

**CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY 11 MARCH 2013
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 a disclosable pecuniary interest, or other interest, in any of the items on the agenda, unless it is already entered in the register of members' interests or is a "pending notification" that has been disclosed to the Solicitor to the Council.

Members must also declare if they are subject to their party group whip in relation to any items under consideration.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2013

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

5. Update Following Ofsted Inspection Of Safeguarding

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6. Children's Services Improvement Programme

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7. Tackling Poverty In Peterborough

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8. Presentation of 2012 Validated Examination Results

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9. Notice of Intention to take Key Decisions

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10. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 22 April 2013 – Extraordinary meeting



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Committee Members:

Councillors: S Day (Chair), C Harper (Vice Chairman), N Arculus, B Rush, J Shearman, B Saltmarsh and D Fower

Substitutes: Councillors: J R Fox, M Nadeem and Thulbourn

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 IN THE
BOURGES/VIERSEN ROOM, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH
ON 7 JANUARY 2013**

Present:	Councillors S Day (Chairman), Harper, N Arculus, B Rush, B Saltmarsh, J Shearman,	
Also present	Alastair Kingsley Councillor S Scott Councillor I Walsh	Parent Governor Representative Cabinet Member Children's Services Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Safety
	Councillor Peach Councillor Forbes Councillor Kreling Councillor Johnson	Councillors in attendance representing the Strong & Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee
Officers in Attendance:	Sue Westcott Wendi Ogle Welbourn Jonathan Lewis Lou Williams Julie Rivett Ian Phillips Jawaid Khan Paulina Ford Ruth Griffiths	Executive Director, Children's Services Assistant Director, Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention Assistant Director for Education and Resources Head of Commissioning, Specialist Services Neighbourhood Manager - North and West Assistant Community Cohesion Manager Cohesion Manager Senior Governance Officer, Scrutiny Lawyer

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Fower.

2. Declarations of Interest and Whipping Declarations

There were no declarations of Interest or whipping declarations.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2012

The minutes of the meetings held on 12 November 2012 were approved as an accurate record.

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

There were no requests for Call-in to consider.

5. Inspire Peterborough

The Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Safety presented the report to the Committee which informed them about the proposed Inspire Peterborough programme. A short presentation was given which highlighted the following information:

- Inspire Peterborough Vision statement: *To increase the choice of disability sports and to invigorate and inspire disabled people to have better life outcomes through, sport, physical activity and volunteering.*
- What Inspire Peterborough was and what it would do. A charitable organisation that would through close community links become the:
 - First point of contact for anyone interested in disability sports
 - Signpost to opportunities, advice and information
 - Bring together local sports providers and venues under a unified 'brand'
 - Support clubs to develop pathways to success
 - Bid for funding, increase capacity and improve facilities
 - Provide opportunities for those wishing to improve their physical and mental health and well being
 - Provide volunteering opportunities for able bodied and disabled people
 - Encourage and enable competitive sporting opportunities locally and throughout the region

Benefits to sports providers:

- To be part of a city-wide movement
- Access to specialist advice, support and funding opportunities leading to upgraded facilities
- Unified branding and marketing
- Increased business opportunities and higher footfall
- Creating a local and regional network

Benefits for participants and their families:

- Improved physical and mental health
- Creating the opportunity to take part in competitive games
- Building confidence
- Social opportunities
- Pathways to success
- Respite and sibling support
- Increased sense of achievement

Benefits to Peterborough:

- Tackling inequalities
- Creating strong and supportive communities
- Delivering substantial and truly sustainable growth
- Helping people to live more healthy and sustainable lives

How this would be achieved:

- Establish a charitable body associated to DIAL Peterborough
- Establish a shadow board to include representatives from PCC, DIAL, PCVS, Living Sport, Public Health, PCC – Neighbourhoods, Vivacity, Ward Councillors, RNIB and Armed Forces.
- Bring people and partners together under one single brand and access point
- Dedicated project management and support
- Co-ordinated funding, volunteering and marketing
- Access to national bodies

The project was being seed funded by the Cohesion Board and donations through the Community Leadership Fund. It has also been supported by the City Council through some officer time to kick start the initiative.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Had the proposed programme model been used anywhere else? *Members were informed that the model had not been used anywhere else and government bodies had advised that it could be used as a pilot scheme and rolled out elsewhere if successful.*
- How would the programme be funded long term? *Members were informed that legacy funding was being sought. Big lottery funding was available which matched the programmes objectives and the Cabinet Member therefore felt confident that funding would be available but it would take some time before it was received. The main concern was to continue with setting up the programme before that funding arrived. There had been some local interest in the programme which could help in the interim period. Sport England had also shown interest in the community asset and wider benefit to the community. The Armed Services were also keen to get involved.*
- Was there an opportunity to involve schools in the programme? *Members were advised that Councillor Shearman was leading on involvement with schools. The City College had already shown an interest in getting involved with people with learning difficulties.*
- Some Members were concerned that there was no gap in the market for the programme and that it was already covered by other organisations. Was the programme therefore necessary. *The Cabinet Member confirmed to Members that there was a gap in the market. Inspire Peterborough would interrelate with all the other organisations, community and sports providers to provide a service that no one else offered. In the past a disabled person often found it difficult to know exactly where to go or who to contact to be helped. The programme would ensure that any disabled person or person wanting to help with disability issues would know exactly where to go for help and receive help. This would ensure that the health and wellbeing of the disabled community was strengthened.*
- Members wanted to know why existing charitable trusts had not been encouraged to provide the same offer. *Members were advised that Inspire Peterborough was offering something completely new and not replicating what was being offered already.*
- Members sought clarification on the financial implications and wanted to know if there was detailed information available on the set up costs for the programme. *Members were advised that there were detailed figures available and the Cabinet Member had worked with DIAL to provide these.*

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Safety for attending the meeting and giving a detailed presentation. The Chair wished the Cabinet Member well with the Inspire Peterborough programme.

ACTIONS AGREED

1. The Committee noted the report and agreed to endorse the Inspire Peterborough Programme.
2. The Committee requested that the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Safety return to the Committee in six months time to report on progress made with the Inspire Peterborough Programme.

6. Portfolio Progress Report from Cabinet Member for Children's Services

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services provided the Committee with an update on the progress that had been made on her portfolio since her last report to the Committee in July 2012. The report provided information on the following areas:

- Children's Social Care
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Connecting Families Programme
- Residential and Respite Homes

- Medium Term Financial Strategy

Members were informed that the council had recently agreed to take part in the Eastern Region Peer Safeguarding Health Check. This had taken place and the Peer team had provided feedback confirming the outcomes of the Health Check which had been positive. It showed that the organisational and cultural change that had been implemented as part of the improvement programme was beginning to be reflected in frontline practice. Many strengths had been highlighted and some areas for further development or consideration and been mentioned. It had been recognised that considerable progress had been made by the council over the past year.

An Ofsted inspection of the councils fostering service had taken place during October 2012 and had been judged as adequate. It had been noted by the inspectors that progress had been made and identified many strengths in Peterborough.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members were concerned that the fostering service had been judged as adequate and sought confirmation that everything was being done to continually improve the service. *Members were advised that it had been a particularly unsettling year and that there were new Ofsted arrangements in place which had been quite severe. The Cabinet Member had been pleased to maintain adequate under the new Ofsted inspection arrangements but confirmed that she was not complacent and aspired to improve the judgement. Ofsted had advised that some outcome areas had bordered on good.*
- Members noted that there were still a number of management posts that were covered by temporary staff but that there had been considerable interest in the posts that had been advertised. *Members were advised that recent recruitment to middle management posts had gone well through a recent campaign. There had been nineteen applicants fifteen of which had been strong. Out of those fifteen the following appointments had been made; Head of Service for Referral and Assessment, Head of Quality Assurance and Service Manager for Looked after Children and Disability.*
- Members noted that the report had not contained an update on the Children's Centres and wanted to know if things had settled down since the transfer to the new providers. *Members were informed that there had been no further complaints and things were beginning to settle down. The Assistant Director, Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention advised Members that one of the challenges that the new providers had faced was to decide on the priorities and how things could be delivered differently from the Children's Centres with the money provided. The use of volunteers was being looked at.*
- The Chair commented that she had applied to be a volunteer and that the application pack had been complex and requested that this be looked at as it may deter some volunteers from applying.
- Members noted in the report under the Connecting Families Programme that the council could receive some money back from the Government on a 'payment by results' basis. How did this work? *Members were advised that a sum of money per family under the national Troubled Families Programme was received from the Government. Workers in each of the agencies identified as Connectors worked with the children and families and payment was made by outcomes e.g. children attending school or children not reoffending. Work was being done with 125 families this year and 225 families next year. The amount of pay back received could be up to £8000 depending on the outcomes achieved.*
- The Chair on behalf of the Committee welcomed the new Executive Director of Children's Services Sue Westcott into post and wished her success in her role in continuing the good work already accomplished. Members acknowledged that Safeguarding had improved but wanted to ensure that this continued to improve. The Chair also acknowledged the good work being done by the social workers. *The Executive Director of Children's Services assured Members that there was no complacency from the Directorate or Management*

Teams with regard to continued improvement, rigorous continued performance management and keeping on track with the improvement programme.

- The Cabinet Member for Children's Services requested that Alistair Kingsley and Councillor Harper revisit the Liquid Logic System to reassess its use and how the Social Workers were getting on with it.
- Members requested that the Cabinet Member for Children's Services in future portfolio progress reports report on all aspects of her portfolio.
- The Executive Director of Children's Services thanked the Members of the Task and Finish Group for their involvement in monitoring the Improvement Plan. The involvement by Members had been picked up in the recent Peer Review as a strength.

ACTIONS AGREED

1. The Committee noted the progress made on the portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services.
2. Alistair Kingsley and Councillor Harper to arrange a follow up visit to review the use of Liquid Logic.
3. The Committee requested that the Cabinet Member for Children's Services in future portfolio progress reports to the Committee report on all aspects of her portfolio.
4. The Chair requested that the Assistant Director, Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention look at the application pack for volunteers to work for the Children's Centres to see if it can be simplified.

7. Prevention and Early Intervention for Children and young People and Families in Peterborough

The report provided the Committee with an update on the development of the Overarching Multi-agency Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy. The Head of Commissioning, Specialist Services gave a short presentation on the Prevention and Early Intervention in Peterborough Strategy. Key areas covered in the presentation included:

- A comprehensive needs analysis found the following key findings:
 - Peterborough child population was increasing rapidly with the biggest increase being the 0-4years age range
 - Child population was becoming increasingly diverse
 - Child and maternal health an issue
 - Emotional and mental health resilience
 - Significant achievement gap for EAL
 - School attendance an issue at some schools;
 - Tendency for children's difficulties to be medicalised, for example in relation to Special Educational Needs;
 - Teenage pregnancy, NEET and alcohol and/or substance misuse, vulnerability to sexual exploitation;
 - Parenting and parenting support deficits
- Some Key Priorities
 - Supporting holistic assessment of need through CAF;
 - Developing nuanced range of evidence based family support services;
 - Supporting effective partnership working through the MASGs
 - Improving accessibility to services through community volunteering
- Some Key outcomes:
 - Improved educational attainment and parental aspiration;
 - More families supported without requiring escalation to social care;
 - Children safeguarded as they are stepped down from CSC interventions;
 - Reduced expenditure on specialist services allowing continuing investment in prevention

- Accountability for Delivery:
 - In most cases, existing delivery groups had responsibility for ensuring delivery;
 - A small number of new delivery groups would be established;
 - Those groups would report into a new overarching Prevention & Early Intervention delivery group which monitors overall progress;
 - Final progress monitoring is through the Children and Families Commissioning Board.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members noted that the presentation had highlighted that there was a disproportionate number of children in special schools with English as an Additional Language (EAL) compared to those in standard schools. Was this because there were not sufficient resources in standard schools to deal with those children. *Members were informed that there had been a significant increase in Special Schools of children with EAL. More work needed to be done around those statistics but it was likely that a large proportion of the cohort were children with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. The Assistant Director, Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention advised that she was aware through the Peterborough Location Support Panels that there were a number of children in special schools where behaviour was the issue and was often linked to language and their inability to express themselves. Some of those children may not have been in school in their own country until a very late stage. There were some volunteer workers who spoke the same language as the parents who were working with them to try and address those issues.*
- The strategy mentioned the 'Outcome Star' for parents. Members sought clarification as to how this method differed to current practice. *Members were informed that it was an evidence based model developed by parents, practitioners, people and children in Camden. The Outcomes Star was a unique suite of tools for supporting and measuring change when working with people. It came with a database that measured outcomes. Further details to explain the model could be circulated.*
- Is the Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy feeding into the teacher recruitment debate? *Members were informed that it was and teacher recruitment was being taken very seriously. Teacher training would also reflect the needs of the city and teachers would be trained to deal with behavioral issues in the classroom.*
- What was being done with regard to lack of attendance at schools? Was the best practice to reduce the lack of attendance at one school being passed on to other schools that were having poor attendance? *Members were informed that the role of the Attendance Team was about best practice and working across the schools sector to provide strategies. Different approaches were being taken at different schools. The Assistant Director, Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention advised Members that the key focus for Connected Families was around attendance.*
- Councillor Shearman suggested that the Committee hold a 'Scrutiny in a Day' event to discuss in depth the eight priority needs in Peterborough identified in the strategy. *Members were informed that two stakeholder events would be held in March and October 2013. The March event would explain in detail the strategy and the October event would cover what had been achieved to date.*
- Members wanted to know what the success rate was for prosecutions of parents whose children did not attend school. *Members were advised that prosecuting was a legal process which the Local Authority had an obligation to use where attendance did not happen. 60% of prosecutions are proven. Prosecution in some families did not make a difference in attendance at school and in these cases it was more about working differently with the family to find a solution.*

ACTIONS AGREED

1. The Committee noted and endorsed the Prevention and Early Intervention in Peterborough Strategy and requested that a further report on the progress of implementing the strategy be brought back to the Committee in six months time.
2. The Committee requested that the Head of Commissioning, Specialist Services provide further details on the 'Outcome Star'.
3. The Assistant Director, Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention to discuss with the Chair and Group Representatives a Scrutiny in a Day Event with the theme of the eight priorities identified in the Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy.
4. The Committee to receive an invitation to the Stakeholder events being held in March and October 2013.
5. The Chair requested that the Prevention and Early Intervention in Peterborough Strategy be presented at an All Party Policy meeting.

8. Education Strategy / Improving Outcomes for Children with SEN

The report provided the Committee with an overview and update on the work around reforming the Local Authorities education function and in improving outcomes for children with SEN through the development of an effective strategy for the future. Since last reporting to the Committee in November 2012 significant work had been undertaken looking at best practice, the situation in Peterborough and interventions that would have the most impact upon outcomes of children and young people. Seven key themes had been identified to work on for the Education Strategy. There was a particular focus on establishing a School-to-School Partnership that was cost effective, successful in delivering outcomes and run by schools for schools from which the LA could confidently commission services. The LA would be a partner in this partnership. A draft Education Strategy would be brought back to the Committee in March 2013.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members noted that school improvement had not been mentioned as part of the core team within Children's Services required to deliver services which were high priority to the council. *Members were advised that school improvement would be part of the School-to-School Partnership. There would always be a role for the LA to provide school improvement.*
- Members wanted to know what a school based "training centre" was as mentioned in the report. *Members were advised that this was focused around giving staff in schools support to do the work they needed to do. There were certain schools in the city that had highly developed expertise in dealing with English as an Additional Language. Their expertise could be shared across the city in the provision of a school based "training centre".*
- Some Members felt that more emphasis should be placed on filling the gap for further and higher education within the city.

Members were informed that significant work had been undertaken in the last year in understanding the delivery of SEN provision across the city. The work was now being developed into a strategy to see the direction of travel for this group over the next five years. Having the correct provision in place was key to ensuring an effective SEN strategy.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members were concerned that Peterborough had more children with statements than similar authorities and felt that some children might have been statemented unnecessarily. *Members were advised that from April 2013 there would be a number of changes to the way schools and special educational needs (SEN) would be funded. There would be a new formula to generate a notional SEN budget for each school and funds would no*

longer be provided based on stated hours. This would reduce the number of stated children as there would be more targeted funding.

- Members sought assurance that children with statements attending standard schools would have the necessary resources to support them. *The Assistant Director for Education and Resources assured Members that adequate funding would be put in place under the new funding regime.*
- Members requested that a comprehensive consultation process take place with Governing Bodies, parents, carers, teachers and schools regarding the new national funding formula and how this would affect schools.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee requested that the draft Education Strategy be presented to the Committee at the March 2013 meeting.

9. Children's Services Improvement Plan – Progress Report

The Executive Director of Children's Services introduced the report. The report informed the Committee on progress that had been made on the Children's Services Improvement Programme which had been put in place following an Ofsted Inspection in August 2011. The progress report had been a regular report to the committee and the last update to the committee had been in November 2012. Highlights of the report were:

- Strong performance continued on timeliness in the referral and assessment service. 97.1% of initial assessments had been completed within 10 days and 85.9% of core assessments completed within 35 days.
- The underlying figures for completion of core assessments in October had shown deterioration to 70% completed on time. This was mainly in the long-term teams and was largely due to chasing down the numbers incomplete out of timescale.
- There had been significant improvement in the recording of visits to children with a plan with 94% on time and statutory visits to looked after children with 97% on time.
- The Head and Heart recruitment advertising campaign continued to be successful. The current social work vacancy rate was 10.7. The campaign was being refreshed with regard to the recruitment of team managers.
- Quality and timeliness needed to continue.

Observations and questions were raised and discussed including:

- Members sought assurance that the timeliness of core assessments would continue despite the dip in October. *Members were informed that the dip in timeliness had been due to several factors like concentrating on getting the quality right and also there had been some churn in the team managers. The Executive Director of Children's Services advised that she was looking into this. Members were also advised that whilst progress had been good there was still a long way to go with the improvement plan.*
- Members sought assurance that there would be no cuts in funding for the improvement programme. *The Executive Director of Children's Services assured members that although Children's Services would have to consider budget cuts along with other service areas the Council were committed to the improvement programme and no cuts would be made if it jeopardised the programme.*

ACTION AGREED

The Committee noted the Safeguarding Improvement Plan and the progress that had been made since the last report in November 2012.

10. Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions

The Committee received the latest version of the Council's Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions, containing key decisions that the Leader of the Council anticipated the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members would make during the course of the following four months. Members were invited to comment on the Plan and, where appropriate, identify any relevant areas for inclusion in the Committee's work programme.

ACTION AGREED

The Committee noted the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions

11. Work Programme

Members considered the Committee's Work Programme for 2012/13 and discussed possible items for inclusion.

ACTION AGREED

To confirm the work programme for 2012/13 and the Senior Governance Officer to include any additional items as requested during the meeting.

- Refreshed priorities and Children's Services Improvement Plan to be presented at the March 2013 meeting.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 11 March 2013

The meeting began at 7.00pm and ended at 9.30pm

CHAIRMAN

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 5
11 MARCH 2013	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) – Sue Westcott
Contact Details – 01733 863606

UPDATE FOLLOWING OFSTED INSPECTION OF SAFEGUARDING

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the Inspection Judgement following the Inspection from 28th January to 6th February 2013

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the outcome of the Inspection and endorse its recommendations

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 The sustainable community Strategy identifies Improving health and Supporting Vulnerable People as priorities. Improvement in Social care is key to the delivery of these priorities.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Children's Services safeguarding services was judged inadequate following an Ofsted inspection in May 2010 and a Notice to Improve was issued by the Minister. Since then, the department has been working to an improvement programme and awaiting a re-inspection by Ofsted which took place on the dates noted in 1.1 above.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The overall judgement across all outcome areas including overall effectiveness, the quality of practice, and leadership and governance is adequate.

Key highlights

Overall Effectiveness:

'Lessons found from previous inspections have been taken seriously resulting in determined drive to address the identified deficiencies through rapid improvement.'

- Support of politicians and partners been key to improvement
- No children found to be inadequately protected or at risk of significant harm at time of report
- Robust arrangements in the re-designed contact and referral teams
- Decisions made promptly and referrals are appropriately moved into assessments within required timescales
- Child sexual exploitation has recently been a focus of activity accelerating learning for council
- Early help services are accessible with increasingly well established wider range of services. Use of Common Assessment Framework (CAF) increasing.
- Views of children and young people are being gathered and most children and families report positively on the services they are receiving
- Particular challenge to council is provision of a reliable interpreting service
- High intensity family support offered to reduce and minimise risk

Leadership and Governance:

- Leadership and Governance arrangements at Councillor and Senior Officer Level

‘strong with evidence of a real drive and energy to address the past failings and achieve sustained improvements’.

- ‘Engagement of elected members has become strong through an increased confidence, oversight, challenge, and sense of responsibility’.
- Elected member visits to teams and accompanying social workers on visits applauded
- Senior Leadership team needs permanent appointment of Assistant Director of safeguarding
- PSCB meets its statutory responsibilities, but scrutiny function not well developed. At time of Inspection Report, PSCB recruiting to a permanent chair.
- Effective central data base regarded by staff as being effective

Quality of Practice:

- Examples of good, excellent and poor work .Practice variable.
- No unallocated cases
- Partner agencies have increasing confidence in Social Care and are referring appropriately
- Thresholds appropriately applied
- Initial and Core assessments conducted in timely way
- Involvement of children and young people in assessments, service delivery and planning too inconsistent
- Social Work reports to conferences not always shared with families

The report is attached as an appendix to this report together with the key recommendations

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Children Services will continue on its improvement journey. There is no room for complacency and the implementation of the OFSTED recommendations will be incorporated into the newly refreshed Children’s Services delivery plan and monitored through the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group.

Children’s Services must not return to an Improvement notice.

7. CONSULTATION

Not applicable

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 Monitor implementation at continued External Improvement Board and Scrutiny safeguarding Task and Finish group.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 9.1
- Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding: Peterborough 6th September 2011
 - Ofsted Unannounced Inspection of contact referral and assessment arrangements 3rd March 2011
 - Ofsted Safeguarding and Looked after Children Inspection: Peterborough 21st May 2010
 - Ofsted Local Authority Arrangements for the Protection of Children – inspection report 8th March 2013

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Ofsted Local Authority Arrangements for the Protection of Children Inspection Report – 28 January – 6 February 2013.

Inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children

Peterborough City Council

Inspection dates: 28 January – 6 February 2013
Lead inspector Christopher Sands HMI

Age group: All

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Inspection of local authority arrangements for the protection of children

The inspection judgements and what they mean

1. All inspection judgements are made using the following four point scale.

Outstanding	a service that significantly exceeds minimum requirements
Good	a service that exceeds minimum requirements
Adequate	a service that meets minimum requirements
Inadequate	a service that does not meet minimum requirements

Overall effectiveness

2. The overall effectiveness of the arrangements to protect children in Peterborough City Council is judged to be **adequate**.

Areas for improvement

3. In order to improve the quality of help and protection given to children and young people in Peterborough City Council, the local authority and its partners should take the following action.

Immediately:

- ensure that children's social care reports to child protection conferences are made available to all parents and young people as appropriate in advance of the conference
- ensure that rationale for decision making by managers is clearly recorded on case files
- ensure that strategy discussions include all relevant parties so that all information relating to risk is identified and acted upon and that strategy meetings are held where appropriate
- ensure that Section 47 enquiries effectively consider information from all known professionals on which to make an informed decision.

Within three months:

- implement a further programme of awareness raising and practice training within the children's services to ensure all risks to children are understood, identified, comprehensively assessed and acted upon at an early stage

- ensure plans for children are child focused with measurable outcomes
- ensure that children's views and wishes are fully informing assessments and planning for children
- ensure that assessment processes actively engage fathers and male partners to ensure that children's representation at case conferences is improved, both in person and through the advocacy service
- ensure that children's representation at case conferences is improved, both in person and through the advocacy service
- ensure that the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has sufficient high quality information to enable them to monitor and challenge practice across all agencies.

Within six months:

- ensure that social workers have the opportunity to fully reflect on case work, enabling a considered overview of the child's assessed needs and an understanding of the child's experience
- improve the quality of chronologies to ensure that they provide an effective and informative overview of significant events
- ensure that specific therapeutic services are commissioned for children who have been involved in domestic abuse
- ensure that the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board reviews the attendance of relevant agencies at child protection conferences along with the timeliness of reports being available
- ensure that the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board develops a robust auditing programme that includes a focus on the experience of the child and the impact and outcomes of service provision and that this leads to identification of themes and plans for improvement which are robustly implemented and monitored
- implement the universal use of CAF across all early help services including children's centres
- implement a systematic quality assurance process to ensure effectiveness of early help services
- strengthen the complaints annual report process to ensure that complaints and compliments about children's services clearly inform and support improvements in the quality of practice

- conduct a review of the newly commissioned interpreting service to ensure that it is delivering improved service provision and is able to meet the diverse language needs of the local community.

About this inspection

4. This inspection was unannounced.
5. This inspection considered key aspects of a child's journey through the child protection system, focusing on the experiences of the child or young person, and the effectiveness of the help and protection that they are offered. Inspectors have scrutinised case files, observed practice and discussed the help and protection given to these children and young people with social workers, managers and other professionals including members of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. Wherever possible, they have talked to children, young people and their families. In addition the inspectors have analysed performance data, reports and management information that the local authority holds to inform its work with children and young people.
6. This inspection focused on the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements for identifying children who are suffering, or likely to suffer, harm from abuse or neglect and for the provision of early help where it is needed. It also considered the effectiveness of the local authority and its partners in protecting these children if the risk remains or intensifies.
7. The inspection team consisted of five of Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI).
8. This inspection was carried out under section 136 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

Service information

9. Peterborough City Council has approximately 46,237 children and young people under the age of 19 years. This is 25.2% of the total population. The proportion entitled to free school meals is above the national average. Children and young people of compulsory school age from minority ethnic groups account for 38% of the population, compared with 24.5% in the country as a whole. The largest minority ethnic groups are Pakistani and White-Other. The proportion of pupils with English as an additional language is above the national figure.
10. At the time of the inspection, 253 children and young people were subject to a child protection plan. Children's social care services were providing support to 1,531 children and young people.
11. Early help and support is provided through a range of services including 15 children's centres and an early years and child intervention team.
12. Within the children's services directorate, child protection work is undertaken by a contact and referral team, four family support teams, a children's integrated disability team and an out of hours service

commissioned from a neighbouring local authority. Child protection support services include an adolescent services team, a direct intervention service, a family group conference service, a 0-19 service and a range of commissioned services.

Overall effectiveness

13. Overall effectiveness is **adequate**. At the time of the inspection, no children were found to be inadequately protected or at risk of significant harm. Additionally, there were no unallocated child protection or children in need cases. Through robust arrangements in the redesigned contact and referral teams, decisions are made promptly and referrals are appropriately moved into assessments within required timescales. As a result, children are being effectively protected. Within the wider children's services and partnership, a more recent focus on child sexual exploitation has accelerated the learning for the council from which good working relationships with the police have been formed and intelligence is being used effectively to protect children and young people.
14. The council has been under a notice to improve since June 2010 following an inspection in March of that year. This was followed up by a re-inspection of safeguarding services in August 2011 where overall effectiveness was again found to be inadequate. Since the last inspection significant changes in senior leadership have taken place. The lessons from that inspection have been taken seriously resulting in a determined drive to address the identified deficits through rapid improvement. The support of politicians and partners has been a key element to the improvement programme. This current inspection can confirm positive progress is being made in all areas for development identified in the re-inspection of safeguarding. However, the council acknowledges that there remains much to do and is committed to ensure sustainability of the current achievements combined with a relentless drive and focus to continue the positive direction of travel.
15. Early help services are accessible across the community and are becoming increasingly well established with a wider range of services now available compared to the time of the previous inspection. Services have been commissioned to ensure better targeting to reach and meet the needs of the most vulnerable communities and families with improved outcomes being evidenced. The council has higher than average referrals and re-referrals which are the focus of a current audit to gain a full understanding of this dynamic. There is a correlation between the number of referrals and the need to enable community based services to feel more confident in addressing and managing additional need. However, the use of the common assessment framework (CAF) is increasing, especially within primary and secondary schools and the recent introduction of multi-agency support groups are beginning to have an impact through more accessible services and resources. The number of referrals and re-referrals is now showing signs of reducing.
16. Through a number of mechanisms, the views of children, young people and their families are being gathered and in most of the activities observed by inspectors and through feedback processes, service users are

reporting positively on the services they receive. Where they are able to draw a comparison, parents told inspectors that they had noticed an improvement in their accessibility and contact with social workers and the support they were now receiving. However, the council recognises this to be an area for further development and has in place two initiatives to engage and seek the views of children, young people and parents to inform service improvement and planning.

17. Leadership and governance arrangements at senior officer level are now strong with evidence of a real drive and energy to address the past failings and to achieve sustained improvements. Strengths and weaknesses are well understood with external validation and review used effectively to confirm progress and to identify further areas requiring attention. The independently chaired Improvement Board has been the primary vehicle for challenging progress and promoting improvements supported by regular reporting to the creating opportunities scrutiny committee. The engagement of elected members has become strong also through an increased confidence, oversight, challenge and sense of responsibility. Members on the scrutiny task and finish group visit staff in their offices and accompany them on visits in order to satisfy themselves that the service is improving. Performance monitoring is now well established and is being used increasingly effectively to address areas of concern.
18. Whilst the senior leadership is displaying a strong and very engaged approach with practice on the front line, the leadership team still requires a full complement of permanently appointed staff with the current head of safeguarding and communities being an interim appointment. The post of Chair of the Safeguarding Board is currently vacant, being covered by the deputy chair. Similarly, some middle manager posts are currently covered by agency staff. Care is being taken appropriately to appoint experienced staff with the necessary drive and determination to continue to improve services. The council recognises that there is much yet to do, especially in moving from their intense focus on quantitative monitoring to improving the quality of practice. Commendably, the council has indicated its continued commitment and intention to maintain the current Improvement Board with an independent chair to sustain and secure ongoing improvement.

The effectiveness of the help and protection provided to children, young people, families and carers

19. The effectiveness of the help and protection provided to children, young people, families and carers is **adequate**. Children and young people at risk of harm are effectively identified by both early help and children's social care services. No cases during the inspection identified children to be at risk. In the majority of cases, the needs of children and young people are responded to promptly by services appropriate to their level of

need. Recent improvements in the contact and referral team in particular have led to efficient and effective oversight which protects children. Children known to social care are visited regularly by social workers who understand them well. In most cases this results in the management and minimisation of risk which enables children to remain safely at home with their parents.

20. Multi-agency support groups (MASG) effectively support consistent management of risk and the transfer of cases from children's social care to other services. However, a few cases demonstrated inaccurate assessment of risk and signposting for support through team around the child (TAC) intervention where an immediate decision to instigate child protection processes would have been more appropriate.
21. The common assessment framework (CAF) team robustly assess the risks to children in each new CAF referral against the city's threshold document which ensures a consistent approach to case management. The majority of CAFs completed include issues of domestic abuse. Whilst plans provide services to help adults, there are too few services at tier two level (between universal and specialist service provision) providing easily accessible therapeutic help for children. The council acknowledges that this is an area for development
22. In cases of child sexual exploitation (CSE), strategic prioritisation and improved management oversight has, in the majority of cases, resulted in early identification of vulnerable young people and more rigorous risk management. A good example is the additional and specific layer of assessment identifying potential risk factors for young people who are reported missing. Even where the risk is assessed as at a low level, assessments are forwarded to the police and after three incidents of going missing a complex multi-agency strategy meeting is convened. However, this is a recent development and in some cases seen young people at potential risk of CSE had not benefited from a multi-agency strategy meeting to comprehensively assess all known risk factors.
23. Accelerated learning has recently increased the robustness and identification of young people potentially at risk of CSE. The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB) has begun to implement a good quality multi-agency action plan coordinating the roles of agencies in addressing issues related to CSE. Some actions such as identification of risk factors and referral pathways are already complete. However, some aspects of the plan, specifically disruption and prosecution activities, have yet to be implemented and it is too early to demonstrate effectiveness.
24. The pupil referral unit supports the development of good behaviour management and provides effective access to alternative provision for those primary and secondary age pupils excluded from mainstream provision. As a result, children are quickly and effectively reintegrated to

mainstream provision making good progress to catch up with the attainment of their peers.

25. Overall, children, young people and their families feel satisfied with the quality and nature of the help they receive and families' views on the effectiveness of help are built into CAF and TAC processes. In particular a group of vulnerable young women expressed high levels of satisfaction, feeling fully included and positively helped. Children's centres and the adolescent intervention service (AIS) systematically collect views of families and young people and high levels of satisfaction are reflected in their sustained positive outcomes. Parents spoken to during the inspection reported positively that social workers have time for them and they feel listened to.
26. The effective engagement of children and families is an explicit priority for senior managers and is well evidenced by the implementation of the strengthening families method of managing child protection case conferences, where the views of parents and children are fully included. Managers routinely receive and collate views of parents subject to child protection processes. Most who respond are clear about what needs to change for a child protection plan to be removed.
27. Generally, help and protection is sensitive to the individual needs of children and families with regard to their culture, language and disabilities. Targeted youth groups, provided to meet different gender needs and specific cultural needs such as a dance and drama groups for Roma Traveller young people, have good impact on the participants but there is too little provision and waiting lists are growing. In the children's integrated disabilities team most cases seen demonstrated a lack of child centred practice. In one case a sibling group subject to a child protection plan had not had their needs effectively assessed or monitored.
28. Particular challenges, acknowledged by the council, remain in the provision of a reliable and effective interpretation service. Senior managers have recently re-commissioned the service in an effort to raise standards and better meet the needs of the community, but it is too early to assess the impact of new arrangements.
29. An effective specialist team, the minority ethnic new arrivals team, includes staff who are bi-lingual in a range of languages including Slovakian, Lithuanian, a range of Roma dialects and Portuguese. The team is engaging positively with a high percentage of children who are not registered at schools in the city. Nearly all become successfully engaged in education and benefit from an improved sense of belonging and emotional well-being.
30. The early help offer is accessible across the community and includes both council and commissioned services. Services including children's centres are located in the areas of greatest need and are effectively reconfigured

to respond to changes in local needs. Although the prevention and early intervention strategy has been implemented recently, some children's centres do not use CAF as their common assessment tool, preferring to retain the use of their own individualised processes when undertaking work with partner agencies. Significantly, although this multi-agency work helps professionals to identify and manage risks to children, their parents are not specifically asked for their consent to information being shared nor is there a holistic assessment undertaken. Plans made under such individual arrangements are not subject to routine or robust review. The result is that this work, outside the realm of the common assessment processes, does not have overarching management oversight or effectively contribute to the gathering of comprehensive management information about local need.

31. High intensity family support delivering improved outcomes is provided by an independent organisation. Effective practical support programmes for vulnerable families are well established and evidence demonstrates clearly their contribution to reducing and minimising risks for children. The AIS and targeted youth services are well understood by partner agencies and good signposting enables effective access. The connecting families programme, whilst in its early stages of development, is supported by strong partnership arrangements and is already showing positive outcomes.
32. Schools are central to the provision of a wide base of early help services. The number of CAFs initiated by primary schools has risen by a third in the past two years and secondary schools maintain a steady pace of growth in this area of work. Schools welcome the access to resources through the MASGs and are able to secure intensive support at very short notice. These arrangements build on schools' existing good contacts with a wide range of services to help children manage their behaviour and reduce risks to expand the range of teams around children and their families. Evaluation of early help is underdeveloped despite a full evaluation of CAF and its impact being undertaken in 2012. Actions taken to address deficits, particularly in relation to training, have been put in place but as yet it is too early to see any improvement.
33. Good and effective multi-agency working is evident both in TAC plans and the recommendations made on a routine basis by the MASG. CAFs demonstrate this further and are completed by a wide range of professionals including schools, health visiting and housing agencies. Regular and helpful communication between practitioners from a range of locality based agencies positively supports on-going work.
34. The majority of children are referred appropriately to services that best meet their needs. The impact of plans to protect children or support those in need are generally effective and case files demonstrate risk being steadily reduced with the aim of safe transfer from statutory to other

services being achieved in the majority of cases. In September 2012, senior managers completed an effective audit of cases subject to child protection processes in the light of rising numbers. Their findings, confirmed by the majority of cases scrutinised and observed during this inspection, demonstrate clearly that only very few cases were able to be considered for signposting or transfer to prevention and early intervention services and that children are not unnecessarily subject to formal processes.

The quality of practice

35. The quality of practice is judged to be **adequate**. Inspectors saw some examples of good work by individual social workers and other staff. However, this is not yet sufficiently consistent across the service. Some examples of poor practice were evidenced in assessment and analysis which contributes to this inconsistency. Overall, the majority of cases seen by inspectors were satisfactory with effective risk assessments and decision making. During the inspection, no children were found to be inadequately protected or at risk of significant harm and there were no child protection or children in need cases which were unallocated.
36. The single point of contact is responsive and well resourced to meet the current volume of referrals. Decision making in this service is effective and timely, with good management oversight. Professionals report positively about the value of being able to consult with a social worker in the contact and referral team if they have a concern or issue before making a formal referral or to assist in deciding whether another option would be more appropriate for a family.
37. Representatives of schools, academies, children's centres and health services spoken to expressed confidence in making referrals to the contact centre. Observations of a MASG and review of contacts and referrals confirmed that universal services generally make appropriate and timely referrals of adequate quality to children's social care.
38. An audit of the application of thresholds in November 2012 concluded that in general terms thresholds were being appropriately applied and this inspection concurs with that finding. However, the rate of referrals remains high, suggesting that there are some children's needs that could be met by other services. The council is aware of the high number of referrals, which includes re-referrals, and at the time of the inspection was in the process of undertaking an audit to understand this further. A new threshold document has recently been published to support agencies in deciding the most appropriate referral route. For lower levels of concern, universal services find discussions at the MASGs invaluable and highly responsive.
39. The out of hours service is providing an effective and efficient service. The service has access to the council's electronic case records and this

supports timely recording of interventions and contacts out of office hours. Information sharing arrangements are firmly in place for when a social worker needs to inform the service of any potential issues which may arise outside office hours.

40. Most strategy discussions are held promptly but are usually a telephone discussion between the police and social care only. In a small number of cases seen, the need for a strategy discussion following a disclosure by a child or contact from a professional was not recognised. In these cases statutory processes were not followed, resulting in the range of risks to the child not being fully assessed. Some cases were seen where it would have been more appropriate to convene a strategy meeting with all relevant professionals, in order to share the fullest information available on which to then agree a plan of action.
41. At the time of the inspection, the children's integrated disability service (CIDS) made decisions about child protection referrals and enquiries. However, as a direct result of two cases being referred to senior managers where due process had not been followed sufficiently, decisive action was taken to transfer the responsibility for all strategy discussions and subsequent enquiries to the referral team as an interim measure to ensure a robust and consistent approach.
42. Section 47 child protection enquiries are undertaken by suitably experienced and qualified social workers. The quality of these enquiries is variable. In most cases, an adequate and clear record of the enquiry is evident and in the more recent cases, the quality was much improved. In some cases, enquiries are only being made in relation to police and children's social care with few records of checks with health, probation, education or other known professionals.
43. Decision making in the referral and assessment teams is carried out at all times by qualified and experienced social workers and managers and decisions are recorded effectively in case notes and on assessments. In most cases the rationale for decisions is clear and follows the recommendations made by assessing social workers. However, in some cases seen, the rationale for managers' decisions is not recorded.
44. There is a good recognition that domestic abuse presents a risk to children in households where this is a feature. The police refer all incidents of domestic abuse where they have responded to an incident and children are present. These are currently risk assessed by the police with the council having plans to develop a multi-agency screening process. Schools are notified where there is considered to be a medium to high risk following a domestic abuse incident. Services are available to provide interventions and support to perpetrators and to adult victims of domestic abuse, and there is some support to children in schools through the personal, health, social and economic (PHSE) agenda. A recent needs

analysis recognises that specific therapeutic support for children who have experienced or witnessed domestic abuse needs to be enhanced. An action plan is in place which includes the development of more services for children.

45. Pre-birth assessments seen by inspectors are of satisfactory quality, with some examples of effective work between health and social care agencies, for example agreed discharge planning meetings from hospital, and good communication between midwives and social workers. Assessments seen resulted in effective actions to protect children.
46. Initial and core assessments are timely, with some being very thorough and demonstrating a good analysis of risk. Overall they are of satisfactory quality, but too many seen do not sufficiently identify family or environmental factors on the impact on the child's well-being. In some cases the recognition of risks is not clear. This results in plans which are inappropriately focused on the achievement of activities and practical arrangements with little emphasis on measurable improved outcomes for the child. Where plans are good, they identify a realistic timescale for actions to be achieved which relate to improving outcomes for children. In the small number of good assessments seen, these included a clear focus on the child and a succinct but full analysis of the impact on the child of the strengths and risks identified. However the quality of assessments is too variable, with a minority of cases seen failing to identify all risks.
47. The electronic case recording system automatically produces a chronology of events, but these are not always useful as they do not necessarily identify the most significant key issues. In some but not all cases seen social workers have identified key significant issues as part of core assessments or reports to child protection case conferences, and this helps to ensure the assessment is thorough and analyses all the background history in identifying the child's needs.
48. The involvement of children and young people in assessments, service delivery and planning is too inconsistent, ranging from inadequate to good. Where good engagement with children and young people was seen, their views and experiences were reflected well in assessments and in plans for their care. In most cases reviewed children were seen and where appropriate seen alone by social workers who were often able to demonstrate competent skills in engaging children and young people.
49. Many social workers were able to articulate how well they knew children as they described their casework to inspectors. Parents spoken to by inspectors stated that recent practice was more child focused and social workers spent time getting to know their children. This made parents feel more confident about the help they received. In some cases, particularly in the CIDS, effective relationships with children were not strongly evident, and assessments and plans were sometimes more focused on the

support needs of parents than the developmental needs of children. Examples of feedback from children about the services they receive are limited. Where they are available, for example through the youth service, they are very positive.

50. In CAF cases reviewed, plans are not sufficiently focused on the views and experiences of children and young people. Whilst there are some examples of children's views being elicited well for TAC meetings, those reviews sampled demonstrate that this work is not well developed. In most cases, children's views are represented but the record does not always give a real picture of how a child feels or what their life is like.
51. Case recording is in most instances coherent and timely, with social workers commenting positively on the effectiveness of the electronic case recording system. However, outcomes for children are not always clearly identified and in a minority of cases there was a lack of coherence between assessments, case recording and plans, making it difficult to follow the progress of work and to fully understand the child's experience.
52. Cases sampled by inspectors demonstrated variable management oversight on the child's case record, ranging from adequate to excellent. In many examples this was as a signature on the assessment, or a specific case direction and some had both. In the CIDS team this was less evident, resulting in a lack of direction and child focused responses in a small number of cases.
53. Social workers described being supported in their work through the availability of managers who provide formal and informal supervision.. The quality of formal supervision records varies from regular monthly case discussions with reflection and challenge in a minority of cases, to some which had long gaps between meetings and little by way of case direction or personal and professional development goals for staff. Some casework was seen which was reactive to meet the child's identified needs rather than being informed by a full understanding of the case through reflection. However the majority of supervision records seen were satisfactory and inspection findings echo the council's own audit outcomes which has made sound recommendations to improve supervision practice.
54. Social work reports for case conferences are not always routinely shared with the family prior to the meeting, although some good practice in this respect was seen. Reports do not always reflect the comments and views of families. Reports from other agencies are often, but not always, shared in advance, but police reports are not shared before conference. This can result in families having to absorb a large amount of information at the time of the meeting, which can be stressful and emotive, particularly if they do not agree with the information presented, and have not been given time to consider their response.

55. Child protection conferences are convened in a timely manner and regularly reviewed within prescribed timescales. Conference chairs are skilled and well qualified for their role. Chairs check routinely that standard practice expectations are met, providing a useful quality assurance role. For example, confirmation is sought from parents that they are made aware of their right to complain. The regularity of visiting and core groups being held are checked also to ensure they meet statutory regulations. However, in case sampling, there were incidents of drift in the timeliness of some core groups. There were also examples of core group minutes not being recorded in a timely way, making it difficult for managers or child protection chairs to check the progress of plans. Concerns about issues in practice are addressed by conference chairs through a system of 'practice alerts'. Examples reviewed demonstrated that this was a useful process in identifying poor practice or decision making, resulting in appropriate actions being taken to help and protect children.
56. The use of the strengthening families approach is very effective in engaging attendees in case conferences and focusing on the key issues. Inspectors observed this to be a constructive approach which enabled families to clearly see the risks and strengths and to understand why professionals may have concerns. Child protection conferences observed by inspectors were effectively chaired, although some social workers commented that case conferences can be too lengthy.
57. Case conferences are generally well attended by police, education and early years' health professionals. General practitioners do not routinely attend or send reports to meetings. This represents a possible risk that there is a missing link in the information sharing. Minutes of conferences are sent routinely to all invited agencies.
58. A review of case conference venues has resulted in improved accommodation for meetings in the city centre which is fit for purpose, although not always available. There are still some venues used that are not suitable in ensuring privacy for families and enabling the meeting to progress comfortably and without interruptions.
59. The advocacy service commissioned from a voluntary agency to support the attendance of children at conference is working well. There is a policy of inviting children to conferences where appropriate when they are aged 12 or over, but their participation is currently low. The council recognises that more work needs to be done to ensure children and young people are sufficiently prepared and supported to attend.

Leadership and governance

60. Leadership and governance are **adequate**. The council has taken the learning from the past inspection seriously and has worked hard to prioritise child protection and early help. The council has a thorough

understanding of its strengths and weaknesses and how these have impacted on services. This is demonstrated by significant investment from the council that has strengthened service provision. Priority has been given to the appointment of experienced senior leaders to address identified deficits and drive forward service and practice improvements.

61. Since the re-inspection of safeguarding in August 2011, the social work establishment has been increased from 56 to 81 social workers (excluding fostering and adoption services). The reliance on agency staff has been reducing through a successful recruitment campaign resulting in agency staff accounting for 13% of staff at the time of the inspection, a significant reduction from 32% in February 2012. Caseloads have reduced considerably and the majority of social workers report these to be manageable. This additional capacity has ensured that backlogs of initial and core assessments have been cleared and at the time of this inspection there was no unallocated work.
62. The detailed and wide ranging improvement plan, overseen by an independently chaired Improvement Board, has been the primary vehicle for the council's recovery phase, supported by a comprehensive performance framework. The senior leadership team and partners work to a single delivery plan and there is clear evidence of the strategic vision being conveyed with clarity to the workforce with significant activity taking place to address previous identified deficits.
63. 'Front door' processes have been re-designed within the contact centre and between the contact centre and the referral and assessment team. This has led to the consistent application of agreed multi-agency thresholds supported by an emerging prevention and early intervention strategy based on an up to date local needs analysis. Families are diverted appropriately into early intervention services including CAF and the more recently established AIS. The effective work of the contact team provides firm foundations for the recently agreed development of a locally based multi-agency referral unit (MARU) with Cambridgeshire constabulary.
64. Effective use has been made of external validation to maintain an active and current understanding of their strengths and areas for development. The council requested an Eastern Region Peer Safeguarding Health Check during the latter part of October 2012. The report, informed by a self-assessment described by the peer review team as 'robust, analytical and offering an appropriate critique of the authority's position and developments' identified many of the areas of effectiveness found during this current inspection. The peer review team also referred to a relentless drive for improvement led by senior managers and the increasing availability of early help services. The review confirmed the efficiency of work at the front door and highlighted the further priorities of the council to move the workforce from compliance to engagement and to secure permanent and effective middle manager posts. The findings of the review

have been used effectively to inform the prioritisation of further incremental change. The current inspection concurs with these findings.

65. There has been positive progress against all the areas for development since the last inspection, most notably in the management and capacity to respond effectively to contacts and referrals. The threshold document has been revised and agreed by the PSCB. This has been critical to establishing a more consistent approach to contacts, referrals and decision making in the referral and assessment service. A new electronic recording system is now firmly in place and is an efficient tool for both case recording and in generating reliable performance management information. The council is currently in the process of installing a business objects performance tool. This is designed to enable managers to contemporaneously manage and have oversight of their team's performance thus engendering management responsibility for performance at the most appropriate level.
66. Leaders and senior managers recognise that addressing weaknesses identified in children's services require rapid improvement, concerted will and the combined efforts of partners. This has led to the development of the Prevention and Early Intervention strategy informed by the views of partners aligned to capacity. The plan was very recently agreed and 'signed off' in January 2013. Early intervention strategies are clearly linked to an adequate needs analysis that utilised wide ranging indicators to identify current areas of need. Whilst improvements have been made to prevention and early intervention services, the strategy is relatively new and is yet to be fully embedded.
67. The connecting families programme is an innovative and sustainable approach to addressing the government's 'troubled families' initiative. Overseen by a wide range of partners using existing staff known as 'connectors' based in a range of services, the programme is working with an increasing number of families. While recently deployed, the programme is already delivering improved outcomes. Further work is yet to be done to routinely assess the financial efficacy of the programme in terms of savings delivered through this approach.
68. Knowledge of the increasing range of services available within the council's area and how to access these is supported and promoted by an electronic interactive services directory and a toolkit of local services. These exceptionally well prepared and comprehensive tools provide clear information, are updated on a regular basis and made available to a wide range of services and agencies.
69. The council recognised that the Children's Trust Board (CTB) had become too large to be wholly effective and its role and remit too wide to address priorities. Building upon established and valued partnership working, partners have recently agreed to replace the CTB with a Children's Joint

Commissioning Board (CJCB). The new Board has a tighter membership designed to promote greater accountability and clarity of purpose. The Board is accountable through the director of children's services and the lead members who report on the effectiveness and impact of work to the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). Terms of reference for the CJCB are agreed with clearly defined strategic priorities articulated well within the improvement plan. The improvement plan is in the process of being incorporated into a single delivery plan for children giving the highest priority to the safeguarding and protection of children and young people and replaces the children and young people's plan.

70. The strategic governance arrangements between the CJCB, the PSCB and the HWB are yet to be fully established to ensure the strategic priorities for children and young people are firmly embedded and understood with rigorous challenge. This contributes to a current diminished lack of effectiveness of the PSCB to hold these Boards to account.
71. Commissioning has been effectively focused to support the improvement plan and improve service resources from a low base where there were few services to support the front line and no clear pathways to access resources. Children's centres have been commissioned to deliver targeted services and panels have been established including the MASGs and the Peterborough access to services panel (PASP) which consists of education and social care professionals. Inspectors saw evidence that the panel approved the provision of resources promptly to support vulnerable families as well as providing an effective forum for managerial oversight of planning and interventions. Intensive family support services have been commissioned within the city and have been seen to be highly effective, delivering some positive outcomes. Services to families with complex needs and where long term neglect has been identified as a cause for concern are beginning to be delivered by a voluntary agency which is also introducing the use of the video interactive guidance tool to support parents' learning about their behaviours.
72. Domestic abuse is identified appropriately as a key priority by the Safer Peterborough Partnership. The domestic abuse strategy provides details of the range of provision for victims and perpetrators. The strategy is adequate and identifies current data and activity levels but is more crime focused than child focused. The need for more services for children who live in an environment of domestic abuse is recognised. The recently produced action plan includes a proposal to map services available to meet the needs of children. Activity identified within the plan is insufficiently outcome focused and does not set out specific measurable targets to meet children's needs.
73. A very recent document sets out the view and intent of local partners in relation to CSE under the auspices of the PSCB. The action plan is good and red, amber, green (RAG) rated to illustrate progress made. Some

actions to deliver an ambitious strategy are already complete. Priority has been given to identification of risk factors, referral pathways and staff training. A referral form has been developed between Peterborough and Cambridgeshire safeguarding children boards which uses the Barnardo's definitions of CSE to refer and risk assess those at possible risk. However, the strategy is too early in its implementation to demonstrate impact and effectiveness.

74. Accountabilities and responsibilities between the director of children's services, the chief executive and lead members for children's services are clear and have been strengthened as a direct result of learning from the past inspection. Increased and active oversight by elected members is firmly in place which has developed their understanding of strengths and weaknesses and has given them the confidence to challenge senior officers. The use of the members' task and finish group to visit front line services and to accompany social workers on visits is a good mechanism now in place for members to assure themselves that services are improving and to hear directly the views of staff and service users.
75. The Director of Children's Services and other senior managers provide strong and visible leadership, involving themselves appropriately in observing front line work and auditing practice. A social work forum was established last summer to include a representative from each of the children's services teams. During the period of extensive change, very effective use of the forum has enabled staff to have a voice, feel empowered and confident to raise issues with managers at all levels as well as elected members. Staff reported examples where the forum has had a positive impact and contributed to service improvements. During continuing changes within the service, the forum has helped significantly to manage anxieties and for managers to be made aware of concerns. Staff report they have confidence in their senior managers and that they will be able to sustain the current positive changes.
76. The PSCB meets its statutory responsibilities and has successfully appointed two lay members to assist it in its work. Interim arrangements are in place to cover the current vacancy of an independent chair. The council and partners are exercising due diligence in ensuring that the new appointment will be an effective lead with the necessary drive and challenge to enable the board to be an effective agent of change and improvement. The most recent annual report is comprehensive providing an overview of duties undertaken and some analysis of the effectiveness of this work. The role and structure of the Board has been informed by external review and there has been a recent streamlining of sub groups to reflect priority work. A strengthened quality assurance framework is being developed and there is on-going work to compile an agreed data set for performance management purposes. The effectiveness of these changes and the scrutiny function of the board are not yet fully embedded. Multi-agency case auditing, although it occurs, is not systematic and is

underdeveloped, failing to consistently review whether practice has changed as a result of audit activity..

77. The Board is aware that that much further work is required to identify and take into account feedback from children, young people and their families. A range of activity demonstrates that lessons learned from serious case reviews are disseminated to staff although with limited success. An example of this is in social work practice which continues to demonstrate insufficient consideration of fathers and male partners who remain largely invisible in child protection and child in need processes. Multi-agency training is well received and increasingly embraces e-learning opportunities. The Board is aware it has more to do to clarify training expectations, scope provision and measure impact and cost effectiveness longitudinally. Examples of joint work with Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Children Board have been seen to be effective such as the establishment of a joint child death overview panel.
78. Performance management and quality assurance arrangements for children's social care are increasingly well established underpinned by a well formed quality assurance strategy. The performance framework is clear and comprehensive, recognising the balance of quantitative and qualitative practice, locating accountabilities at every level from practitioner to director. High level performance management information is used well for monitoring compliance and has formed the basis of recent improvements in the overall quality of practice. The council acknowledges that the current quality assurance activity is predicated by necessity to issues of process, rather than the quality of practice and outcomes which is to be a key feature for the next phase of improvement activity. However, regular case and themed audits are undertaken to support improvements in practice. Most key indicators reflect a positive trend including the timeliness of assessments.
79. Child protection conference chairs are seen by the council as pivotal in quality assurance processes. The introduction of quality assurance exemplars supports the focus on improving the quality of practice. Inspectors examined cases that had triggered 'practice alerts' highlighting issues of compromised practice, such as insufficient core group activity to progress child protection plans or not identifying fully the risks to a child. This system provides an effective layer of quality assurance though serves to highlight that there is further work to do to universally embed consistent and robust management oversight of team activity at the team management level.
80. The quality of social work supervision is variable with some poor and some excellent provision seen. Overall, the quality of supervision is adequate and improving. Staff expressed the view that there was increasing use of reflective supervision though agreed this is not always well evidenced on case files. Social workers spoken to during the inspection feel well

supported and have formal and ad-hoc access to their managers. Management oversight of cases is generally effective with managers giving clear case direction following supervision of their staff. Case directions are mostly responded to appropriately by social workers although there is more to do to ensure that work is well-targeted and focused on the protection and welfare needs of the child rather than the presenting needs of adults. Management challenge is increasingly used to improve assessment and planning for children and young people and is assisted by the use of external consultants who may sit alongside workers or 'floorwalk' in the role of social work advisors.

81. Parents report positively on the intentions and impact of the help they receive when involved in child protection processes where feedback is routinely sought and collated. Plans are well advanced to engage with a group of parents who are or have been involved in child protection services to inform service provision and act as a sounding board for new developments. Similarly the PSCB is to engage imminently with over 100 children and young people in the establishment of Young Peoples' Safeguarding Advisory groups that it is hoped will lead to the emergence of a shadow PSCB. Despite these recent developments, the council recognises that processes to seek and utilise feedback from children, young people and their families are underdeveloped and yet to display impact. An advocacy service for children involved in child protection is firmly in place although more is to be done to maximise the use and benefit of this service.
82. Complaints are monitored quarterly with evidence seen of issues being addressed appropriately. However, complaints are managed corporately and the most recent annual complaints report is overly focused on process. Whilst the nature of complaints is listed, these do not differentiate between children's and adults' services. Learning arising from the annual report is not evidenced as there is no action plan attached nor is there any evidence of progress made in relation to issues arising from the previous annual report.
83. The council has made significant investments in workforce planning and has reduced its reliance on agency staff by successful recruitment campaigns. Since January 2012 the priority has been to increase the permanent social work establishment resulting in vacancies covered by agency staff being reduced from 31% to 13%. The council monitors the diversity of the workforce but has not proactively targeted their recruitment to reflect the increasing diversity of the local community. Support to newly qualified social workers (NQSWS) and training opportunities to other key staff including first line managers is valued and positive. However, although feedback from staff in relation to their experiences of training is routinely gathered, the council is aware the systems for assessing the longitudinal impact of learning on practice are underdeveloped.

84. The council has developed good links with educational establishments. However, in order to achieve a well-balanced range of experience within social care teams, the council has made a judicious decision to cap, at 20%, the number of newly qualified social workers within the children’s social care workforce. The role of the advanced practitioner is being developed to support social work practice as well as to retain staff through career development. Professional development reviews are routinely undertaken with completion compliance at 95%. However, they are not yet being fully utilised to feed into training plans to ensure training is targeted to need.

Record of main findings

Local authority arrangements for the protection of children	
Overall effectiveness	Adequate
The effectiveness of the help and protection provided to children, young people, families and carers	Adequate
The quality of practice	Adequate
Leadership and governance	Adequate

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES & TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 6
11 MARCH 2013	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) – Sue Westcott
Contact Details - 863606

CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the Improvement programme and present the refreshed Delivery Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the progress made on the core strategy.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy identifies "Improving Health" and "Supporting Vulnerable People" as priorities. Improvement in Children's Social Care is key to the delivery of these priorities.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Following an Ofsted Inspection in August 2011, the Council has engaged in a programme to secure rapid improvement. This improvement will be driven by three key elements:

- The Children's Services Improvement Programme
- The Core Strategy which focuses effort on what we must prioritise
- The leadership of Members and officers in delivering the required changes

Ofsted have since inspected our safeguarding services recently, details of which are in a separate report to this Committee.

- 4.2 The Council's progress is closely monitored both internally and externally by this Committee, the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group and the External Improvement Board.

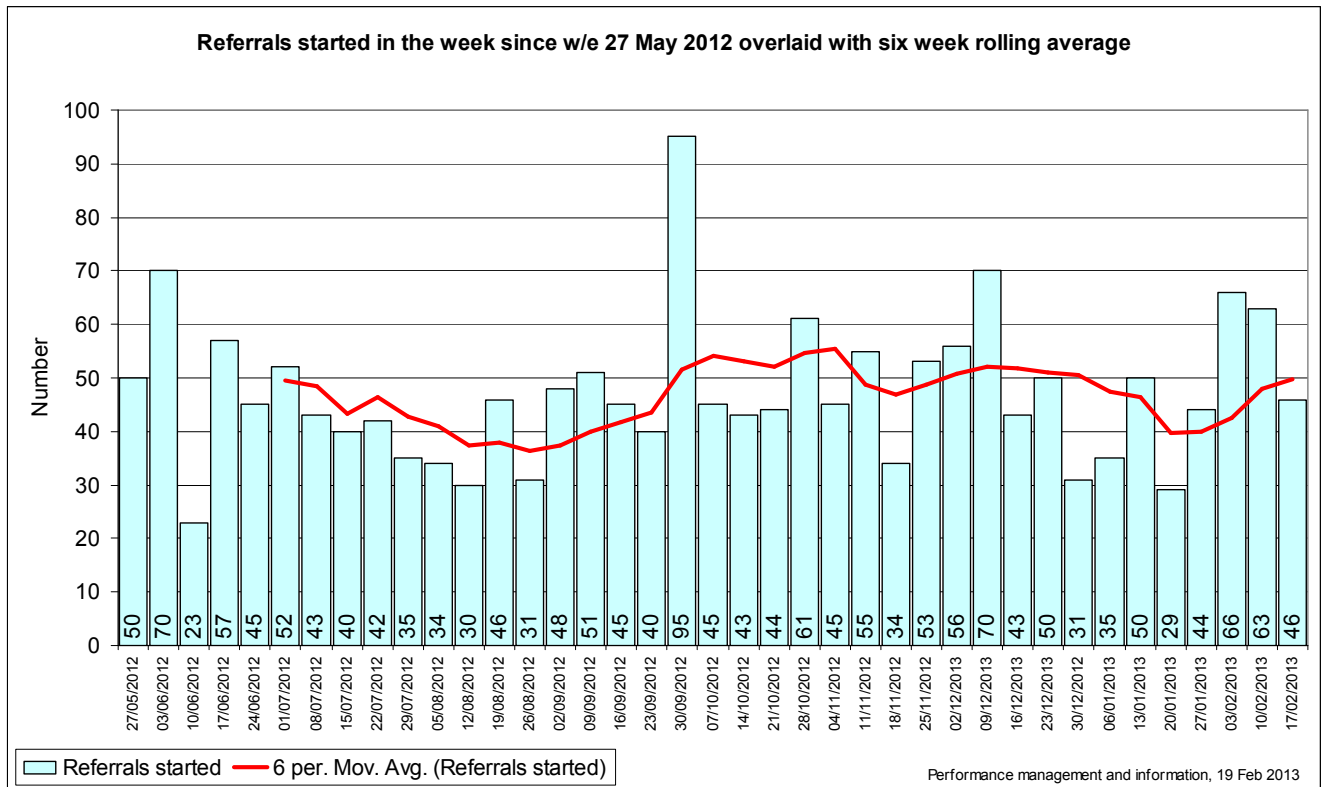
5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 Highlights

- Children Services has a refreshed vision and new single delivery plan (appendix 1)
- The number of referrals starting in a week is running at an average of approximately 50 a week from an all time high of 70 in December.
- The number of initial assessments within timescale in January 2013 has decreased slightly but the year end position remains relatively stable at over 90% which is fantastic performance.
- The number of Core Assessments in January 2013 remains high at almost double the target and is higher than our statistical neighbour. This is attributable to the large number of Strategy meetings being conducted which necessitate opening a Core on Liquidlogic.
- The number of Children becoming subject to a plan has slightly decreased in January 2013, but remains high at over 35.3 % higher than target.
- The number of CAFs is increasing
- Re- referrals is high

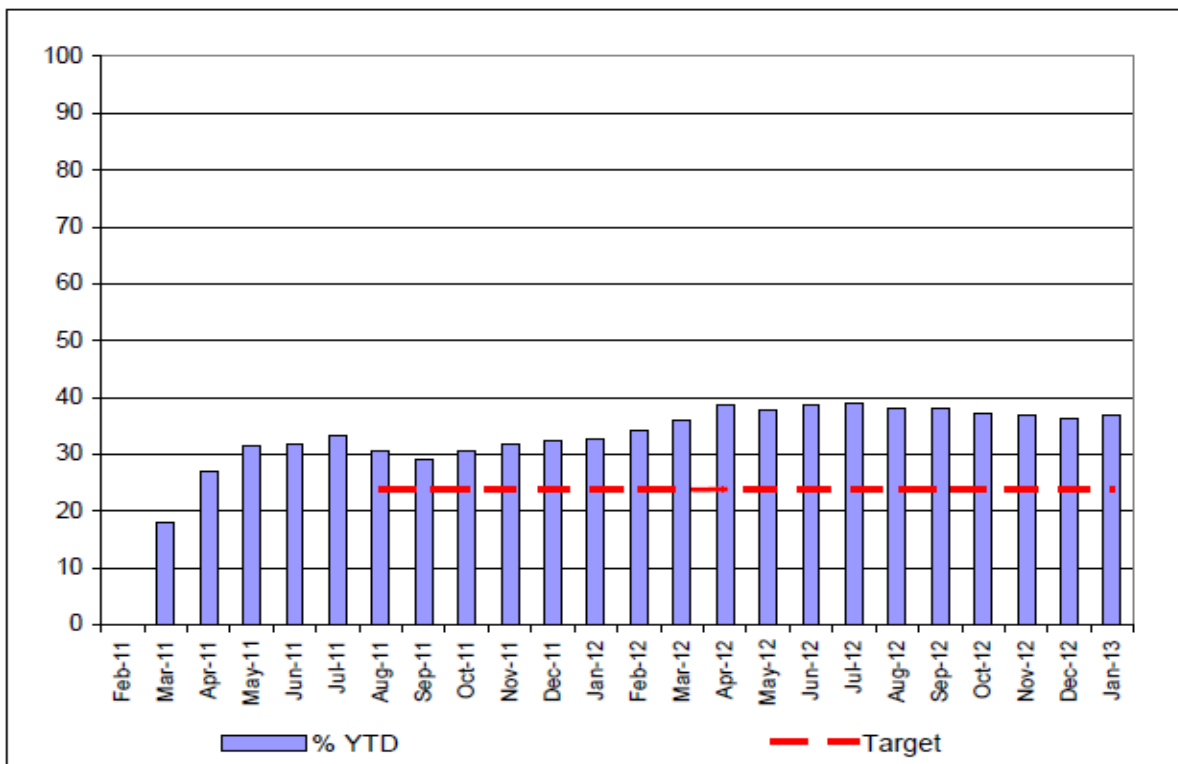
- The Ofsted Inspection conducted from 28 January to 6 February 2013 identifies that there are no children at risk of significant harm in the service (see separate report)

5.2 Referrals started in the week



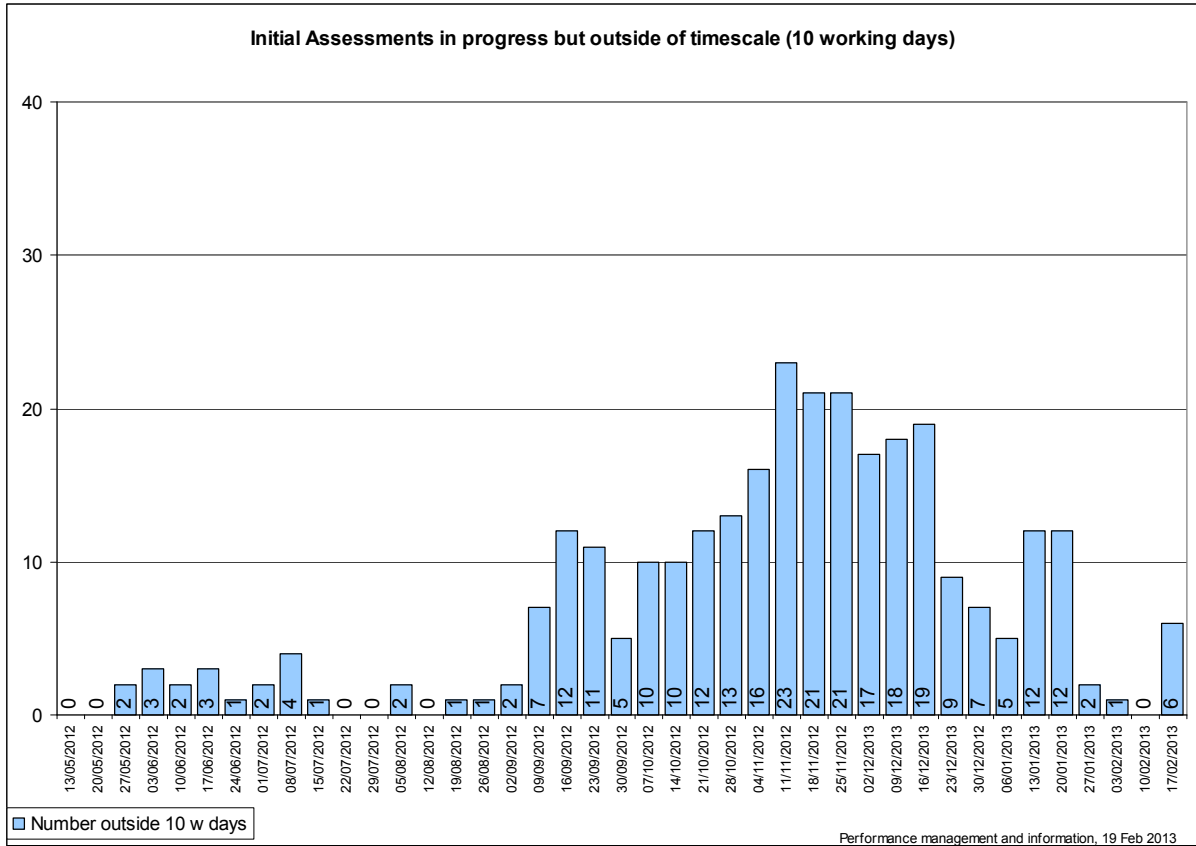
5.3 Re-referrals

The percentage of re-referrals at the end of January 2013 is 36.9% against a target of 21%. We are conducting an audit to ascertain the reasons for this. We consider it is the large number of repeat domestic violence incidents.

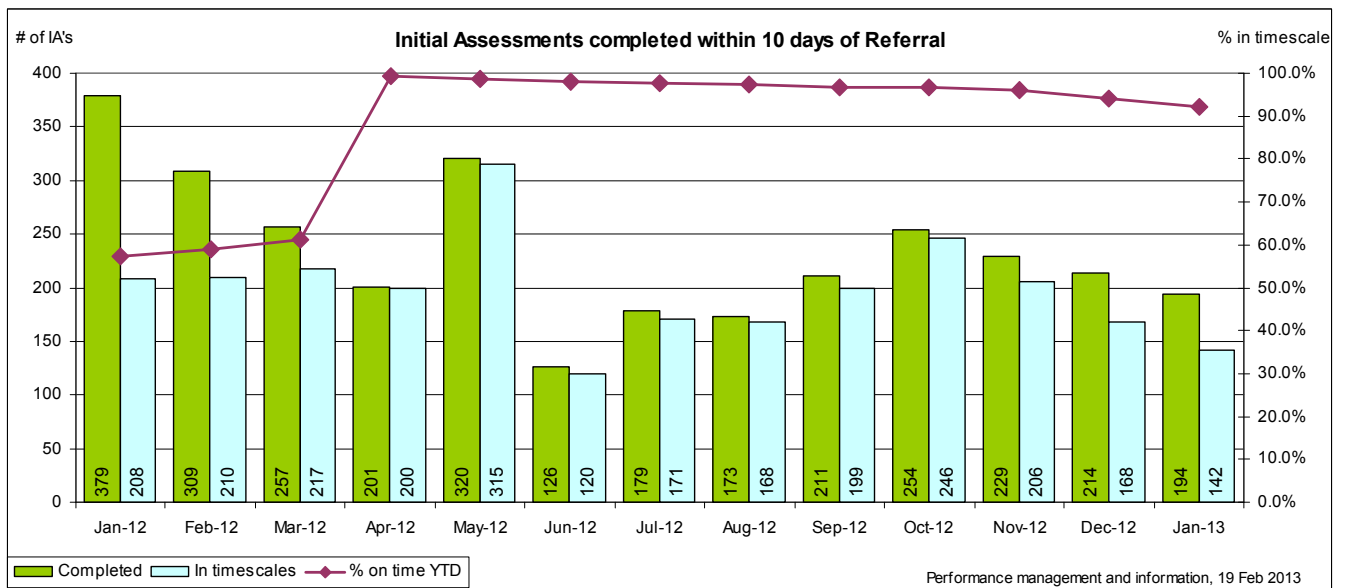


5.4 Initial Assessments

The following chart shows the numbers of initial assessments open and out of timescale. This has been consistently around the 20+ mark for the last few weeks, but is now reducing to an average of about 10.

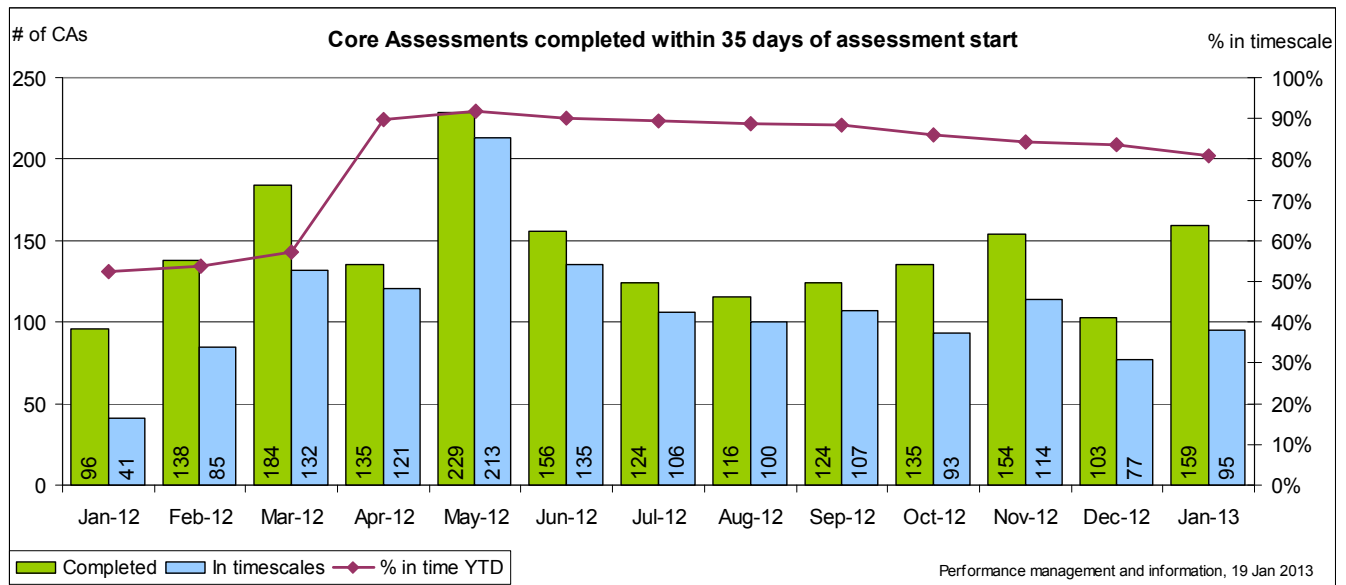


Nonetheless timeliness of initial assessments remains extremely strong averaging 92% all year.



5.5 Core Assessments

The number of Core assessments completed in timescale has decreased commensurate with a rise in the number completed.



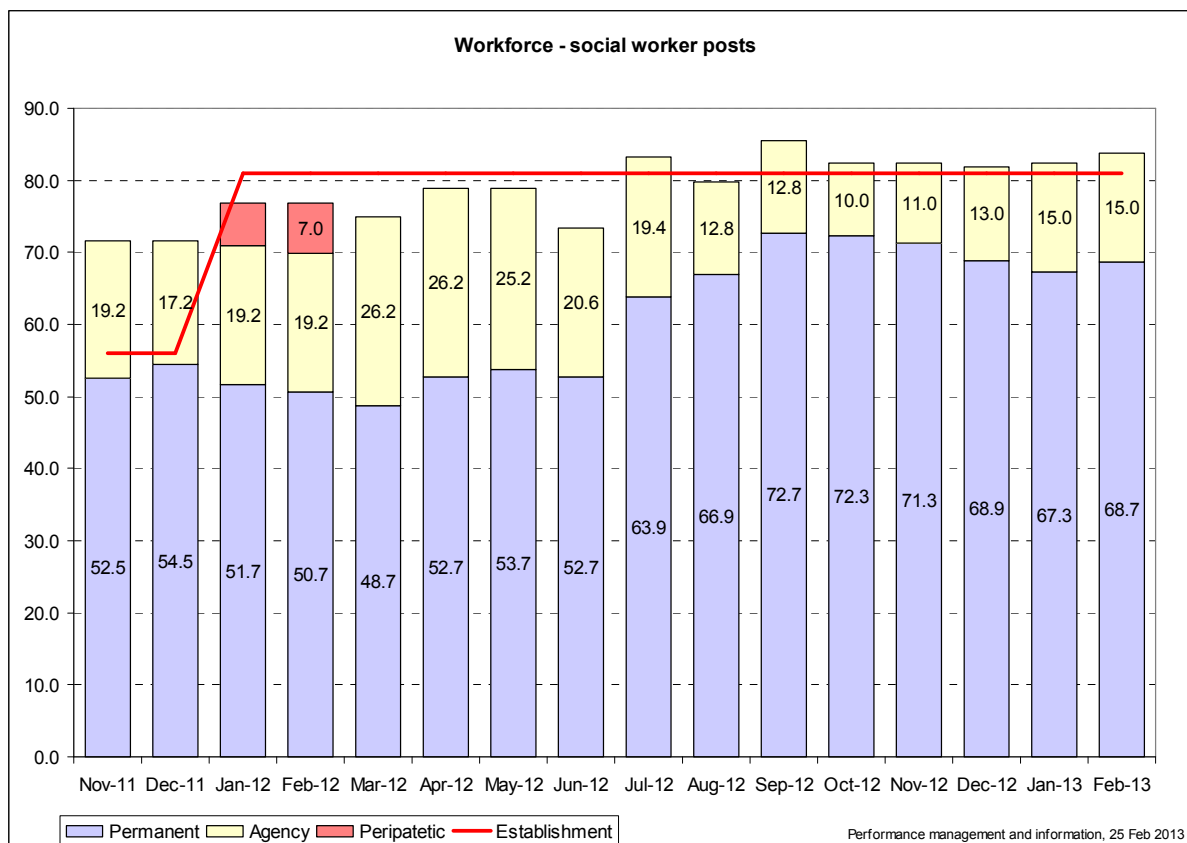
Timeliness remains very strong with 80% completed in timescale.

5.6 Workforce

The Head & Heart recruitment advertising campaign continues, however applications have reduced and we consider that the power of the logo has lost some of its initial impact. We have met with Hunter Lodge and agreed a strategy for a new marketing campaign targeted at team managers and demonstrating in the light of the OFSTED outcome a stronger and quality service.

The permanent vacancy rate is 12.3fte against the establishment of 81fte. (11 of which are covered by agency workers). This indicates a slight rise and is due to a slow down in the number of applications received for social worker posts and a small number of leavers. A refresh of the successful Head and Heart campaign is planned for the month of March to attract a new cohort of both experienced and newly qualified social workers to Peterborough. The refreshed campaign will detail our successes to date.

In November, CMT approved a variation to the terms and conditions of social workers to put them on a three month notice period. Upon agreement with the Employment Committee and the Unions, this was implemented during January. Management were keen to implement this approach to further improve recruitment and retention in Children's Social Care and aid workforce stability. This is now a contractual requirement for all new social workers. The existing social care workers employed on either pay scale 9 or 10 are shortly to be offered the equal opportunity to convert to this three month notice period. The advanced practitioners, who are currently on pay scale 12, already have a contractual three month notice period as this is standard practice for those on the Grade 12 pay band and above.



Workforce Social Work Posts:

The total fte for February 2013 is 83.7, made up of 68.7 fte permanent staff and 15 agency staff; three agency staff are covering maternity leave. This gives us a vacancy rate of 12.3 fte permanent staff with 1.3 posts not currently covered.

5.7 Member Visits Update

- Cllr Shaheed has been offered the opportunity to visit Claire Lodge anytime week commencing 11th March. A tentative date has been booked for 14th March; Brian Moss to confirm. (Brian is currently on annual leave)
- Cllr Shabbir will be visiting the Leaving Care Team on 28th February
- Alistair Kingsley and Cllr Harper visited floor two on Tuesday 12th February to see a demonstration of Liquidlogic and speak to staff about the end user experience

5.8 Refreshed Vision and Priorities

Children's Services DMT has refreshed its vision and priorities within an updated Improvement Plan which is now being referred to as the Delivery Plan. (see appendix 1)

Our vision is: "One Children's Service – Helping children be their best"

Our priorities are:

- Providing Children and Families with Early Support
- Helping Families with Problems and Keeping Children Safe
- Giving the best Opportunities to Children and Young People in Care
- Supporting our staff to be outstanding

I have set key actions for a delivery plan which is realistic and achievable and builds upon our improvement journey. The new improvement plan includes actions to improve our education attainment and to deliver on our Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy. Our CP External Improvement Board will continue to monitor our CP priorities and actions.

5.9 Summary

Progress has been sustained throughout this period. The major challenges remain:

- Putting in place a permanent middle management tier
- Attracting capable first line managers
- Sustaining good performance of both timeliness and quality
- A possible forthcoming LAC inspection which we are beginning to prepare for

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The cost of the improvement programme can be met from within existing budgets. Resources are available to secure improvement in the immediate and longer term.
- 6.2 The Secretary of State has the power to issue a statutory notice if he is not satisfied that sufficient progress is being made.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 Partner agencies, parents and children will be involved in the improvement activity.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 This Committee will continue to receive a regular update on progress and the Task and Finish Group will meet monthly to support the improvement.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 9.1
- Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding: Peterborough 6th September 2011
 - Ofsted Unannounced Inspection of contact referral and assessment arrangements 3rd March 2011
 - Ofsted Safeguarding and Looked after Children Inspection: Peterborough 21st May 2010
 - Ofsted Local Authority Arrangements for the Protection of Children: inspection report 8 March 2013

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Children's Services Delivery Plan

One Children's Service
Helping Children to be their best

Our Vision for Children

Helping Children to be their best

- **Providing Children and Families with early support**
- **Helping families with problems and keeping children safe**
- **Giving the best opportunities to children and young people in care**
- **Working with schools and others to make sure children succeed**
- **Supporting our staff to be outstanding**

Future Vision

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Peterborough City Council has the highest aspirations for its children and young people and wants them to grow up safe, healthy, happy and fulfilled. We want them to enjoy and benefit from educational and social opportunities that maximise their skills and develop their abilities so that they can realise their ambitions in terms of employment opportunities and general life chances. We believe that children are best nurtured and developed within strong families. We believe families are the foundation upon which resilient and healthy communities are built and our aim is to support them as the main contributor to a child's safety, health and wellbeing, putting them and children at the centre of our communities.

We will continue to develop early intervention to help and support vulnerable families, coordinating the support of the voluntary private and public sectors and ensuring that delivery of services is joined up. We will collaborate with families to help them find their own solutions so that problems and difficulties do not escalate, and where additional support is required we will engage with other agencies and organisations to commission and secure this help locally. We will adopt an approach that sees prevention and intervention as a continuum so that it is never deemed too late to positively intervene and prevent the deterioration in an individual child or young person's circumstances.

With our key partners we are developing and strengthening our safeguarding services, striving to ensure that children and young people are protected from abuse and neglect, reducing and where possible eradicating risks to children. We believe that this will be achieved most effectively by working alongside families building on their strengths and enabling them to make the changes that are required. We fully recognise that it is important to ensure that our interventions are focussed, of high quality, timely and responsive to need.

Where children are suffering significant harm and the required change cannot be made, we will act decisively in order to protect them. When children and young people cannot live with their birth or extended families we will ensure that we are able to provide the next best alternative which we believe is care in a family setting as close to their home communities as possible.

We will ensure that our foster care and adoption service provides a wide choice of alternative carers for children so we can be confident that the individual needs of children from diverse backgrounds will be met. On the rare occasions when children and young people need more specialist provision than family settings can offer, we will ensure it is accessed in a timely way and is of the highest quality. We will make sure that children and young people only stay in public care for as long as absolutely necessary and will focus our attention on speedy and safe returns home or seek the best possible permanent alternative.

Where children are not safe to live at home we will provide the best opportunities for our looked after children commensurate with our Corporate Parenting responsibilities. This means providing our children, who are looked after, with high quality placements preferably in city, stability, excellent health services and the ability to access leisure pursuits.

We will remodel our support to schools in the light of the changing role and responsibilities of local authorities. We remain committed to providing an outstanding education to our children and this will be delivered through developing an effective schools partnership using expertise in the city and bring best practice from across the country. We will take swift and decisive action in schools that continue to underperform. Our school buildings are amongst the best in the country and we intend making sure that we can recruit and train outstanding teacher locally to support the specific needs of the city through developing teaching schools and a school centred initial teacher training (SCITT) centre. We will continue to monitor the growth in pupil numbers and respond accordingly to ensure there are 'local places for local children'. We will revise our approach to special education needs ensuring we are inclusive, creating provision which meets our children's emerging needs and support schools to retain pupils in their communities. Key strategies will be developed around support challenging behaviour and children who have English as an additional language.

Our staff is at the core of delivering excellent services to children and young people and we are committed to achieving this by engaging with our workforce through clear communications, inspirational leadership and creation of a culture which values excellence, innovation and trust. We will develop our workforce within Social Care with clear induction pathways, a targeted training and development programme and the move from Senior Practitioner to Advanced Practitioner status.

We will continue to develop the capability and sustainability of our workforce through effective recruitment, retention, talent management and succession planning activities combined with strong performance management and a focus on creating targeted training and development across the department.

By creating an environment where our staff are provided with the skills, tools, opportunity and confidence to support the department's workforce vision we will ensure that we are doing our very best to enable our workforce to help the children of Peterborough be their best

Proposed Peterborough City Council Core Values

- **Trust**

We are honest and open all our dealings and deliver on our promises

- **Initiative**

We are proactive and use our creativity to identify and resolve problems

- **Customer focused**

We understand and aim to meet our customer's diverse needs, treating them fairly and with respect

- **Work together/one team**

We work with colleagues and partners to deliver the best services possible

- **Expertise**

We recognise and value the differences, skills, knowledge and experience of all our employees

1. Providing Children and Families with Early Support						
Accountable Lead: Assistant Director Strategic Commissioning and Prevention						
Priorities:						
Delivery of Early Support through the Children and Families Joint Commissioning Board Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy – strands of work:						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SEN/Disability 2. Emotional Health and Wellbeing 3. Supporting Vulnerable Young people and NEET 4. Early Years and High Need Families 5. Integrated Processes (CAF/TAC) 6. Parents with Mental Health Difficulties 						
Number	Action	Performance Measure	By whom	By when	Progress	RAG
1.0	Implement the Special Educational Needs (SEN)/Disability work program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All appropriate resource cases identified and presented to the CWD panel and management transferred to the commissioning services • Increase number of families accessing direct payments by 10% • Increase the satisfaction of children, young people and families accessing short breaks – Annual Survey. • Reduce the number of children in out of city care and school 	Wendi Ogle - Welbourn	February 2013 March 2014 March 2014		

2.0	Implement the emotional health and well being work program.	placements. (target to be determined) Increase the services available to children and young people with emotional / mental health difficulties	Wendi Ogle - Welbourn	September 2014	
3.0	Implement the vulnerable young people and NEET work program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce number of young people abusing alcohol and substances. Including the identification of. (target to be determined) • Reduce STI's (ttbd) • Reduce TP rates (ttbd) • Reduce levels of persistent absence (ttbd) • Reduction in Anti-social behaviour (ttbd) • Reduce number of 16 – 19 year olds who are NEET (ttbd) • Reduce number of 16 – 19 year old LAC who are NEET (ttbd) • Increase level of participation in 	Wendi Ogle - Welbourn	March 2014	2015

4.0	Implement the early years and high need families work program	learning or work with training to meet the 100% target	Wendi Ogle – Welbourn	March 2014					
5.0	Implement the integrated process work program (CAF/TAC/MASG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the Connecting Families Program Increase the number of child care places and take up. (ttbd) Have a range of family support services to prevent referral and re-referral to CSC. 10 % Increase the number of de-escalations via the MASGs from CSC. 10% Implement the outcome star model for working with families. (6 monthly report to CFJCB) 	Wendi Ogle – Welbourn	March 2014					
6.0	Implement the LSCB working guidance around parents with mental health difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint planning and working with parents who have mental health difficulties (LSCB MA audit) 	Wendi Ogle Welbourn	September 2014					
What difference has this made:									
2. Helping families with problems and keeping children safe									
Accountable Lead: Assistant Director of Safeguarding Families and Communities									

Priorities:						
1. Implement the Ofsted Action Plan 2. To ensure timely and effective response according to need 3. That every child in need including those in need of protection will have a clear plan of action and support designed to address need and reduce risk within timescales appropriate to children's ages and individual circumstances 4. Ensure children are protected and safe from harm						
Number	Action	Performance Measure	By whom	By when	Progress	RAG
2.1.1	Implement the Ofsted Action Plan Please see separate action plan		Jean Imray			
2.2.1	Develop Multi Agency Referral Unit Hub in Peterborough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in numbers of referrals 10% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in repeat referrals 15% 	Jean Imray	March 2014		
2.2.2	Formalise the consultation service in Referral and Assessment for professionals /MARU Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in use of MASG/ Tier2 interventions. 10% • Reduction in repeat referrals. 15% 	Jean Imray	March 2014		
2.2.3	Enhance the work undertaken at referral stage in order to reduce numbers of unnecessary IAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in numbers of IA ending in NFA. 10% 	Jean Imray	January 2014		
2.2.4	Ensure S47 's are only undertaken when the child is suffering significant harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re- audit the application of thresholds 	Jean Imray	September 2014		

	Review the application of thresholds for s 47 investigations	for S47. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in numbers of S47 enquiries and consequent core assessments undertaken. 10% Decrease in percentage of CA ending in NFA. 10% Timeliness PI's Outcomes from audit shows improved quality 	Jean Imray	February 2014	
2.2.5	Maintain performance around timeliness of assessments with a renewed focus on improving quality		Jean Imray	Ongoing	
What difference has this made:					
2.3.1	Reorganise workloads in Family Support teams to ensure focus is maintained on CIN and CP cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All CIN open cases have plans. 80% Throughput of CIN increases ie step up, step down, closure. 10% Decrease in numbers of children with CP plans. 15% Reduction in re referral rates. 15% CIN open cases have plans. 80% Decrease in numbers of children with 	Jean Imray	January 2014	
2.3.2	Implement revised CIN procedures and practice guidance ensuring multi agency sign up		Jean Imray	January 2014	

2.3.3	Implement revised CIN plan template and monitor for compliance	CP plans. 15% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in re referral rates. 15% As above plus positive feedback from service users and professionals in term of clarity of plans. 	Jean Imray	February 2014				
2.3.4	Ensure compliance with the supervision policy and improve the quality of the supervision delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff are supervised at least monthly evidenced on LL and personal file, evidence of reflective practice. 	Jean Imray	September 2013				
2.3.5	Agree and implement 'Family Outcomes Star' methodology for measuring outcomes for work with Children in Need and Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence use of Outcome Star. Training for all CSC staff. New cases in R and A from June 2012 to start using Outcomes Star for all new Cores- as a pilot 	Jean Imray	April 2013 June 2013 June 2013				
What difference has this made:								
2.4.1	Review the operation of the PSCB Business Unit to achieve maximum effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from Board in terms of effectiveness of unit Scrutiny function of Board enhanced 	Jean Imray	March 2013				

2.4.2	Develop role of 'Principal Social Worker' /Social Work Champion to lead on quality of practice issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrable improvements in practice Reduction in complaints relating to poor practice 	Jean Imray	March 2013		
2.4.3	Review functioning of current Safeguarding and QA Service to enhance focus on improving quality of practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased practice alerts by CP coordinators 	Jean Imray	March 2013		
2.4.4	Develop 'local' CIN/CP performance scorecard to manage performance in areas most in need of improvement		Jean Imray	February 2013		
What difference has this made:						
3. Giving the best opportunities to children and young people in care						
Accountable Lead: Assistant Director of Safeguarding Families and Communities						
Priorities:						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that children remain in care for the least time necessary and that permanent alternatives are secured on their behalf as quickly as possible. To ensure that all children and young people in care have up to date care plans care plans that are robust and personalized To improve placement choice and ensure that placements are matched to the long term changing needs of children and young people 						
Number	Action	Performance Measure	By whom	By when	Progress	RAG
3.1.1	Reorganise workloads in Children in Care team to ensure dedicated focus is on the needs of Children in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in length of proceedings to average 26 weeks 	Jean Imray	January 2013		

	Care and Court Proceedings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in direct work with Children in Care Improvement in placement stability indicators 				
3.1.2	Implement the Adoption Action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National and local Adoption performance targets are met 	Jean Imray	June 2013		
3.1.3	Develop local Adoption and Fostering performance score cards and manage performance accordingly	As above	Jean Imray	February 2013		
3.1.4	Implement Fostering Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National and local Fostering performance targets are met 	Jean Imray	June 2013		
What difference has this made:						
3.2.1	Commission training to support excellent care planning	Training in place	Jean Imray	April 2013		
3.2.2	Revise current care and pathway plans template in consultation with children, young people and carers to make it more user friendly	Revised plans in place	Jean Imray	March 2013		
3.2.3	Review IHA and RHA process for quality as well as timeliness	Annual Report to HWB/CPP on health needs of LAC and how we are meeting them	Jean Imray	May 2013		

3.2.4	Undertake deep dive audit to review quality of care and pathway plans	Audits of quality of care plans show increase in judgment of good	Jean Imray	May 2013	
3.2.5	Promote educational attainment of children and young people in care by driving up the focus on quality E PEPs	Quality Audit of PEPs and implementation of findings	Jean Imray	Ongoing	
What difference has this made:					
3.3.1	Work with commissioning to develop a marketing and recruitment strategy for fostering and adoption (including supported lodgings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in net gain of in house carers by 25 households 	Jean Imray	April 2013	
3.3.2	Ensure Placement Orders rescinded and proceedings issued where appropriate	Proceedings issued on relevant cases.	Jean Imray	June 2013	
3.3.3	Implement Leaving care policy in conjunction with Commissioning colleagues	NEET reduced	Jean Imray	2013	
3.3.4	Review of current accommodation provided to care leavers to ensure it is fit for purpose	Audit of accommodation	Jean Imray	March 2013	
What difference has this made:					
4. Working with Schools and others to make sure children succeed					
Accountable Lead: Assistant Director of Education and Resources					

Priorities:						
1. Implement proposals following the review of Education Services to ensure fit for purpose local authority and improved outcomes for children and young people.						
2. Deliver an SEN strategy and develop new support offer to vulnerable groups						
3. Ensure access to high quality schools which deliver the best possible outcomes for children and young people						
Number	Action	Performance Measure	By whom	By when	Progress	RAG
4.1.1	Strengthening of School to school partnership as a basis to provide services in the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All schools agreeing to form part of CiC / trust arrangements. 	Jonathan Lewis	August 2013		
4.1.2	Restructure internal services in line with new vision for Education Service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of consultation on restructure. 	Jonathan Lewis	August 2013		
4.1.3	Establish a proposal for meeting the challenge of EAL / new arrivals for the city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline documentation produced including proposed delivery model and oversight of offer 	Jonathan Lewis	May 2013		
4.1.4	Development of proposal for data intelligence function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal to DMT around the shape of this function and how it will operate / sit within hierarchy. 	Jonathan Lewis	April 2013		
What difference has this made:						
4.2.1	Full consultation on SEN strategy and refinement of action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on proposed strategy and final document agreed through scrutiny 	Jonathan Lewis	April 2013		

4.2.2	Development of needs analysis model for predicting future SEN demands	Formal model to predict requirements for next 5 years.	Jonathan Lewis	March 2013		
4.2.3	Develop proposals around revised provision map of specialist SEN support	Consultation paper on needs and demands around altering special schools and ERP provision.	Jonathan Lewis	July 2013		
4.2.4	Outline Behavior strategy and action plan for delivery by September	DMT agreed proposal for consultation with schools	Jonathan Lewis	March 2013		
What difference has this made:						
4.3.1	Consult on the School Organisation Plan to ensure sufficiency of places in Peterborough Schools	Agreed school organisation plan through political process	Jonathan Lewis	April 2013		
4.3.2	Brokering additional funding / free schools to city	Case made to central government around Peterborough situation alongside development of marketing package for free school providers	Jonathan Lewis	March 2013		
4.3.3	Delivery of phase 2 of ICMS – Capita One for Education and Resources	Successful roll out of all modules and switch off legacy E&R systems	Jonathan Lewis	September 2013		
4.3.4	Implementation of Intervention strategy for	Soft / structural solutions for those	Jonathan Lewis	April 2013		

	schools below floor standards	schools falling below floor standards				
What difference has this made:						
5. Supporting our staff to be outstanding						
Accountable Lead: Head of Projects and Change Management						
Priorities:						
1. Ensure that the qualifications, training and progression routes raise competencies of all Children's Services staff are of a high quality and linked to the service aims						
2. Ensure that the workforce are safe to work with children and young people and understand their responsibilities for safeguarding						
3. Ensure that the workforce are confident, respected and valued as professionals						
Number	Action	Performance Measure	By whom	By when	Progress	RAG
5.1.1	Training and Development Programme for CS staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Children's Services staff will have a training plan 	Extended Departmental Management Team (EDMT)	June 2013		
5.1.2	Develop a training programme for aspirant leaders and managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A course will be developed in partnership with the corporate training and development team. Delegates will be identified and invited 	Elaine Alexander Colin Wilson	September 2013		
5.1.3	Ensure information regarding training opportunities is easily accessible for all members of the workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff will know what training is available to them and how to access it ~ Communication campaign ~ Survey 	Elaine Alexander	September 2013		

What difference has this made:					
5.2.1	Ensure that Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) are in place for all staff who should have them and are tracked to make sure they are rechecked in accordance with council policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managers will be aware of the rules regarding DBS and are ensuring rechecks are undertaken in a timely manner 	EDMT	February 2013	
5.2.4	Recruit a diverse workforce to reflect the diversity in the community	Measure ethnicity of current workforce Targeted recruitment 20%	Elaine Alexander	Starts in January 2013	
What difference has this made:					
5.3.1	Ensure that all staff have a current PDR and that it is reviewed regularly. Team Meetings and one-to-ones are diarized for every member of staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff have regular supportive supervision which reflects and recognizes good practice and identifies development requirements 100% All supervision is minuted and recorded 	EDMT	September 2013	
5.3.2	Develop a reflective practice methodology of supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methodology implemented and monitored for compliance 	Jean Imray	July 2013	
5.3.3	Ensure that every leaver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely exit 	EDMT	2013	

	has an exit interview and leaving trends are identified and reports are presented regularly to DMT	interviews that give us an opportunity to turn-around unwanted resignations/Learning from leavers				
What difference has this made:						

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 7
11 MARCH 2013	Public Report

Report of the Tackling Poverty Task and Finish Group

Contact Officer and details – Adrian Chapman (863887) and Wendi Ogle-Welbourn (863749)

TACKLING POVERTY IN PETERBOROUGH

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide Members with the opportunity to scrutinise the redrafted ‘Peterborough Child and Family Poverty Strategy’ and progress made towards tackling poverty in Peterborough.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to:

- (i) scrutinise the new ‘Peterborough Child and Family Poverty Strategy’, which is a reworked version following scrutiny and debate at committee in 2012
- (ii) scrutinise progress made towards tackling poverty in Peterborough since the report and action plan came to committee in 2012
- (iii) suggest new ideas and initiatives that will actively contribute towards tackling poverty in the future
- (iv) agree that the work to tackle poverty is driven forward through new partnership arrangements set out in section 10 of the Peterborough Child and Family Poverty Strategy
- (v) agree that the work to tackle poverty in Peterborough is scrutinised by this committee overall at least annually, and that the partnerships, rather than lead councillors, drive the work forward between scrutiny meetings
- (vi) agree to include an agenda item at a future scrutiny committee meeting on the work of the Welfare Reform Action Group early in the new municipal year

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 The ambition of the Sustainable Community Strategy is to deliver a bigger and better Peterborough, taking advantage of the inherent opportunities we have and at the same time tackling the challenges we face in order to deliver a better quality of life for all. Tackling poverty in Peterborough is fundamental to achieving this ambition, and so this report underpins all aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 At its June 2012 meeting, the Scrutiny Committee debated the draft Tackling Poverty report and associated action plan. This draft report was the culmination of work following an inaugural tackling poverty conference in 2011 during which a series of strategic outcomes were identified. These were:
- (i) **Partners using their influence to embed systems and processes within their organisations that can really make a difference** – for example, by ensuring that anybody from any public or voluntary sector organisation that deals with the public understands and can identify indicators to spot those at risk of poverty

- (ii) **Excellence at first point of contact** – for example, by ensuring that somebody who is in poverty can access the right services and support the first time they make contact with an agency
- (iii) **Models of work that identify risk factors, intervene early and enable communities to develop resilience** – for example, by training local groups to be able to support vulnerable households or communities
- (iv) **Improved education and personal development of all children and young people to narrow the gap in achievement between the poorest children and the rest** – for example, by introducing opportunities for NEET young people to engage in vocational learning opportunities
- (v) **Increased financial capability, employability and take-up of benefits amongst families** – for example, by ensuring there is sufficient accredited debt and financial capability advice available to those who need it
- (vi) **Improved mental health within the local population to reduce the gap in health inequalities and promote healthy lifestyles** – for example, by investing in healthy living programmes to mitigate the heightened risk of mental and physical health issues caused by poverty
- (vii) **Creation of inspirational places to live and cohesive communities** – for example, by tackling rogue landlords to ensure that people have somewhere safe, warm and affordable to live

4.2 A project lead for each of the strategic outcomes was identified, and collectively formed the Tackling Poverty Task and Finish group, whose role was to establish more detailed action points and to ensure relevant workstreams were introduced.

4.3 Since the report was presented to the scrutiny committee in 2012, and following feedback during the meeting itself, the overarching strategy document has been redrafted to better reflect the conditions which we are trying to address. The redrafted version has also been written to be more accessible and reader-friendly, and to be more explicit about the scale of the challenges we face and the solutions being driven forward. The new draft 'Peterborough Child and Family Poverty Strategy' is included at **appendix 1**.

4.4 During the redrafting process, the Task and Finish Group has also been meeting regularly, and has overseen the implementation of a series of initial actions and programmes of work. The updated action plan overseen by the Tackling Poverty Task and Finish Group is included at **appendix 2**.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 Whilst progress is being made towards tackling poverty in Peterborough, it is clear that there is much more to do. Additionally, the impending changes to welfare benefits are likely to have an impact on many families, with some having to pay Council Tax for the first time from April 2013, and many more facing reductions in their benefits over the coming months.

5.2 Our proposed strategy document has been drafted to reflect the scale of the challenges we face but also to have longevity and currency for the next few years. We are confident that the strategic outcomes identified in section 4.1 above are specific enough to make a real difference but flexible enough to adapt to new conditions and circumstances.

5.3 When the Task and Finish Group was formed, it was important to identify a lead officer for each of the strategic outcomes from either within the council or amongst our partner organisations so that the more detailed workplans could be developed and initial workstreams launched. However, at the same time we have invested significant energy in establishing a range of partnership support structures that share the responsibility for tackling poverty more broadly. This has had two significant effects: (i) to share the burden of activity across more officers and more agencies than the Task and Finish Group alone; and (ii) to embed the tackling poverty strategy and approach within relevant decision making, policy setting and action planning processes.

5.4 Page 25 of the strategy at appendix 1 therefore shows each of the partnership boards or similar that have begun to take responsibility for driving forward the tackling poverty outcomes, firmly embedding them into their processes. In practice, each of the various partnership boards identified will focus their work on supporting the most vulnerable individuals, families and communities including those who are in poverty or are at risk of entering poverty.

5.5 Despite the responsibilities for delivering the strategic outcomes being shared by a number of different partnership boards, it will still be important to maintain a strategic overview of the tackling poverty agenda. Responsibility for this will rest with the Greater Peterborough Partnership through the Single Delivery Plan. The Single Delivery Plan contains those outcomes that the council and its partners have identified as priorities to contribute towards delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy ambitions. The work to tackle poverty underpins the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities and Single Delivery Plan workstreams as illustrated in figure 1 below:

Figure 1

Sustainable Community Strategy Priority	Single Delivery Plan Workstream
Creating Strong and Supportive Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering people and creating cohesive communities • Reducing crime and tackling anti social behaviour • Enhancing our cultural offer, building on our heritage
Creating the UK's Environment Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering the Environment Capital Action Plan
Creating Opportunities – Tackling Inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving health and well-being • Safeguarding the most vulnerable • Raising educational attainment - Helping children to be their best
Delivering Strong and Sustainable Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating jobs through growth and improved skills • Building homes for a growing population

No single priority or workstream can be effectively delivered or sustainably achieved without addressing the issue of poverty.

5.6 It is further suggested that this committee as a whole scrutinises the approaches being taken to tackle poverty at least annually. Driving the agenda forward through partnership structures set out in 5.5 coupled with the committee overall taking responsibility for scrutinising and challenging progress replaces the need to identify lead councillors for each of the strategic outcomes. In addition, the work of the new Welfare Reform Action Group is far reaching and diverse, and it would be appropriate that this separately brought before the committee as part of its agenda plan early in the new municipal year.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 It is anticipated that the Scrutiny Committee will scrutinise and make recommendations relating to the updates provided in this report in order that delivery potential is maximised for the benefit of our communities. It is further anticipated that the approach we are taking to tackling poverty is scrutinised at least annually as part of the committee's work programme.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation relating to the development of the Peterborough Child and Family Poverty Strategy has been with the Tackling Poverty Task and Finish Group. This group comprises:

- Adrian Chapman – PCC Neighbourhood Services
- Wendi Ogle-Welbourn – PCC Children’s Services
- Mark Sandhu – PCC/Serco Partnership Customer Services
- Tim Bishop – PCC Adult Social Care
- John Cunningham – Peterborough Council for Voluntary Service
- Claire Rintoul – Peterborough and Fenland MIND
- Belinda Child – PCC Neighbourhood Services (Housing)
- Allison Sunley – PCC Children’s Services

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 Comments and recommendations made by Scrutiny Committee members will be considered and implemented wherever possible. The draft strategy document will be finalised and taken to the Greater Peterborough Partnership Executive for discussion and approval. It will also be presented to the various partnership structures referred to above to ensure full understanding and compliance.

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 Appendix 1: Peterborough Child and Family Poverty Strategy
Appendix 2: Tackling Poverty Action Plan 2012/13 – Summary of Strategic Outcomes

Peterborough Child and Family Poverty Strategy



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1. Introduction

In Peterborough we are determined to improve the outcomes of children and young people across a whole range of indicators, including:

- Educational attainment;
- Physical health and development;
- Emotional and mental health and resilience;
- Reducing numbers of children at risk of or who experience significant harm;
- Ambition and long term sustained improvements in standards of living.

However, it is clear from a wide ranging body of research that achieving these ambitions means that we must tackle child and family poverty. Children who grow up in households affected by poverty experience poorer outcomes compared with those who are unaffected by poverty.

Poverty affects not only a family's standards of living but also children's future prospects – their chances at school, their health, safety and overall wellbeing. So poverty is not just an issue for this generation, but for those to come.

Britain has some of the highest levels of child poverty in the industrialised world. It is estimated that some 3.5 million children and young people in the UK live in relative poverty [defined as living in households with an income of 60% or less of the median household income]. This figure has increased from an estimated 2.9 million as of 2009, and is estimated by some to be likely to increase by a further 400,000 over the next 12 months.¹

Ending child and family poverty requires concerted, coordinated leadership and action across the whole range of local services. In Peterborough we have a Child and Family Poverty Action Group, reporting to the Children and Families Commissioning Board. These partnership bodies are the focus of our work to reduce levels of child and family poverty in the City.

This Child and Family Poverty Strategy therefore sets out our goals for ensuring that all our children and young people can achieve their full potential, and describes the steps we will take to achieve them. But ending child poverty also requires a contract with families. Our services will work to narrow the gap in outcomes between the most and least disadvantaged groups and help to remove barriers to employment and training. However, in return, it is reasonable to ask that parents make the most of opportunities to improve their and their children's situations.

This strategy begins by exploring definitions of child poverty national indications of incidence. It moves on to detail the impact of child poverty for the child concerned and for the broader community before setting out our priorities for action in both the short and longer term.

2. Definitions of Child Poverty

The definition that is most commonly used for child poverty is the proportion of children living in families who have an equivalised household income that is less than 60% of the median household equivalised income.

An equivalised income takes household size into account: larger households obviously need a bigger income to maintain the same standard of living than smaller ones. Equivalisation also enables comparisons to be made between different areas. Household income includes all salaries and benefits, before outgoings such as housing costs.

Because the most commonly used measure of child poverty is a relative one, the proportion of children living in poverty by this definition falls when median income levels fall. This meant that there was a fall in the proportion of children living in poverty in the year 2010/11 compared with 2009/10 according to this measure. However, further analysis shows that this was because there was a fall in the median income between these years as a result of broader economic factors, as opposed to an increase in income among the poorest groups.

For this reason, some prefer measures of absolute poverty [such as that defined within the Child Poverty Act 2010 which set a level of 60% of median income as at April 2010, adjusted annually for inflation].

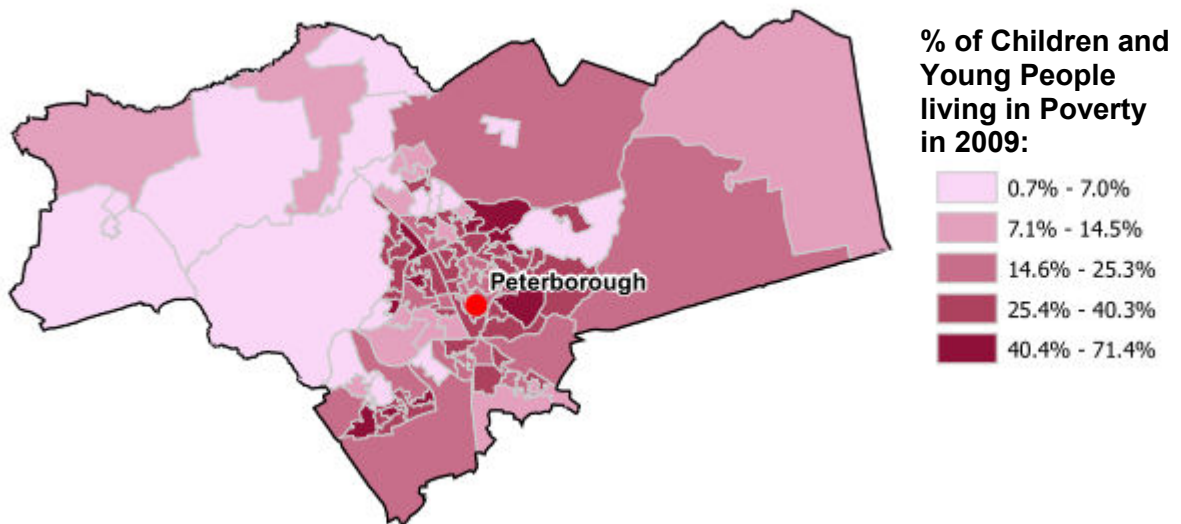
To further complicate matters, child poverty is often expressed as two relative indicators – one before housing costs and one after housing costs are taken into account. Taking the numbers of children in poverty in 2010/11 using figures for the Department of Work and Pensions, 2.3 million children were living in poverty [i.e. in households with an income of less than 60% of the median income] before housing costs are taken into account, and 3.6 million were living in poverty after housing costs were taken into account.

Measures of the numbers of households affected by poverty within published statistics also vary. The Department for Work and Pensions publishes estimates of the proportion of children living in poverty by local authority based on proxy indicators [mainly the proportion of workless households], while Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs publishes data at lower super output and ward level that estimates proportions of children and young people living in households affected by poverty based on claimants of Income Support, Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit.

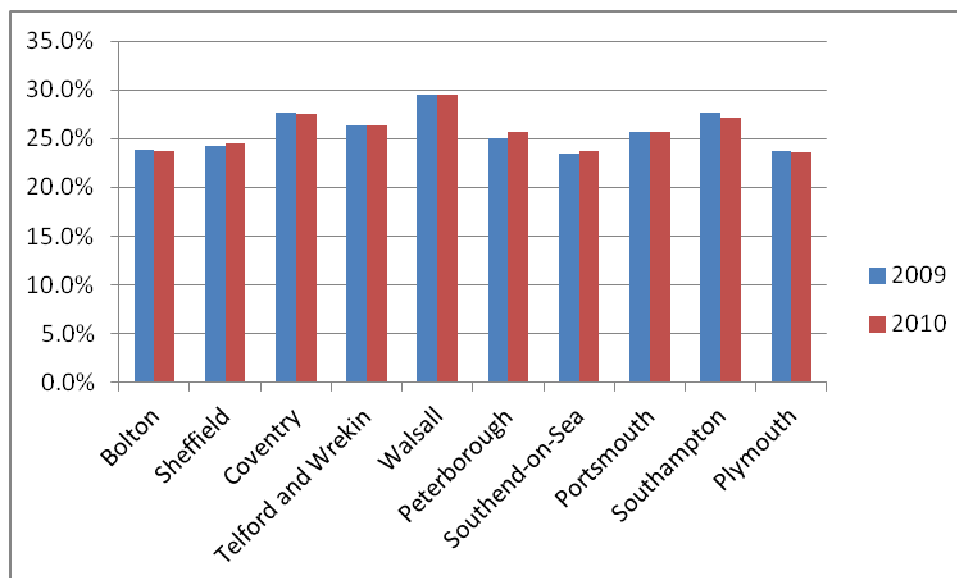
Finally, a number of researchers point to a need to differentiate between short term poverty and sustained or persistent poverty. This is because many households will experience temporary periods of poverty without these having a long term impact on the health of children and young people. It is households that experience persistent poverty where outcomes for children and young people are likely to be most significantly affected.

3. Indications of the Rate of Child and Family Poverty in Peterborough

Peterborough is an area of contrasts that includes some of the most and least deprived areas in the country. The map below shows the proportion of all children who were living in poverty in 2009: ⁱⁱ The likelihood is that there are higher levels of child poverty now than there were in 2009, given increases in the level of unemployment since then. However, the areas where the proportions of children and young people living in poverty are highest are unlikely to have changed significantly.



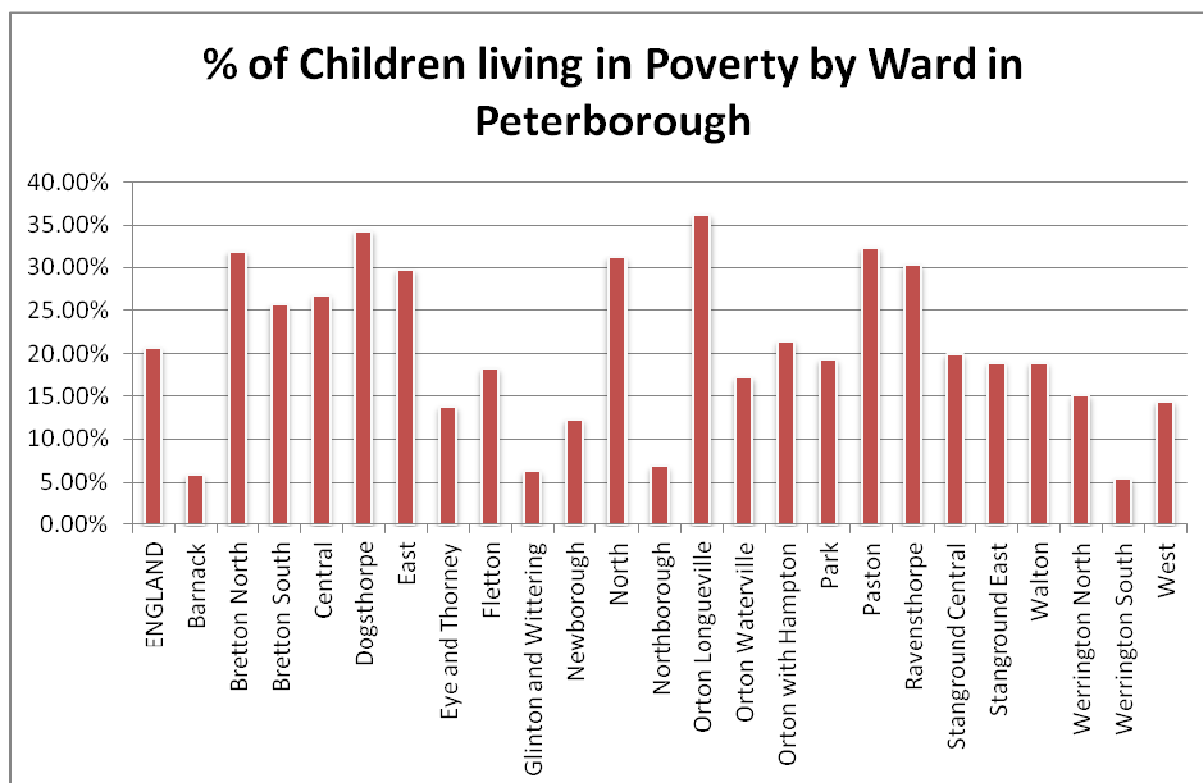
According to the Department for Work and Pensions proxy measure for child poverty, 25.7% of children in Peterborough were living in poverty in 2010. The following chart compares Peterborough with rates of child poverty among our statistical neighbours in 2009 and 2010: ⁱⁱⁱ



Of our statistical neighbours, four have higher rates of Child Poverty than Peterborough, placing us close to the middle position. However, in most of our statistical neighbours the rate of children in poverty fell or stayed the same between 2009 and 2010. In contrast the biggest increase in the rate of children in poverty took place in Peterborough between these years.

Data published by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs provides an indication of the rate of child poverty at ward and Lower Super Output Area [LSOA]. Lower Super Output Areas are the smallest statistical area measure, typically consisting of approximately 1,500 people. They are mapped to wards, so each ward is made up of a precise number of LSOAs. They enable the characteristics of small areas to be analysed.

The following chart shows the proportion of children and young people living in poverty by ward as of 2010: ^{iv}



This chart shows the diversity of deprivation levels found in Peterborough. So while over 30% of children and young people living in Bretton North, Dogsthorpe, North, Orton Longueville, Paston and Ravensthorpe are living in poverty, fewer than 6% live in poverty in Barnack and Werrington South.

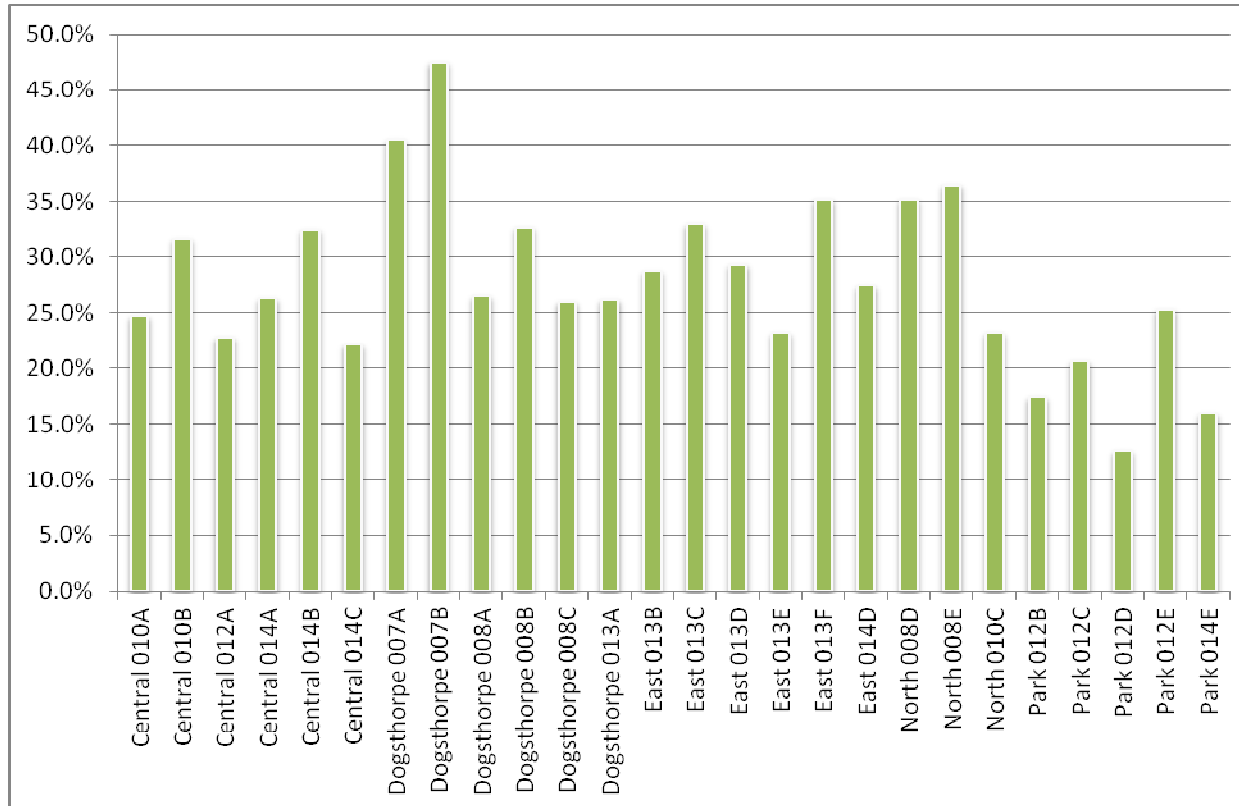
However, even ward level data hides very significant variations between pockets of relative affluence and deprivation. The next three charts, again using HMRC data from 2010, show the proportion of children and young people living in poverty by Lower Super Output Area in each locality.

Maps that show the approximate location of each LSOA can be found at:

<http://www.uklocalarea.com/index.php?q=Peterborough>

East and Central Locality

The following chart shows the percentage of children living in poverty in each LSOA:



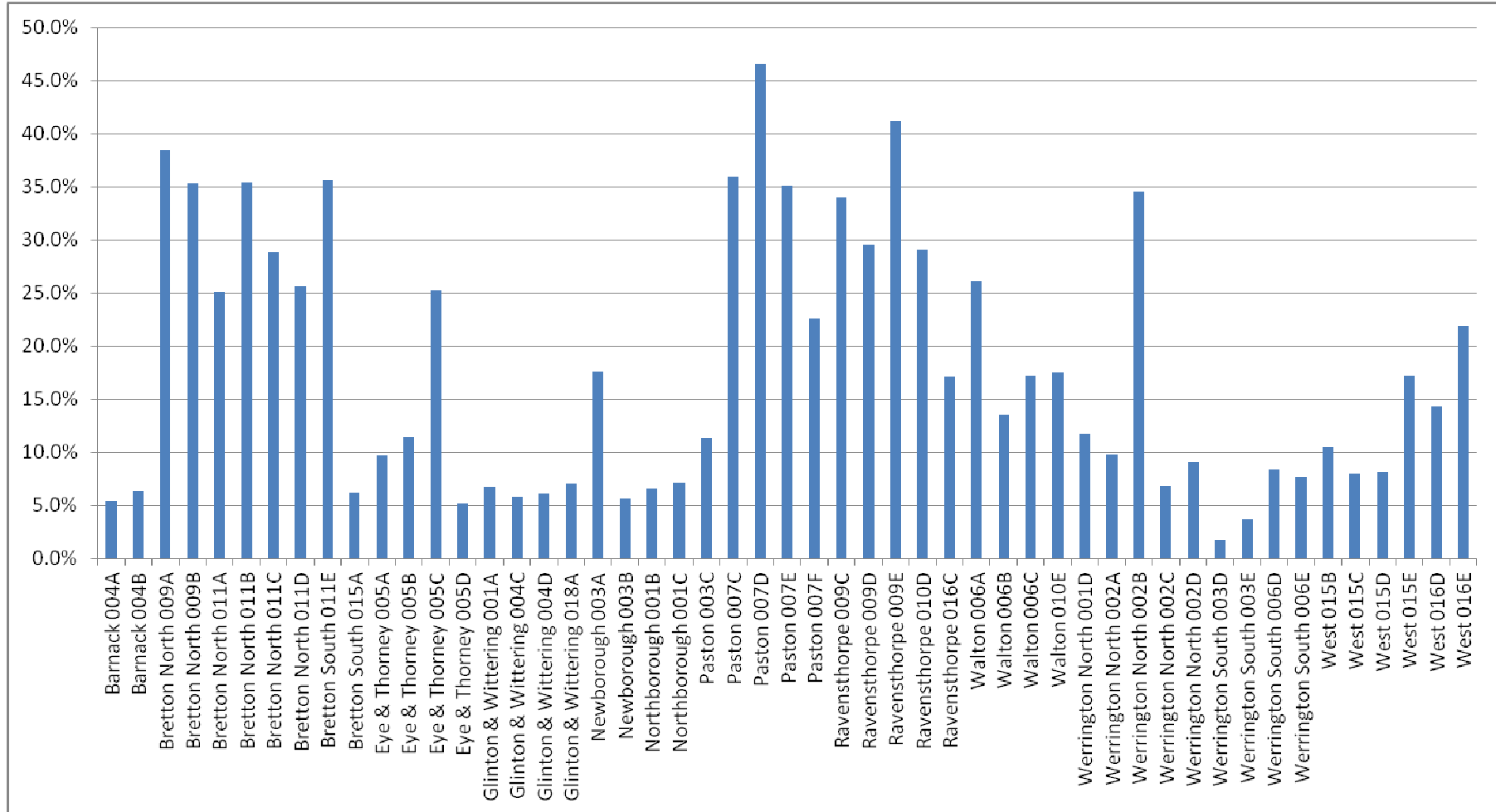
One LSOA in Dogsthorpe ward [007B] has the highest proportion of children living in poverty in Peterborough, at 47.5%. This is the area roughly between Eastern Avenue, Scalford Drive, Belvoir Way and Shelborne Road.

Meanwhile, the chart for North and West below illustrates the extremes of affluence and poverty in this locality, with very high rates of child poverty in Paston, Bretton North and Werrington North, and very low rates in Werrington South, Barnack and Glington & Wittering:

See <http://www.uklocalarea.com/index.php?q=Peterborough> for maps of each LSOA.

North and West Locality

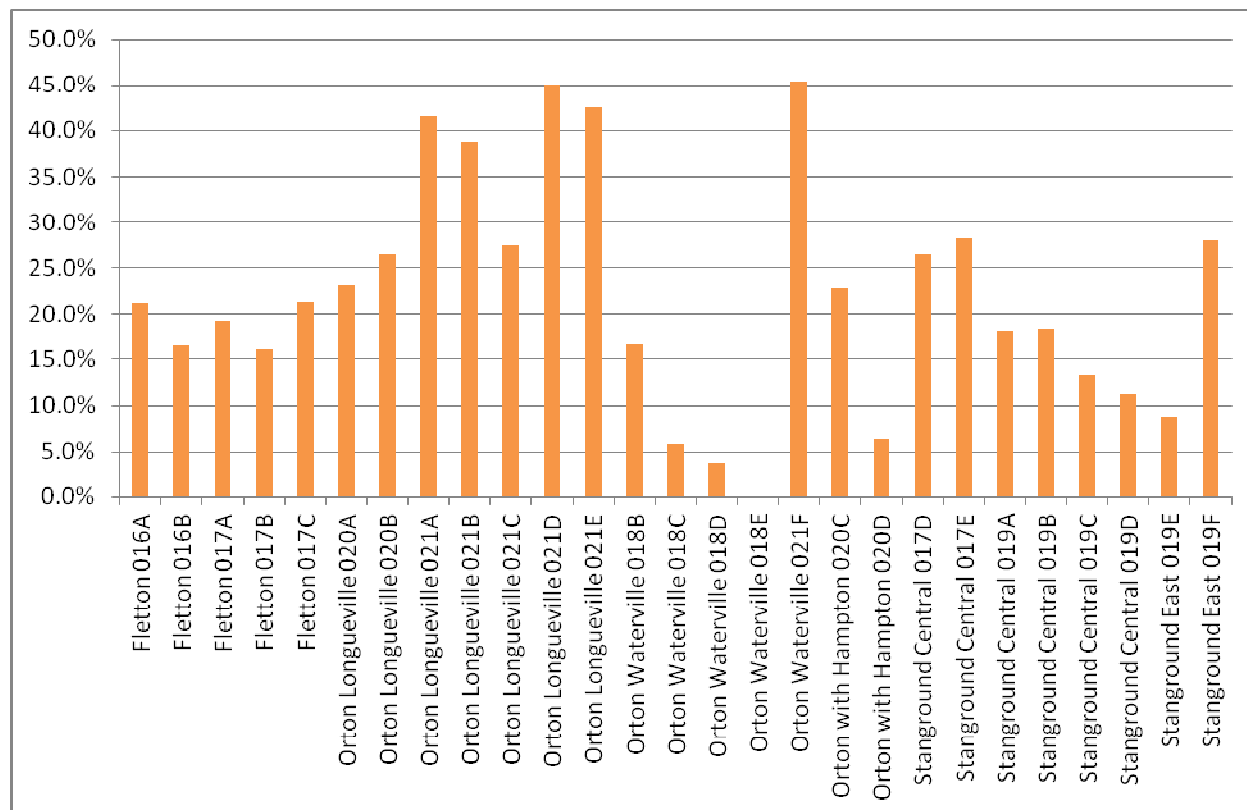
The following chart shows the percentage of children living in each LSOA in poverty:



See <http://www.uklocalarea.com/index.php?q=Peterborough> for maps of each LSOA

South Locality

The Following chart shows the percentage of children living in poverty in each LSOA:



Orton Waterville has the biggest range of contrast of any ward in Peterborough. Generally affluent, one LSOA has 0% of its' children living in poverty. However, another LSOA in the same ward has a child poverty rate of 45.5%. This is the area Newcombe Way. Three of the LSOAs in Orton Longueville have poverty rates of more than 40%.

See <http://www.uklocalarea.com/index.php?q=Peterborough> for maps of each LSOA.

Indications of changes since 2010

The above charts provide indications of the rates of child poverty in Peterborough in 2010, the latest statistical data available. It would seem likely that levels of child poverty, at least as measured in absolute terms, will have increased over this period, given the continuing economic difficulties.

Although as we will see later, many of the families living in poverty include adults who are in work, the number of workless families with children is an indicator of the overall number of families with children who are living in poverty.

In Peterborough, the number of workless families has increased by 3% between 2010 and February 2012. If the number of children living in poverty were to have increased by the same rate between 2010 and 2012, then there would now be 108,000 children living in poverty compared with 105,000 in 2010. In percentage terms this would mean that the proportion of children living in poverty would have increased from 25.7% in 2010 to 26.5% in 2012.

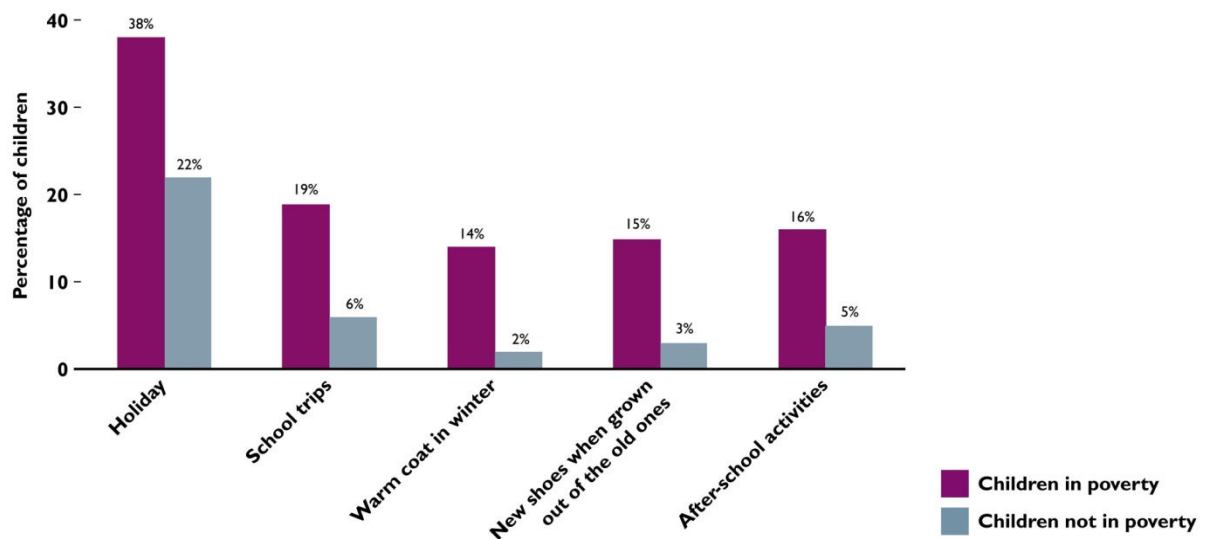
4. The Impact of Child Poverty

Children living in poverty are at significantly higher risk of poor outcomes than children who are not exposed to poverty. Children living in persistently poor families who are exposed to poverty over long periods are at greater risk of poor outcomes than children who experience poverty for shorter periods. The harmful effects of poverty are felt most when they are experienced by children at a young age. Children affected by poverty are more likely to:

- Miss periods of schooling and secure poorer educational outcomes than their peers;
- Become involved in criminal or anti-social behaviour;
- Have lower levels of health;
- Have lower levels of self esteem and aspirations for the future.

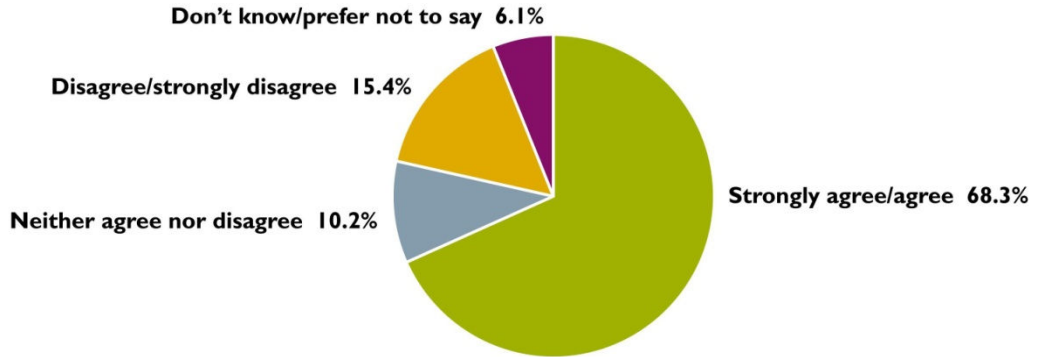
Experiencing poverty as a child can have a substantial impact on a child's experiences at school, where they can miss out on opportunities to learn and socialise because their families may have difficulty meeting the costs of uniforms, school trips, music, art and out of school activities. Poverty can also affect a child's social confidence and relationships with other children; children report that being seen to be poor carries great social stigma and leads to a fear of being excluded by their better off peers.

Children affected by poverty are aware of missing out on opportunities or having to go without, as the following research by Save the Children^v found:

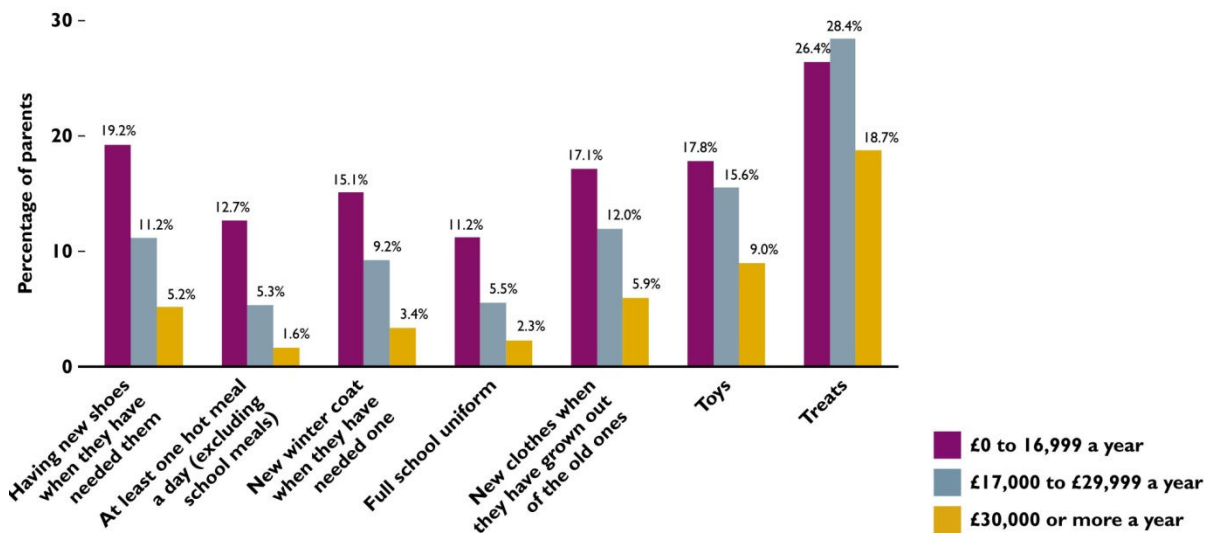
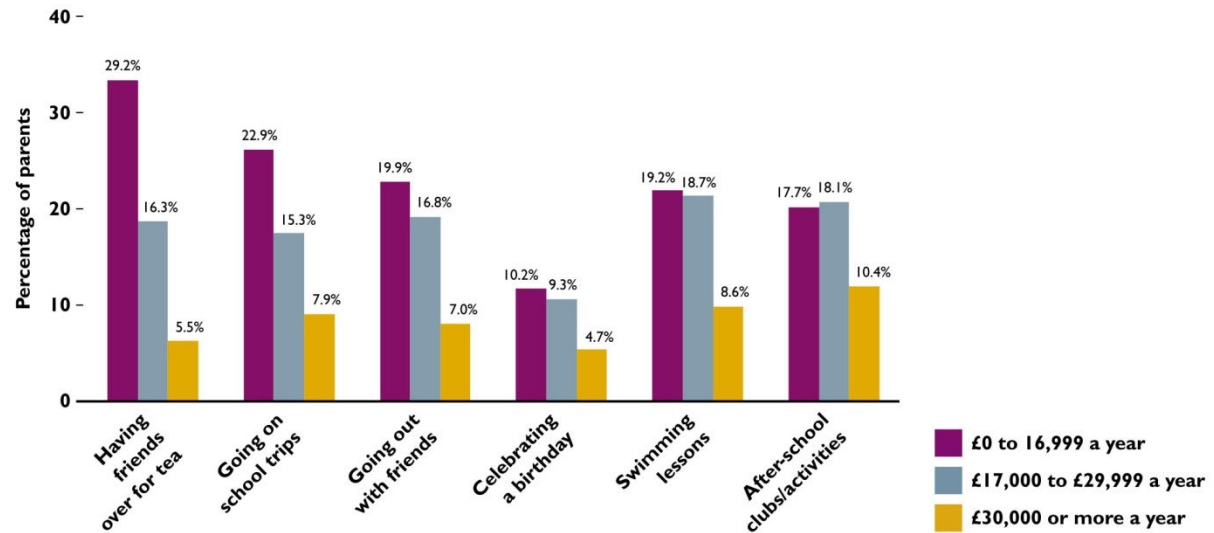


The same research also found that children living in families with low incomes were often aware of the pressures experienced by their parents, as shown by the following chart:

“My family has to think carefully about the things we spend our money on”



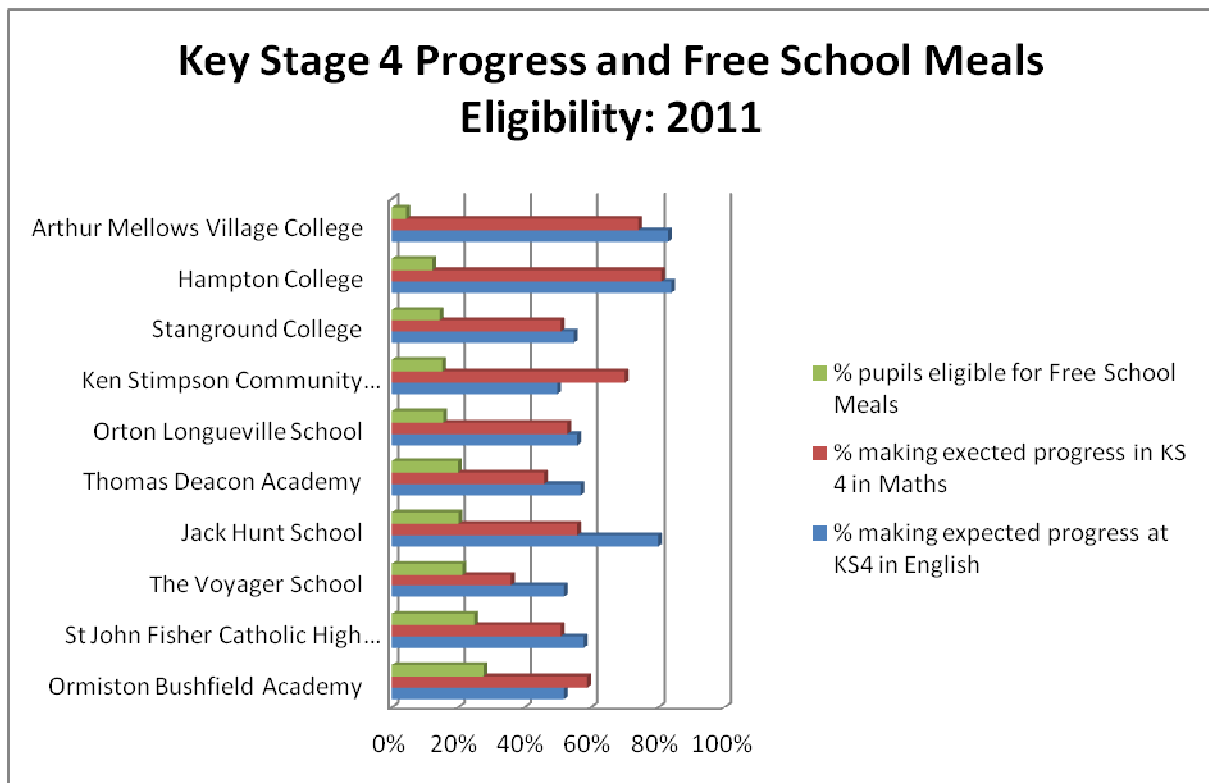
Parents in families affected by poverty also identified that their children were missing out because of a lack of money when compared with their peers:



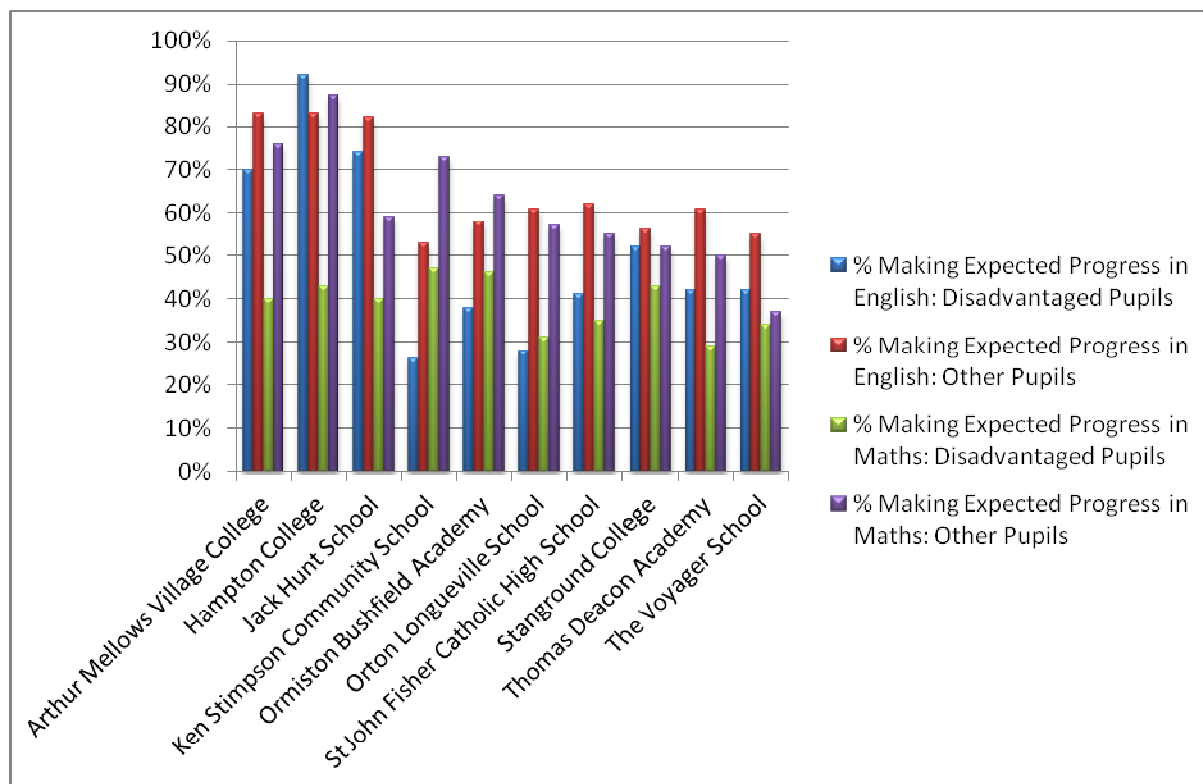
Early social experiences are important determinants of later life chances and children from low income families can face a double disadvantage. They may be less likely to experience the stimulation they need at home, while disadvantaged children also tend to attend pre-school education for shorter periods than children from advantaged groups. This can have a profound effect on educational attainment right up to GCSE level and beyond, as evidenced by the gap between pupils in receipt of free school meals and their peers.^{vi}

Peterborough schools vary significantly in terms of the proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals. Over 58% of pupils in Winyates primary school are eligible for free school meals, for example, while only 1.6% of pupils are eligible for free school meals at Newborough primary.

The following chart compares expected progress at Key Stage 4 in English and Mathematics with the proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals in the city's secondary schools [schools are omitted where no data is available]:



The chart illustrates that in general terms, the expected progress is lower in schools where there are higher proportions of pupils eligible for free school meals. The chart below indicates the relative progress made by disadvantaged pupils compared to other, non-disadvantaged pupils, again in 2011 at Key Stage 4:



This chart shows that regardless of the school attended, disadvantaged pupils make significantly less progress than their non-disadvantaged peers.

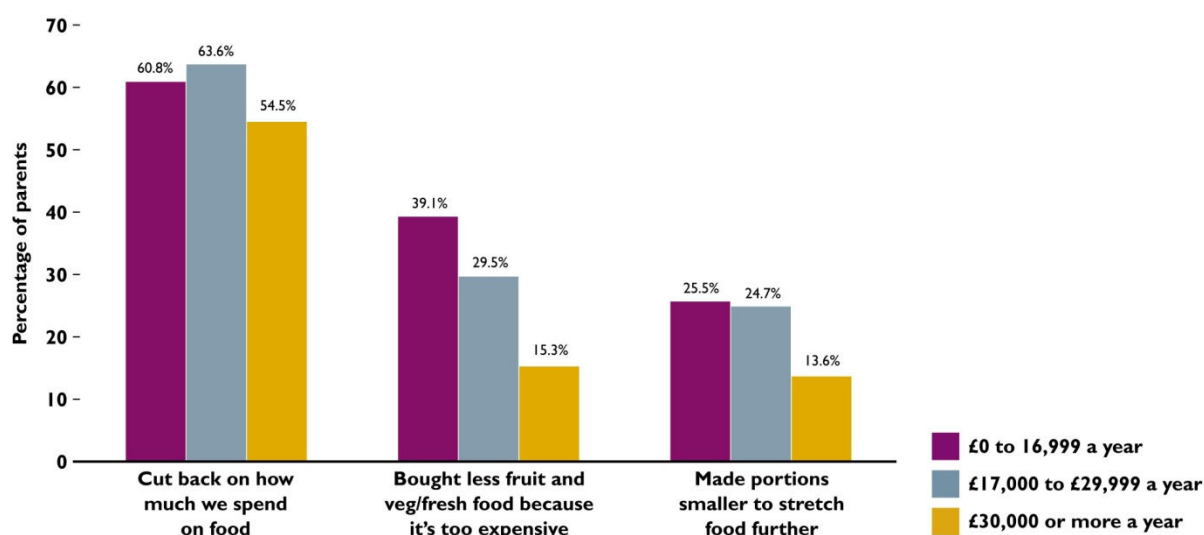
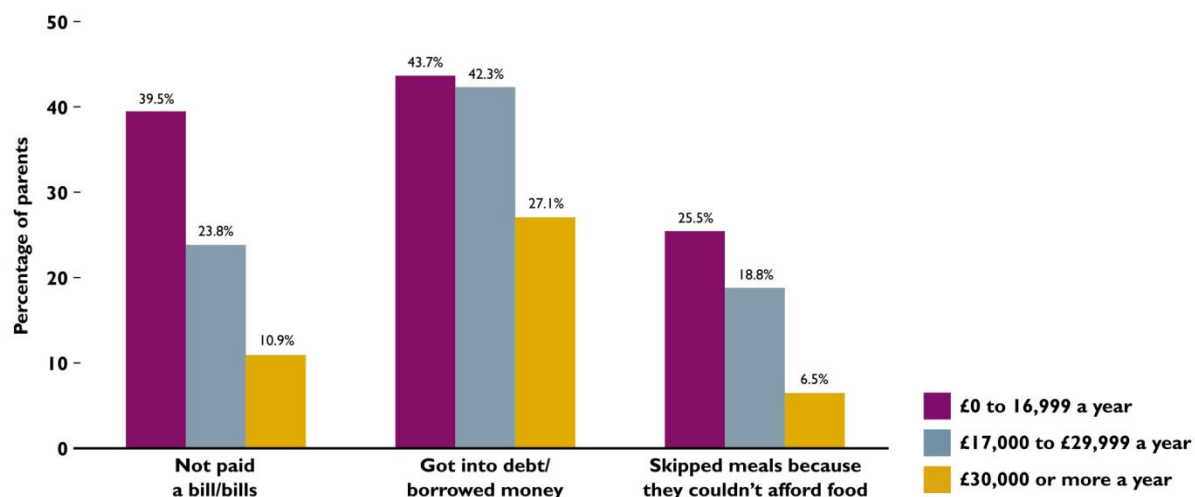
Children in poverty have worse health outcomes across a range of indicators. For example:

- They are more likely to be born prematurely, have low birth weight, and die in their first year of life;
- Children and young people from lower income households are more likely to report longstanding illnesses and less likely to report good or very good health;
- Children from unskilled, working class backgrounds are three times more likely to have a mental health disorder as children from professional backgrounds. Children from backgrounds where the parents have never worked are four times more likely to experience such disorders as are children from professional backgrounds;
- Children living in deprived areas are significantly more likely to be obese – levels of obesity of year 6 children are about 10% higher in the most deprived authorities compared with the least;
- Children from poorer backgrounds are 13 times more likely to die from unintentional injury and 37 times more likely to die as a result of exposure to smoke, fire or flames.

Urban areas and areas characterised by deprivation are often associated with a lack of safe spaces in which children can play. This can have a negative impact on children's cognitive development, communication skills and health, all of which can have a knock on effect on their attainment. In Havering, local performance against the indicator for the proportion of

physically active children is particularly poor. It is also poor for physically active adults, suggesting that a lack of physical activity is transmitted across the generations.^{viii}

Many parents are juggling paying commitments such as bills, rent and mortgages, with buying essentials for their children and ensuring that there is enough to eat. The following charts give an indication of the difficulties faced by families on low incomes:



Source: Save the Children: Child Poverty in 2012

Poverty can also affect the ways in which individuals participate in society, form social networks and develop shared values. The concept of social capital is complex. The Office for National Statistics describes social capital in terms of citizenship, neighbourliness, trust, shared values, community involvement, volunteering, social networks and civic participation. Evidence shows that low social capital is related to poverty and other associated factors including employment, community deprivation and levels of education. For example, 86% of people with an A level qualification or above had three or more people to turn to in a crisis, compared with only 77% of people with no qualifications.^{ix}

Poverty can also have an impact on the level of serious neglect experienced by children. While there is no clear link to suggest that poverty causes neglect and indeed most people in poverty do not neglect their children, some research suggests that chronic poverty plays a part in many cases of physical child neglect by reducing morale and increasing a sense of general hopelessness and passivity.^x

Material deprivation is a broader concept than poverty and includes, for example, housing and the accessibility of public services. Financial resources, such as savings and debt, are also important determinants of a family's standard of living.

Family incomes depend on the degree of the family's financial inclusion – whether they have access to a bank account or affordable credit and access to impartial debt advice. Regardless of how well families manage their finances, exclusion from mainstream financial services can lead to them facing extra charges, for example because they have to pay to cash a cheque, or pay higher charges for utilities through 'pay as you go schemes' because they cannot use direct debit.

Low income families are also vulnerable to over-indebtedness when they turn to poor value sources of credit. Research suggests that 57% of low income families and 72% of lone parents have no savings. When these families are faced with unexpected costs, they often have no choice but to turn to credit. However, they may well only have limited options, such as the so called specialist lenders or illegal money lenders, all of whom can charge very high rates of interest.^{xi}

Areas of deprivation can suffer from a lack of local shops and other private sector services, leading to a reduction in choice and an increase in prices, which in turn contribute to families' material deprivation.

Links between child poverty and an increased likelihood of involvement in anti-social behaviour and criminal activity, of developing poor health and of failing to achieve educational potential or secure well paid employment, together with an increased likelihood of future generations repeating similar patterns provides the foundation to the development of a business case for tackling child and family poverty, as described in Section 5, below.

5. The Business Case for Reducing Child & Family Poverty: The Case for Action

The costs of child poverty fall on individuals, families, communities and the tax payer. Child poverty has effects that go beyond the individual: poor children tend to have lower educational attainment, and low skills and productivity will stunt economic growth and limit the ability of the UK to compete in the global economy.

In 2008, The Joseph Rowntree Foundation estimated that child poverty costs the UK nationally at least £25 Billion each year. £13 billion of this reflects the costs associated with below average employment rates and earning levels among adults who grew up in poverty, including benefits payments and depressed tax revenues. The remaining £12 billion is estimated to relate to the current generation of children living in poverty and the extra costs of providing personal social services, educational support and costs associated with higher levels of offending and anti-social behaviour. ^{xii}

‘Child poverty is... costly to everyone in Britain, not just those who experience it directly... Children from low income families are less likely to do well in school, and more likely to suffer from ill-health.’

If we only consider the impact of poorer educational outcomes associated with child poverty, it is clear that these will have an impact on children’s employability as adults: children who grow up in low income families are more likely to become unemployed or do low paid jobs. Poor educational outcomes also have a wider impact on society and generate costs for public services. For example, analysis of the public costs of those who are not in education, employment or training between 16 and 18 concluded that the total lifetime costs at 2000-2001 prices was £7 billion in resource costs and £8.1 billion in public finance costs. The costs considered included educational underachievement, unemployment, crime, poor physical and mental health and substance abuse. ^{xiii}

Poorer outcomes for children, young people and families place additional burdens and costs on public services such as health care and children’s services, and can have an impact on everybody’s experiences of safety and wellbeing. Communities suffer through increased deprivation and inequalities, which in turn reduce social cohesion. The outcomes of poverty today can be the causes of poverty tomorrow, thus perpetuating a vicious cycle where costs can only escalate. ^{xiv}

‘Many of the [economic] differences cumulate across the lifecycle, especially those related to people’s socio-economic background. We see this before children enter school, though the school years, through entry into the labour market, and on to retirement... and mortality rates later in life. Economic advantage and disadvantage reinforce themselves across the life cycle and often on to the next generation.’ ^{xv}

6. Risk Factors for Child and Family Poverty

Not all children in poverty experience the same risks: child poverty is a result of a number of complex and varied factors which act at both the individual and community level. Although the causes behind each child's poverty will be different, there are some key characteristics that place parents at greatest risk of living in poverty and deprivation, which are summarised in the box below:

Families with the following characteristics have a higher than average risk of poverty:

- children in workless families, where the risk of poverty remains high, at 58 per cent, which is considerably above the average of 22 per cent;^a
- children in couple families where one adult works part-time^b have a 44 per cent risk of poverty;
- more than a third of all ethnic minority families live in poverty;
- children in families with one or more disabled adults face a high risk of poverty at 31 per cent;
- children in families with 4 or more children have a 40 per cent risk of poverty; and
- children who live in Inner London have a high risk of poverty at 35 per cent.

^a It should be noted that these risk figures are for children in workless families. The Households Below Average Income series report of 2005/06 presents the risk of children in workless households. This latter figure is 60 per cent. The two differ as there are a small number of children whose parent or parents are not working, but others in their household are in work.

^b Includes the very few cases where both adults work part-time.

Source: Households Below Average Income 2005-06, Regional data 2003/04-2005/06

Low income is a central component of poverty, and family income is largely determined by employment status. It is not surprising therefore that worklessness is a large determining factor of child poverty. Research for the Department for Education published in 2012,^{xvi} found that the following family characteristics were closely associated with family worklessness:

- Single parent;
- Younger and particularly teenage mother;
- Larger numbers of children;
- Living in rented and especially social rented housing;
- Parents with no or low level qualifications;
- Living in income poverty;
- Living in a deprived area;
- Family instability [e.g. losing a partner through separation or divorce];
- Parent with long-term limiting illness;
- Parent with English as an Additional Language.

Other studies have identified the presence of disability within the family as being strongly associated with worklessness. Parents of disabled children face particular difficulties in

accessing employment, often linked to problems finding childcare able to meet the needs of their child. This is compounded by the fact that a higher proportion of children living in families with a disabled child are living in lone parent families.^{xvii}

Poor physical and mental health can seriously affect the opportunity for parents to enter the workplace. 25% of children living in poverty live with at least one parent who has a disability. Mental health is a particular barrier, with only 24% of adults with long term mental health difficulties in work.^{xviii}

However, these factors also interact with skill levels. With a given level of disability or age of child, those with higher skill levels are more likely to be working. Non cognitive [social and emotional] skills, basic skills and formal qualifications all affect an individual's ability to get a job and then remain in it and make progress. 90% of people with a degree are in employment, while only 50% of those without formal qualifications are in work. It is therefore not possible to define fixed relationships between characteristics such as disability and the likelihood of working. Nevertheless they help to emphasise where the focus of enabling policies need to be placed.^{xix}

For some groups, the links between poverty and poor outcomes are particularly significant. There is a strong relationship between poor outcomes and length of time spent in poverty. Children from persistently poor families are more likely than children in temporary poverty to be at risk of poor outcomes across a number of areas. For example, they are more likely to be excluded from school than those experiencing temporary poverty. They were also more likely to live in poor housing and in hard pressed areas.^{xx} The effects of poverty are also likely to be longer lasting where children are exposed to poverty in their youngest years.^{xxi}

Table: Risk of Poverty and Severe Poverty by Household Characteristics

	Not in poverty (%)	Non-severe poverty (%)	Severe poverty (%)
Workless parent/s	5.3	42.1	62.3
No means-tested benefit/tax credit receipt	36.4	12.1	15.2
Mothers with no qualification	10.8	31.4	44
Rent	15.7	60	72
No savings	68	90	96
Lone parent	15	44	48
Non-White	9	15	26
Disability	18	29	33

Source: Ending Severe Childhood Poverty: Joseph Rowntree Foundation, November 2008

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the table above shows that the risk of exposure to severe poverty, is highest for children living in families where no adult is in paid employment. High risks are also associated with living in a lone parent family, or in a family where the mother has no formal qualifications, and where the family is from a minority ethnic background.

Children in working families have a much lower risk of being in poverty at 14%. But because there are so many children who live in families who work, children living in working families and who are living in poverty still account for half the total number living in poverty at 2.8 million as at 2006.

In reality, experiences of poverty and work are dynamic. Low paid work and worklessness are closely related – people who are in low paid employment are more likely to be unemployed in the next year. Lone parents and those in persistent poverty are at particular high risk of cycling between periods of employment and unemployment, which can make it even harder for families to cope financially.

Achieving positive outcomes for children and young people across all domains - health, safety, enjoyment and achievement, and future economic wellbeing – are all intrinsically linked to poverty. Getting it right on income and jobs will help to get it right on all these other dimensions of children’s and families’ wellbeing.^{xxii}

7. In-work Poverty: Low Pay and Intermittent Unemployment

The role of paid employment is often cited as being the best route out of poverty, and increasing parental employment must therefore be a central aspiration of any child and family poverty strategy. But work itself is not always a guarantee out of poverty. In-work poverty is a considerable challenge, and low paid work and worklessness are often closely related, with families cycling between in-work poverty and unemployment.^{xxiii}

Over two-thirds of those in low paid work are women, and over two-thirds of these are women working part time.^{xxiv} The patterns of working among mothers is very strongly related to qualifications and hence the ability to command higher earnings. Over 80% of highly qualified couple mothers and lone mothers are working. This falls to 69% [couple mothers] and 55% [lone mothers] at qualifications equivalent to NVQ Level 2 and 34% [couple mothers] and 27% [lone mothers] for those without qualifications.^{xxv}

In November 2008, the risk of being unemployed was almost 60% higher for those looking for part time work compared with those looking for full time employment. For many single mothers – particularly those with lower levels of qualifications – part time working is often seen as ideal as it helps in balancing working and caring responsibilities.^{xxvi}

Clearly, the economic climate and local labour market are important determinants of employment opportunities, as are other factors such as the accessibility of child care and transport. However, there are a number of personal constraints that can hinder parents from entering, remaining in and progressing in work, including:

- Low skills, which reduce the likelihood of finding or progressing in work;
- Poor physical or mental health and disabilities can seriously limit opportunities for parents to enter and remain within the workforce;
- Caring responsibilities can make balancing work and family life difficult, particularly where there are young children within the family or any child has a disability;
- Family breakdowns and crises can make searching for work very difficult and also increase the risk of dropping out of the labour market.^{xxvii}

8. Protecting Against the Impact of Child Poverty

Although poverty is associated with an increased likelihood of poor outcomes in later life, and has a negative effect on children's housing, health, the risk of crime and accidents, education and, in turn, employment, it is important to note that the great majority of poor children do not themselves grow up to be poor.

None of the consequences of poverty discussed elsewhere are a foregone conclusion. Outcomes for children are not predetermined by their situation and with the right support; children growing up in poverty can go on to achieve success in life. Protective factors include:

- Educational attainment – which mitigates against poverty experienced during childhood and its impact on adult outcomes;
- Good relationships between parents and their children help children cope with adversity. A positive parenting style can reduce the likelihood that growing up in a low-income household or deprived neighbourhood will have a negative impact;
- Parental interest in their child's education throughout life has an impact on attainment. Some studies suggest that parental involvement in their child's schooling between ages 7 and 16 has more impact on attainment than family background or levels of parental education;
- High quality early education can have a marked impact on children's early development, and has been shown to produce cognitive gains with lasting effects which include reductions in criminal activity and teenage pregnancy. The positive effects of early years education are larger and longer lasting for children from low-income families and can reduce differentials between children from different backgrounds;
- Positive early years experiences also help to develop children's social and emotional skills and these are also important determinants of outcomes. High skills in these areas have a positive impact on attainment, employment, mental and physical health. They are also associated with lower levels of crime and risk taking behaviour;
- Friendship is a key protective factor and can help children manage negative experiences such as bullying or family breakdown.^{xxviii}

9. The Role of Early Intervention and Prevention

Our Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy highlights a number of areas for coordinated action by the partnership working with children and their families in Peterborough, many of which are intended to have a positive impact on reducing levels of child and family poverty. However there are two areas that deserve particular mention as part of this strategy. The first is Early Years provision, and the second the notion of Community Family Engagement Volunteers.

Children's Centres, Early Years and Childcare

Children's centres in Peterborough are delivering an increasingly targeted service, ensuring that those families who are most vulnerable to poor outcomes are able to access support. While not all of these families will be affected by poverty, it is likely that a significant proportion will be.

Given that we know that persistent poverty, particularly when accompanied by poor or neglectful parenting, and when experienced at a young age, it is clear that Children's Centres have a very significant role to play in helping to ameliorate the impact of family poverty.

Children's Centres can help parents to develop positive parenting models, while also providing advice, support and guidance around child care and access to employment. Supporting children into high quality childcare increases the likelihood that they will arrive at school with the social and communication skills needed for them to be ready to learn.

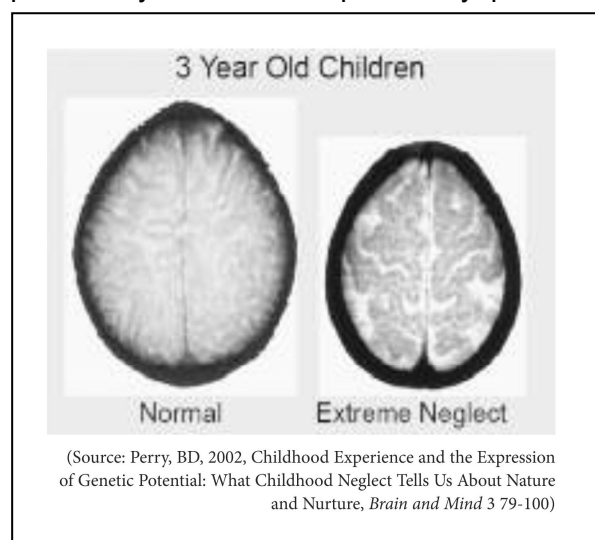
Children's centres can also play an important role in raising the aspirations of parents for themselves and for their children, as well as helping them to recognise the value of their taking an active interest in their children's progress in education.

In so doing, children's centres, early years' services and child care providers are all able to help families to lay the foundation for a positive start to education, which is the single most important factor in subsequently avoiding poverty as an adult.

Community Family Engagement Volunteers

Peterborough is changing rapidly, with many families with young and school age children moving here from Eastern Europe in particular. Many of these families are at risk of exclusion from sources of support because of language barriers and because they are not aware of the support that is available or how to access it.

There is already a tradition of recruiting volunteers in Peterborough through organisations such as 'Better Together' and we intend to develop this tradition by developing a Community Family Engagement Volunteering programme. This programme will particularly seek volunteers from newly arrived communities, and the aim is for them to work alongside families, helping them to access the support services available.



This will have the impact of ensuring that newly arriving families are better able to access support and so be less likely to be affected by poverty and other difficulties, while providing routes into employment for those members of the community who engage in the volunteering programme.

Where child care and other support services are able to recruit a staff team that reflects the communities served, those services become better able to reach out to all members of the community.

10. Priority Strategic Outcomes

The preceding sections set out in detail the analysis of need in relation to child and family poverty in Peterborough while reviewing the evidence of the causes and impact of poverty. They also set out some of the steps and key services that are needed in order to help to prevent and reduce child and family poverty and reduce the impact of family poverty on children.

In line with this analysis, the following strategic outcomes have been identified as fundamental to the success of services in Peterborough reducing levels of child and family poverty:

Strategic Outcome	Responsible Group	Lead/ Coordinator
Partners use their influence to embed systems and processes within their organisations that can really make a difference	Greater Peterborough Partnership	GPP Secretariat
Excellence at the first point of contact	Welfare Reform Action Group	Head of Neighbourhood Services
Models of work that identify risk factors, intervene early and enable communities to develop resilience	Children and Families Joint Commissioning Board	AD Commissioning Children
Improved education and personal development of all children and young people to narrow the gap in achievement between the poorest children and the rest	Children and Families Joint Commissioning Board	AD Commissioning Children
Increased financial capability, employability and take up of benefits amongst families	Welfare Reform Action Group	Head of Neighbourhood Services
Improved mental health within the local population to reduce the gap in health inequalities and promote healthy lifestyles	Children and Families Joint Commissioning Board	AD Commissioning Children
Creation of inspirational places to live and cohesive communities	Cohesion Board	Strategic Housing Manager, PCC & Cohesion Manager, PCC

11. Family Poverty ‘Proofing’ Peterborough

There are a number of further steps that can be taken to help to reduce the levels of child and family poverty in Peterborough in the future. Many of these are related to including family poverty reduction measures as part of joint commissioning arrangements and contract requirements.

For example, we know that the risks of poverty are significantly increased where a parent has a mental health difficulty. At the same time, there is currently considerable investment in supporting adults with mental health difficulties. It makes sense to link these issues and to build linked outcomes into associated joint commissioning arrangements.

If low self esteem and depression is likely to result in an increased likelihood of unemployment and employment is likely to lead to increased self esteem and result in reduced levels of depression, then it should be possible to include outcomes relating to employment within service specifications for services commissioned to support mental health needs within the adult population.

As a Council, we are also very significant procurers of goods and services. While there is a tension between aligning measures to reduce child and family poverty with procurement processes and the responsibility to ensure that we achieve best value for money, the power to promote wellbeing enables local partnerships to procure with some flexibility to take into account the child and family poverty impacts of procurement decisions. It is possible, for example, to encourage procured organisations to focus on targeting recruitment among locally disadvantaged communities or to require them to develop modern apprenticeship schemes and similar initiatives. This approach is sometimes known as the poverty reduction principle.

12. Concluding Remarks

Family poverty blights the lives of our children in the present, and harms the potential of our communities and society to develop in the future.

It is a complex issue, requiring a multi-faceted approach that can deal with both the causes and the consequences of the problem.

However it is an issue that must be addressed if we are to achieve improved outcomes for our children today and enable our society to be ready to face the challenges of the future.

Supporting people out of dependency towards independence not only has benefits for them as individuals, but it helps to break intergenerational cycles of disadvantage and is essential if we are to be successful in tackling the challenges facing our public finances.

13. References

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- ^{iv} Source Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs: http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/stats/personal-tax-credits/child_poverty.htm
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APPENDIX 2

**Tackling Family Poverty Action Plan 2012/13
Summary of Strategic Outcomes – Updated February 2013**

	Strategic Outcomes	Responsible Group	Lead / Coordinator
Strategic Outcome 1	<i>Partners use their influence to embed systems and processes within their organisations that can really make a difference</i>	Greater Peterborough Partnership	Tim Bishop – AD Strategic Commissioning Adults Services, PCC
Strategic Outcome 2	<i>Excellence at the first point of contact</i>	Tackling Poverty T&F Group	Mark Sandhu – Head of Customer Services, Serco
Strategic Outcome 3	<i>Models of work that identify risk factors, intervene early and enable communities to develop resilience</i>	Tackling Poverty T&F Group	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn – AD Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention, PCC
Strategic Outcome 4	<i>Improved education and personal development of all children and young people to narrow the gap in achievement between the poorest children and the rest</i>	Tackling Poverty T&F Group	Allison Sunley, Head of Commissioning (Targeted Services), PCC
Strategic Outcome 5	<i>Increased financial capability, employability and take up of benefits amongst families</i>	Financial Inclusion Forum / Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough	John Cunningham, PCVS
Strategic Outcome 6	<i>Improved mental health within the local population to reduce the gap in health inequalities and promote healthy lifestyles</i>	Tackling Poverty T&F Group	Claire Rintoul, MIND
Strategic Outcome 7	<i>Creation of inspirational places to live and cohesive communities</i>	Tackling Poverty T&F Group	Belinda Child, Strategic Housing Manager, PCC

Strategic Outcome 1: Partners use their influence to embed systems and processes within their organisations that can really make a difference.			
Lead / Coordinator: Tim Bishop		Lead Councillor: Cllr Nick Arculus	
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Progress
1.1 Action: Ensure visibility and widespread awareness of poverty agenda			
1.1.1	Communication Strategy is developed for 2012/13 through the GPP.	Tim Bishop	The Poverty Reduction Strategy and action plan have been developed as part of the Greater Peterborough Partnership work programme 2. The partnership and other boards continue to highlight the need for all partners to contribute to the work required to tackle poverty.
1.2 Action: Strong leadership, accountability and governance.			
1.2.1	Governance structure and golden thread of accountability established (including links to wider partnerships)	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn/Adrian Chapman	The Poverty Reduction Strategy is part of the Greater Peterborough Partnership work and progress is reported into this forum on a regular basis and into the Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Panel.
1.2.2	Progress against work plan is monitored, inaction challenged and blockages removed.	Wendi Ogle-Welbourn/Adrian Chapman	Ongoing – thorough quarterly progress monitoring group that comprise the strategic leads for the 7 outcomes.

Strategic Outcome 2: Excellence at first point of contact				
Lead / Coordinator: Mark Sandhu		Lead Councillor: Cllr Chris Harper		
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
2.1 Action:	A coordinated response to deal with urgent crises amongst the most vulnerable			
2.1.1	<p>Setup a partnership acute response mechanism to passport families in crisis to services providing immediate relief (food bank, laundry facility, accommodation, basic needs, etc) with dedicated helpline and information points in 24 hours locations to signpost (e.g. hospital, police station, train station). Consideration of groups most likely to be in crisis inc NRPF, new arrivals, homeless, etc) with dedicated helpline and information points in 24 hours locations to signpost (e.g. hospital, police station, train station). Consideration of groups most likely to be in crisis inc NRPF, new arrivals, homeless, etc)</p>		<p>Welfare Reform Action Group</p>	<p>Peterborough Foodbank opened on 31 October 2012 and details have been shared with relevant agencies. The following distribution centres have opened across the City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stanground Baptist Church - Tuesdays from 12.30-2pm • Dogsthorpe Methodist Church - Tuesdays and Fridays from 12.30-2.30pm • Gunthorpe Open Doors Centre - Thur 12.30-4pm • Westgate Church - Saturdays 12.30-2.30pm <p>Access to receive food is through a voucher system, vouchers being issued from a range of registered front line care professionals and agencies.</p>

2.2 Action: Frontline staff provide better and earlier IAG around benefits, debt and money management to vulnerable families.				
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
2.2.1	Local partners collaborate to provide a programme of training and briefings for front line staff on identifying families in financial difficulties, signposting, benefit entitlements, welfare reforms, money management, debt and illegal lending.		Tracey Dickerson (Welfare Benefits Advisor, PCC)	<p>The role of the welfare benefits advisor includes provision to train staff and partners in welfare benefits. This is being achieved via training events, information and advice events and briefings as well as by supporting partner's events with the public e.g. carers' week.</p> <p>During 2013/14, the focus will be on welfare reform issues. For example a welfare reform training session has been set up in March 2013 for Cross Keys Homes front line staff in the homeless hostels and in May 2013 Tracey will attend the Family Voices Peterborough Annual Conference as an expert on the panel to answer questions on welfare reform from professionals and members of the public.</p>
2.3 Action: Ensure families have access to brief information, advice and guidance relevant to their needs				
2.3.2	Expand content of Family Information Service		FIS Provider (Serco) and Pam Setterfield (Team Manager for Targeted and Sufficiency Team,PCC)	<p>The transition to Serco was seamless with no negative impact to users or the service.</p> <p>Regular contact is maintained with child carers and the 'what's on' section of the website has been expanded with 90 events or activities currently advertised. Statistics confirm that these are regularly accessed which highlight the effectiveness of this channel.</p> <p>Information about a further 23 organisations has also been added which is predominantly aimed at families with special needs.</p> <p>The service has also been publicised with social workers resulting in more brokerage cases being identified.</p>
2.3.2	Impact of Welfare Reform		Adrian Chapman/Mark Sandhu	The work undertaken by the Welfare Reform Action Group informs this action (SO 5 refers).

Strategic Outcome 3: Models of work that identify risk factors, intervene early and enable communities to develop resilience			
Lead / Coordinator: Wendi Ogle-Welbourn		Lead Councillor: Cllr Darren Fower	
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Progress
3.1 Action:	Ensure that children, young people and families who are in the greatest need have access to the right services, at the right time, in the right place and at the right cost		
3.1.1	<p>Set up Multi-agency support groups in 3 localities to look at referrals from other professionals (via CAF) where families need a multi-agency package of support. Ensure effective Team Around the Child and Lead Professional approach to seamless, timely and co-ordinated service delivery.</p>	<p>Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Karen Moody (Team Mgr Integrated Processes), Lou Williams (Head of Commissioning Specialist Services)</p>	<p>Three locality based Multi Agency Support Groups (MASG's) were launched in September 2012. The panels are chaired by the Head of Commissioning, specialist services and core members include representatives from health, police, neighbourhoods, YOS, education (Attendance, Educational Psychologists), Children's Social Care, CAF team, housing, Children's Centres, 0-19 service. The panels are there to provide a multi-agency response to de-escalations from Children's Social Care Referral and Assessment where an initial or core assessment has been completed and the family would benefit from multi-agency support at a targeted level. The panels also support complex cases and remove blockages and barriers where existing CAF's and TAC's are making little or no progress.</p> <p>To date, there have been a total of 127 cases heard at the panels: 38 in South locality; 44 in North West and Rural locality; 45 in Central and East locality. Recommendations have been around putting in place the right services / organisations and the right people at Team Around the Child (TAC) meetings. Where appropriate, High Level Family Support has been commissioned as a one-off piece of work with the families to try and move them on from current difficult circumstances. An internally produced distance measured tool is being used as part of the review process of this work until such time that we are in a position to implement the 'Outcome Star' as part of a bigger distance measured programme. A separate report looking at early impact of MASG's has been produced for presentation to the next Improvement Board.</p> <p>New Peterborough CAF was launched in conjunction with the new MASG panels. The document has been reduced considerably in size and has been produced with a range of support material to aid completion. The simplified CAF is contributing to increased engagement from partners and an increase in the number of CAF's generated in Peterborough providing earlier support to some of our more vulnerable families in Peterborough.</p>

Strategic Outcome 4: Improved education and personal development of all children and young people to narrow the gap in achievement between the poorest children and the rest				
Lead / Coordinator: Allison Sunley		Lead Councillor: Cllr John Sherman		
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
4.1 Action: Improve attainment and reduce exclusions for all children and young people, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LLDD) or troublesome behaviour				
4.1.1	Identify vulnerable children and young people with LLDD and monitor the impact of actions taken to improve attainment	Start Sept 2012	Schools and School Improvement Advisors	<p>Early years settings are provided with training and support to identify and put in appropriate strategies into supporting the very youngest children who are displaying challenging behaviours. Transition meetings are held/ offered to Primary Schools when children are moving from their early years setting to support effective transitions and ongoing support.</p> <p>Risk registers of young people at risk of NEET (including all those with learning difficulties/ disabilities) are agreed and under regular review with schools to monitor support, action planning and applications.</p> <p>Learning Difficulty Assessments are being completed and shared with post 16 education providers to support successful transition.</p> <p>21 Providers and 58 families attended an options evening in October for young people with LDD. Progression/ Options event held on 7th February for young people who attend Pupil Referral Service, Nenegate School and those off school roll.</p> <p>Skills Service programme continues (till Summer 2013) with Nenegate School and local employers to raise aspirations and increase employability skills.</p> <p>Clear pathways of support have already been identified for those young people who are NEET and who are at risk of becoming NEET.</p>
4.1.2	Develop services and access routes for children and young people to prevent exclusions and NEET status.	On-going	Allison Sunley	<p>An agreed working protocol has been established with YOS to ensure a seamless handover over support for young people coming to the end of their referral orders.</p> <p>Further work needs to be undertaken around young people's behaviour in school and with those at risk of exclusion.</p> <p>Performance 16-18 NEET: 7.3% = 459 young people (was 8.7% = 542 in Dec 11</p>

<p>16-18 in Learning: 80.5% (was 80.6% this time last year) 16-18 not known: 5.4% = 375 young people (was 3.2% = 223 in Dec 11.</p> <p>Pre-Neet Risk profiling tool being used in schools to identify young people most at risk of becoming NEET post 16 leading to targeted LAG from CEAs. Some schools engaging with 0-19 service for extra support through multi agency meetings for those with more complex needs. 1 IPA from the NEET team based in Nenegate School ½ day per week to work with targeted pre-neet young people.</p> <p>NEET Weekly analysis of NEET by ward to inform targeted outreach to engage NEET young people. 12 hours additional hours per week identified for NEET outreach work Weekly work club based at the YAP with CIA Weekly Job Club at the Foyer in collaboration with CEA Daily IPA support to young people in the YAP Princes Trust Team programme in partnership with PRC (3 teams of 15-19 yp pa) Moving 4ward pre-employment programme in partnership with CKH (2 team of 12 yp pa) Moving 4ward into work pre-apprenticeship programme in partnership with CKH (20 yp pa) ESOL courses arranged in partnership with NACRO and PRC (rolling programme) Young parents programme (3 to be delivered in 2013/2014)</p> <p>Action plan to support the Raising of the Participation Age now being implemented, including information sharing protocols to identify young people dropping out of learning</p> <p>Second group of MENA Year 11 students without a school place to start bespoke ESOL course at City College in February. Course will include progression planning into education, employment or training</p> <p>Refreshing information on pathways and options for young people who are NEET / at risk of NEET</p> <p>Looking to develop offer for CLA/ care leavers in education (access to guidance, work experience and apprenticeships as appropriate</p>		

<p>4.1.3</p>	<p>Support young people in their aspirations and levels of attainment through creating stronger links with employers, establishing opportunities for the development of employability skills and through access to targeted work experience.</p>	<p>From September 2012</p>	<p>Allison Sunley</p>	<p>The Skills Service has done some of this work but with the transfer of the service to the Young People's Employment Service work can be targeted to more vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Under the Cohesion Board objectives work has started in relation to engagement with the Czech/Roma community in Peterborough with the aim of establishing peer and adult mentors to raise aspiration within this group.</p> <p>Progress with the Sustainable Skills Centre has been in part due to issues around securing an agreement over the lease with the football club. SmartLife Cambridgeshire has been identified as the lead tenant who will trade under SmartLife Peterborough. The centre is still on track to open in September/October 2013.</p> <p>Work with City College Peterborough has begun in order to develop an ATA (Apprenticeship Training Agency) with the view of securing Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeship opportunities linked to SMEs in Peterborough. The ATA would be able to support the progression pathway from a Level 2 apprenticeship through to Level 3 and then under graduate level via workbased learning.</p> <p>This would provide an alternative route to higher education for a number of young people where the costs of accessing a university place are prohibitive.</p> <p>Presentation at the Business Breakfast, as part of the Business Focus Event on 17th October 2012 in order to promote to business the value of taking an apprentice and the financial support those businesses can receive if they employ an apprentice.</p>
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4.2 Action: Increase parental support of children's learning and aspirations amongst the most disadvantaged and disengaged				
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
4.2.1	Establish peer support for parents in hotspots for teenage anti-social behaviour	Started June 2012 On going in response to emerging ASB hotspots	Allison Sunley	<p>Youth ASB multi agency Tensioning monitoring group established in June. The group facilitates close working with the RSLs re ASB and facilitates inter-generational activity with the aim of supporting parents and also the residents where ASB is prevalent.</p> <p>Close working relationships between police, neighborhoods and other agencies continue. The 0-19 service will be increasing the youth work delivery in the Century Square area by one evening a week from the first week in February 2013. Lead Youth Worker is supporting the police with educating young people regarding pending dispersal order. The 0-19 service are encouraging peer leaders under 19 and volunteers over 19 to get involved with the service to enable mainstream education regarding the issues young people face.</p> <p>Unity City Wide project will recruit in hot spot areas to support community peace and understanding.</p> <p>Engagement with community leaders continues through Cohesion team.</p> <p>Other areas of ASB in the city are being supported by youth workers – linking in to main protagonists of ASB and directly working on to one alongside PCSO's & PC's.</p>
4.2.2	Deliver evidence-based interventions that increase parental engagement in children's learning (including purposeful learning in the home environment) in Early Years settings targeted to parents in vulnerable groups identified in the poverty matrix		Children's Centres, Pam Setterfield, Karen Hingston (Team Mgr Early Years Child Intervention (Team Mgr & Joan Riddel (Educational Psychologist	<p>Results from research suggests that specialised support in pre-schools, especially for language and pre-reading skills, can benefit children from disadvantaged backgrounds and those for whom English is an additional language. Every Child a Talker is evidence based programme designed to raise children's achievement in early language development from birth to five. It provides focused support in targeted settings to provide the very best early language provision for all children and increase practitioner's knowledge in identifying children at risk of language and communication delay and supporting them as early as possible. The programme encourages strong partnerships with families and carers. We have a team member who has a specific remit for leading the programme, and have recently adapted the ECAT training for delivery to Children Centre staff.</p> <p>We have provided training to the sector for a number of years, most recently training most providers in the Early Childhood Unit & NCBs PEAL Training (Parents Early Years & Learning) this training is underpinned by research, PEAL training and resource materials support</p>

				<p>practitioners to encourage and develop parental involvement in children's early learning.</p> <p>The development of parental 'peer' support mechanisms is underway. The value of engaging parents into a voluntary role to act as support to other parents prompting positive messages, experiences and support such as early year's attendance, involvement in their children's learning and practiced parenting. There is a successful group of parents already engaged in this type of delivery. This is being developed further targeting parents from vulnerable groups from a particularly highly disadvantaged area of the city to improve engagement.</p> <p>Most of the frontline teams in the Youth Services have experience Escape training this allowing them to support parents with adolescent children.</p>
<p>4.2.3</p>	<p>Increase the number of children accessing free 3 & 4 year old funding for vulnerable groups identified in the poverty matrix</p>		<p>Tim Laws (Childcare Market Facilitation Manager)</p>	<p>Peterborough's take up is above national average. However there is room for improvement, especially among 3 year olds with 95% of 3 year olds currently accessing some provision, leaving 5% not accessing.</p> <p>Children are entitled to 15 hours per week and the average number of hours taken has very steadily increased from just over 13 in 2008 to nearly 14 in 2012. This is positive and shows the market has accommodated population growth well.</p> <p>Previous research highlighted several reasons why different groups were not accessing. Some have been addressed / resolved (e.g. new children's centre and pre-school in Hampton and marketing activity in different languages to target new arrivals).</p> <p>A 'parent champion' / volunteer scheme is due to be trialed in partnership with Children's Centre's to drive take up of two year old childcare. We hope this will roll out city wide in 2013. This should specifically target those vulnerable groups that blanket marketing doesn't reach. Once two year olds are in the system, they are likely to remain for 3 year old funding, therefore increasing the number of children fully benefiting from their entitlement at 3.</p> <p>New FIS partner (SERCO) will be working to improve information to families about the entitlement to help drive take up.</p> <p>Market management and sufficiency planning is identifying the areas of the city where demand is expected to exceed supply. Place creation is essential if children are to take up a place and we will use the</p>

<p>information we generate to facilitate market developments through the use of information and commissioning. Discussions are underway with colleagues in 'Neighborhoods' and several external partners about utilizing available buildings / community space.</p> <p>We successfully bid to DfE to run an early education trial from September 2012 in a small area of the city (Voyager area). Learning from this trial will see us well placed to meet the needs of two year olds city wide from 2013 and to secure a high take up. Key elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 'parent champion' / volunteer scheme to drive take up. This should specifically target those vulnerable groups that blanket marketing doesn't reach. • Text back service for parents to check eligibility via text message • Facebook and twitter to promote the scheme • Quality improvement work • Research and monitoring to then encourage other providers to participate in the scheme. <p>Trial of extended two year old scheme has been operating since September 2012. Take up of places has exceeded expectations with over 70% of eligible children accessing a place in the trial area. These children are from households in receipt of benefits that qualify the family for free school meals. This suggests take up will be high across the city when the scheme expands in September 2013. In addition, 28 children have been offered funding via referral from social care.</p> <p>The full budget allocation for 2 year old places in the rest of the city will be utilized by March meaning that we have maximized the take up of available places.</p> <p>Trial initiatives including a 'Text Back' service are proving popular with families. 98 families have engaged with this technology. This is supporting take up.</p> <p>Further work is needed with providers to ensure they are making 2 year old places available and to put appropriate administrative systems in place</p>				
<p>4.2.4</p>	<p>Increase uptake of extended 2 year old funding for early education amongst vulnerable groups identified in the poverty matrix</p>	<p>Tim Laws</p>		

Strategic Outcome 5: Increased financial capability, employability and take up of benefits amongst families			
Lead / Coordinator: John Cunningham		Lead Councillor: Cllr Sue Day	
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Progress
5.1 Action: Improve financial capability amongst vulnerable families		Delivery Lead	Progress
5.1.1	Establish partnership approach to reducing debt and illegal money lending amongst vulnerable families	Financial Inclusion Forum – Pat Brown	Welfare Reform Action Group formed, led by Head of Neighbourhood Services, to focus on mitigating the impacts of welfare reform and developing innovative programmes of work. New Advice Centre model being developed which will connect debt advice and financial capability with access to Foodbank, furniture recycling etc.
5.1.2	Scope development of Peterborough Credit Union	TBC	New Credit Union due to open on 2/4/13 on Cattlemarket Road.
5.1.3	Establish community gateway pilot in highly deprived area to cascade benefit and financial capability information to vulnerable families	FIF – TBC, RSLs, Neighbourhood Managers	Part of the model described in 5.1.1 includes capacity building within communities so that debt advice and support is available across all of Peterborough.
5.1.4	Establish coordinated “Home Start” package for vulnerable families entering accommodation to enjoy a stable tenancy and access to basic needs and money management advice	FIF – TBC, RSLs, Private Landlords, Hostels, Refuge, Community Repaint, Sofa, etc	Part of the model described in 5.1.1
5.1.5	Increase number of families with children with complex needs accessing benefits and short breaks provision	Carrie Gamble (Commissioning Officer for Social Care, Specialist Commissioning)	Part of the model described in 5.1.1

5.2 Action: Tackling worklessness				
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
5.2.1	Deliver a range of interventions to reduce unemployment amongst the under 25s including Youth Contract		Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough (TWIP) – Christina Malle	Work being led by the Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough group.
5.2.2	Delivery of the Families Programme		Caroline Patten, Reed in Partnership	Work being led by the Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough group.
5.2.3	Deliver a range of interventions to reduce the number of digitally excluded people		Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough (TWIP) – Christina Malle	Work being led by the Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough group.
5.2.4	Deliver a range of interventions to increase basic and job specific skills		Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough (TWIP) – Christina Malle	Work being led by the Tackling Worklessness in Peterborough group.
5.2.5	Parents have access to sufficient and affordable		Tim Laws	<p>New FIS provider to improve communication of financial support for childcare available to working parents.</p> <p>Market regularly monitored to identify gaps in provision (change then initiated).</p> <p>Business support information and advice made available to providers to support sustainable business models and lower their costs, thereby reducing fee increases to parents.</p> <p>Where possible, pre-schools encouraged to extend opening times to help accommodate working parents. This has proven successful in 3 rural locations.</p> <p>Sufficiency monitoring to be expanded to more strategically look at quality and how training can be delivered more efficiently as the sector continues to grow. Quality is a key feature of a 'sufficient' market.</p> <p>Redesign of 'childcare' pages on council website to provide a more user</p>

childcare	<p>friendly experience to families and direct more clearly to info about financial support with childcare.</p> <p>New FIS provider to improve communication of financial support for childcare available to working parents. A new FIS logo has been agreed in February 2013 so increased marketing activity should follow shortly.</p> <p>Market regularly monitored to identify gaps in provision (change then initiated). A lack of supply has been identified in Eye and Hampton and future shortages are expected from September 2013 in Dogsthorpe, Stanground, North Bretton and East. Capital funding from DfE (£474k) will be used to help increase supply in these areas. Potential projects have been identified including better use of children's centre, community and old play service buildings.</p> <p>Business support information and advice made available to providers to support sustainable business models and lower their costs, thereby reducing fee increases to parents.</p> <p>Sufficiency monitoring to be expanded to more strategically look at quality and how training can be delivered more efficiently as the sector continues to grow. Quality is a key feature of a 'sufficient' market.</p> <p>Redesign of 'childcare' pages on council website to provide a more user friendly experience to families and direct more clearly to info about financial support with childcare.</p> <p>Childcare providers educated about support available to their working families with childcare costs so they can signpost to appropriate agencies.</p>
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Strategic Outcome 6: Improved mental health within the local population to reduce the gap in health inequalities and promote healthy lifestyles			
Lead / Coordinator: Claire Rintoul		Lead Councillor: Cllr Brian Rush	
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Progress
6.1 Action: Improve maternal (parental) mental health in pregnancy and during infancy			
6.1.1	Identify and scope opportunities to improve mental health amongst women in pregnancy and early childhood		<p>Work has begun to establish the Connecting Mums project targeting pregnant women and new mothers who are socially excluded and at greater risk of mental health problems inc. those with previous experience of mental health problems, teenagers, those who live in areas of deprivation and vulnerable migrants/asylum seekers.</p> <p>Volunteer befrienders who will through home visits provide befriending support, including practical and emotional help alongside friendship and encouragement.</p> <p>The service will organise and run group sessions to help pregnant women and new mums learn how to look after their own mental health and wellbeing. Multi-agency steering group formed and has met twice. Co-ordinator post advertised interviews 12.2.13. Arrangements made with Better Together to recruit & train volunteers, volunteer referrals coming in already. Project goes live 1st April. Funding secured for external project evaluation. Additional grant funding secured to make this an 18 – 21 month project.</p>
6.2 Action: Reduce prevalence of mental illness linked to employment or financial difficulties			
6.2.1	Pilot co-location of debt advice worker in GP surgery as new approach to manage stress, anxiety and depression linked to money worries (to be reworded by CR)		<p>Part of the model described in 5.1.1</p>

Strategic Outcome 7: Creation of inspirational places to live and cohesive communities			
Lead / Coordinator: Belinda Child		Lead Councillor: Cllr Bella Saltmarsh	
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Progress
7.1 Action: Improve quality of private housing stock (and contribute to reduction of fuel poverty amongst vulnerable families)			
7.1.1	Remove category one hazards from at least 350 private sector homes per year until end of 2014/15 (via enforcement and Repairs Assistance Fund)	31/3/13	110 private sector properties have had Category 1 hazards reduced to an acceptable level from 01/4/2012 to 31/12/2012
7.1.2	Improve thermal efficiency in at least 100 private sector dwellings each year thereby minimising the risk of fuel poverty for occupants	31/3/13	<p>50 A-rated condensing boilers and/or central heating systems have been installed between 01/04/2012 and 31/12/2012 with a further 8 approved.</p> <p>Housing Enforcement teams continue to negotiate and then enforce landlords to carry out energy efficiency measures to privately rented properties where a Category 1 hazard for Excess Cold has been identified</p> <p>Housing Teams continue to signpost and refer householders to relevant energy companies for free and discounted loft and cavity wall measures.</p> <p>Strategic Housing has been successful in their bid to the Dept of Health's Warm Homes: Healthy People Funding aiming to tackle excess winter deaths due to vulnerable residents living in cold, energy inefficient homes. The Peterborough Winter Warmth Partnership involves the Peterborough Care & Repair Home Improvement Agency, PECT, Public Health's Health Lifestyle Team, the Salvation Army and Age UK. The Partnership will deliver a citywide campaign raising awareness of the impact of cold homes on health and wellbeing, and the services which can support vulnerable people in winter months. It will provide advice and information for people at partners' centres and charity shops, and through home visits, delivered by staff and volunteers trained during last years campaign. The Peterborough's Care and Repair Home Improvement Agency services have been extended to provide free boiler and gas fire servicing and repairs and draught proofing to keep homes warm and safe. These services will link directly to existing heating.</p>

				<p>repairs assistance and disabled facility grants and handy person services for minor works. A hotline via Peterborough City Council's Care & Repair main Handyperson line connects directly to the Winter Warmth team to provide advice, and arrange home visits to deliver advice on the importance of keeping warm, how to set heating controls to maximise warmth and efficiency, energy efficiency, and identify any problems with paying bills linking to other services. Partners will also provide heater loans and shopping trips to vulnerable older people in cold snaps, to reduce exposure to cold weather outdoors, and risk of falls.</p>
7.1.3	<p>Implement the Green Deal scheme to ensure vulnerable families can benefit from improved energy efficiency in their dwellings</p>	31/3/13	<p>Strategic Housing Manager, Housing Programmes Manager</p>	<p>DECC statistics have been analysed to ascertain the areas in the city with the highest prevalence of fuel poverty.</p> <p>5 of the top 6 Lower Super Output Areas in the city for fuel poverty are in the Central Ward. The % of households in fuel poverty in these LSOA's range from 24% to 31.6%.</p> <p>Housing Teams are now looking into what role the Local Authority will play in the Green Deal Scheme, due to being launched in the Autumn 2012. Discussions are also taking place with key potential partners to look at options for delivering the Green Deal in the areas containing households at the highest risk of fuel poverty.</p>
7.1.4	<p>Utilise "additional licensing scheme" for HMOs in hotspot areas (Milfield and New England)</p>	31/3/13	<p>Neighbourhood Manager Central & East, Senior Neighbourhood Enforcement Officer</p>	<p>Between 01.04.12 and 28.01.13 there have been 21 additional HMO licenses and 5 Mandatory HMO licenses issued in the Milfield and New England area. Overall there are 59 Properties licensed under the additional licensing scheme in addition to those that are required for Mandatory (3 or more storeys) licensing.</p>

7.2 Action: Support vulnerable families to access and maintain suitable accommodation				
Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
7.2.1	Use all mechanisms to bring empty homes across the City back into use to ensure maximisation of housing availability and choice for families in housing need	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	<p>141 empty properties have been brought back into use through Local Authority intervention from 01/04/2012 to 31/12/2012. The current number of long term empty properties (empty for 6 months or more) as at 31/12/2012 is 325</p> <p>The Peterborough Empty Homes Partnership with Cross Keys Homes and the Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) is currently in the final stages of securing 2 long term lease agreements with owners of empty properties, one of which will see a property brought back into use that has laid empty for over 7 years. With the need for over £40,000 worth of work, the property will be brought up to standard by Cross Keys Homes, and let at an affordable rate, provide good quality accommodation to someone in need for 15 years. The partnership will also be using the funding to convert several empty office spaces into affordable accommodation within the Cross Keys Cowgate development.</p> <p>A second smaller project with the HCA and the charity Hope into Action for the purchase of two empty properties to provide homes to homeless people has seen the first property secured and a second property identified. The charity hopes to submit a bid for funding of two further houses in the next funding round.</p>
7.2.2	Through partnership working and referrals identify families living in private rented properties with category 1 hazards and take enforcement action to remedy poor living conditions	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	29 privately rented properties with identified Category 1 hazards have had those hazards reduced to an acceptable level through enforcement action during the period 01/04/2012 to 30/06/2012
7.2.3	Through partnership working and referrals identify families living in own occupied properties with category 1 hazards and secure funding streams to remedy poor living conditions	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	73 owner occupied properties with identified Category 1 hazards have had those hazards reduced to an acceptable level through Repairs Assistance grant funding during the period 01/04/2012 to 31/12/2012

Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
7.2.4	Identify families living in fuel poverty and investigate/secure grant funding to carry out energy efficiency measures to their home to maximise their disposable income	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	DECC statistics have been analysed to ascertain the areas in the city with the highest prevalence of fuel poverty 50 A-rated condensing boilers and/or central heating systems have been installed between 01/04/2012 and 31/12/2012 with a further 8 approved. Housing Enforcement teams continue to negotiate and then enforce landlords to carry out energy efficiency measures to privately rented properties where a Category 1 hazard for Excess Cold has been identified Housing Teams continue to signpost and refer householders to relevant energy companies for free and discounted loft and cavity wall measures
7.2.5	To maximise the number of affordable homes created in the City	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	207 since 1/4/12
7.2.6	To identify families and young people in housing need and at risk of homelessness and work with them and partners to ensure their housing needs are met through a robust Housing Needs Service and allocations policy	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	This is ongoing. The Housing Needs service continues to offer advice and assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. In the last quarter Oct 12 to December 12 we have allocated 283 social housing properties. In the same time we have assisted 92 households with the funds to secure suitable accommodation in the private sector.
7.2.7	To continue to develop the dedicated and tailored support offered to those families experiencing mortgage difficulties including the mortgage rescue scheme and debt advice to ensure that families can stay in their own homes	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	This is ongoing. We have assisted 158 households who contacted us for advice as they are in mortgage difficulties. 147 were resolved with advice or debt counseling and 11 are being considered for mortgage rescue under the government's mortgage rescue scheme.

Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
7.2.8	To continue to provide a robust Tenancy Relations Service to ensure that families at risk of illegal eviction are identified and supported and landlords taking this action are challenged	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	This is ongoing. We continue to offer assistance to those who are being harassed by their landlord or were at threat of illegal eviction.
7.2.9	To provide temporary housing to those families and young people in crisis to ensure they have a safe environment	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	We continue to offer temporary accommodation to those who are eligible, homeless and in priority need. In Qtr 1 Oct 12 to Dec 12 we provided temporary accommodation for 315 households.
7.2.10	To ensure children with disabilities and their families have access to disabled facilities grants to adapt their homes to meet their needs	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	15 Disabled Facility Grants have been completed to provide adaptations to meet the needs of disabled children from 01/04/2012 and 31/12//2012 with a further 4 approved. The total grant funding awarded during this period is £124,418
7.2.11	To continue to maximise the funding given to partner organisations to provide housing related support to families in the City through both outreach work and direct accommodation	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	<p>The Housing Related Support Programme continues to fund a range of service provision assisting some of the most vulnerable residents in the city maintain their accommodation.</p> <p>Grant agreements have been put in place with existing providers of accommodation based housing related support for 2012/2013. Contracts with five floating support services have also been re-commissioned for a six month period from April 2012, including three public health contracts. This will allow time for the floating support services to be reviewed and will take into account the transition of Public Health into the Local Authority.</p> <p>The housing related support services previously commissioned by the PCT are also undergoing a review by Adult Social Care and again this review will take into consideration the transfer of some Adult Social Care services into the Local Authority and the implications for future service delivery.</p> <p>Work is beginning on a new Housing Related Support Commissioning Strategy to look at future service provision from April 2013 onwards.</p>

Reference	Actions	Timescale	Delivery Lead	Progress
7.2.12	To work with colleagues and partners to identify 16-17 year olds at risk of homelessness and work with their families to secure appropriate housing solutions	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	The protocol has now been implemented and the Housing Needs team are now working in partnership with Children's services
7.2.13	To develop and deliver initiatives through the Homelessness Strategy	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	The review of the previous homelessness strategy is near completion. Working groups are being established and a consultation will soon get underway for the new strategy and action plan.
7.2.14	Continue to offer dedicated and tailored support to those experiencing mortgage difficulties, including provision of debt advice	31/3/13	Strategic Housing Services Manager, Housing Needs Manager	This work is ongoing we have secured the funding going forward into 2013/14 and will continue to fund prioritized debt advice to those at risk of losing their homes due to financial difficulty.

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CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 8
11 MARCH 2013	Public Report

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer(s) – Jonathan Lewis – Assistant Director – Education and Resources
 Gary Perkins – Head of School Improvement

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PRESENTATION OF 2012 VALIDATED EXAMINATION RESULTS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This paper summarises the 2012 validated assessment and examination results for both Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 and outlines the approach the Local Authority and Schools are taking to improve outcomes for pupils in Peterborough.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1
1. The committee analyses the performance in the 2012 assessments, tests and examinations.
 2. Scrutinise Children's Services actions to improve 2013 and 2014 performance.
 3. Support Children's Services leaders to challenge and intervene in schools/settings and core subject departments where performance is inadequate / below floor standards

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 Single Delivery Plan - Programme 1 – Creating jobs through growth and improved skills and education.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In December 2012, the Department for Education (DfE) published the validated Key Stage 2 results, with KS4 results following in January 2013.
- 4.2 As a benchmark, pupils in Y6 (age 11) are expected to achieve National Curriculum Level 4 (L4) or better (L4+), whilst those in Y11 (age 16) are expected to achieve GCSE Grade C or better. These results are shown in appendix 1 and appendix 2. Pupils are also expected to make a given level of progress in both primary and secondary education from when they started. This measure can be found in appendix 3 and 4.
- 4.3 The data presented here is the final set of results for 2012, and takes into account re-marks and any allowances for pupils who are new to the UK and have been present for less than 2 years. It does not, though, take into account any re-sits of GCSE examinations which were questioned for validity due to the changing of grade boundary thresholds in June 2012.
- 4.4 For KS2 outcomes there was a change in the testing regime in 2012 when compared to previous years. Whilst reading and mathematics outcomes reported are those achieved by pupils sitting a standardised and externally-marked test, those in writing are based upon teacher assessment. This means that there can be no meaningful direct comparison between 2012 and the preceding years in the outcomes of KS2 writing, KS2 English and KS2 English and mathematics combined at L4+ and L5.

4.5 Prior to this meeting, Gary Perkins (Head of School Improvement) has met with two members of the Committee in order to agree the presentation of the data sheets attached to this report. These spreadsheets have been approved by those members of the Committee who worked with Gary Perkins, and they are attached to this report for your information.

5. KEY ISSUES

Key Stage 2 (KS2) Test Results 2012 (appendix 1)

5.1 These results are for those pupils who were in Year 6 (age 11) during 2011-12, and are from KS2 tests and teacher assessments taken in May and June 2012.

5.2 At this age, the expected level of attainment for these pupils is at least Level 4 of the National Curriculum (L4+). In addition, it is expected for pupils to have made progress by at least 2 national curriculum levels from the end of KS1 (age 7) to the end of KS2 (age 11). This is known as Expected Progress and is measured in English, in reading, writing and in mathematics (see appendix 3)

5.3 The DfE publish results on the following measures –

- attainment at L4 and above (L4+) in English;
- attainment at L4 and above (L4+) in mathematics;
- attainment at L4 and above (L4+) in both English and mathematics combined;
- The proportions of pupils making Expected Progress in English and in mathematics (see 5.2 above);
- The number and proportion of schools who do not meet the national minimum Floor Standards of at least 60% L4+ in English&mathematics combined, the national median for Expected Progress in English (92%) and the national median for Expected Progress in mathematics (90%). If a school fails to meet all 3 of these measures, it is judged to be Below Floor.

5.4 Appendix 1 gives the performance of schools in Peterborough in comparison to our Statistical Neighbours, to Local Comparator LAs and to England as a whole.

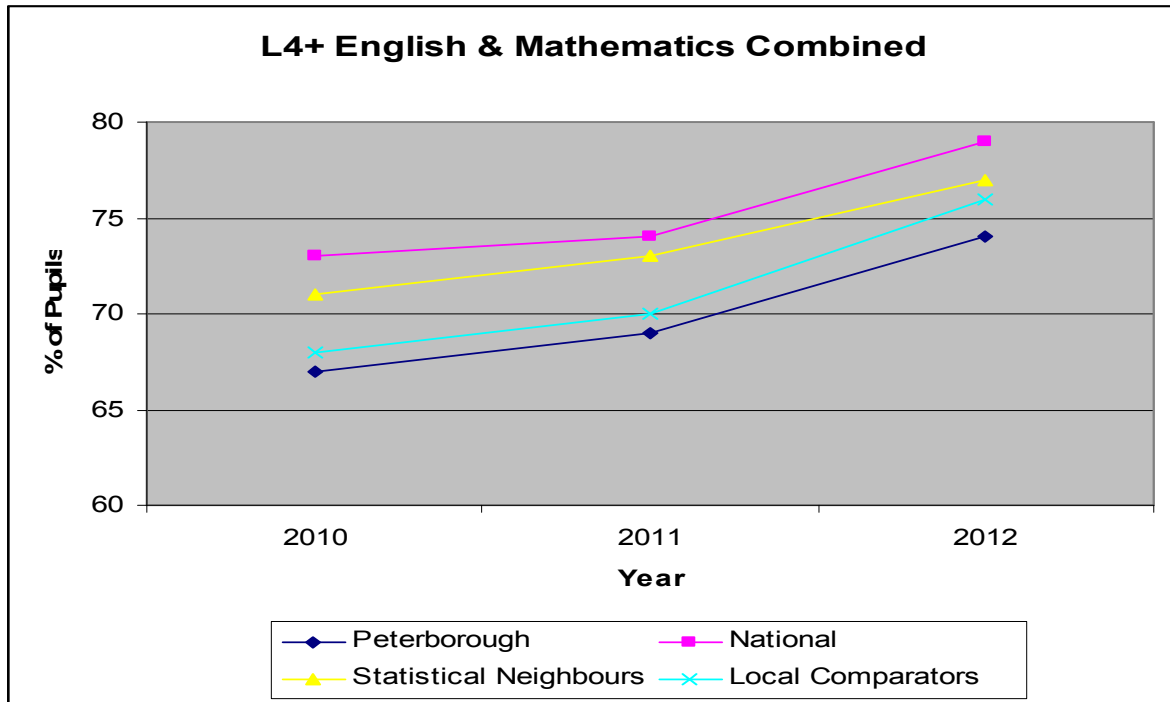
5.5

	Level 4+		Average Points Score	
	Gap to National Average	Gap Direction from 2011	Gap to National Average	Gap Direction from 2011
English	- 5%	Narrowed by 1%	- 1.0pt	Narrowed by 0.2pt
Reading	- 5%	Widened by 1%	- 1.3pts	Widened by 0.1pt
Writing	- 4%	Narrowed by 2%	- 0.8pts	Narrowed by 0.3pt
Mathematics	- 6%	Widened by 2%	- 1.2pts	Widened by 0.2pt
En&Ma Combined	- 5%	Narrowed by 1%	- 0.9pts	Narrowed by 0.3pts
Expected Progress English	+ 1% (above)	Narrowed by 1%		
Expected Progress Maths	- 1%	Widened by 1%		

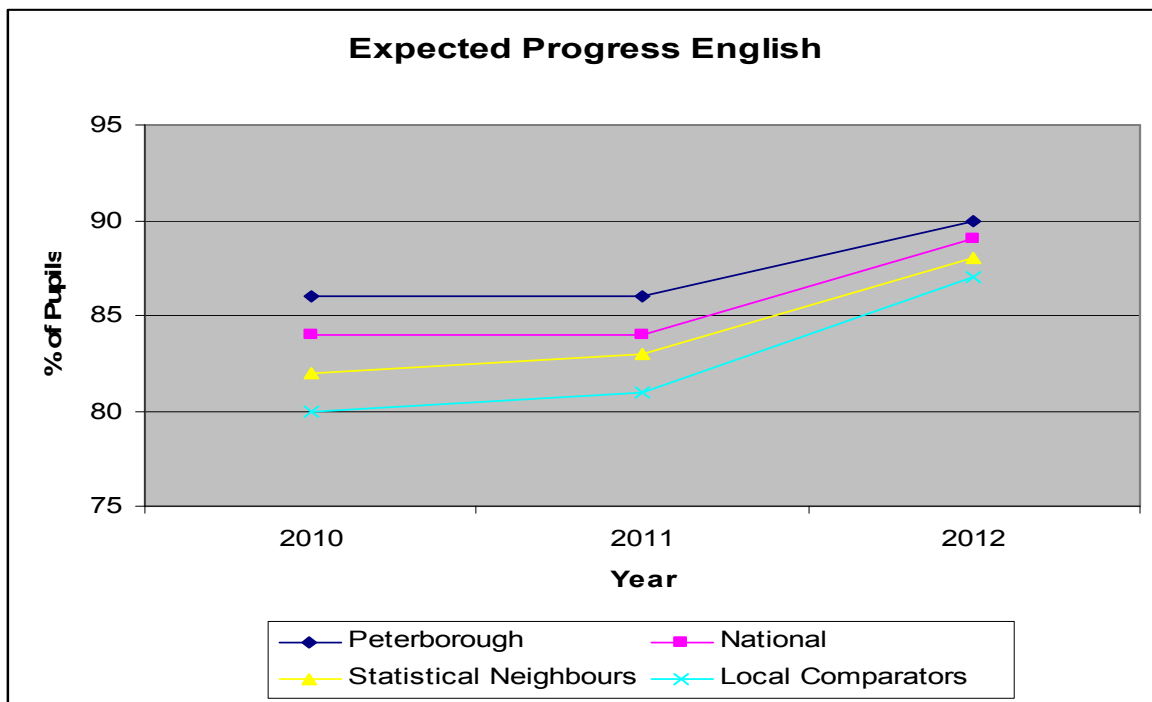
	Level 4+	
	Gap to Statistical Neighbours	Gap Direction from 2011
English	- 2%	Narrowed by 1%
Reading	- 2%	Unchanged
Writing	- 1%	Narrowed by 3%
Mathematics	- 3%	Widened by 2%
En&Ma Combined	- 3%	Narrowed by 1%
Expected Progress English	+ 2% (above)	Narrowed by 1%
Expected Progress Maths	0%	Widened by 1%

	3 year Trend Peterborough L4+	3 Year Trend National L4+	3 year Trend Peterborough APS	3 Year Trend National APS
English	+ 5%	+ 6%	+ 0.5pts	+ 0.8pts
Reading	+ 1%	+ 1%	- 0.5pts	+ 0.2pts
Writing	+ 15%	+ 13%	+ 1.1pts	+ 1.4pts
Maths	+ 1%	+ 3%	+ 0.1pts	+ 0.8pts
Expected Progress English	+ 6%	+ 8%		
Expected Progress Maths	+ 3%	+ 7%		

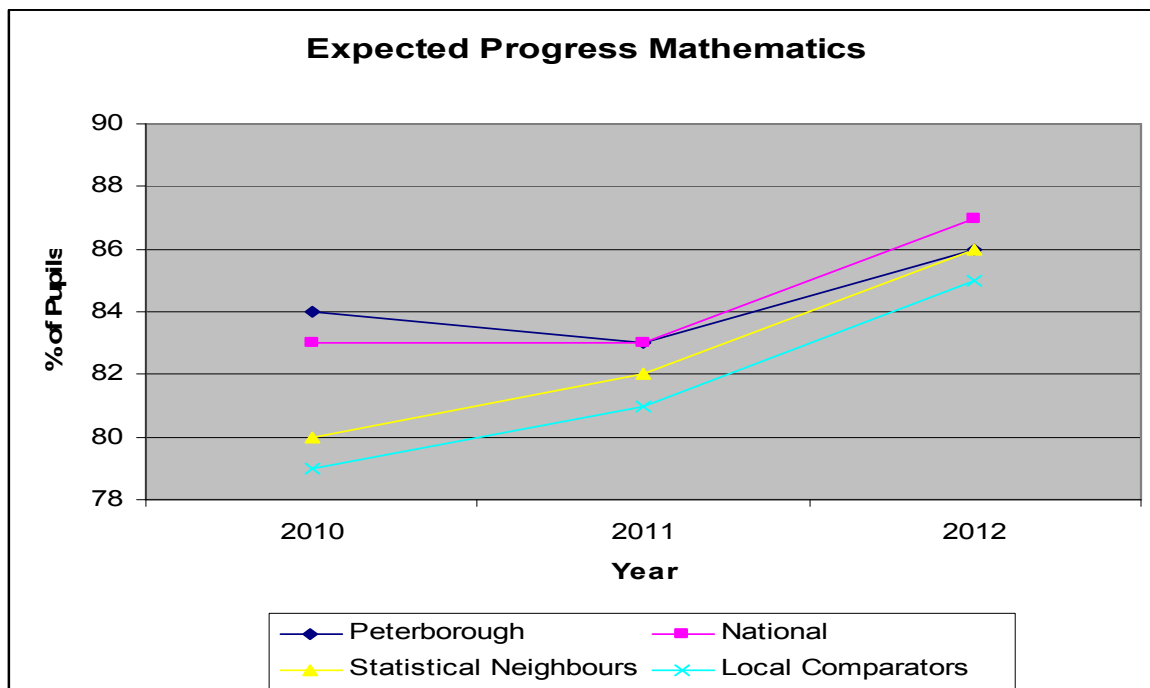
5.6 As the data and graphs show, there is still a significant gap to national average standards in English and Maths at Key Stage 2. The graph below outlines this gap at Level 4 against the national average. We are pleased that there is continuous improvement shown by schools in Peterborough, but concerned that the improvement is not keeping pace with that shown nationally.



5.7 The English progress measure continues to remain above national average.



5.8 Progress in mathematics is disappointing as we move below the national average for the first time in 4 years.



5.9 The overall results in mathematics are disappointing. There are a number of possible reasons for this:

- There are a large number of EAL pupils and the maths curriculum uses a very technical vocabulary. Whilst children can often get to a sufficient level in English because of their everyday use of the language, it is more difficult to master the technical terminology and language of mathematics;
- Schools in Peterborough place a heavy emphasis upon English in schools, because of the EAL issue, and often do not pay the same attention to detail in mathematics;
- The quality of learning and teaching in the subject is perceived to be weaker than in English, as is the subject knowledge of teachers.

5.10 The LA is providing additional support to try and improve outcomes in this area including –

- LA-led subject reviews;
- Continuing professional development (CPD) with subject leaders focused upon improving the quality of learning and teaching;
- Training cohorts of teachers as Mathematics Specialist Teachers (MaST);
- Focusing on maths to a greater extent in LA whole-school reviews;
- Focused training on achieving L2b+ at KS1 and L4+ at KS2 in Mathematics;
- Greater targeting of schools that need intensive support to improve standards and rates of progress.

5.11 There is limited capacity in the authority to support beyond these functions and work has commenced with Peterborough Learning Partnership to commission further support for Mathematics in the city.

5.12 At L4+ in English&mathematics combined, the performance of significant groups is as follows:

- The performance of Non-EAL pupils, FSM and non-FSM pupils is not yet available as validated data;
- The performance of EAL pupils is 9% below the national average
- The performance of boys is 5% below the national average;
- The performance of girls is 7% below the national average.

For Expected Progress in English:

- The performance of Non-EAL pupils, FSM and non-FSM pupils is not yet available as validated data;
- The performance of EAL pupils is 1% above the national average;
- The performance of boys is 1% above the national average;
- The performance of girls is equal to the national average.

For Expected Progress in mathematics:

- The performance of Non-EAL pupils, FSM and non-FSM pupils is not yet available as validated data;
- The performance of EAL pupils is 3% below the national average;
- The performance of boys is equal to the national average;
- The performance of girls is 2% below the national average.

5.13 The context of this cohort by ethnicity is different from previous cohorts, and comparison to national data provides interesting background information.

For the 2012 cohort:

- 33.2% did not have English as a first language, compared to a national average of 17.5% (+15.7%) and a Statistical Neighbour average of 17.2%. The gap to the national average has widened from 12.8% in 2010 and 13.9% in 2011;
- 66.8% of the cohort had English as a first language, compared to a national average of 82.5% (- 15.7%) and a Statistical Neighbour average of 82.8%. This gap has widened from -12.6% in 2010 and -14.4% in 2011;
- The proportion of pupils whose ethnicity is recorded as “White British” has declined from 62.2% in 2010 to 57.6% in 2012. The gap to the national average has widened from -11.6% in 2010 to -14.2% in 2012;
- The proportion of pupils whose ethnicity is recorded as “Any Other White Background” (predominantly from Eastern Europe) has increased from 10.0% in 2010 to 12.9% in 2012. The gap to the national average has widened from +6.0% in 2010 to +8.5% in 2012, and the proportion in Peterborough is nearly three times larger than the similar group nationally.
- The proportion of children whose ethnicity is recorded as “Asian Background” has increased from 17.9% in 2010 to 19.0% in 2012, and the gap to the national average has widened from 8.3% to 8.7% in the same period. The proportion in Peterborough schools is nearly double that of the similar group nationally;
- The proportion of pupils known to be eligible for Free School Meals in this cohort is 20.8%, compared to a national average of 18.1% and a Statistical Neighbour average of 21.4%. The gap to the national average has widened from +2.5% to + 2.7% between 2011 and 2012.

Key Stage 4 (KS4) Results 2012 (appendix 2)

5.14 These results are for those pupils who were in Year 11 (age 16) during 2011-12, and are from GCSE Examinations taken in 2012. The expected level of attainment for these pupils is at least Grade C and for pupils to have made progress by at least 3 national curriculum levels from the end of KS2 (age 11) to the end of KS4 (age 16) (see appendix 4).

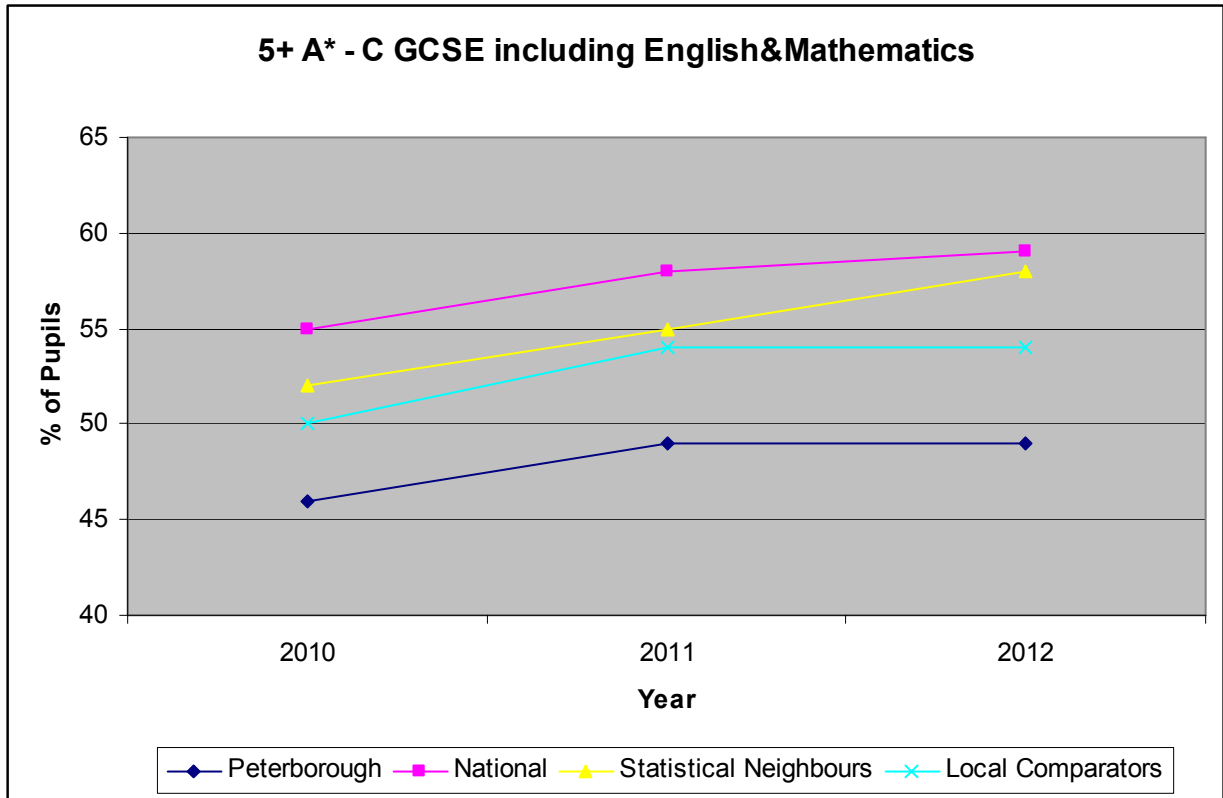
5.15 The measures reported on are for the proportion of students achieving:

- at least 5 A* - C grades, including English and mathematics;
- at least 5 A*- C grades (any subjects);
- English Baccalaureate subjects;
- A*- C Grades in English;
- A* - C Grades in mathematics;
- The proportion of students making Expected Progress in English; (see 5.12 above)
- The proportion of students making Expected Progress in mathematics (see 5.12 above)
- The number and proportion of schools who do not meet the national minimum Floor Standards of at least 40% A* - C Grades at GCSE, including English and mathematics, the national median for Expected Progress in English (70%) and the national median for Expected Progress in mathematics (70%). If a school fails to meet all 3 of these measures,

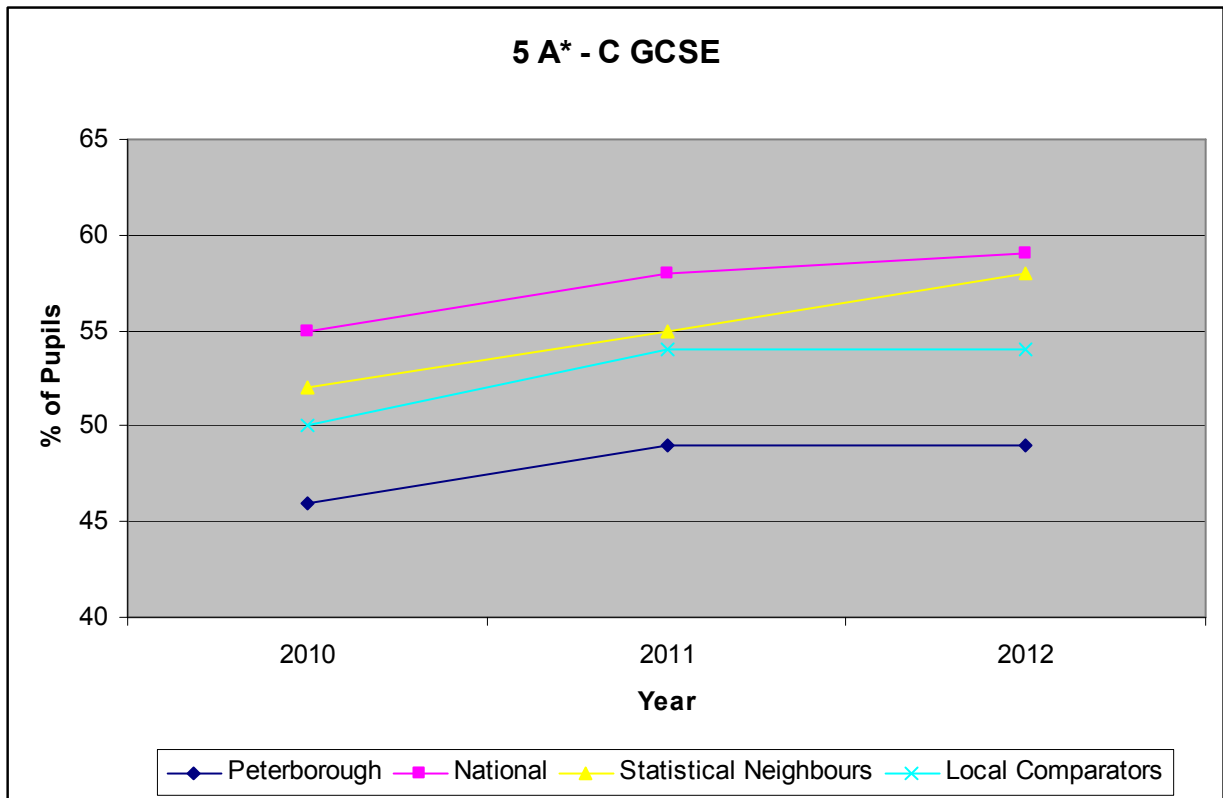
it is judged to be Below Floor.

- 5.16 The data spreadsheets in appendix 2 report the performance of schools in Peterborough in comparison to our Statistical Neighbours, to Local Comparator LAs, to England as a whole and to each other.
- 5.17 Results were originally published over the summer period and there remains some significant controversy. There are a number of schools in the city who have appealed against the grades awarded for English Language by one exam board in particular (AQA), in common with many schools nationally. The grade boundary was changed between January and June meaning that many of those with D grades in June would have received a C if they had sat the exam in January. The impact of this change in Peterborough has not yet been finally reported, but any changes which have been made are reflected in the revised data produced here. There remains a legal challenge against these results at a national level and the judgement is awaited.
- 5.18 Although there are many aspects of performance in Peterborough schools which are improving, and which we celebrate, they are not improving at a fast enough rate and so the gap to national average is not closing quickly enough.
- 5.19 In the key measure of 5 A* - C Grades at GCSE including English and mathematics, outcomes in Peterborough schools remain unchanged from 2011 at 49%, with the gap to national average having widened by 1% to 10%. The table and graph below demonstrate that although Peterborough has seen significant increases in this measure we are not closing the gap on the national average.
- The performance of EAL pupils in Peterborough schools at 5+ A* - C GCSE including English and mathematics is 20% below the national similar group, whilst that of Non-EAL pupils is 6% below;
 - The performance of FSM pupils is 12% below the national similar group, whilst non-FSM pupils perform 7% below the national average;
 - Pupils of White British background are 6% below the national average, whilst those of White Other background are 19% below the national average;
 - Boys perform 7% below the national average whilst girls perform 10% below the national average. The gap between the performance of boys and girls in Peterborough is 3% closer than it is nationally.

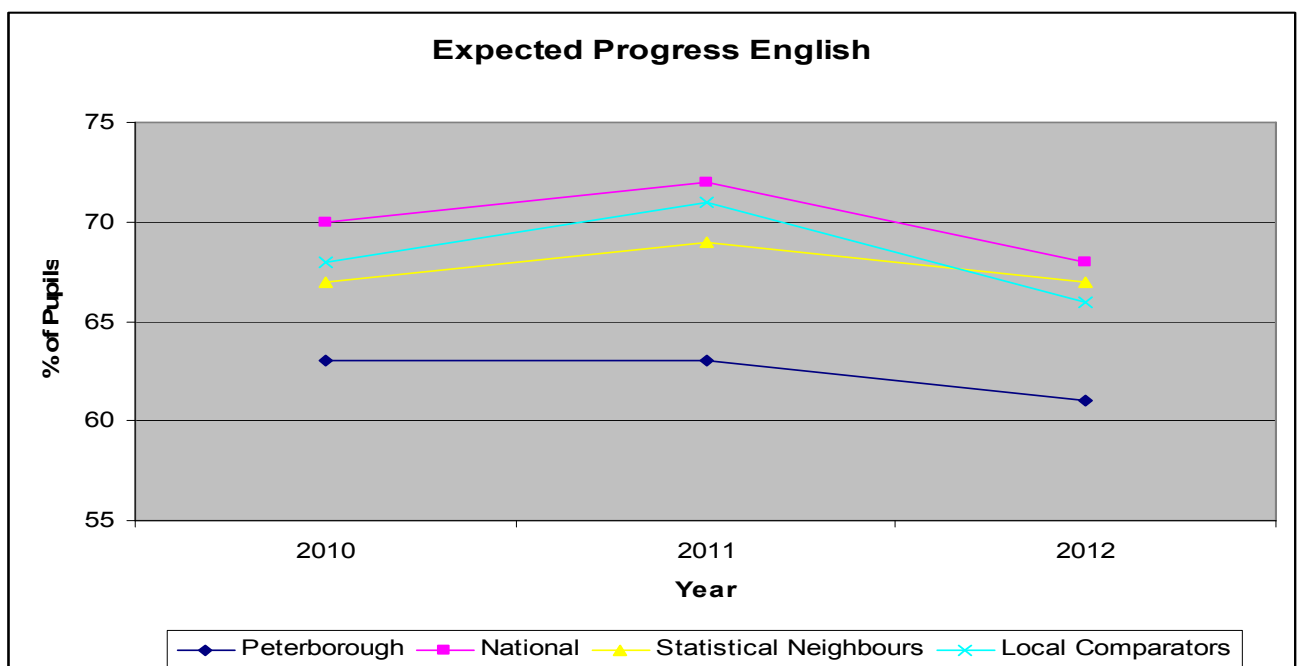
Measure	Gap to National Average 2012	Trend of performance compared to national average	Gap to Statistical Neighbour Average	Trend of performance compared to SN average
5 A* - C incl En and Ma	- 10%	Widened by 1%	- 9%	Widened by 3%
5 A* - C	0%	Narrowed by 1%	0%	Narrowed by 1%
A* - C English	- 6%	Narrowed by 2%	N/A	N/A
A* - C Mathematics	- 6%	Widened by 1%	N/A	N/A
English Bacc	- 3%	Unchanged	- 1%	Unchanged
Expected Progress English	- 7%	Narrowed by 2%	- 6%	Unchanged
Expected Progress Mathematics	- 9%	Unchanged	- 7%	Widened by 1%

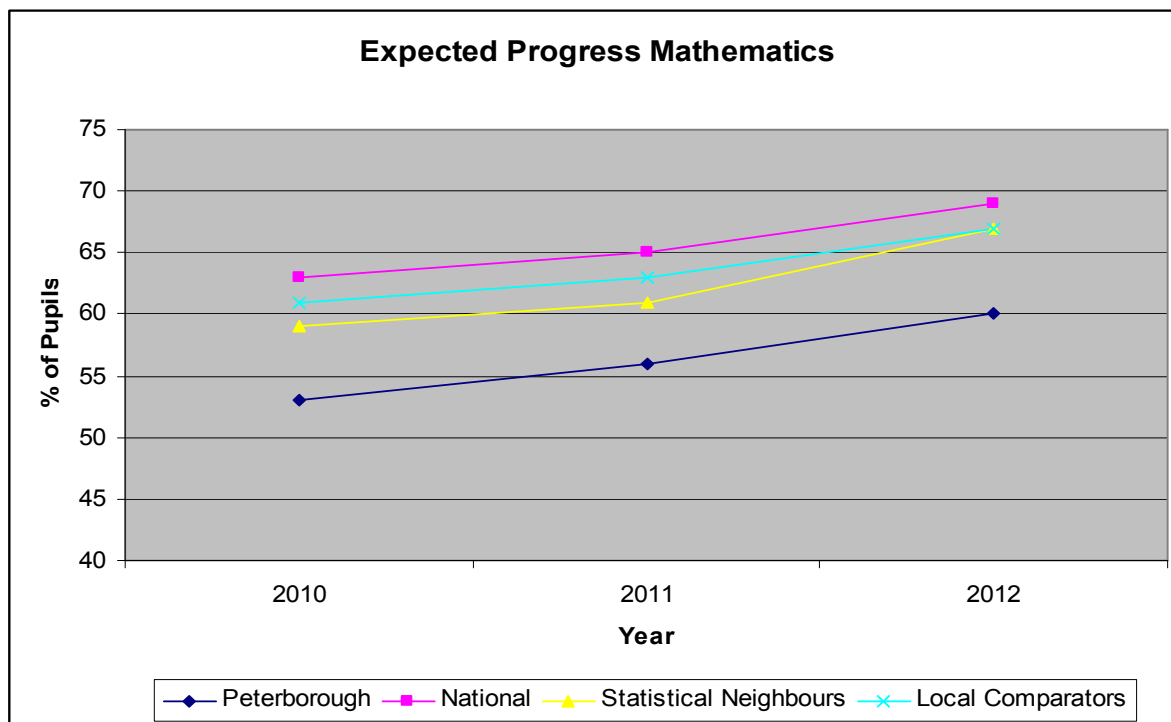


- 5.20 In relation to the other measures, Peterborough’s school performance can be analysed as –
- 5 A*-C Grade GCSEs (not including English and mathematics) - Peterborough schools improved by 3% from 2011 and are now in line with the national average for the first time ever, having been 3% below in 2010;
 - The performance of EAL pupils is 4% below the national similar group, whilst the performance of non-EAL pupils is 2% above the national similar group;
 - The performance of FSM pupils is equal to the national similar group, whilst non-FSM pupils perform 2% above the national average;
 - Pupils of White British background are 2% above the national average, whilst those of White Other background are 10% below the national average;
 - Boys perform 2% above the national average whilst girls perform 1% above the national average. The gap between the performance of boys and girls in Peterborough is 1% closer than it is nationally.



- In the English Baccalaureate subjects, the gap between Peterborough schools and the national average has remained constant at 3% since 2010;
- Performance in English has declined by 1% from 2011. The gap to national average has narrowed by 2% but remains large at 6%. In 2010 the gap was 15%;
- Performance in mathematics improved by 2% but the gap to the national average has widened by 1% to 6%. In 2010, the gap was 13%.
- The proportion of students making Expected Progress between age 11 and age 16 in English has declined by 2% from 2011, but the gap to the national average has narrowed by 2% to 7%, as it was in 2010;
- The proportion of students making Expected Progress between age 11 and age 16 in mathematics has increased by 4% from 2011, but the gap to the national average remains unchanged at 9%. In 2010 it was 10%;





5.21 In terms of the contextual background of this cohort:

- 23.8% of the cohort did not have English as a first language, against a national average of 12.9% and a Statistical neighbour average of 14.0%. The gap to the national average has widened from +10.0% in 2010, to +10.9% in 2012;
- 76.2% of the cohort had English as a first language, compared to a national average of 87.1% and a Statistical neighbour average of 86%. The gap to the national average has widened from - 9.8% in 2010 to -10.9% in 2012;
- The proportion of pupils whose ethnicity is recorded as “White British” has declined from 67.2% in 2010 to 64.9% in 2012. The gap to the national average has widened from -10.1% in 2010 to -10.9% in 2012;
- The proportion of pupils whose ethnicity is recorded as “Any Other White Background” (predominantly from Eastern Europe) has increased from 8.6% in 2010 to 10.2% in 2012. The gap to the national average has widened from +4.8% in 2010 to + 6.6% in 2012, and the proportion in Peterborough is nearly three times larger than the similar group nationally.
- The proportion of children whose ethnicity is recorded as “Asian Background” has increased from 15.0% in 2010 to 15.3% in 2012, and the gap to the national average has narrowed from 7.1% to 6.6% in the same period. The proportion in Peterborough schools is nearly double that of the similar group nationally;
- The proportion of pupils known to be eligible for Free School Meals in this cohort is 14.9%, compared to a national average of 14.8% and a Statistical Neighbour average of 17.6%. The gap to the national average has widened from -0.1% in 2011 to + 0.1% in 2012.

Floor Standards 2012

5.22 The Department for Education (DfE) and their predecessor department have established minimum standards which they expect schools to achieve at the end of Y6 (age 11) and the end of Y11 (age 16). These standards, known as Floor Standards, cover both the attainment of pupils and the progress which they make.

5.23 There are 3 floor standards to be achieved in KS2 (Y6) and 3 in KS4 (Y11). These are:

KS2 (Y6):

1. At least 60% of pupils reach L4 or above (L4+) in both English and mathematics;
2. The proportion of pupils making Expected Progress in English from the end of Y2 to the end

- of Y6 should be above the national median performance of 92% (87% in 2011 and 2010);
- The proportion of pupils making Expected Progress in mathematics from the end of Y2 to the end of Y6 should be above the national median performance of 90% (86% in 2011 and 2010).

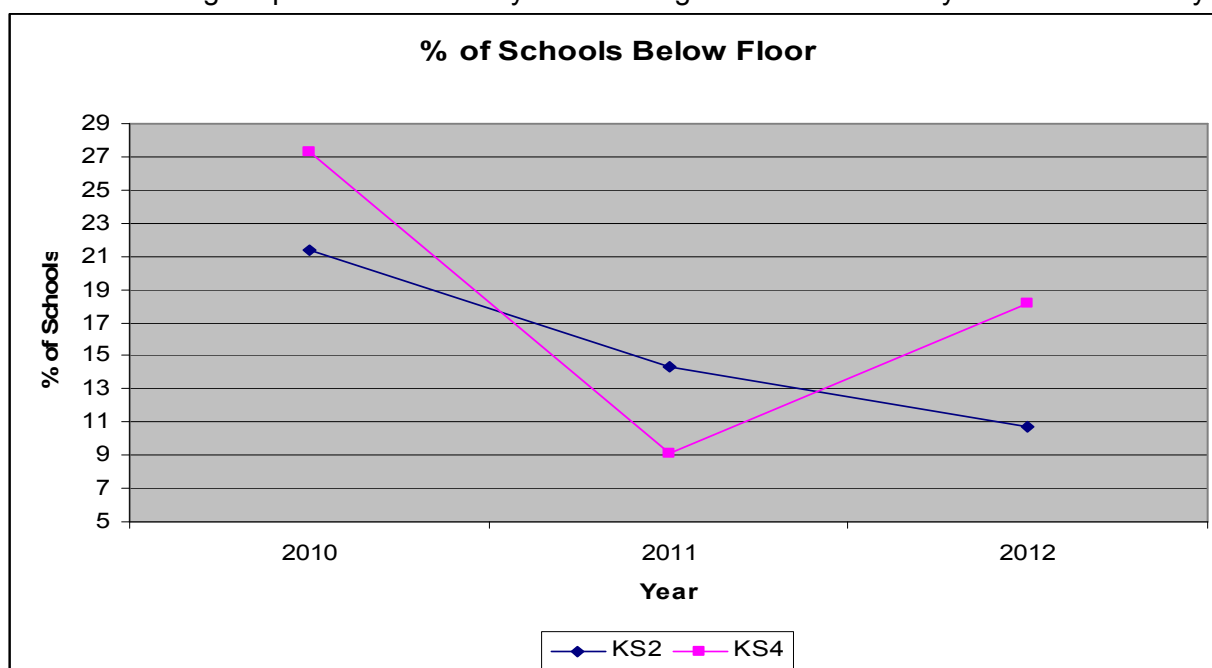
KS4 (Y11):

- At least 40% (35% in 2010 and 2011) of pupils achieve 5 or more GCSEs at A*- C grades, which must include English and mathematics;
- The proportion of pupils making Expected Progress in English from the end of Y6 to the end of Y11 should be above the national median performance of 70% (72% in 2011 and 2010);
- The proportion of pupils making Expected Progress in mathematics from the end of Y6 to the end of Y11 should be above the national median performance of 70% (67% in 2011 and 2010).

5.24 For schools to be judged by the DfE and OfSTED as being Below Floor, they must be below all of the 3 standards.

5.25 If they are below any 2 of the 3 standards, they are judged by DfE and OfSTED as being "vulnerable".

5.26 Being Below Floor is a key measure for the DfE over whether intervention is needed through the school becoming a Sponsored Academy and ceasing to be maintained by the Local Authority.



5.27 The KS2 position is as follows –

KS2	Number of Schools Below Floor – all 3 standards	Number of Schools Below Floor – 2 standards	Number of Schools Below Floor – 1 standard	Number of schools Above Floor in all 3 measures
2010	12 (21.4%)	14 (25%)	6 (10.7%)	24 (42.9%)
2011	8 (14.3%)	15 (26.8%)	8 (14.3%)	25 (44.6%)
2012	6 (10.7%)	15 (26.8%)	15 (26.8%)	20 (35.7%)
2012 (if 2011 standards had applied)	3 (5.4%)	7 (12.5%)	13 (23.2%)	33 (58.9%)

There are 2 schools who have been Below Floor for each of the last 2 years, and a further 3 who have been Below Floor for 2 of the last 3 years.

There are 11 schools (19.6%) who have been either Below Floor or “Vulnerable” for each of the last 3 years.

5.28 The KS4 position is as follows –

KS4	Number of Schools Below Floor – all 3 standards	Number of Schools Below Floor – 2 standards	Number of Schools Below floor – 1 standard	Number of schools Above Floor in all 3 measures
2010	3 (27.3%)	5 (45.5%)	1 (9.1%)	2 (18.2%)
2011	1 (9.1%)	5 (45.5%)	2 (18.2%)	3 (27.3%)
2012	2 (18.2%)	5 (45.5%)	2 (18.2%)	2 (18.2%)
2012 (if 2011 standards had applied)	2 (18.2%)	3 (27.3%)	4 (36.4%)	2 (18.2%)

There are no schools who have been Below Floor for each of the last 2 years, and 2 schools who have been below Floor for 2 of the last 3 years.

There are 7 schools (63.6%) who have been either Below Floor or “Vulnerable” for each of the last 3 years.

5.29 The Floor Standards apply to academy schools in the same way that they do to maintained schools and currently both schools judged to be Below Floor are Academy Schools.

Key Actions to Address Underperformance

5.30 In order to address identified weaknesses, the LA is engaged in the following activities -

- We have issued Formal “Standards Performance and Safety” Warning Notices to 4 schools, more informal Letters of Concern to a further 4 schools and discussed the performance of 2 academy schools with the appropriate authorities. Action plans have been received from the Governing Bodies of these schools and these actions are currently being monitored. The LA reserves the right to take further action if appropriate at any time and this may include formal intervention or structural solutions to improve standards. The focus is now very much on a ‘no excuses’ culture;
- Highlighting weaknesses and evaluating improvement plans in all primary schools with head teachers and governors;
- We have collated expected results for schools in 2013 (targets) and these will be monitored and any challenge may lead to further intervention;
- Undertaking focused and targeted work with school leaders and teachers in schools which are causing concern, tailored to the needs and weaknesses of the school;
- Working with school leaders and governors by undertaking LA reviews of whole schools or departments;
- Preparing schools and governors for the rigour of the revised Inspection Framework, and the changes implemented from September 2012;
- Providing advice, support, challenge and intervention around the tracking of pupil progress and the identification of target groups for whom progress has not been fast enough.
- Reviewing where a ‘sponsored’ academy might provide the necessary stimulus to a school to improve standards especially where performance is below national expectations for a significant period of time, including recommending to governing bodies that this is an expected course of action where we deem this to be appropriate;
- Reviewing and finalising a number of options around strategies to support learning across the city for pupils who have English as an additional language;
- Focussing work around SEN through the ‘Achievement for All Programme’ which 30 schools have signed up for and more generally on strategies to raise standards;
- The authority is a member of the Peterborough Learning Partnership which brings together

schools to offer staff within schools high quality professional development to improve standards. The partnership consists of 3 strands – leadership for learning, curriculum for learning and behaviour for learning;

- We are targeting schools that are graded by Ofsted as requiring improvement or satisfactory to become good. This has included additional training and support.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no legal or financial implications to this report

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 These outcomes will be shared locally with Council Members, schools/settings, governors and other key partners. The results will be scrutinised regionally by Ofsted.

7.2 The results also form a key part of consultations with partners on actual and expected outcomes, collective action to improve outcomes and impact of actions on future outcomes.

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 A further set of data will be obtained in the summer and will be presented to the committee in November 2013.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

9.1 A range of local school data and national DfE data.

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Appendix 1 – Key Stage 2 Provisional Results LA level
Appendix 2 - Key Stage 4 Provisional Results LA level
Appendix 3 – DfE Expected Progress Tables KS2
Appendix 4 – DfE Expected Progress Tables KS4.

For the purposes of the tables in appendix 1, the following authorities constitute each of the groups –

Statistical Neighbours

Bolton
Coventry
Derby
Plymouth
Portsmouth
Sheffield
Southampton
Southend-on-Sea
Telford and Wrekin
Walsall

Local Comparator

Derby
Leicester
Luton
Nottingham

Appendix 1 – Key Stage 2 Results

Key Stage 2 English				Key Stage 2 Maths								
% Level 4+	2010	2011	2012	% Level 4+	2010	2011	2012					
All pupils				All pupils								
Peterborough	75%	76%	81%	Peterborough	76%	78%	79%					
England	80%	81%	85%	England	79%	80%	84%					
Statistical Neighbours	78%	79%	83%	Statistical Neighbours	78%	79%	82%					
Local Comparators	75%	78%	83%	Local Comparators	76%	78%	82%					
Sub groups				Sub groups								
Boys	PB 72%	Natn 75%	PB 71%	Natn 77%	Boys	PB 79%	Natn 80%	PB 78%	Natn 80%			
Girls	78%	85%	82%	86%	Girls	73%	80%	77%	80%			
EAL	64%	74%	65%	77%	EAL	71%	76%	69%	77%			
non-EAL	78%	81%	81%	82%	non-EAL	78%	80%	81%	81%			
FSM	56%	64%	63%	67%	FSM	60%	65%	65%	67%			
non-FSM	79%	83%	80%	84%	non-FSM	80%	83%	81%	83%			
White-British	78%	81%	81%	82%	White-British	78%	80%	81%	81%			
White-Other	59%	72%	57%	74%	White-Other	66%	77%	69%	77%			
Pakistani	68%	74%	69%	76%	Pakistani	74%	73%	69%	75%			
APS				APS								
All pupils				All pupils								
Peterborough	26.6	26.5		Peterborough	26.9	27.0						
England	27.3	27.3		England	27.4	27.6						
Sub groups				Sub groups								
Boys	PB 26.2	Natn 26.5	PB 25.6	Natn 26.6	Boys	PB 27.4	Natn 27.5	PB 27.1	Natn 27.7			
Girls	27.1	28.2	27.4	28.1	Girls	26.4	27.3	27.0	27.6			
EAL	24.9	26.4	24.9	26.5	EAL	26.0	26.9	25.9	27.3			
non-EAL	27.1	27.5	27.2	27.5	non-EAL	27.2	27.5	27.5	27.7			
FSM	24.0	24.9	24.6	25.2	FSM	24.8	25.2	25.1	25.6			
non-FSM	27.2	27.8	27.0	27.8	non-FSM	27.4	27.9	27.5	28.1			
White-British	27.0	27.5	27.1	27.5	White-British	27.2	27.5	27.5	27.7			
White-Other	24.5	26.3	24.1	26.4	White-Other	25.7	27.1	25.8	27.4			
Pakistani	25.3	26.2	25.3	26.4	Pakistani	26.4	26.3	25.9	26.7			
Key Stage 2 English and Maths				Progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2								
% Level 4+	2010	2011	2012	% English progress	2010	2011	2012					
All pupils				All pupils								
Peterborough	67%	69%	74%	Peterborough	86%	86%	90%					
England	73%	74%	79%	England	84%	84%	89%					
Statistical Neighbours	71%	73%	77%	Statistical Neighbours	82%	83%	88%					
Local Comparators	68%	70%	76%	Local Comparators	80%	81%	87%					
Sub groups				Sub groups								
Boys	not published	67%	72%	72%	77%	Boys	84%	not published	84%	81%	89%	88%
Girls		72%	77%	75%	82%	Girls	86%		88%	86%	91%	91%
EAL		58%	70%	67%	76%	EAL	87%		87%	87%	92%	91%
non-EAL		74%	75%			non-EAL	84%		86%	83%		
FSM		54%	58%			FSM	74%		80%	79%		
non-FSM		73%	78%			non-FSM	87%		87%	84%		
White-British		74%	75%			White-British	84%		85%	83%		
White-Other		53%	68%			White-Other	84%		88%	85%		
Pakistani		60%	68%			Pakistani	87%		89%	86%		
APS (All NC Core)				% Maths progress								
All pupils				All pupils								
Peterborough	26.8	26.8	27.4	Peterborough	84%	83%	86%					
England	27.4	27.5	28.2	England	83%	83%	87%					
				Statistical Neighbours	80%	82%	86%					
				Local Comparators	79%	81%	85%					
Sub groups				Sub groups								
Boys	PB 26.8	Natn 27.0	PB 26.4	Natn 27.2	Boys	PB 84%	Natn 85%	PB 83%	Natn 88%	PB 88%	Natn 88%	
Girls	26.8	27.7	27.2	27.8	Girls	80%	82%	82%	84%	86%		
EAL	25.4	26.7	25.4	26.9	EAL	86%	81%	85%	87%	90%		
non-EAL	27.2	27.5	27.3	27.6	non-EAL	81%	84%	82%				
FSM	24.4	25.0	24.8	25.4	FSM	72%	74%	75%				
non-FSM	27.3	27.8	27.2	27.9	non-FSM	84%	86%	84%				
White-British	27.1	27.5	27.3	27.6	White-British	81%	84%	82%				
White-Other	25.1	26.7	25.0	26.9	White-Other	81%	84%	86%				
Pakistani	25.8	26.3	25.6	26.6	Pakistani	87%	79%	82%				
Key Stage 2 Reading				Key Stage 2 Writing								
% Level 4+	2010	2011	2012	% Level 4+	2010	2011	2012					
All pupils				All pupils								
Peterborough	79%	80%	82%	Peterborough	66%	69%	77%					
England	84%	84%	87%	England	71%	75%	81%					
Statistical Neighbours	82%	82%	84%	Statistical Neighbours	68%	73%	78%					
Local Comparators	79%	80%	84%	Local Comparators	65%	71%	78%					

FSM (Primary)	2010	2011	2012
% known to be eligible and taking Free school meals			
Peterborough		20.5%	20.8%
England		18.0%	18.1%
Statistical Neighbours		21.0%	21.4%
FSM (Primary)	2010	2011	2012
% taking Free school meals			
Peterborough	16.5%	17.4%	
England	15.0%	15.4%	
Statistical Neighbours	17.1%	17.3%	
EAL (Primary)	2010	2011	2012
% with first language other than or believed to be other than English			
Peterborough	28.8%	30.7%	33.2%
England	16.0%	16.8%	17.5%
Statistical Neighbours	15.8%	16.5%	17.2%
KS2 cohort profile	2010	2011	2012
Pupils without a matched Key Stage 1 record in RAISEonline			
No.	161	181	224
% of roll	7.8%	8.4%	10.1%

SEN	2010	2011	2012
% with statements of special educational needs			
Peterborough	3.8%	3.9%	4.0%
England	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
Statistical Neighbours	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
SEN	2010	2011	2012
% with special educational needs without statements			
Peterborough	21.6%	20.6%	20.1%
England	18.3%	17.8%	17.0%
Statistical Neighbours	20.0%	19.1%	18.3%
Yr 6 MENA	2010	2011	2012
Minority Ethnic New Arrivals (*)			
No.	155	159	172
% of roll	7.0%	7.2%	7.8%

(*) defined as Ethnicity other than "White British", Language other than "English" or "Believed to be English" and an Entry Date into the setting of within the previous 2 years

Key Stage 4

% 5A*-C incl. E&M	2010	2011	2012
All pupils			
Peterborough	46%	49%	49%
England	55%	58%	59%

Peterborough			
Arthur Mellows VC	65%	72%	76%
Hampton C	73%	70%	68%
Jack Hunt S	44%	51%	47%
Ken Stimpson CS	54%	54%	50%
King's S	86%	88%	91%
Nene Park A	34%	43%	49%
Ormiston Bushfield A	42%	50%	49%
St J Fisher S	31%	39%	34%
Stanground C	39%	41%	39%
Thomas Deacon A	45%	43%	36%
The Voyager A	24%	32%	40%

% 5A*-C	2010	2011	2012
All pupils			
Peterborough	73%	80%	83%
England	76%	81%	83%

Peterborough			
Arthur Mellows VC	93%	93%	99%
Hampton C	88%	86%	87%
Jack Hunt S	74%	84%	86%
Ken Stimpson CS	74%	83%	78%
King's S	99%	95%	98%
Nene Park A	58%	80%	87%
Ormiston Bushfield A	69%	90%	92%
St J Fisher S	56%	50%	46%
Stanground C	63%	84%	90%
Thomas Deacon A	91%	91%	93%
The Voyager A	52%	61%	74%

English Baccalaureate	2010	2011	2012
All pupils			
Peterborough	12%	12%	13%
England	15%	15%	16%

Peterborough			
Arthur Mellows VC	9%	17%	24%
Hampton C	25%	27%	31%
Jack Hunt S	17%	16%	12%
Ken Stimpson CS	4%	4%	2%
King's S	56%	53%	51%
Nene Park A	0%	0%	3%
Ormiston Bushfield A	2%	10%	8%
St J Fisher S	7%	4%	2%
Stanground C	17%	14%	14%
Thomas Deacon A	9%	9%	10%
The Voyager A	1%	4%	2%


% A*-C English	2010	2011	2012
All pupils			
Peterborough	56%	63%	62%
England	71%	71%	68%


Peterborough			
Arthur Mellows VC	84%	83%	88%
Hampton C	80%	80%	73%
Jack Hunt S	53%	69%	70%
Ken Stimpson CS	62%	56%	55%
King's S	93%	92%	94%
Nene Park A	52%	58%	56%
Ormiston Bushfield A	52%	63%	58%
St J Fisher S	48%	46%	56%
Stanground C	46%	60%	44%
Thomas Deacon A	56%	63%	53%
The Voyager A	33%	51%	59%


% A*-C Maths	2010	2011	2012
All pupils			
Peterborough	54%	62%	64%
England	67%	67%	70%

Peterborough			
Arthur Mellows VC	68%	75%	80%
Hampton C	84%	75%	84%
Jack Hunt S	54%	60%	51%
Ken Stimpson CS	65%	72%	66%
King's S	91%	92%	96%
Nene Park A	38%	62%	67%
Ormiston Bushfield A	52%	56%	68%
St J Fisher S	44%	54%	40%
Stanground C	48%	57%	64%
Thomas Deacon A	53%	65%	69%
The Voyager A	34%	45%	52%

Data Sources

 LA populated RAISEonline, 2010 and 2011 Final Data

 LA populated RAISEonline, 2012 Unvalidated (the categorisation of pupils eligible for FSM changed in 2012. Pupils are classed as FSM if they have been eligible for and claiming FSM at any time in the last 6 years.)

 DfE performance tables (England figure is state funded schools only) / DfE Research & Statistics gateway

Progress between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4

% English progress	2010	2011	2012
All pupils			
Peterborough	63%	63%	61%
England	70%	72%	68%

Peterborough			
Arthur Mellows VC	87%	83%	87%
Hampton C	81%	84%	59%
Jack Hunt S	65%	80%	78%
Ken Stimpson CS	68%	50%	65%
King's S	89%	92%	85%
Nene Park A	57%	56%	63%
Ormiston Bushfield A	60%	52%	61%
St J Fisher S	62%	58%	72%
Stanground C	54%	55%	43%
Thomas Deacon A	66%	57%	40%
The Voyager A	40%	52%	53%

% Maths progress	2010	2011	2012
All pupils			
Peterborough	53%	56%	60%
England	63%	65%	69%

Peterborough			
Arthur Mellows VC	61%	74%	73%
Hampton C	90%	81%	86%
Jack Hunt S	62%	56%	48%
Ken Stimpson CS	57%	70%	67%
King's S	87%	90%	92%
Nene Park A	37%	53%	60%
Ormiston Bushfield A	57%	59%	59%
St J Fisher S	44%	51%	42%
Stanground C	53%	51%	65%
Thomas Deacon A	49%	46%	56%
The Voyager A	33%	36%	42%

Appendix 3 – Expected Progress KS1 – KS2

		KS2 level (combined test and TA)							
		Any non-numeric level	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
KS1 level	A, D or no KS1 level	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Expected progress made
	0	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	1	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	2	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	3	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	4	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made

Appendix 4 – Expected Progress KS2 – KS4

		GCSE Grade									
		No KS4 result	U	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*
KS2 outcome	Working towards level 1	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Level 1	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Level 2	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Level 3	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Level 4	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Level 5	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Level 6	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Disapplied /Absent (TA)	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Left the school	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	No TA or test	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made
	Not eligible for tests	Expected progress not made	Expected progress not made	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Expected progress made	Expected progress made	Expected progress made

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CREATING OPPORUTNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 9
11 MARCH 2013	Public Report

Report of the Solicitor to the Council

Report Author – Paulina Ford, Senior Governance Officer, Scrutiny

Contact Details – 01733 452508 or email paulina.ford@peterborough.gov.uk

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE KEY DECISIONS

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This is a regular report to the Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Committee outlining the content of the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions.

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 Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions is attached at Appendix 1. The Notice contains those key decisions, which the Leader of the Council believes that the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Member(s) can take and any new key decisions to be taken after 25 March 2013.
- 3.2 The information in the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions 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 As the Notice is published fortnightly any version of the Notice published after dispatch of this agenda will be tabled at the meeting.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Details of any consultation on individual decisions are contained within the Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions.

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

None

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Notice of Intention to Take Key Decisions

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PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE KEY DECISIONS

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO TAKE KEY DECISIONS

In the period commencing 28 days after the date of publication of this notice, 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.

If the decision is to be taken by an individual cabinet member, the name of the cabinet member is shown against the decision, in addition to details of the councillor's portfolio. If the decision is to be taken by the Cabinet, it's members are as listed below:
Cllr Cereste (Leader); Cllr Lee (Deputy leader); Cllr Scott; Cllr Holdich; Cllr Hillier; Cllr Seaton; Cllr Fitzgerald; Cllr Dalton; Cllr Walsh.

This Notice should be seen as an outline of the proposed decisions for the forthcoming month and it will be updated on a fortnightly basis. Each new notice supersedes the previous notice and items may be carried over into forthcoming notices. Any questions on specific issues included on the Notice should be included on the form which appears at the back of the Notice 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.

Whilst the majority of the Executive's business at the meetings listed in this Notice will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information. In these circumstances the meeting may be held in private, and on the rare occasion this applies this is indicated in the list below. A formal notice of the intention to hold the meeting, or part of it, in private, will be given 28 clear days in advance of any private meeting in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Council invites members of the public to attend any of the meetings at which these decisions will be discussed (unless a notice of intention to hold the meeting in private has been given).

You are entitled to view any documents listed on the notice, or obtain extracts from any documents listed or subsequently submitted to the decision maker prior to the decision being made, subject to any restrictions on disclosure. There is no charge for viewing the documents, although charges may be made for photocopying or postage. Documents listed on the notice and relevant documents subsequently being submitted can be requested from Alex Daynes, Senior Governance Officer, Chief Executive's Department, Town Hall, Bridge Street, PE1 1HG (fax 01733 452483), e-mail to alexander.daynes@peterborough.gov.uk or by telephone on 01733 452447. For each decision a public report will be available from the Governance Team one week before the decision is taken.

All decisions will be posted on the Council's website: www.peterborough.gov.uk/executive/decisions. If you wish to make comments or representations regarding the 'key decisions' outlined in this Notice, 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 notice.

KEY DECISIONS FROM 25 MARCH 2013

KEY DECISION REQUIRED	DECISION MAKER	MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC	RELEVANT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	CONSULTATION	CONTACT DETAILS / REPORT AUTHORS	DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO THE DECISION SUBMITTED TO THE DECISION MAKER (IF ANY OTHER THAN PUBLIC REPORT)
<p>Sale of Craig Street Car Park - KEY/25MAR13/01 To approve the sale of land known as Craig Street Car Park.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	N/A	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal and External Stakeholders and ward councillors.</p>	<p>David Gray Capital Projects Officer Tel: 01733 384531 david.gray@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Restructure of Neighbourhood Services - KEY/25MAR13/02 To approve the details of the restructure in order for it to contribute to the financial savings required and to further enhance service delivery arrangements.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	N/A	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Relevant Staff and internal departments.</p>	<p>Adrian Chapman Head of Neighbourhood Services Tel: 01733 863887 adrian.chapman@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Local Welfare Provision - KEY/25MAR13/03 To approve the establishment of the new Local Welfare Provision offer which replaces the Department for Work and Pensions Social Fund.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	N/A	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Relevant Internal Departments and External Stakeholders.</p>	<p>Adrian Chapman Head of Neighbourhood Services Tel: 01733 863887 adrian.chapman@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

Supporting People Programme - KEY/25MAR13/04 To approve service reductions.	Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning	N/A	Strong and Supportive Communities	Relevant internal departments and external stakeholders.	Adrian Chapman Head of Neighbourhood Services Tel: 01733 863887 adrian.chapman@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.
Library Services - KEY/25MAR13/05 To agree the outcome of the consultation on proposals to revise the library opening hours at Bretton, Orton, Werrington and Central Libraries and proposals to revise the frequencies and stopping times for the mobile library service.	Cabinet	Yes	Strong and Supportive Communities	Will be undertaken with members of public and relevant stakeholders.	Dominic Hudson Strategic Partnerships Manager Tel: 01733 452384 dominic.hudson@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.
Redesign of the Direct Intervention Service - KEY/25MAR13/06 To approve the re-design of the Direct Intervention Service to enable the realisation of the savings as detailed in the Medium Term Financial Plan.	Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services	N/A	Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities	Direct Intervention Service staff, Legal Services, Human Resources and Finance.	Lou Williams Head of Commissioning, Specialist Services Tel: 01733 864139 lou.williams@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that any further documents will be used.
PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED DECISIONS						
Moy's End Stand Demolition and Reconstruction - KEY/03APR/12 Award of Contract for the Demolition of the Moy's End Stand and Reconstruction	Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources	N/A	Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital	Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.	Richard Hodgson Head of Strategic Projects Tel: 01733 384535 richard.hodgson@peterborough.gov.uk	It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.

<p>Delivery of the Council's Capital Receipt Programme through the Sale of Dickens Street Car Park - KEY/03JUL/11 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 Dickens Street Car Park.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Consultation will take place with the Cabinet Member, Ward councillors, relevant internal departments & external stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Richard Hodgson Head of Strategic Projects Tel: 01733 384535 richard.hodgson@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Rolling Select List - Independent Fostering Agencies - KEY/01 JUL/12 To approve the list for independent fostering agencies.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Write off approval for debts over £10,000 in relation to Non Domestic Rates - KEY/31OCT12/01 Authorise the write off of debt shown as outstanding in respect of non domestic rate accounts.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Richard Godfrey ICT and Transactional Services Partnership Manager Tel: 01733 317989 richard.godfrey@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Expansion and Refurbishment of Hampton Vale Primary School - KEY/31OCT12/04 Award of Contract for the expansion and refurbishment of Hampton Vale Primary School.</p>	<p>Councillor John Holdich OBE Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and external stakeholders including ward councillors as appropriate.</p>	<p>Brian Howard Programme Manager - Secondary Schools Development Tel: 01733 863976 brian.howard@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

<p>Mental Health Services at Clare Lodge - KEY/13NOV12/05 Undertake a tender to secure Mental Health Services for Clare Lodge Secure Unit.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborou.gh.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Clare Lodge Service Review Outcome - KEY/13NOV12/06 To approve the outcome of the service review of Clare Lodge Secure Unit.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and External Stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborou.gh.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Residential Approved Provider List - KEY/13NOV12/08 Create a compliant Approved Provider List for Residential units for children and young people.</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities</p>	<p>Internal and external stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborou.gh.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Future of Children's Play Services - KEY/13NOV12/09 To determine the future of Play Services in the city</p>	<p>Councillor Sheila Scott OBE Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities.</p>	<p>To be undertaken with key stakeholders.</p>	<p>Oliver Hayward Commissioning Officer - Aiming High Tel: 01733 863910 oliver.hayward@peterborou.gh.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

<p>Care and Repair Framework Agreement - KEY/18DEC12/01 To approve a framework agreement and schedule of rates to deliver disabled facility grant work. specifically providing disabled access to toilet and washing facilities and associated work in domestic properties.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Strong and Supportive Communities</p>	<p>Relevant Internal Departments.</p>	<p>Russ Carr Care & Repair Manager Tel: 01733 863864 russ.carr@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Capital Programme of Works - KEY/18DEC12/02 To agree the Capital Programme of Works for 2013-14.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Members of public, external stakeholders and internal departments.</p>	<p>Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager Tel: 317471 mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Award of Contract for the 413 Bus Service - KEY/27DEC12/01 Award of Contract for Route 413 (Maxey to City Centre) from 1 April 2013.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth</p>	<p>Relevant internal departments and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager Tel: 317471 mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Award of Insurance Contract - KEY/10JAN13/01 To authorise the awarding of the contract for provision of the Council's insurances for the next five years.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal Departments.</p>	<p>Sue Addison Insurance Manager Tel: 01733 348560 sue.addison@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that any further documents will be required.</p>

<p>Extension to various Highways Related Contracts to July 2013 - KEY/24JAN13/01 To extend the existing Highways Maintenance, Professional Services, Street Lighting and Gully Cleansing Contracts until July 2013 pending the review of alternative procurement options.</p>	<p>Councillor David Seaton Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Consultation with senior officers has been undertaken including the Director of Operations and Head of Business Transformation.</p>	<p>Simon Machen Head of Planning, Transport and Engineering Services Tel: 01733 453475 simon.machen@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Environment Capital Action Plan - KEY/24JAN13/02 Approve the Plan for public consultation.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Four week public consultation.</p>	<p>Charlotte Palmer Climate Change Team Manager charlotte.palmer@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Risk Based Verification Policy - KEY/24JAN13/03 To approve the policy for online Housing/Council Tax Benefit claim forms.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal and External Stakeholders.</p>	<p>Amanda Stevens Head of Shared Transactional Services Tel: 01733 317941 amanda.stevens@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Fletton Parkway Junction 17 to 2 improvement scheme - KEY/24JAN13/07 To agree funding is brought forward between 2012 and 2015 in Medium Term Financial Strategy and the contract awarded for the works.</p>	<p>Councillor Peter Hiller Cabinet Member for Housing, Neighbourhoods and Planning, Cabinet Member for Resources</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant internal and external stakeholders.</p>	<p>Mark Speed Transport Planning Team Manager Tel: 317471 mark.speed@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

<p>Eco Funding and Community Energy Program - KEY/07MAR13/01 Authority to enter into Heads of Terms with a utility company to develop local funding arrangements.</p>	<p>Councillor Gr. Uff. Marco Cereste Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Growth, Strategic Planning, Economic Development, Business Engagement and Environment Capital</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant internal stakeholders.</p>	<p>John Harrison Executive Director-Strategic Resources Tel: 01733 452398 john.harrison@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Hampton Leisure Facilities - KEY/07MAR13/02 To approve the financial model and lease option for the Hampton Leisure Centre.</p>	<p>Councillor Matthew Lee Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation and Strategic Commissioning</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal and External stakeholders.</p>	<p>Dominic Hudson Strategic Partnerships Manager Tel: 01733 452384 dominic.hudson@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>
<p>Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy - KEY/07MAR13/03 Revision to the Affordable Housing Capital Funding Policy</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Sustainable Growth and Environment Capital</p>	<p>Relevant Internal Departments.</p>	<p>Richard Kay Policy and Strategy Manager richard.kay@peterborough.gov.uk</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be any further documents.</p>

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

Communications
Strategic Growth and Development Services
Legal and Governance Services
Policy and Research
Economic and Community Regeneration
HR Business Relations, Training & Development, Occupational Health & Reward & Policy

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

CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPARTMENT Bayard Place, Broadway, PE1 1FB

Safeguarding, Family & Communities
Education & Resources
Strategic Commissioning & Prevention

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

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

ADULT SOCIAL CARE Director's Office at Town Hall, Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1HG

Care Services Delivery (Assessment & Care Management; Integrated Learning Disability Services and HIV/AIDS; Regulated Services)
Strategic Commissioning (Mental Health & Integrated Learning Disability; Older People, Physical Disability & Sensory Impairment; Contracts, Procurement & Compliance)

Quality, Information and Performance (Performance & Information; Strategic Safeguarding; Business Support & Governance; Business Systems Improvement; Quality and Workforce Development)

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