on target and there had been a lot of
 recruitment activity.
- When recruiting from other countries were the checks made equivalent to the Criminal Records Bureau Check in this country? Checks were made but related to UK jurisdiction. Their employment history, carer or academic history would also be checked to ensure there were no gaps and a check made to ensure that they were the person they said they were.
- Could a progress report on the escalated issues from the last report be brought to the next meeting? Yes.

ACTION AGREED

- 1. To note the progress made in addressing the recommendations made by Ofsted following their inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care services; and
- 2. That the next report includes progress made on the escalated issues reported in August 2010, which were:
 - % Children subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time
 - % Children with Disability allocated to a worker; and
- 3. That the report includes the Full Action Plan.

9. Scrutiny Big Debate – Response to Issues Report

The report provided the Committee with a response to the issues raised at the Scrutiny Big Debate held on 4 February 2010 at Peterborough College of Adult Education which looked at how vulnerable adults and children were being supported. Members were satisfied with the responses but requested that when publishing the document on the internet that a link to the 'Living my Life' webpage on the NHS Peterborough website is provided within the document. Members concluded that officers had provided a comprehensive response to the issues raised and that no further action was required unless further issues were raised in response to the publication of the document on the website.

ACTION AGREED

That officers provide a link to the 'Living my Life' webpage so that it may be incorporated into the response to issues document prior to being published on the Peterborough City Council website.

10. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The latest version of the Forward Plan, showing details of the key decisions that the Leader of the Council believed the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would be making over the next four months, was received.

Members noted that there was a key decision for the termination of the transitions service contract with the YMCA and wanted to know if the service was going out to tender for another provider. Members were advised that this related to a service provided through a specific transitions grant from the Government. This grant had now ceased and therefore the contract had to cease. Transitions work continued even though the grant had stopped. Members wanted to know if a transitions officer was still in place. There was an 8 – 19 service where people continued to work on transitions in conjunction with parenting coordinators. There was also a transitions panel that meet regularly.

ACTION AGREED

To note the latest version of the Forward Plan.

11. Work Programme

The Work Programme was considered for 2010/11.

ACTION AGREED

To confirm the work programme for 2010/11.

12. Date of Next Meeting

24 January 2011

CHAIRMAN 7.00 - 9.00 pm

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 5
24 JANUARY 2011	Public Report

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Report Author – Jenni Hepworth Contact Details – 01733 863957

MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION - REDUCING NEETS

1. PURPOSE

To update the Committee on the numbers of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in Peterborough and to describe work currently being undertaken.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Committee consider the report and offer support to intervention activities to reduce NEET where appropriate.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The reduction of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) is a critical national indicator (NI117).

4. BACKGROUND

The Young People's Service delivers connexions services within Peterborough to meet the following statutory responsibilities:

- Under Section 8 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 (amended by the Trade Union and Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993) to provide a careers service for young people, including careers information, advice and guidance and support to find suitable employment and training
- Under Section 114 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000 to provide support to young people to encourage and enable their participation in education or training
- Under Section 139 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000, to carry out an assessment for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities to assist their transition into post 16 education and training opportunities
- The 14-19 Implementation Plan (2005) made a commitment of offer, by the end of September, a suitable place in post 16 learning to all young people leaving compulsory education. This is known as the September Guarantee. This year the September Guarantee has been extended to all those who reached statutory school leaving age in 2008 and 2009. While these are shared responsibilities, Connexions Service providers are responsible for tracking offers made and supporting young people who have not received an offer.

5. KEY ISSUES

Local and comparative data:

	No	v 2010	Nov 2009		
	%16-18 NEET		%16-18 NEET	% 16-18 not known	
Peterborough	8.2%	1.7%	9%	2.8%	
East of England	5.9%	5.4%	5.9%	4%	
National	6.1%	5%	6.5%	4.4%	
Statistical neighbours 7.9%		6.2%	Data no	ot available	
average					

At the end of November 2010:

- 8.2% of 16-18 year olds were NEET (not in education, employment or training)
- This represents 524 young people, a decrease of 24 from Nov 09
- % not known remains one of the lowest rates both regionally and nationally. This
 means we know what most young people are currently doing, so our NEET rate is very
 accurate.

Of the 524 NEET young people:

- 108 are not available for work (mainly 73 teenage parents/pregnant, 24 through illness)
- 13 have a start date agreed for education, employment or training
- 357 are actively seeking education, employment or training
- The highest pockets of NEET are Orton Longueville (47), Dogsthorpe (40), East (38)
- Young people with qualifications below level 2, who've been involved with Youth Offending Service, attended alternative provision pre 16, who are care leavers, teenage parents or who have moderate learning/emotional behavioural difficulties are over-represented in the NEET group.
- Young people with English as an additional language are increasingly at risk of being NEET due to limited access to ESOL courses, though a new course through City College Peterborough started in late November.

NB December NEET figures will be available at the committee meeting.

6. IMPLICATIONS

Current challenges:

- Between January and July 2010, NEET levels were lower than they had been the
 previous year. This was due to a number of factors including focused work to engage
 NEET young people through a January Guarantee and additional government funding
 for around 130 extra places in learning for 16-18 year olds between January and
 March.
- In August 2010, NEET levels rose to 11.3%, the same as the previous year. From September to date, figures again showed a small improvement on last year.
- Peterborough's performance will be measured on the average NEET percentage over the 3 months November 10 to January 11. Overall we need to reach average of 7.1% NEET during this period to meet our national target. Last year's performance was 8.5% overall.
- In practice this means we would need around 170 fewer 16-18 year olds to be NEET during Nov – Jan than currently.

Current and future actions:

- Work over the summer to engage with young people at risk of becoming NEET, and a range of programmes and activities to support their access to services and to learning opportunities through the September Guarantee
- Next Steps event in late August (following GCSE results) with local learning providers

 over 120 young people attended over 2 days for help and advice and to sign up for courses

- Early identification of and support for potential NEET young people at the start of Year 11, using predictive risk profiling with schools
- On-going tracking, support, outreach and follow up work with school/college leavers and NEET young people, including targeted support via locality teams and the connexions Youth Access Point in the Central Library.
- Partnership working with Job Centre Plus, eg Under 18s Adviser working from Youth Access Point and supporting young people to access New Deal as they become 18
- Appointment of a Young People's Employment Adviser to increase the number of young people securing work and training
- Development of new Foundation Learning courses and related opportunities for NEET young people, including a course aimed at young people whose first language is not English in partnership with City College
- Development of city wide NEET engagement programmes offering informal learning and development to support young people in finding work/learning, in partnership with a range of organisations including Peterborough United, Cross Keys Homes and Mears.

7. CONSULTATION

The tracking and analysis of NEET data, performance and intervention to improve performance all form key agenda matters at the Achieve Economic Well-Being Partnership Group and therefore is regularly fed into the Children's Trust Partnership Board for consideration.

8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Young People's Service continues to focus resources on work to prevent education leavers becoming NEET, and to target resources to track and to support those who are NEET, and to enable them to access suitable opportunities and provision. We work in close partnership with a range of services and organisations around these strands.

9. NEXT STEPS

Return to the Committee for monitoring of progress later in 2011.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

All data tables and comparators have been drawn utilising current data from the Connexions Client Information System (CCIS)

11. APPENDICES

None

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 6
24 JANUARY 2011	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) – John Richards Contact Details – <u>john.richards@peterborough.gov.uk</u>

OFSTED ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To provide the Committee with the Annual Assessment of Children's Services letter for discussion and questions.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To scrutinise the Annual Assessment made by Ofsted which was published on the 9th December 2010

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

3.1 Outcomes for all children are key issues included within Peterborough's Local Area Agreement.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 In their letter, Ofsted make the following introductory remarks: "Ofsted guidance published in July 2010 explains that the annual assessment of children's services is derived from the performance profile of the quality of services and outcomes for children and young people in each local area. This performance profile includes findings from across Ofsted's inspection and regulation of services and settings for which the local authority has strategic or operational responsibilities, either alone or in partnership with others, together with data from the relevant indicators in the National Indicator Set (NIS).

In reaching the assessment of children's services, Ofsted has taken account of all inspected and regulated services for children and young people, arrangements for making sure children are safe and stay safe and performance against national measures. More weight has been given to the outcomes of Ofsted's inspections and regulatory visits (Blocks A and B in the performance profile).

The annual assessment derives from a four point scale:

4	Performs excellently	An organisation that significantly exceeds minimum requirements
3	Performs well	An organisation that exceeds minimum requirements
2	Performs adequately	An organisation that meets only minimum requirements
1	Performs poorly	An organisation that does not meet minimum requirements

Within each level there will be differing standards of provision. For example, an assessment of 'performs excellently' does not mean all aspects of provision are perfect. Similarly, an assessment of 'performs poorly' does not mean there are no adequate or even good aspects. As in 2009, while the performance profile remains central to Ofsted's assessment, meeting or not meeting the minimum requirements alone does not define the grade. The assessment has involved the application of inspector judgement."

5. THE JUDGEMENT: KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 Members will see that the Ofsted judgement is that Peterborough's children's services are deemed to be performing poorly. This is very disappointing as there is much to celebrate in the performance of Peterborough's Children's Services this year:
 - In March our services for Children in Care were rated as 'good' for the first time ever.
 - Peterborough's Youth Offending Services have been judged by inspectors as performing well.
 - Peterborough has an increasing number of 'outstanding' services: 28 in total there are now ten schools, six childminders, three providers of childcare, six nursery and early years settings, one independent special school, one secondary special sixth form and one children's home rated as 'outstanding'.
 - In total, there are over 280 services and settings rated by Ofsted as 'Good' or better (c.64% of all settings).
 - The quality of the work in our schools can be evidenced by Peterborough's best ever GCSE results – 72.4% of Peterborough's pupils achieved 5 or more A*-C grades – an increase of 9.8% and 46% achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including English and Maths.

The Ofsted Annual Assessment letter also highlighted good practice in the following areas:

- 'Local arrangements to encourage children and young people to live healthy lives are almost always successful. Nearly all childminders, schools and children's homes are good at this.' (p3)
- 'There are good approaches to promoting community relationships and strengths in the arrangements for tackling bullying in schools and the wider community.' (p3)
- 'Increasing numbers of childcarers, nursery and secondary schools and colleges are good at helping children and young people to do well and enjoy their learning. Levels of attainment are rising quickly for five and seven year olds.' (p3)
- 'Good local initiatives provide opportunities for young people to become involved in volunteering and the number of young people engaging in positive activities is greater than elsewhere.' (p4)

Despite all this excellent work, due to the inadequate judgement received for the inspection of safeguarding in March, relating principally to the contact, referral and assessment service, Ofsted's overall grading for Peterborough is 'performs poorly'. This is a limiting judgement from Ofsted, so we can receive no other grade under their methodology.

Ofsted have also identified other areas for local improvement:

- Continue to increase the number of young people at the age of 11 who achieve the nationally expected level in both English and mathematics
- Continue to raise the attainment of 16 year-olds

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The implications for children's services and the staff who work for children in the city are great indeed. Despite the improvements made (as detailed above) and despite the fact that 64% of our schools and settings are good or better and real progress has been made in improving outcomes this is not recognised in the assessment score. It can be upsetting and demoralising for staff many of whom go the extra mile to ensure good service delivery.

We do not believe that the outcome of a single inspection should overshadow the hard work and excellent progress the vast majority of our services have made, and have unsuccessfully appealed to Ofsted to provide a judgement that is more reflective of local services and outcomes for children and young people. This was not upheld.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 N/a

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 As this assessment of "performing poorly" relates primarily to the inadequate safeguarding judgement back in March 2010, we will continue to ensure that the issues from the inspection are being tackled through the Safeguarding and Children in Care Project Management Board (see sister report on this scrutiny agenda)

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

9.1 N/a

10. APPENDICES

10.1 OfSTED Annual Children's Services Assessment

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9 December 2010

Mr John Richards
Director of Children's Services
Peterborough City Council
Floor 2 Bayard Place
Broadway, Peterborough
Cambridgeshire PE1 1FB

Dear Mr Richards

Annual children's services assessment

Ofsted guidance published in July 2010 explains that the annual assessment of children's services is derived from the performance profile of the quality of services and outcomes for children and young people in each local area. This performance profile includes findings from across Ofsted's inspection and regulation of services and settings for which the local authority has strategic or operational responsibilities, either alone or in partnership with others, together with data from the relevant indicators in the National Indicator Set (NIS).

In reaching the assessment of children's services, Ofsted has taken account of all inspected and regulated services for children and young people, arrangements for making sure children are safe and stay safe and performance against national measures. More weight has been given to the outcomes of Ofsted's inspections and regulatory visits (Blocks A and B in the performance profile).

The annual assessment derives from a four point scale:

4	Performs excellently	An organisation that significantly exceeds minimum requirements
3	Performs well	An organisation that exceeds minimum requirements
2	Performs adequately	An organisation that meets only minimum requirements
1	Performs poorly	An organisation that does not meet minimum requirements

Within each level there will be differing standards of provision. For example, an assessment of 'performs excellently' does not mean all aspects of provision are perfect. Similarly, an assessment of 'performs poorly' does not mean there are no adequate or even good aspects. As in 2009, while the performance profile remains central to Ofsted's assessment, meeting or not meeting the minimum requirements alone does not define the grade. The assessment has involved the application of inspector judgement.





Peterborough City Council children's services assessment 2010

Children's services assessment Pe	Performs poorly (1)
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Children's services in Peterborough City Council perform poorly. The decline in performance since the 2009 assessment reflects an inadequate inspection judgment of local arrangements for safeguarding children and young people.

A recent full inspection of safeguarding arrangements reported that not all provision was good enough and as a result some children and young people were left at potential risk. However, the inspection noted that many services were doing the right things and provision for children looked after by the local authority was good.

In the last year there has been an increase in good early years and childcare providers. There is no inadequate primary or secondary school provision and more schools in the last year have been judged to be outstanding in both phases. Three of the 11 schools for secondary age pupils are good and three outstanding. Just over a half of post-16 provision is good or better. Although there are now no inadequate primary schools, which is an improvement on 2009, the number judged to be good or better has reduced slightly over the last year. One inadequate special school is not improving quickly enough. However, the majority of settings for children whose circumstances make them more vulnerable are better. For example all local authority children's homes are good, as are three of the four special schools and the pupil referral unit. The local fostering and adoption agencies are adequate.

National performance measures show almost all outcomes are in line with or above national averages or similar areas. There have been good improvements in the time taken to complete initial and core assessments. Almost all children make the expected progress as they move through primary school. However, although improving over time results in national tests continue to be below average for 11-year-olds with fewer attaining the expected level in both English and mathematics. Attainment continues to be below average for 16-year-olds but there has been good improvement in young people achieving five A* to C grades in GCSE examinations including English and mathematics. Overtime more 19-year-olds are gaining higher qualifications although most recent results have stalled. The number of 16- to 18-year-olds not in education, employment or training is high.

Key areas for further development

- Improve the overall effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements.
- Continue to increase the number of young people at the age of 11 who achieve the nationally expected level in both English and mathematics.
- Continue to raise attainment of 16-year-olds



Outcomes for children and young people

Local arrangements to encourage children and young people to live healthy lives are almost always successful. Nearly all childminders, schools and children's homes are good at this. Local services are effective in supporting parents' understanding of healthy lifestyles and there has been a reduction in the number of five-year-olds who are too overweight. However, targets set to reduce obesity in 11-year-olds have not been met. Improvements to services designed to promote sexual health are having a positive impact with good rates of screening for chlamydia, although the numbers of teenage mothers are not reducing as fast as elsewhere. Health provision for children looked after by the local authority is good. Other improvements include higher numbers of mothers who are breast-feeding and more children taking part in the recommended amount of physical education and sport. Fewer 16-year-olds report that they have recently been drunk or taken drugs than elsewhere, a reduction on previous years.

Inspection by Ofsted identified potential risks to some vulnerable children caused by delays in assessments, a shortage of social workers and inconsistency in the way records are kept. However, good practice was also reported, such as the way agencies work in partnership to support families to stay together. Most recent data reflects improvement in the number of core assessments completed within expected timescales and fewer children needing a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time. The services for children looked after by the local authority are good and they are helped to do well. Ofsted inspection reports show the arrangements for keeping children and young people safe in children's centres, nurseries, schools, colleges and children's homes are almost always good. There are good approaches to promoting community relationships and strengths in the arrangements for tackling bullying in schools and the wider community. But, hospital admissions due to accidental or non-accidental injury are high.

Increasing numbers of childcarers, nursery and secondary schools and colleges are good at helping children and young people to do well and enjoy their learning. Levels of attainment are rising quickly for five- and seven-year-olds. Primary schools are good at helping almost all children make the progress they should between the age of seven and 11, although they still do not do as well in national tests as elsewhere. Although more children achieved the expected level in either English or mathematics fewer achieved this for both subjects in the 2010 tests. Standards have risen in secondary schools and 2010 results for 16-year-olds demonstrate good improvement in the numbers achieving five or more higher grade GCSEs. Those with special educational needs do better than their peers elsewhere. Behaviour is good in most secondary schools but permanent exclusions are increasing and higher than national figures. However, the number of secondary age pupils who are often absent from school is lower than in similar areas.

Successful arrangements for involving children and young people in planning and reviewing local services have been in place for a long time. Almost all schools and other settings are good at involving young people in decision-making and activity in their communities. Good local initiatives provide opportunities for young people to



become involved in volunteering and the number of young people engaging in positive activities is greater than elsewhere. Local targets for improvement in this area have been exceeded. A local priority focuses on reducing numbers of young people in crime and anti-social behaviour. The rates for re-offending are falling and are lower than found nationally. Although still high, over time the amount of first-time offending is also reducing.

The local authority knows that not all schools are effective in ensuring young people achieve good qualifications by the age of 19. Only just over a half of secondary schools are good in this area and there are more young people not in education, employment or training than elsewhere. This is a key priority for improvement and ambitious targets have been set to ensure all 17-year-olds access education or training by 2013. A recently launched 14-19 Education Plan is designed to address issues in this area. Over time more 19-year-olds are gaining good qualifications but this improvement has been at a slower rate than nationally so young people in Peterborough do not do quite as well as their peers elsewhere. However, the gap between those from low-income families and their peers is not as wide as in similar areas. Local action has been successful in ensuring almost all care leavers and young offenders have decent homes. However, only a half of care leavers are involved in education, training or employment.

Prospects for improvement

Most outcomes for children and young people are improving in Peterborough although not always as quickly as found elsewhere. An inspection by Ofsted in March 2010 identified that the overall effectiveness of local safeguarding services was inadequate. Although many aspects of provision were reported to be good or improving, important historical weaknesses in the referral and assessment service had left a significant number of cases unallocated putting vulnerable children at potential risk of harm. The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board had been insufficiently rigorous in ensuring that actions from serious case reviews were implemented. These serious weaknesses were being addressed by the robust action taken by the Director of Children's Services. Strengths in the leadership and management in other areas such as preventative services and provision for looked after children were also reported. Ofsted monitoring visits shows the local authority is highly effective in helping weaker schools improve. However more needs to be done to raise educational standards further. The review of the Children and Young People's Plan demonstrates the local authority and partners have a good understanding of local strengths and weaknesses. Although the review is not fully evaluative in explaining the impact of actions on outcomes for children and young people it clearly lists the actions to be taken during the next year to achieve further improvements. This includes the introduction of integrated, locality working. Other local plans, informed by inspection and very good analysis of performance data are driving further improvements. Strong ambition, tackling the right priorities and good partnership working is demonstrated through improved health outcomes, multiagency working in addressing anti-social behaviour and the development of a Child Poverty Strategy.



This children's services assessment is provided in accordance with section 138 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

Yours sincerely

Juliet Winstanley

Divisional Manager, Children's Services Assessment

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 7
24 JANUARY 2011	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director for Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) - John Richards

Contact Details - john.richards@peterborough.gov.uk

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILDREN IN CARE – PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CHILDREN'S SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To update scrutiny about the progress that is being made in addressing the recommendations made by Ofsted in their recent inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care services

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 To scrutinise and comment on the progress and impact that the Children's Trust has made in addressing the recommendations made by Ofsted in their recent inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care services

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

3.1 Safeguarding and outcomes for children in care are key issues included within Peterborough's Local Area Agreement. In particular, the national indicators relating to initial and core assessments are key indicators within the LAA.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 In response to the findings of the Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care services, a Post Inspection Project Management Board has been established and meets monthly. The Board is chaired by the Chief Executive of Peterborough City Council and includes member representation from the Cabinet Members for Children's Services, and Education, Skills and University.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 The update report for the Project Management Board meeting on 13 December 2010 is attached for member's information.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 N/a

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 The Post Inspection Project Management Board will continue to monitor the implementation of the development plan. It is recommended that Scrutiny continue their monitoring of this item.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1 N/a

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Safeguarding and Children in Care Project Management Board – Update Report

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APPENDIX 1

Appendix: Peterborough Children's Trust

Children's Trust Safeguarding and Children in Care Development Plan

Update Report

December 2010

Stephen Sutherland Head of Partnerships, Strategy and Planning



Introduction

This report provides an update on progress achieved in delivering the Safeguarding and Children in Care Development Plan (which incorporated the recommendations identified by Ofsted following their inspection in March 2010).

The plan is structured in the following way:

- Section 1 Summary of progress in addressing key performance targets
- Section 2 Summary of progress in addressing key areas of improvement
- Section 3 Additional areas of planned improvement activity
- Section 4 Glossary



Section 1: Performance Summary

This section provides an overview of performance since April 2010 in areas of key performance identified within Peterborough's Notice to Improve.

1. Initial Assessments Within Timescale

The notice to improve target is to achieve 70% of IAs within timescale in December 2010 and 75% in timescale cumulative between 1 July 2010 and 31 March 2011.

	2010/11 (Cumulative) 2010/11 (Monthly)						
Month	Cumulative Completed	Cumulative Completed within time	Cumulative Year to Date %	Monthly Completed	Monthly Completed within time	Monthly %	Cumulative from 1 July 2010
Apr	124	57	45.9%	124	57	45.9%	
May	234	126	53.8%	110	69	64.0%	
Jun	470	239	50.8%	236	113	48.1%	
Jul	566	329	58.1%	96	90	93.7%	93.75%
Aug	642	392	61.0%	76	63	84.0%	88.95%
Sep	734	478	65.1%	92	86	93.3%	90.53%
Oct	827	551	66.6%	93	73	79.3%	87.39%
Nov	964	666	69.0%	137	115	83.9%	86.43%
Dec							
Jan							
Feb							
Mar							

Comments: This indictor is monitored daily by Team Managers and Service Managers and scrutinised each week at the weekly Metrics Meeting. To ensure that this indicator remains on target and all Initial Assessments are allocated in a timely way, this level of scrutiny will continue. A successful policy of allocating all referrals by the end of each working day has helped improve timeliness. There has been a slight dip in performance reflecting a period of extended leave (six weeks) for a team manager and a period of absence for a service manager. However, action is being taken to restore performance to previous levels.



2. Core Assessments Within Timescale

The notice to improve target is to achieve 75% of CAs within timescale in December 2010 and 80% in timescale cumulative between 1 July 2010 and 31 March 2011.

	2010/11 (Cumulative) 2010/11 (Monthly)						
Month	Cumulative Completed	Cumulative Completed within time	Cumulative Year to Date %	Monthly Completed	Monthly Completed within time	Monthly %	Cumulative from 1 July 2010
Apr	28	24	85.7%	28	24	85.7%	
May	56	46	71.1%	28	22	75.0%	
Jun	195	107	35.1%	139	61	40.3%	
Jul	234	145	60.0%	39	38	100.0%	97.43%
Aug	281	188	63.2%	47	43	86.8%	91.48%
Sep	330	230	68.2%	49	42	82.5%	91.11%
Oct	348	243	69.8%	18	13	72.2%	88.88%
Nov	380	264	69.5%	32	21	65.6%	84.86%
Dec							
Jan							
Feb							
Mar							

Comments: As with Initial Assessments, Core Assessments all monitored daily by Team Managers and Service Managers and at the weekly Metrics Meeting. The recent dip in performance in this area has been addressed with staff and managers to ensure that this indicator remains on target. Team Managers are covering other Manager's leave.



3. % Referrals of Children to Children's Social Care going on to Initial Assessment

The notice to improve target is to ensure that the percentage of Referrals going on to IAs does not drop below 50% between July 2010 and March 2011.

_	2010/11 (Cumulative)			2	.010/11 (Monthly)	
Month	Referrals started (cumulative)	IAs completed (cumulative)	% (cumulative)	Referrals started (month)	IAs completed (month)	% (month)
Apr	180	122	67.8%	180	122	67.8%
May	326	226	69.3%	146	104	71.2%
Jun	489	346	70.8%	163	120	73.6%
Jul	621	443	71.3%	132	97	73.5%
Aug	732	517	70.6%	111	74	66.7%
Sep	840	606	72.1%	108	89	82.4%
Oct	961	704	73.3%	121	98	81.0%
Nov	1137	846	74.4%	176	142	80.7%
Dec						
Jan						
Feb						
Mar						

Comment: Work undertaken to ensure effective differentiation of contacts and referrals has improved performance in this area. The achievement against target is reviewed on a weekly basis at Metrics Meeting. Referral takers have been given additional training and guidance to ensure that referrals are appropriate and sufficiently detailed.



4. Social Worker Caseloads (R&A)

The notice to improve target is to ensure that no social workers have case loads exceeding 30 by December 2010, and that no social workers have caseloads exceeding 25 by March 2011.

Month	No. SW exceeding target	Average (Mean) case load	Target Maximum
Apr			
May			
Jun			
Jul	2	22	30
Aug	2	22	30
Sep	3	21	30
Oct	2	26	30
Nov	1	19	30
Dec			30
Jan			25
Feb			25
Mar			25

Comments: This target will be achieved in the timescale set. As of the end of November, one worker currently has a caseload of more than 30 cases and a plan is in place to reduce this by 10 December. Management action has been taken to ensure case loads are manageable and that completed cases are closed in a timely manner. Given the necessary focus upon ensuring the backlog was cleared and in continuing to meet assessment timescales, it was necessary to manage the three individual's case loads separately to ensure delivery is maintained.



5. Social Care Vacancy Rate

The notice to improve target is to ensure that the social care vacancy rate does not exceed 8% by March 2011

Month	Establishment FTE	FTE Vacancies	SW Vacancy Rate	SW Vacancy Rate (incl agency)	Target Maximum
Jun	76.8	16	21%	12%	8%
Jul	76.8	16	21%	13%	8%
Aug	79.3	15	19%	3%	8%
Sep	79.3	15	19%	2%	8%
Oct	77.8	14	18%	2%	8%
Nov	78.3	13.5	17%	0%	8%
Dec					8%
Jan					8%
Feb					8%
Mar					8%

Comment: Concerted recruitment and retention work has ensured that vacancy rates have reduced whilst the establishment has increased. Eleven new social workers have been recruited since March 2010. In addition, Peterborough have four final year bursary students as well as three final year trainees due to join in June 2011. There are currently 78.5 FTE social workers working within social care, compared to 69.9 FTE in March 2010. Work is ongoing to recruit to vacancies. Scoping work has began to examine the possibility of appointing social workers from Eastern European backgrounds to reflect the changing population within Peterborough.

Recent recruitment activity has resulted in 4.5FTE social worker appointments. It is anticipated that staff will begin to take up post in the New Year. This will further reduce vacancy rates.

There are currently two team manager positions vacant within Children's Social Care (out of an establishment of 17). This is a reduction from four posts in March 2010. These posts are being held vacant pending a future restructure – however, all necessary posts are being covered. One of these vacant posts is being used to add capacity across the department, including a peer team manager role which is providing support to new team managers (see page 14).

The agency workforce is stable. Of the 14 agency staff within Children's Social Care, five have been in post over six months, with a further six in post over three months. Within referral and assessment, four agency staff have been in post over six months, with one agency member of staff in post over three months.

 $\frac{8}{2}$



Section 2 – Progress in Addressing Areas of Key Improvement



Safeguarding

Objective 1.1 – Ensure effective capacity and quality practice within referral and assessment to deliver effective safeguarding

NOTE: This objective met the following Ofsted recommendations:

- Improve the quality and timeliness of assessments ensuring they robustly and accurately identify risk and protective factors and identify the individual needs of children and young people
- Ensure that Section 47 investigations and enquiries are timely and include evidence of historical concerns and a clear record of the strategy discussions

Actions Completed

- > Increased capacity within Referral and Assessment:
 - o Interim R&A management team has been replaced with substantive experienced service and team managers (completed August 2010)
 - o Compliment of senior practitioners increased in order to enhance practitioner capacity (completed February 2010)
 - o Additional business support capacity in place (completed January 2010)
- > An experienced Senior Practitioner has been moved into the R&A service to increase the pool of experienced workers in the team.
- > Reviewed and consolidated staffing arrangements through rolling programme of recruitment of social worker and team managers (additional social workers and team managers appointed in April 2010 and August 2010)
- > Referral takers have been given guidance sheets to further assist with referrals taken
- Review of case load capacity undertaken with actions put in place to reduce individual case loads (completed July 2010)
- A programme of audits has been put in place to ensure quality and timeliness. Senior staff from across Children's Social Care and partners have been trained in the QA process, including all Team managers, staff from the PSCB and the Director of Children's Services. A rolling audit timetable is in place, with audits of Initial Assessments (June), first review CP Conferences (June), second and subsequent CP Conferences (August) and Core Groups and CPP (August) completed. Audits are examined by SCMT and the PSCB assurance group.
 - o Rolling programme of audits of assessments undertaken
 - An audit of S47 investigations was completed in May 2010
 - Programme of team audit training undertaken (completed July 2010)
 - See separate QA Audit Summary Report for full details of completed audits.
- Key performance indicators monitored at enhanced metrics meeting.
- The number of open referrals has reduced from 560 in mid July to a consistent rate of c.360 between August and November.
- Multi-agency meeting held by PSCB to review progress in managing social care front door (December 2010)



Current Position

The capacity and management within Referral and Assessment has been strengthened, ensuring more effective management control of the referral process. Improvements have been made in the quality of referral taking and in the ability to distinguish between contacts and referrals. Morale and pride within the Referral and Assessment team has noticeably improved. These improvements have led to marked improvements in the timeliness of Initial Assessments. There has also been a concurrent improvement in Initial Assessment quality, with learning from the Audit process being fed into improved action. In particular, training team members in auditing has led to a greater understanding of what is required to deliver high-quality Initial Assessments. The challenge is now about sustainability – ensuring that the timeliness and quality remains consistently high. Close scrutiny and monitoring is central to this.

There has been positive feedback from partners at the PSCB multi-agency review meeting regarding the level and access of referral and assessment services. There was a common agreement regarding the progress needed for the future embedding of the CAF as the common front door assessment process.

A plan is being implemented to deliver a dedicated call centre approach for children's services. Work is currently underway examining the staff transfer process, with the expectation of a move to new arrangements early in the new year.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion
				Date
A1.1.1	Ongoing monitoring and scrutiny of initial assessment metrics	AG	Ongoing monitoring through weekly metrics meetings.	Ongoing
A1.2.1	Implementation of improvement actions arising out of Audits	AG	Ongoing monitoring of audit actions in line with audit reporting process	Ongoing
A1.3.1	Develop a dedicated 'Call Centre' approach for children's services enquiries	AB	Implementation of project plan	Ongoing
			Transfer of posts to Call Centre	Feb 2011



Objective 1.2 – Ensure partnership arrangements are effective in safeguarding children and young people

NOTE: This objective met the following recommendations:

- **Improvement Notice Action and Ofsted Recommendation:** Ensure that all partners use effectively the escalation policy where referrals are not responded to appropriately.
- **IST Recommendation:** That the Director for Children's Services urgently considers establishing a telephone line for health professionals to access social care assessment staff, and before a 'call centre' approach to referrals is adopted that some research is undertaken to assess how well such arrangements are working elsewhere in the East of England.
- **IST Recommendation:** That priority is given by the LSCB Policy sub-group to produce a single agency referral form.
- **Improvement Notice Action and Ofsted Recommendation:** Ensure that the PSCB effectively and rigorously monitors safeguarding and child protection and holds agencies to account to ensure actions are followed through, including actions from serious case reviews.
- **IST Recommendation:** That the Ofsted/CQC recommendations relating to LSCB assurance are implemented as soon as is practicably possible.

Actions Completed

- A dedicated schools line has been in place and was communicated to schools (November 2009). In addition to the dedicated schools line, each secondary school now has a named CSC Team Manager liaison. The link team manager will attend a meeting each term.
- > The escalation policy was re-drafted and signed off by the PSCB. It has been communicated widely to partners and it is being included within all single and joint agency safeguarding training. The policy is being used where appropriate.
- Processes to ensure much more robust monitoring of SCR action plans are in place, including a requirement to submit evidence of completed actions and a new standing agenda item to highlight any issues for the board in order that appropriate action can be taken. All SCR Action Plans have been scrutinised and outstanding actions completed. Partners have provided the PSCB with details of their own infrastructures / processes that are in place to monitor SCR actions within their own agencies. The PSCB has a standing agenda item for agencies to highlight any issues. A new performance framework is in place utilising the partnership 'Performance Dashboard' approach.
- > The PCSB reviews quarterly reports in respect of child protection confirming activity and the PSCB QA Group scrutinises relevant safeguarding data, reporting to the PSCB through the Chairs Group.
- Work has started on the development of a citywide safeguarding strategy, led jointly by the Children's Trust and the Safeguarding Children Board. A joint PSCB/CTPB workshop has been held in September to develop the strategy.
- > A memorandum of agreement has been agreed between the CTPB and the PSCB
- > The Single Agency Referral Form and its connections with the CAF and children's social care processes has been reviewed through the recent PSCB multi-agency review meeting. Agreement was reached that the SARF should continue to be used by those agencies who find it useful, but the need for early consultation and discussion with Children's Social Care was clarified. The use of the SARF will continue to be reviewed as part of the move to fully integrated locality delivery.

Current Position

Partnership safeguarding arrangements have been strongly strengthened with a robust approach to Serious Case Review action plans implemented and strengthened performance management arrangements in place. The Escalation Policy has been widely cascaded and is in use.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion Date
A1.2.1	Development of citywide Safeguarding Strategy	JJ	Strategy out for consultation	January 2011



Objective 1.3 – Ensure there are effective systems in place to support safeguarding practice

NOTE: This objective met the following Improvement Notice and Ofsted recommendation:

- Ensure that there is a single record for each child which contains a complete chronology

Actions Completed

- DLT signed off business case for new ICMS. Purchase of a new server infrastructure to improve stability and availability of system complete, delivered and installed (May). Pre-tender activity, including pre-procurement, internal due diligence, stakeholder engagement, soft market testing, commercial base-lining and production of procurement documents complete (August 2010). DfE Gateway Review revealed no concerns about project, highlighting the strength of the process to date.
- > Tender phase has been completed, with exchange of contracts expected in December 2010.
- Management instructions issued at 3Ms meeting (February 2010) regarding completion of chronologies. Guidance about completion of chronologies re-issued to social workers (June 2010). Team managers begun regular audit of files at transfer/closure point (from Feb 2010).
- > Audit programme in place (see separate report), which includes analysis of completion of chronologies.

Current Position

Significant and rapid progress has been made in the delivery of a new ICMS system for Peterborough, with the DfE Gateway Review praising the progress. A preferred provided has been identified (subject to the usual legal / procurement processes). In the meantime, processes have been put in place to ensure that recording is effective and appropriate.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion Date
1.3.4	Continue through procurement process and implement	EA/ SB/ MB	 Implementation and Roll-out Staff Roll out of implementation and transition plan training and support BPR and change management where required Contract management and performance monitoring Reporting on progress against targets Communication with all staff 	Start December 2010 and will probably continue through to June 2011



Objective 1.4 – Ensure effective supervision and management of social workers

NOTE: This objective met the following Ofsted recommendation:

- Ensure that staff receive regular reflective and outcome focused supervision in line with policy requirements and that supervision on individual cases is recorded on the electronic recording system.

Actions Completed

- The Children's Services supervision policy has been reviewed and was signed off by DLT (21 April). It was presented to SCMT in May 2010. Following this, work is underway to review and update the Children's Social Care supervision policy.
- A multi-agency supervision audit was completed by the PSCB in June 2010, including a checking of the electronic recording system. An internal Children's Social Care audit of supervision was undertaken in October/November 2010. See separate audit report for more information.
- A management develop programme has been developed, to be implemented from September 2010.
- > The new Personal Development Review has been rolled out across Children's Social Care and the wider council. Compliance is being monitored corporately.
- In order to provide more effective support to team managers, a new post has been identified to provide mentoring and support to newly appointed team managers across Children's Social Care. This post will, as part of their role, run a series of masterclasses in key areas, including adoption, care proceedings and assessments. A very experienced manager started work in October 2010.

Current Position

Significant investment has been made in securing effective management and supervision arrangements. Further work is planned, in particular with newly appointed team managers.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion
				Date
1.4.3	Management development programme to build on existing	AG/	Delivery of Management Development Programme	January 2011
	training delivery.	GM		
A1.4.1	Complete review / update of CSC Supervision Policy	LC	CSC supervision policy reviewed and signed off	January 2011



Objective 1.5 – Ensure the delivery of effective performance management and quality assurance across the Children's Trust

NOTE: This objective met the following recommendations:

- **Improvement Notice Action and Ofsted Recommendation:** Ensure the quality of social work responsiveness, assessment and case planning through effective and systematic audit, performance monitoring and evaluation
- **CQC and Ofsted Recommendation:** Ensure that action plans are put in place to address practice deficits identified in audits and that progress on these action plans is monitored robustly
- **IST Recommendation:** We suggest that future safeguarding reports to Boards across the Peterborough health economy highlight the possible consequences of having to make some very uncomfortable decisions concerning cutting expenditure and reducing services for whole systems safeguarding, for children who may be at risk of significant harm and children in need.
- **Improvement Notice Action and CQC and Ofsted Recommendation:** Ensure systematic evaluation of projects and initiatives, including the CAF, and that this informs service development.

Actions Completed

- As outlined above, the revised audit programme is in place, and a rolling programme of audits is being delivered. See separate report for details of audit programme.
- > Divisional performance management arrangements have been strengthened through, for example, the implementation of weekly metrics meetings and a monthly overview of performance across social care using the Green Book.
- > A new performance dashboard has been launched at DLT (May 2010), allowing for a close focus on social care performance at DLT.
- Arrangements for monitoring, scrutinising and reviewing audits has been implemented (incorporating PSCB QA group, SCMT and 3Ms meetings).
- Safeguarding children reports are now being presented to NHS Peterborough Board quarterly (from 7 July). The content of the quarterly report has been strengthened to include standing items such as training data, national developments and learning from local and national SCRs. In addition, any issues around funding and service delivery will be highlighted as appropriate.
- > The designated nurse for safeguarding children has secured membership on the NHS Peterborough Quality Group.
- Work has been undertaken to strengthen commissioning monitoring arrangements for child health and safeguarding within NHS Peterborough. Safeguarding Champions have been identified for each of the interim NHSP Delivery Boards (August 2010). Champions will ensure safeguarding standards are referenced within contracts/SLAs and that providers are routinely monitored for ongoing compliance.
- Work is ongoing to develop a framework for the evaluation of projects, linked to the strengthening of project management arrangements within Children's Services. A scoping exercise relating to the development of a project office was completed, but further work on this area is required. A training plan to support staff to identify, initiate and manage projects, including benefits realisation has been developed, and is being implemented through the Project Management Office (PMO). All CS project requires are required to come through the PMO for validation prior



to commencement, so they can be rigorously assessed. Project management capacity has been secured within the project and programmes team.

- > A PRINCE II methodology for benefits realisation (including measuring outcomes) has been implemented through the Verto programme management system.
- Commissioning monitoring arrangements have been strengthened, with the development of a new suite of contracts including new monitoring clauses, meaning contractors are obliged to return monitoring information (April 2010). CAF information has been incorporated into commissioning monitoring information (June 2010). Contract workbooks have been developed and are being rolled out across Children's Services.
- > A Children's Services contracts register has been established, is live and is being utilised. This will ensure that commissioned services deliver the required impact on outcomes.
- A CAF QA process has been developed, with QA documentation being delivered to practitioners and managers through training. CAF QA evaluations are being undertaken. A new system for recording CAF data has been implemented (September 2010). CAF co-ordinators are now attending team around the child meetings and will conduct QA on these processes using national tools.
- > CAF monitoring arrangements have been incorporated into all commissioning contracts and contract monitoring forms.

Current Position

The robustness of monitoring and evaluation has improved notably. In particular, high quality commissioning processes are ensuring that outcomes are being achieved by commissioned services. A project management approach has brought a rigor to the benefits realisation process for all Children's Services projects. Work has been completed to deliver QA of the CAF process, although further work is required to measure the impact of CAF interventions, particularly through consistent use of child and family feedback.

PCT - December 2010 update: A review of the larger contracts has confirmed that some safeguarding children standards are duly referenced, although these need to be strengthened in places. Due to organisational restructure, alternative approaches are being developed with contracts and governance colleagues to ensure this work can be progressed.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion Date
1.5.2	Deliver rolling programme of audits to ensure quality of social work outcomes: Including:		Ongoing to meet audit schedule (see separate Audit Report)	Ongoing



1.5.9	Ensure effective evaluation of the CAF	CAF Co- ordi nato rs	Develop and embed simplified CAF QA process to evaluate the impact on outcomes for children and young people and evaluate feedback on the impact from children, young people and their families.	March 2011
New 1.5.10	Strengthen commissioning monitoring arrangements for child health and safeguarding within NHS Peterborough.	PCT Lead	Explore opportunities to incorporate the agreed safeguarding children standards into existing contracts and monitoring frameworks	March 2010



Objective 1.6 - Ensure sufficient staffing capacity across social care

NOTE: This objective met the following Ofsted recommendation:

- Ensure that there are sufficient social workers and team managers within children's social care to enable manageable caseloads.

Actions Completed

- Rolling programme of recruitment and retention activity in place, including open recruitment, PQ training, creative advertising through careers fairs and NQSW support.
- A common induction process is now in place for new team and service managers within social care and Practice Support Managers are in place for Trainee Social Workers and Newly Qualified Social Workers. Social worker recruitment targets embedded within Children's Trust workforce reform strategy.
- As can be demonstrated through the reduction in vacancy rates, a programme of recruitment and retention activity has led to improved staffing levels within Children's Social Care.
- > Stable and effective agency staffing has been put in place to ensure key posts are appropriately covered.
- Recent recruitment activity has resulted in 4.5 social worker appointments. It is anticipated that staff will be in post in the New Year.
- A Children's Social Care Workforce Development Group has begun meeting to review succession planning arrangements, ensure the effective use of training and resources (including newly qualified early professional development and the post qualifying programme) and example mechanisms for strengthening recruitment (for example, examining the option of an assessment centre model).

Current Position

Significant work has been undertaken to improve social care capacity both through ensuring a reduction in vacancy rates and in ensuring that agency placements are stable and utilised effectively. However, this work requires a constant focus given the highly competitive social work market.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion Date
1.6.2	Undertake capacity analysis of Social Workers	JS/	Undertake capacity analysis	March 2011
	to plan recruitment and retention of sufficient	MB		
	numbers of Social Workers for 2010 – 2013		Undertake impact analysis of current Social Work	March 2011
			retention strategy	
			Undertake annual review of capacity of Social	Annually from April 2011
			Workers to ensure that three year plans of projections	
			for staffing account and is flexible to respond to	



			requirements resulting from national or local policy developments	
1.6.3	Introduce succession planning for management posts within Children's Social Care at team and service manager levels	JB	 Develop long term succession strategy: Undertake research and analysis of existing team and service managers and from exit interviews from those roles over past 24 months Develop plans for succession planning Cost and secure budget to fund implementation of plan DLT sign off Implementation of long term succession planning to key roles in Social Care 	Deadlines tbc following discussion at CS Social Care Workforce Development Group.

Objective 1.7 – Ensure that arrangements to identify, and support children affected by domestic violence are robust (including MAPPA arrangements)

Actions Completed

- A staff instruction has been issued that DV referrals are recorded on RAISE (March 2010), with DVs reviewed at weekly metrics meetings (from April 2010).
- Work has been undertaken to more effectively differentiate between a contact and referral within RAISE (August 2010)
- > A team manager with responsibility for attending MARAC has been identified
- Discussions have recently been held with Cambridgeshire Constabulary regarding improving the quality of Domestic Violence risk notifications and better targeting of Children's Social Care's response to them. We are currently engaging in looking at the potential for co-location of staff.
- > A Team Manager is part of a Cambridgeshire County Council police early intervention project for domestic violence.

Current Position

Children's Social Care are now effectively represented at each MARAC and MAPPA meeting, ensuring robust engagement with both arrangements.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion Date
A1.7.1	Examine options for integrated working	AB	As art of developing integrated locality working,	
			consider how to reduce	



Objective 1.8 - Ensure there is a robust and co-ordinated approach to identifying and supporting children missing from education

Actions Completed

- New procedures for children missing education have been developed and are being followed (July 2010).
- > All outstanding visits to potential CMEs have been made (August 2010).
- > CME figures are to be jointly monitored monthly by the service managers for attendance and admissions. The Choice Adviser is currently advising parents who have not been allocated the school of their choice to ensure child begins at a school at beginning of new school year.

Current Position

The CME post has become vacant in November 2010. Interim arrangements are in place, but DLT have requested that the CME process is fully reviewed to ensure that processes continue to be robust and fit for the future. Best practice advice is being sought, and an updating of the CME procedures will be completed, reflecting changes in, for example, local admission arrangements.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion Date
	Undertake a full review of CME procedures.	SS	Map CME processes and identify areas of strength and weakness Review best practice nationally Review CME post and recruit to a full time position Re-draft CME procedures Communicate revised procedures and responsibilities to partners. Ensure PSCB is effectively monitoring CME.	March 2011



Objective 1.9 - This objective was subsumed into other objectives.

Objective 1.10 - Ensure all commissioned and provided services meet appropriate national and PSCB standards for safeguarding children training.

NOTE: This objective met the following IST recommendation:

- The importance of safeguarding training, as well as keeping records of those who have undertaken such training, cannot be underestimated, and we would ask that when savings are looked for that this is taken into account.

Actions Completed

- > Audits completed (June) to ensure appropriate levels of safeguarding training for NHS Peterborough and PCS staff.
- > Ongoing compliance checks in place to ensure training levels maintained within NHSP and PCS
- > Audit of GP practices and primary care contractors undertaken to ensure appropriate levels of safeguarding training (July 2010).
- > Results from training audits will be reported to NHS Peterborough Board in October 2010.
- An assessment of the feasibility of centralising staff training data within NHS Peterborough has been undertaken. Although this is not currently possible, further options are being considered in light of the Transforming Community Services and PCT Turnaround programmes.

Current Position

• PCS and NHSP training compliance is subject to routine monitoring with NHSP Board receiving a status report in each of its quarterly updates. Further work is taking place to review compliance within PSHFT and CPFT.

Def	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion	Update Commentary –
Ref: New 1.10. 2a	Ensure all Board members and have received safeguarding children awareness training.		All members are to undertake a safeguarding children group development session in October 2010.	October 2010	December 2010 Board development session took place on 6 October. However, due to several changes to membership, an additional mop-up session will be considered for Q4.
1.10.3	Provide assurance to the NHSP Board and				Results from the training



PSCB on staff training across health services	Assurance to be provided in the second quarterly safeguarding children update to the NSP Board.	6 October 2010	audits have been reported at the October 2010 Board meeting.
	Subsequent assurance to be given to the PSCB.		



Children in Care

Objective 2.1 - Ensure Planning and Reviews for Children in Care and Care Leavers is Effective

NOTE: This objective met the following Ofsted recommendation:

- Ensure life story work is completed in a timely manner.
- Ensure pathway plans are specific in how young people will achieve their objectives
- Ensure children in care's Personal Education Plans are relevant and effective, with clear and appropriate objectives.

Actions Completed

- Faith in Families and St Francis were commissioned to undertake life story work (completed June 2010).
- > A rolling programme of 10 case tracking audits is being completed monthly to ensure life story work is completed to a high quality and in a timely manner
- Management instruction issued to ensure pathway plans are regularly discussed and evaluated as part of monthly supervision (April 2010).
- > A training day focussing on the quality of pathway plans was held on 23 June 2010.
- The Service Manager has commenced a monthly audit of pathway plans (4 per month, from April 2010) and provide feedback through supervision process. Service manager attended meeting with IRO to review quality of pathway plans (June 2010).
- > Social workers have been trained in life story work and this is now carried out in a more timely manner.
- > Managers sign off pathway plans when complete.
- > Pathway plans are regularly audited both by the managers and as part of the department audit process.
- New PEP documents and policy prepared, consulted upon and initiated (April 2010).
- > Training sessions held for DTCIC in Peterborough schools (Feb 2010) with catch up sessions held for advisory teachers (March 2010).
- > Foster carers training held (March 2010).
- > PEP Process guide issued to social work teams (1 July).
- > IROs examining quality of PEPs (from April 2010), along with advisory teachers (from April 2010).

Current Position

PEPs – new systems are in place and the first PEPs completed were used to test the ability of all to complete. The templates have been adapted and additional reinforcing training throughout November, has been completed with Designated Teachers who are central to reviewing PEP's. This additional work has meant that the interim review has been delayed



Social workers have received training on life story work and this is now being completed in a timely manner and to improved quality. Auditing is ensuring that standards are maintained.

Remaining / New Actions

PEPs - We will need to re assess the capability of any new information management systems to fully allow all partners to access the PEP templates

2.1.2	Offer social workers training in the completion story work	AG	Liaise with workforce development team to ensure training to social workers is available	October 2010
			Training delivered	January 2011
			Evaluation and Review of Training	March 2011
2.1.6	Independent audit of pathway plans as part of ongoing Care Planning audit programme		IRO's and QA co ordinator to feed back any issues with pathway plans to team manager	As required
			Children in Care in In-House Foster Placements	September 2010
			Care Planning Audit	December 2010
			Monthly case tracking by QA Co- ordinator	April 2010
2.1.8	Deliver a range of training to support the implementation of new PEP process	BR	Hold catch up sessions for foster carers – embedded within induction standards	As required – through induction process
2.1.10	Formal review of PEP's and PEP process	BR	BR to review, including examining reviews from IROs, sample review of PEPs, consultation with key	Oct 2010 (interim) April 2011



			stakeholders etc	
2.1.11	Work with new case management system specification to ensure it supports the	BR		Dec 2010
	recording of PEPs, production of templates etc.			



Objective 2.2 - Ensure that there is comprehensive Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service provision for looked after children and young people and that this provision and thresholds are known to professionals.

NOTE: This objective met the following CQC and Ofsted recommendation:

- Ensure that there is comprehensive Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service provision for looked after children and young people and that this provision and thresholds are known to professionals.

Actions Completed

Comprehensive CAMHS provision for children in care commissioned (7 May 2010), commencing on 28 May 2010. Early intervention and prevention service for children in care commissioned (1 June 2010). Quarterly monitoring being undertaken throughout lifetime of both contracts.

Current Position

• First quarter monitoring has been undertaken on the CAMHS provision for children in care and services are being provided on track. A psychologist and assistant have been recruited and took up their posts in September 2010. An extensive training programme is being delivered and the service is being widely promoted. Casework is being delivered.

Remaining / New Actions

None – this objective is complete.



Objective 2.3 - Ensure looked after children and young people are fully aware of the complaints procedure, how to access it and the availability of advocates should they require support

NOTE: This objective met the following Ofsted recommendation:

- Ensure looked after children and young people are fully aware of the complaints procedure, how to access it and the availability of advocates should they require support

Actions Completed

- > NYAS has run a training session for social workers re. advocacy services (26 April 2010).
- An ongoing programme of NYAS attending CSC team meetings has been put into place.
- Liaison made with residential establishments to ensure regular advocacy visits (May 2010). Management instruction issued to ensure supervising social workers are supplied with advocacy information, which is monitored through QA audits of fostering case files.

Current Position

NYAS representatives have attended team meetings and social workers encourage young people to take up advocacy.

NYAS regularly attend residential establishments to engage with young people and be accessible to them.

IRO's continue to confirm with young people that they are aware of the complaints process and encourage the use of advocacy.

Team managers have undergone mandatory training on complaints handling.

Corporate complaints now administer the complaints service. This should provide an accurate record of complaints and responses.

Ref:	Key Action	Lead	Milestones	Completion Date	Update Commentary – May 2010	RAG
2.3.3	Ensure IRO's continue to discuss complaints and advocacy with young people at all child care reviews		Undertake periodic review of CCR minutes to ensure complaints and advocacy discussed.	Ongoing		Green
2.3.5	Ensure that foster carers receive training in how to assist young people to make complaints		Through review of foster care training programme, ensure complaints training made available	July 2010	New manager in place to take this forward	Green
			New training commences	January 2011	New manager in place to take this forward	



		Conduct evaluation/review of training to ensure meets needs.	March 2011	New manager appointed to take this forward	
2.3.6	Children in care council to be consulted to ensure that information is young person friendly.	Produce new age appropriate information leaflets produced.	February 2011	Children in care council meeting regularly. On target to produce leaflet in timescale	Green
		Information leaflets given to all young people in care.	April 2011		
		Children in Care Council and workers assessing A to Z and other information given to CiC in LAC packs to ensure information			



SECTION 3 - GLOSSARY

3Ms / SCMMM Social Care Monthly Management Meeting

CA Core Assessments

CAA Comprehensive Area Assessment CAF Common Assessment Framework

CiC Children in Care

CME Children Missing from Education

CQC Care Quality Commission

CS Children's Services
CSC Children's Social Care

CTPB Children's Trust Partnership Board

CwD Children with Disabilities
DfE Department for Education

IA Initial Assessments
IN Improvement Notice

GO Government Office for the East of England PSCB Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board

PEP Personal Education Plan

QA Quality Assurance

R&A Referral and Assessments

SCMT Social Care Management Team

SCR Serious Case Review

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 8
24 JANUARY 2011	Public Report

Report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Report Author – John Richards Contact Details – 01733 863600

PORTFOLIO PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE

To provide Members with a progress report from the Children's services Portfolio Holder

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to scrutinise the progress made on the Cabinet Members' Portfolio by providing challenge where necessary and to suggest ideas and initiatives to support improvements in performance.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

One the priorities contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy is Creating Opportunities, Tackling Inequalities, which is within the remit of this Committee

4. BACKGROUND

The performance of Children's Social Care Services (CSC) is monitored through the Green Book, a monthly reporting process which tracks children's journeys through the children's services system. The report that follows should be read in conjunction with other reports on today's Scrutiny agenda, namely, the Ofsted Annual Assessment Report and the CTPB Post Inspection Action Plan. Issues covered in those reports are not repeated in this report.

Referrals

We have received 1064 referrals to CSC between April and November 2010. These range monthly from between 91 and 173 averaging 133. About 75% of referrals go on to be initial assessments. This is regarded as good performance when compared to national and statistical neighbour comparisons.

Child Protection

This year has seen an increase in Child Protection (CP) activity: so far, in response to child protection concerns, there have been 132 initial CP conferences held. This is about one third more than was projected at the beginning of the year. The numbers of children who have become the subject of a CP plan between April and November is 115 and those discontinuing is 99. As a result, the total number of children with a CP plan in November was 135. The proportion of CP plans to the population is hovering between national and statistical neighbour averages. Performance is deemed therefore to be good. 100% of CP reviews have been held in time.

Children in Care (CiC)

Between April and November 2010 a total of 86 children were admitted to the care of Children's Services. During the same period 84 children ceased to be in care. As a result, at the end of November there were 300 children in care. The numbers per month have fluctuated between a low of 297 and a high of 307. We still have considerably more CiC than do our statistical neighbours, but we have reduced the number from its all time high of 386 during 2008. The number of care proceedings started between April and November is 35 which is slightly above our projected target. When children are in care they have regular reviews: 274 reviews have been held between April and November 96.7% of which were in time. This is higher than both national and statistical neighbours' averages. 96% of children have participated in their reviews. 87% of CiC have had their teeth checked and had an annual health assessment in the last 12 months. This is above national average performance.

Children who leave care are expected to have Pathway Plans. Of the 149 young people in this category 147 have pathway plans. These are reviewed regularly and 94% of these have been reviewed on time. Given the volatility of some of the lives of care leavers this is good performance.

100% of care leavers aged 19 are judged to be living in suitable accommodation whereas only 63% are in education, training or employment. This is an area for development even though we perform above the national average.

Children with Disabilities

All children with disabilities who are aged 14 or over have a transition plan in place. This is essential if their transfer to adult services is to go smoothly.

Social Work Utilization

All children in care are allocated to a qualified Social Worker (QSW). This is our target and is above the national average (92%). 70% of children in need are also allocated to a QSW which is much higher than last year (year end figure 53%). 92.7% of children with a disability are allocated to a worker (101 out of 109). We would expect this to be 100% and have asked that this be addressed.

Adoption

So far in the year from April 2010, 20 children have been adopted 75% of which, were adopted within 12 months of their being placed for adoption. This percentage is slightly higher than the national and statistical neighbour average. The number of adoptions represents 8.1% of those children who have been in care in excess of 3 months. This equates to the national average and there are still 4 months of adoption activity to go to year end. This is excellent performance.

Placement of Children

Currently, 6.3% of CiC have experienced 3 or more placements in the last year. This is well below the national average of 11%. Stable placements lead to better outcomes for children. In addition, 71% of CiC aged under 16 who have been in care for at least 2.5 years have been in the same placement for the last 2 years or placed for adoption. This is above national average.

Foster Carers

There are currently 89 foster carers, 18 "family and friends" carers and 11 link carers. During the year to date there are 10 given referrals, 9 packs for fostering have been sent out, 8 initial visits have been undertaken, 5 foster carers are proceeding to the Skills to Foster course and 6 foster carers are subject to the completion of the necessary form F or have been presented to panel. This shows that the fostering service is making progress albeit at a rather slow pace.

Adoption Service

During the year to date 87 adoption enquiries have been made by people wishing to adopt. 34 of these have been closed. To date 12 adopters have been approved and 11 adopters have been matched with children. The adoption Service is due an Ofsted inspection in March 2011.

5. KEY ISSUES

The statistics provided in this report are not just figures on paper; they tell a story about children and young people and particularly they tell of the interaction between a department and some of the most vulnerable children in our society. They show that there is much more to Children's Services that has not been reported on as part of the Ofsted Annual Assessment. While we are not complacent with these results we are pleased with the story told and the difference made. We have a position of strength from which to build.

6 IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated that the Scrutiny Committee will comment on and make recommendations relating to the updates provided in this report in order that delivery potential is maximised for the benefit of children and families.

7 CONSULTATION

No consultation has taken place with regard to this report

8 EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND NEXT STEPS

Comments and recommendations made by Scrutiny Committee members will be considered as part of the ongoing development and delivery of children's services.

9 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

None

10. APPENDICES

None

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 9
24 JANUARY 2011	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) – Jonathan Lewis – Assistant Director (Resources, Commissioning and Performance)

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OPENING OF A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL - REEVES WAY PE1 5LQ

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the proposed approach to the opening of a new secondary school at Reeves Way PE1 5LQ on the site of the former Hereward Community College as a Free Schools.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Scrutiny committee is asked to note the process to be undertaken in order to reopen the school.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

3.1 The creation of a new secondary school at the Reeves Way site will contribute to the Council's achievement of at least three of its strategic priorities, namely; Creating Opportunities & Tackling Inequalities, Ensuring High Quality Opportunities for Learning and Ensuring Children are Safe and Delivering Substantial and Truly Sustainable Growth.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Local Authorities are under a **statutory duty** to ensure that there are sufficient school places in their area, promote high educational standards, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote the fulfilment of every child's educational potential. They **must** also ensure that there are sufficient schools in their area, promote diversity and increase parental choice.
- 4.2 Without increasing current capacity, year 7 pupils will exceed available places in 2015. Overall secondary forecasts show a total of 2568 11 year olds for that year. By 2015 there will be more children than available places. Most of Peterborough is divided into secondary school catchment areas. The exception is the central area where approximately 6.5 miles of the most densely populated part of the city has no designated catchment school. There are three schools in this area; The King's School and St John Fisher Catholic High School which are voluntary aided schools and select pupils on faith grounds; and Thomas Deacon Academy which uses a fair banding system, the nearest 33 pupils in each ability band then being offered places.
- 4.3 Peterborough City Council, in response to significant demographic changes to pupil numbers in the city and a subsequent growing shortage of secondary school places, is seeking to recommission the Reeves Way site (formally Hereward Community College) as an 11–18 school. The increase in pupil numbers in the city is as a result of the continued migration of families from the European Union, birth rate increases and planned development and growth in the city as a whole.

- 4.4 As part of the Secondary School Review process completed in 2007, schools at Hereward, John Mansfield and Deacons were closed and replaced with Thomas Deacon Academy. Part of the reasons for the reorganisation was both poor standards at Hereward (although standards had improved in the final years of the school) and the surplus of school places across the city. Since 2007, the demand for places has increased significantly.
- At the time of closure, the school was mothballed until being used by St John Fisher whilst rebuilding took place at its site. This was vacated in February 2009 and has remained unused since this time. It was proposed to redevelop the site but given the need for school places, the site was removed from the asset disposal list as part of the 2010/11 medium term financial plan. The main school building was built in the late 1960's and 4 further blocks have been developed since this time with the last being completed in the 1990's including a modern sports hall and gym extension. The most recently built accommodation is currently being used as a training and development centre for Children's Services. Overall the site is in reasonable condition although significant investment is required to create parity with other schools in the city. A full condition survey was undertaken in December. The school itself should be able to accommodate around 5 forms of entry i.e. 150 children in each year group with a sixth form of around 100 (a total of 850 children). The school has playing fields and a dated Astroturf pitch which is in need of replacement.
- 4.6 Given the demographic pressures and to allow for the school to grow over a period of time, it is proposed to re-open the site as a new school from September 2013.
- 4.7 Process for Reopening the School
- 4.8 In order to re-open the school and to pick up the issues around the former school (and its standards), a vision for the new school was developed. The vision for the new school is
 - Designated 11-18 school
 - Co-educational
 - Emphasis on community cohesion
 - Opens with a unique selling point
 - Has a specialism(s) linked to the unique selling point
 - Attracts learners from across the city
 - Is inclusive
 - Understands and responds to the needs of EAL learners (English as an additional language) and minority ethnic new arrivals
 - Has a strong community focus
 - Develops strong links with Peterborough Regional College and the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Centre
- 4.9 Since 2006, the Local Authority no longer is the provider of schools i.e. can no longer open community schools. It is now the commissioner of other providers to run schools. The process for establishing a new school is set out in The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA) and The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of School) (England) Regulations 2007. It requires local authorities who have identified a need for a new school, in specific circumstances, to invite proposals for the school and this process is generally referred to as a "competition". The process has just been undertaken in opening the new school in the Stanground South Development.
- 4.10 When identifying the requirement for a new school, the Local Authority needs to consider the outline specification for the school. Proposers are asked to respond to the outline specification (as outlined in 4.8) and the Local Authority then decides on the most appropriate proposer. This process takes around 8 months for start to completion and is hugely bureaucratic and expensive to administer.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 Free Schools
- 5.2 With the introduction of the coalition government, there has been a drive to establish schools free from local authority control. This has traditional been through establishing academies for failing schools, but a new route has now been developed Free Schools.
- 5.3 Free Schools are state funded schools which can be set up by a wide range of proposers including charities, universities, businesses, educational groups, academy sponsors, teachers and groups of parents in response to parental demand, to improve choice and drive up standards for all young people, regardless of their background. Free Schools will provide an inclusive education to young people of all abilities, from all backgrounds, and will be clearly accountable for the outcomes they deliver.
- 5.4 Free Schools have the same legal requirements as academies and enjoy the same flexibilities to help them deliver an excellent education and drive up standards in our schools across the country, particularly in disadvantaged areas. These freedoms include:
 - the ability to set their own pay and conditions for staff
 - greater control of their budget
 - freedom from following the National Curriculum
 - freedom to change the length of terms and school days
 - freedom from Local Authority control.

Like academies, they will be funded on a comparable basis to other state-funded schools and will not be profit making.

- 5.5 The Secretary of State will consider each proposal on its merits, and take into account all matters relevant to that proposal. Generally, he would expect that all proposals will comply with all aspects of the rigorous suitability and vetting tests throughout the application process, including due diligence and CRB checks and will reject any proposers who advocate violence, intolerance, hatred or whose ideology runs counter to the UK's democratic values.
- 5.6 In order to set up the school via this route, the Local Authority has been working with the Department for Education on looking at potential sponsors / proposers who would run the school, bringing with them successful models of education delivery. A shortlist of 5 organisations has been identified and it is proposed to hold an informal process to assess each organisation against the vision for the school outlined in 4.8. It is proposed the appointment process is completed in February 2011. The panel making the recommendation of final provider will consist of
 - Cllr John Holdich Lead Member
 - Allison Sunley Head of 8-19 Services
 - Mel Collins AD Learning and Skills / Gary Perkins Head of Schools
 - Jonathan Lewis AD Resources, Commissioning and Performance
 - Brian Howard Project Manager
 - Department for Education Representatives
 - Ward Members
 - A secondary head teacher

The final decision will be made by Cllr Holdich as part of his existing delegations.

- 5.7 The benefits of following the Free School approach are
 - The council is able to generate a shortlist of potential candidates with support the Department for Education suited to the needs of the school and its catchment.
 - Simplified and shortened process which will allow further time to develop the school site once the preferred education proposer is appointed.
 - There is capital funding available nationally to support the opening of Free Schools. This could be used to modernise the school site.

- 5.8 Once appointed, the Local Authority would seek to work in partnership with the new provider to set up a Free School via a 3 stage process
 - 1. **Proposal** this form outlines the aims and objectives of the new school, the main people and organisations involved in the project, evidence of parental demand (e.g. a petition) and possible premises that have been considered.
 - **2.** Full business case and plan Proposers will prepare a fully detailed business case and plan for the new school. This will need to include
 - a detailed statement of educational aims and curriculum
 - final details of the key people and organisations that will be involved in the running of the school
 - full evidence that there is demand for the school and that it will be financially viable over a minimum five-year period
 - evidence that the school will meet all required standards (including the Independent School Standards and the Admissions Code) and a commitment to conduct national tests where appropriate
 - details of proposed premises and a full business case for the public value of all start-up costs
 - financial projections for operating the school on an ongoing basis.
 - 3. **Pre-opening -** Proposers will sign a funding agreement contract with the Department to trigger the release of potential start-up funding. The school will need to set up new financial systems and contractual arrangements, completing registrations and ensuring that all Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks are carried out as necessary. The Department will support the school to ensure all legal documents are completed relating to governance, land transfer and company registration.

6. IMPLICATIONS

A capital sum was identified in the 2010/11 capital process to support the redevelopment of the school site. A full condition survey of the site has been undertaken and the detailed results are due at the end of January 2011. The budget will be finalised at this stage.

Legal support will be required to formalise the establishment of the Free School and to secure the use of the site for the Free School proposer.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 Local ward members (ie Cllrs Goldspink, Todd and Collins) have been invited onto the working group to develop the proposal. Cllr Holdich (Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University) is also part of the working group.

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 The results of the competitive process to appoint a provider will be shared at the next suitable opportunity at this panel.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1 None

10. APPENDICES

10.1 None

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 10
24 JANUARY 2011	Public Report

Report of the Solicitor to the Council

Report Author – Paulina Ford, Performance Scrutiny and Research Officer **Contact Details –** 01733 452508 or email paulina.ford@peterborough.gov.uk

FORWARD PLAN - 1 JANUARY TO 30 APRIL 2011

1. PURPOSE

1.1 This is a regular report to the Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Committee outlining the content of the Council's Forward Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee identifies any relevant items for inclusion within their work programme.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The latest version of the Forward Plan is attached at Appendix 1. The Plan contains those key decisions, which the Leader of the Council believes that the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Member(s) will be making over the next four months.
- 3.2 The information in the Forward Plan provides the Committee with the opportunity of considering whether it wishes to seek to influence any of these key decisions, or to request further information.
- 3.3 If the Committee wished to examine any of the key decisions, consideration would need to be given as to how this could be accommodated within the work programme.
- 3.4 A new version of the Forward Plan will be issued on 17 January and copies will be tabled at the meeting.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Details of any consultation on individual decisions are contained within the Forward Plan.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

None

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Forward Plan of Executive Decisions

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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S FORWARD PLAN 1 JANUARY 2011 TO 30 APRIL 2011

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS - 1 JANUARY 2011 TO 30 APRIL 2011



During the period from 1 January 2011 To 30 April 2011 Peterborough City Council's Executive intends to take 'key decisions' on the issues set out below. Key decisions relate to those executive decisions which are likely to result in the Council spending or saving money in excess of £500,000 and/or have a significant impact on two or more wards in Peterborough.

This Forward Plan should be seen as an outline of the proposed decisions and it will be updated on a monthly basis. The dates detailed within the Plan are subject to change and those items amended or identified for decision more than one month in advance will be carried over to forthcoming plans. Each new plan supersedes the previous plan. Any questions on specific issues included on the Plan should be included on the form which appears at the back of the Plan and submitted to Alex Daynes, Senior Governance Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 01733 452483). Alternatively, you can submit your views via e-mail to alexander.daynes@peterborough.gov.uk or by telephone on 01733 452447.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which these decisions will be discussed and the papers listed on the Plan can be viewed free of charge although there will be a postage and photocopying charge for any copies made. All decisions will be posted on the Council's website: www.peterborough.gov.uk. If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in this Plan, please submit them to the Governance Support Officer using the form attached. For your information, the contact details for the Council's various service departments are incorporated within this plan.

NEW ITEMS THIS MONTH:

Interpretation & Translation Services - KEY/03JAN/11

Peterborough Local Investment Plan - KEY/01FEB/11

Affordable Housing: Revised Council Policy for Awarding Grants - KEY/02FEB/11

Supply of Utility in respect of Electricity, Gas and Oil to Council Owned properties managed by Strategic Property Unit - KEY03/FEB/11

Local Transport Plan Capital Programme of Works 2011/12 - KEY/01MAR/11

Supply of Temporary Agency Workers - KEY02/MAR/11

Bayard Place - replacement of air-conditioning system (legislative works) - KEY/03MAR/11

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JANUARY

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DATE OF DECISION	DECISION MAKER	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	REPORTS
Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of Coneygree Lodge, Coneygree Road - KEY/01NOV/10 To authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, Executive Director – Strategic Resources, the Corporate Property Officer and the Cabinet Member Resources, to negotiate and conclude the sale of Coneygree Lodge at Coneygree Road.	January 2010	Cabinet Member for Resources	Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Consultation will take place with the Cabinet Member, Ward councillors, relevant internal departments & external stakeholders as appropriate	Alastair Smith Temp Capital Projects Officer Tel: 01733 384532 alastair.smith@peterborough. gov.uk	Public report will be available from the Governance team one week before the decision is made

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Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of land adjacent to Pupil Referral Unit (former Honeyhill School) Paston Ridings - KEY/02NOV/10 To authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, Executive Director – Strategic Resources, the Corporate Property Officer and the Cabinet Member Resources, to negotiate and conclude the sale of land adjacent to the former Honeyhill School.	January 2010	Cabinet Member for Resources	Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Consultation will take place with the Cabinet Member, Ward councillors, relevant internal departments & external stakeholders as appropriate.	Sandra Neely Temp Capital Projects Officer Tel: 01733 384541 sandra.neely@peterborough. gov.uk	Public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is made.
Review of Charges for Allotments - KEY/08NOV/10 To agree the charges for the use of Allotments for the forthcoming year.	January 2011	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning	Sustainable Growth Scrutiny Committee	Relevant ward members, internal Departments and external stakeholders as appropriate.	Commercial Services Director	Public report to be available from the Governance team one week before the decision is made

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Contract Award - Adult Drug Treatment Services - KEY/11NOV/10 To award the contracts for the delivery of Adult Drug Treatment Services	January 2011	Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety and Women's Enterprise	Strong and Supportive Communities	Internal departments as appropriate Safer Peterborough Partnership	Gary Goose Community Safety Strategic Manager Tel: 01733 863780 gary.goose@peterborough.go v.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken.
Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of Land and Buildings - Vawser Lodge Thorpe Road - KEY/04DEC/10 To authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Solicitor to the Council, Executive Director – Strategic Resources, the Corporate Property Officer and the Cabinet Member Resources, to negotiate and conclude the sale of Vawser Lodge	January 2011	Cabinet Member for Resources	Sustainable Growth	Consultation will take place with the Cabinet Member, Ward councillors, relevant internal departments & external stakeholders as appropriate	Sandra Neely Temp Capital Projects Officer Tel: 01733 384541 sandra.neely@peterborough. gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken

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Award of Contract - Paston Ridings Primary School - KEY/08DEC/10 Award of Contract for Extension to increase pupil numbers at the Paston Ridings Primary School following competitive tendering process.	January 2011	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University	Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities	Internal departments and external stakeholders	Alison Chambers Asset Development Officer alison.chambers@peterborou gh.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken
Security Framework Contract - lot 2 - KEY/09DEC/10 Award lot 2 of framework contract; cash collection and cash in transit services, delivering services for the council such as collecting cash from parking meters and banking it securely.	January 2011	Cabinet Member for Resources	Sustainable Growth	Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate	Matthew Rains P2P Manager Tel: 01733 317996 matthew.rains@peterborough .gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is made
Extension of contract for Emergency Duty Team Service with Cambridgeshire County Council - KEY/10DEC/10 To extend the current contract with Cambridgeshire County Council	January 2010	Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care	Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities	Neighbouring authorities and internal departments	Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterboroug h.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken

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Grant Support to Anglia Ruskin University - KEY/11DEC/10 The approval of a capital grant to support Anglia Ruskin University's purchase and refurbishment of the Guild House.	January 2011	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University, Cabinet Member for Resources	Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities		Andrew Edwards Head of Peterborough Delivery Partnership Tel: 01733 452303 andrew.edwards@peterborou gh.gov.uk	Public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is made.
Lot 3: Operational Services - KEY/01JAN/11 To identify the preferred bidder, commence the formal TUPE consultation and award the contract for the Lot 3 strategic partnership for operational services	January 2011	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning	Sustainable Growth		Margaret Welton Principal Lawyer - Waste 2020 Tel: 01733 452226 margaret.welton@peterborou gh.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken
Manor Drive Managed Service – Procurement through the Services Competitive Dialogue Process - KEY/02JAN/11 To (1) recommend outsource of services, (2) approve initial shortlist of suppliers and (3) authorise further shortlisting decisions through the competitive dialogue process by the Executive Director of Strategic Resources in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources	January 2011	Cabinet Member for Resources	Sustainable Growth	Internal departments, Unions, Staff	Andrew Cox Senior Category Manager andy.cox@peterborough.gov. uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken

Translation Services - 2011 C C KEY/03JAN/11 C C all	Community	Strong and Supportive Communities	Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate	Matthew Rains P2P Manager Tel: 01733 317996 matthew.rains@peterborough .gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken.
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FEBRUARY DATE OF **DECISION MAKER** CONSULTATION **CONTACT DETAILS / REPORTS KEY DECISION** RELEVANT **REQUIRED DECISION SCRUTINY REPORT AUTHORS COMMITTEE** Cabinet **Andrew Edwards Peterborough Local** February Sustainable Internal and A public report Investment Plan will be available Head of Peterborough 2011 Growth External **KEY/01FEB/11** stakeholders as **Delivery Partnership** from the Document for submission appropriate. Tel: 01733 452303 governance to the Homes and andrew.edwards@peterborou team one week Communities Agency, before the gh.gov.uk decision is drawn largely from the Integrated Development taken. Programme (Adopted December 2009). The LIP is the first stage towards applying for funding from the HCA for primarily housing-related project aspirations in the City. February Cabinet Affordable Housing: Internal as Richard Kav A public report Sustainable **Revised Council Policy** appropriate Strategic Planning Manager will be available 2011 Growth for Awarding Grants from the KEY/02FEB/11 richard.kay@peterborough.go governance To agree revised policy and v.uk team one week process for awarding before the affordable housing grants deicison is

taken.

Supply of Utility in respect of Electricity, Gas and Oil to Council Owned properties managed by Strategic Property Unit - KEY/03FEB/11 To award the contract for supply of Electricity and Gas to the single source supplier under the nationally awarded EU compliant ESPO framework agreement.	February 2011	Cabinet Member for Resources	Sustainable Growth	Internal consultation where appropriate	Mandy Sterling Strategic Sourcing Manager Tel: 01733 384607 mandy.sterling@peterboroug h.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken.
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MARCH						
KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DATE OF DECISION	DECISION MAKER	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	REPORTS
Museum Redevelopment Project - KEY/03DEC/10 To authorise the award of the contract for the Museum Redevelopment project.	March 2011	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning	Strong and Supportive Communities	Consultation will take place with relevant internal stakeholders as appropriate	Steven Pilsworth Head of Strategic Finance Tel: 01733 384564 Steven.Pilsworth@peterborou gh.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken.

Local Transport Plan Capital Programme of Works 2011/12 - KEY/01MAR/11 To approve the proposed LTP Capital Programme of Works for 2011/12	March 2011	Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning	Environment Capital	Relevant internal stakeholders and the Environment Capital Scrutiny Committee	Michael Stevenson Project Engineer Tel: 01733 317473 michael.stevenson@peterbor ough.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the Governance team one week before the decision is taken.
Supply of Temporary Agency Workers - KEY/02MAR/11 To approve a framework agreement to supply temporary agency following a competitive tendering exercise.	March 2011	Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, Safety and Women's Enterprise	Sustainable Growth	Internal consultation as appropriate	Mandy Sterling Strategic Sourcing Manager Tel: 01733 384607 mandy.sterling@peterboroug h.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken.
Bayard Place - replacement of air- conditioning system (legislative works) - KEY/03MAR/11 To authorise the award of the contract for the replacement of the air-conditioning system at Bayard Place	March 2011	Cabinet Member for Resources	Sustainable Growth	Consultation will take place with relevant internal stakeholders as appropriate	Julie Robinson-Judd Head of Strategic Property Tel: 01733 384544 julie.robinson.judd@peterboro ugh.gov.uk	A public report will be available from the governance team one week before the decision is taken

APRIL

There are currently no Key Decisions scheduled for April.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Communications

Strategic Growth and Development Services

Legal and Democratic Services

Policy and Research

Economic and Community Regeneration

Housing Strategy

Drug Intervention Programme and Drug and Alcohol Team

HR Business Relations, Training & Development, Occupational Health & Reward & Policy

COMMERCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT Nursery Lane, Fengate, Peterborough PE1 5BG

Property Services

Building & Maintenance

Streetscene and Facilities

Finance and Support Services

STRATEGIC RESOURCES DEPARTMENT Director's Office at Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Finance

Internal Audit

Information Communications Technology (ICT)

Business Transformation

Strategic Improvement

Strategic Property

Waste

Customer Services

Business Support

Shared Transactional Services

Cultural Trust Client

CHILDRENS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT Bayard Place, Broadway, PE1 1FB

Families and Communities

Commissioning and Performance

Learning

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT Bridge House, Town Bridge, PE1 1HB

Planning Transport & Engineering (Development Management, Construction & Compliance, Infrastructure Planning & Delivery, Network Management)
Commercial Operations (Resilience, Commercial CCTV, Strategic Parking, City Centre, Markets & Commercial Trading, Passenger Transport)
Neighbourhoods (Regulatory Services, Safer Peterborough, Strategic Housing, Cohesion, Social Inclusion)
Operations Business Support (Finance, Economic Participation)

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11

Meeting Date	Item	Progress
21 June 2010	Excellence in Partnership	Progress report to come back to Committee at a future date.
Draft report 3 June	To scrutinise the Excellence in Partnership network of Peterborough	
Final report 10 June	schools, which works together to drive up education outcomes across the city.	
	Contact Officer: Assistant Director, Learning and Skills	
	Relationships Policy	To come back to the Committee in September after full consultation and prior to final approval
	To scrutinise the Personal Relationships Policy and make comments to feed in to the consultation process	
	Contact Officer: Director of Adult Social Services	
	Safeguarding and Children in Care Services Action Plan	To continue to monitor with an exceptions report to be presented at the July meeting.
	To scrutinise the actions being taken in the Safeguarding and Children in Care Services Action Plan.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
	Cessation of the Comprehensive Area Assessment	Report noted.
	To receive a report from the Executive Director of Strategic Resources regarding the coalition Governments plans to abolish the Comprehensive Area Assessment.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Strategic Resources	
	Review of 2009/10 and Future Work Programme	Suggestions noted and Group Representatives to discuss at next meeting.
	To review the work undertaken during 2009/10 and to consider the future work programme of the Committee	_
	Contact Officer: Paulina Ford	

M4: D -4	14	Progress
Meeting Date	Item	i rogress
3 August 2010	Children's Trust - Be Healthy Partnership	Report to come back to the Committee in six months
		time on the progress of actions being taken to
Final report 23 July	To scrutinise the 'Be Healthy' partnership outcomes of the Children's Trust	improve the Be Healthy outcome.
	and make any recommendations.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
	Contact Cincor. Excount of Director of Cincorn S Convictor	
	The Big Debate – Issues Paper	
	To consider the issues which were identified at the Big Debate meeting held in	
	February 2010.	
	Contact Officer: Paulina Ford	
	Progress Report on Children's Service Development Plan	
	To scrutinise and monitor the actions being taken in the Children's Service	
	Development Plan and its impact.	
	Development Flam and its impact.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
20 September 2010	Presentation of 2010 Examination Results, EYFS – Key Stage 4 – A	Validated examination results to be presented to the
	Level	Committee in March 2010.
Draft report 2 Sept	To scrutinise the 2010 examination results, assess the impact of the action	
Final report 9 Sept	plan to improve educational results and make any necessary	
, ,	recommendations.	
	Contact Officer: Assistant Director, Learning and Skills	
	Children's Trust - Enjoy and Achieve Partnership	
	To scrutinise the 'Enjoy and Achieve Partnership' Partnership outcomes of	
	the Children's Trust and make any recommendations	
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	Contact Officers Assistant Director Learning and Okilla	
	Contact Officer: Assistant Director, Learning and Skills	

Meeting Date	Item	Progress
Weeting Date	item	
	Personal Relationships Policy	
	1 dischar Relationships I oney	
	To scrutinise the Personal Relationships Policy and make comments prior to the final version being submitted to the NHS Peterborough's Policy and Procedures Group for approval.	
	1 recodding Group for approval.	
	Contact Officer: Director of Adult Social Services	
	Peterborough Safeguarding Children's Board Annual report	
	To scrutinise the Peterborough Safeguarding Children's Board Annual report.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
	Progress Report on Children's Service Development Plan	
	To scrutinise and monitor the actions being taken in the Children's Service Development Plan and its impact.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
15 November 2010	Children's Trust – Make a Positive Contribution Partnership	
Draft report 28 Oct Final report 4 Nov	To scrutinise the 'Make a Positive Contribution' Partnership outcomes of the Children's Trust and make any recommendations	
	Contact Officer: Alison Sunley, Head of 8-19 Service	
	Translation and Interpretation Policy	
	To Scrutinise the draft Translation and Interpretation Policy prior to approval by Cabinet.	
	Contact Officer: Helen Edwards, Solicitor to the Council	

Meeting Date	Item	Progress
	Peterborough PCT Carers Strategy and Action Plan	
	To scrutinise and comment on the impact of the Carers Strategy and Action Plan and make any recommendations.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Adult Social Services	
	Progress Report on Children's Service Development Plan	
	To scrutinise and monitor the actions being taken in the Children's Service Development Plan and its impact.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
	Scrutiny Big Debate – Issues Report	
	To scrutinise and consider the formal response to the issues raised at the Scrutiny Big Debate.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
6 January 2011	Budget 2011/12 and Medium Term Financial Plan	
(Joint Meeting of the Scrutiny	To scrutinise the Executive's proposals for the Budget 2011/12 and Medium Term Financial Plan.	
Committees and Commissions)	Contact Officer: John Harrison/Steven Pilsworth	
24 January 2011	Portfolio Progress report from Cabinet Members relevant to the	Cabinet Member for Children's Services has confirmed that she will be in attendance at this
Draft report 6 Jan	committee:	meeting.
Final report 13 Jan	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	3
	Ofsted Annual Assessment of Children's Services	
	To scrutinise and comment on the Annual Assessment of Children's Services	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	

Meeting Date	Item	Progress Progress
	Making a Positive Contribution – Reducing NEETS	This item to include progress report on work being
	To scrutinise Making a Positive Contribution focusing on the progress on work being done to support 16 – 18 year olds not in Education, Training or Employment and make any recommendations.	done to support 16 to 18 year olds not in Education, Training or Employment (NEET)
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
	Re opening of Hereward School Site	
	To scrutinise the proposed plans to re open Hereward School site.	
	Contact Officer: Jonathan Lewis	
	Safeguarding and Children in Care – Progress report on the Children's Service Development Plan	
	To scrutinise and monitor the actions being taken in the Children's Service Development Plan and its impact.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
21 March 2011 Draft report 3 March	Portfolio Progress report from Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University	Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University has confirmed that he will be in attendance at this
Final report 10 March	To Scrutinise and comment on the progress of the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University. Report to include Validated Examination Results for 2010 to enable the Committee to scrutinise, assess the impact of action plans to improve educational results and make any necessary recommendations.	meeting.
	Contact Officer: Assistant Director, Learning and Skills	
	Child Poverty Strategy	
	To scrutinise and comment on the draft Child Poverty Strategy and make any recommendations	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	

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Meeting Date	Item	Progress
	Children's (Social Care) Services Statutory Complaints Process (Children act 1989) Annual Report 2010	
	To scrutinise the annual Children's (Social Care) Services Complaints Report	
	Contact Officer: Lynn Chesterton, Service Manager	
	Translation and Interpretation Services	Report requested at November meeting.
	To scrutinise and monitor the ongoing costs of the translation and interpretation services.	
	Contact Officer:	
	Progress Report on Children's Service Development Plan	
	To scrutinise and monitor the actions being taken in the Children's Service Development Plan and its impact.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	
	Children's Trust - Be Healthy Partnership – Progress Report on Actions taken	implementation in schools of the Cashless Catering System on school meal uptake and the impact of the targeted Mental Health in the Schools Programme.
	To receive and scrutinise a progress report on actions taken to improve the outcomes of the 'Be Healthy' partnership of the Children's Trust and make any recommendations.	
	Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services	

For 2011/2012 Programme:

- 1. **Progress report on the implementation of the Corporate Parenting Pledge to Children in Care.** To scrutinise the impact of the implementation of the Corporate Parenting Pledge to Children in Care. Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services and Brian Roberts
- 2. **Cabinet Budget Proposals**. To scrutinise the impact and implications of the Cabinet Budget Proposals on Children's Services and make any necessary recommendations. Contact Officer: Executive Director of Children's Services
- 3. **June 2011 Transforming Children's Services** scrutinise whether the Transforming of Children's Services is providing improved services for all service users.