





**Brighton & Hove  
City Council**

# Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	<b>Children &amp; Young People's Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>20 January 2010</b>
Time:	<b>5.00pm</b>
Venue	<b>Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall</b>
Contact:	<b>Sharmini Williams</b> <b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Support Officer</b> 29-0451 sharmini.williams@brighton-hove.gov.uk

	<b>The Town Hall has facilities for wheelchair users, including lifts and toilets</b>
	<b>An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter and infra red hearing aids are available for use during the meeting. If you require any further information or assistance, please contact the receptionist on arrival.</b>
	<b>FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE</b> <b>If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>• You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;</b></li><li><b>• Do not stop to collect personal belongings;</b></li><li><b>• Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move some distance away and await further instructions; and</b></li><li><b>• Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so.</b></li></ul>

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The following are requested to attend the meeting:

### **Councillors:**

Older (Chairman), McCaffery (Deputy Chairman), Allen, Drake, Hyde, Phillips, Smart and Wakefield-Jarrett

### **Statutory Co-optee with Voting Rights**

Mike Wilson	Diocese of Chichester
David Sanders	Diocese of Arundel & Brighton
Vacancy	Parent Governor Representative
Vacancy	Parent Governor Representative

### **Non-Statutory Co-optees without Voting Rights**

Carrie Britton	Children's Health
Mark Price	Youth Services
Rachel Travers	Community Voluntary Sector Forum
Kenya Simpson-Martin	Youth Council
Rohan Lowe	Youth Council
Azdean Boulaich	Youth Council
Vacancy	Children's Social Care Representative

**AGENDA**

<b>Part One</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>36. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS</b> (Copy attached).	<b>1 - 2</b>
<b>37. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b> Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 18 November 2009 (Copy attached).	<b>3 - 10</b>
<b>38. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
<b>39. PUBLIC QUESTIONS</b> The closing date of receipt of public questions was 12 noon 12 January 2010.  No public questions have been received.	
<b>40. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS</b> Letter from Councillor Pat Hawkes.	<b>11 - 12</b>
<b>41. AN UPDATE AND REVIEW OF THERAPY SERVICES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN</b> Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Jenny Brickell Tel: 26-5794</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	<b>13 - 20</b>
<b>42. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION AND CYPT EQUALITIES ARRANGEMENTS</b> Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Pauline Lambert Tel: 26-7302</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	<b>21 - 30</b>
<b>43. CHILD POVERTY</b> Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Sarah Colombo Tel: 29-4218</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	<b>31 - 40</b>
<b>44. WORK PROGRAMME FOR JUNE 2009- MARCH 2010</b> Report of the Director of Strategy and Governance. <i>Contact Officer: Tom Hook Tel: 29-1110</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	<b>41 - 50</b>

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website [www.brighton-hove.gov.uk](http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk). Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Sharmini Williams, (29-0451, email [sharmini.williams@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:sharmini.williams@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Date of Publication - Tuesday, 12 January 2010

## Agenda Item 36

### To consider the following Procedural Business:-

#### A. Declaration of Substitutes

Where a Member of the Committee is unable to attend a meeting for whatever reason, a substitute Member (who is not a Cabinet Member) may attend and speak and vote in their place for that meeting. Substitutes are not allowed on Scrutiny Select Committees or Scrutiny Panels.

The substitute Member shall be a Member of the Council drawn from the same political group as the Member who is unable to attend the meeting, and must not already be a Member of the Committee. The substitute Member must declare themselves as a substitute, and be minuted as such, at the beginning of the meeting or as soon as they arrive.

#### B. Declarations of Interest

- (1) To seek declarations of any personal or personal & prejudicial interests under Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members in relation to matters on the Agenda. Members who do declare such interests are required to clearly describe the nature of the interest.
- (2) A Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Select Committee has a prejudicial interest in any business at meeting of that Committee where –
  - (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Executive or another of the Council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
  - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken the Member was
    - (i) a Member of the Executive or that committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee and
    - (ii) was present when the decision was made or action taken.
- (3) If the interest is a prejudicial interest, the Code requires the Member concerned:-
  - (a) to leave the room or chamber where the meeting takes place while the item in respect of which the declaration is made is under consideration. [There are three exceptions to this rule which are set out at paragraph (4) below].
  - (b) not to exercise executive functions in relation to that business and

(c) not to seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.

(4) The circumstances in which a Member who has declared a prejudicial interest is permitted to remain while the item in respect of which the interest has been declared is under consideration are:-

- (a) for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the item, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise, BUT the Member must leave immediately after he/she has made the representations, answered the questions, or given the evidence,
- (b) if the Member has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee, or
- (c) if the Member is the Leader or a Cabinet Member and has been required to attend before an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committee to answer questions.

**C. Declaration of Party Whip**

To seek declarations of the existence and nature of any party whip in relation to any matter on the Agenda as set out at paragraph 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Ways of Working.

**D. Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

*Note: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is confidential and therefore not available to the public.*

*A list and description of the exempt categories is available for the public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.*

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**5.00PM 18 NOVEMBER 2009**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Older (Chairman); McCaffery (Deputy Chairman), Allen, Hyde, Phillips, Smart and Wakefield-Jarrett

**Statutory Co-optees: with voting rights::** David Sanders (Diocese of Arundel & Brighton)

**Non-Statutory Co-optees:** Dr. Carrie Britton (Children's Health) (Non-Voting Co-Optee), Mark Price (Youth Services) (Non-Voting Co-Optee), Rachel Travers (Community Voluntary Sector Forum) (Non-Voting Co-Optee), Kenya Simpson-Martin (Youth Council) (Non-Voting Co-Optee) and Azdean Boulaich (Youth Council) (Non-Voting Co-Optee)

**Apologies:** Councillor Pat Drake and Mike Wilson

**PART ONE**

**23. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**23.1 Declaration of Substitutes**

There were none. Councillor Pat Drake and Mike Wilson (Diocese of Chichester) sent their apologies.

**23.2 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**23.3 Declaration of Party Whip**

There were none.

**23.4 Exclusion from the Press and Public**

In accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, it was considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in section 100I (1) of the said Act.

**23.5 RESOLVED –** That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting.

## 24. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

24.1 The draft minutes of the previous meeting to be amended at item 15.1-15.3 to read:

Following the publication of a press release from the Committee Chairman in the Argus the following letter was received from Cllr Kevin Allen.

*Dear Averil*

*In the Argus of Wednesday 12 August you accused the government of 'playing politics' over FE funding.*

*Irrespective of whether or not the accusation was well-founded did it not occur to you that by making such a partisan remark you yourself were 'playing politics'?*

*Do you now accept that this needless intervention was a mistake? And do you also recognise that you need to retain the confidence of all members of your committee, of whatever party?*

*Regards*

*Kevin*

*Cllr Kevin Allen*

There was discussion on the importance of scrutiny being a non-political forum that allows for key issues to be raised and debated in an objective manner. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Committee needs to play a role in acting as the mouthpiece of the committee and therefore any comments made to the press need to be supported by the Committee as a whole; this will be particularly important in the coming months.

24.2 **RESOLVED** – The minutes of the meeting from the 16 September, 2009 were approved with this amendment.

## 25. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

25.1 The Chairman asked the Assistant Director – Strategic Commissioning and Governance to update the Committee on the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The Members heard that the CYPP was endorsed by the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) Board on the 2 November, 2009. The statutory Plan would go to Full Council on the 10 December, 2009 and that due to a technical error the report could not come to CYPOSC today and had been moved to the 20 January CYPOSC meeting.

25.2 The Committee were informed that the School Exclusions Ad-hoc Panel met on the 14 October 2009 & 5 November 2009 and had gathered evidence from Officers, Parents, Councillor Juliet McCaffrey and a Professor from the Self-Managed Learning Centre, within private and public meetings.

Additional to this the Panel went and visited 5 schools on the 2 November, 2009; Cardinal Newman Catholic School, Alternative Centre for Education (ACE), Hove Park



Secondary School, Carlton Hill Primary School and Patcham House Special School. The focus of the Panel's work is around best practice and links with exclusion and Children with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

- 25.3 The Chairman informed the Committee that the Children and Alcohol report was going to the Licensing Committee on Thursday 26 November for their comments.
- 25.4 The Chairman told the Members that there were still vacancies for Parent Governors and a representative from Children's Social Care on the Committee.
- 25.5 The Chairman reminded the Committee that there was an additional meeting on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 to discuss the budget.

## **26. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

- 26.1 There were none.

## **27. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- 27.1 There were none.

## **28. HEALTHY WEIGHT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

- 28.1 Lydie Lawrence, Public Health Development Manager presented the report to members and answered questions.
- 28.2 In answer to a question on why health visitors and school nurses were receiving training on promoting health, the Committee heard that it was to ensure that all clinical professionals were aware to identify any risks involving the healthy weight, as early as possible.
- 28.3 In answer to a question on sports activities within schools and whether this was during school hours or in the extended schools programme; as Members had concerns that the activities after schools risked losing children. The Public Health Development Manager would provide further information on this. The Committee requested that they would like to know how other local authorities were performing in this area too.

The Members were informed that the Schools Sports Partnership, Active4Life and the Brighton & Hove Healthy Schools Strategy were involved in improving the take up of school sports.

- 28.4 In response to a question on why there were new interventions to original initiatives such as food growing, dietary advice, cookery training, play and physical activity initiatives, the Committee heard how there were a wider range of initiatives and partnerships working together to promote physical activities.
- 28.5 In response to a question on further evidence to show what other groups were involved other than schools, who were working on these initiatives, Members heard there were Children Centres around the city that took this initiative forward too.

- 28.6 In response to a question on Parks and Leisure facilities and what initiatives encouraged children to be active, other than free swimming, the Members heard that there was good coordination between facilities and they worked closely with Sussex Partnership Trust, Active4Life and extended schools to promote physical activities amongst children.
- 28.7 In response to a question on how children with disabilities faced barriers to accessing some physical activities e.g. expenses, not made to feel welcome, staff not understanding their needs, the Committee were informed that a piece of work to assess their needs and appropriate interventions in terms of diet/nutrition and promoting physical activity will be underway shortly working closely with voluntary sector
- 28.8 Kenya Simpson-Martin, Youth Council Representative asked whether parents were invited to the cookery training classes as it would be helpful for them too, the Committee heard that parents were invited and the classes consisted of food labelling (what is in food) and food growing. Parents would like to cook nutritiously, but do not have the time and money to; work with the Food Partnership is being carried out to give parents support about food growing: community gardens, allotments, food markets, what is affordable and what health effects convenience food can cause.
- 28.9 In response to a question on promoting physical activities in colleges, it was noted that specific information on discount cards would be useful.

**28.10 RESOLVED –**

- (1) The Committee noted the report and the progress made in the Healthy Weight of Children and Young People Delivery Plan.
- (2) The Committee agreed to have clarification as to which activities were happening after schools as part of the extended school offer and comparisons with other Local Authorities.

**29. TEENAGE PREGNANCY INCLUDING TEENAGE CONCEPTION ACTION PLANS**

- 29.1 Kerry Clarke, Commissioner for Teenage Pregnancy and Substance Misuse presented the report to Members and answered questions.
- 29.2 Azdean Boulaich, Youth Council Representative questioned whether the reduction target of 45% in conception rate within the next year was realistic, the Committee heard how this was a very high target, how adolescent behaviour had changed over the years, and how on a national level - the length of time of the target may be extended. Quarterly statistics showed that there was a reduction in teenage pregnancy locally and this reduction was moving in the right direction.
- 29.3 In answer to a question on whether there were sufficient resources, in terms of funding for Community and Youth Workers at weekends, Members were told that existing Youth Workers were equipped and that they have transferable skills. They are now being trained to ask proactive questions around sexual health. Services were moving away from concentrating on referrals and moving towards developing the skills of their frontline staff. These initiatives were being worked on in all areas of the City from the

Crew club in East Brighton to areas in Hove, incorporating partnership working with the health service.

- 29.4 In answer to a question on what preventative support there was in relation to second pregnancies, the Committee were informed that an additional 2 full time and 3 part-time Health Visitors to focus their support on mothers with 8-15 month old babies, to promote effective contraception use and identify any siblings in the family that may also be vulnerable to early conception and refer to prevention post. There are also Personal Advisors work to work with the 16-18 age group and a Re-integration Officer for school aged parents.

There were more specialised teams in place than previously, which included the anti-poverty pilot for 10 units of accommodation with support services; life coaches are attached to hostels and other young parents can access these services too; Contraception is provided via a domiciliary services as young parents are less likely to come into town.

Services are looking to change the culture of some young parents who think it is acceptable not to work for a year and end up Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET), by providing education at the anti-natal and postnatal stages of pregnancies, bonding and relationship building and how to move these young people into Accredited learning programmes which include low-level NVQ qualifications.

- 29.5 Azdean Boulaich, Youth Council Representative questioned how sex education within schools would help reduce the target, Members heard how within the Personal Social Health Education (PSHE), sex education would be a statutory subject and how all schools have signed up to the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan, that the universal curriculum is part of a prevention programme and is linked into the health project.
- 29.6 Kenya Simpson-Martin, Youth Council Representative asked whether there was too much offered to teenagers who were pregnant in the way of benefits and housing and it's considered to be an acceptable culture to be pregnant as a teenager, the Committee were told how this was not the majority of young people, how there was a 63% termination rate in Brighton and Hove (which was considered high) and there was a 29% reduction in births, and the strategy was looking into which people were getting pregnant and how front line staff could promote preventative measures. The realistic picture is that young people do not want to have sex until they are in a relationship. Programs are also being developed that provide a realistic picture of early parenthood that can be provided to those young people where this is seen as their only option. A project called Teens and Toddlers was discussed.
- 29.7 In answer to a question on 50% of teenage mothers were victims of domestic abuse and how the Plan was targeting these young people, Members were told how these services were addressing this in a different way by identifying earlier victims of domestic violence and teenagers with mental health issues.
- 29.8 The Co-optee for Youth Services commented that he felt the target reduction of 45% from the 1998 baseline rate, was unrealistic as a radical change was required; from adults in the community, how services needed to be more joined up and an increase in funding for youth services was required to achieve this.

It was noted that the majority of young people would like sex within a relationship and the majority would like not to have sex until after 16.

**29.9 RESOLVED-**

(1) The Committee noted the report and the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan and that no further action would be taken by CYPOSC.

**30. BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE**

30.1 Gil Sweetenham, Schools Futures Project Director presented the report and answered questions.

30.2 In response to a question on why Longhill School was not included in the first Building Schools for the Future (BSF) phase, the Committee heard that although Longhill School fitted the criteria of 'deprivation and standards' £5 million is already being spent at the school to increase its capacity by one form of entry. Longhill School will be included in the second phase of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme.

30.3 In answer to a question on what the evidence was to suggest that Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) for a new build school brings with it fewer issues than existing refurbishments, Members were informed that other authorities in the south east had experienced far less PFI problems with newly built schools.

30.4 In answer to whether you have to have a PFI for a new build or replacement school, Members were told that the regulations may change as the treasury is considering alternative funding methods.

30.5 It was confirmed that Voluntary Aided schools were part of the programme.

30.6 It was confirmed that special schools were included in the programme, but there was an expectation that some specialist provision will be placed within mainstream schools in the future.

A Member made reference to the Special Educational Needs (SEN) strategy and raising the issues regarding access, acoustics, and smaller classes that would be required if more SEN children were to attend mainstream schools. The Schools Futures Project Director informed Members that new provision will be governed by the SEN Strategy and will cater appropriately for the needs of students attending each school.

30.7 In response to a question as to what a National Challenge School was, Members were informed that Schools with GCSE results below the floor target of 30% 5 A\*-C including Maths and English were considered to be National Challenge schools and received additional funding/support. A National Challenge Trust School is created when a National Challenge School changes its governance structure to be organised and run through an educational trust, often including trustees from higher education and local businesses.

**30.8 RESOLVED –**

(1) The Committee noted the progress made towards the submission of our Readiness to Deliver BSF Document and entry into the programme.

**31. CYPOSC WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2009-10**

31.1 The Head of Scrutiny informed the Committee about the first CYPOSC “Tri-partite” meeting, with the Director of Children’s Services, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, the Assistant Director - Strategic Commissioning and Governance, the Chairman of CYPOSC and the Head of Scrutiny, the whole point of these 4 monthly meetings were to improve communication and engagement with the Directorate and to focus on the future challenges. The following items were discussed:

- timetable reports accordingly to feed into policy development of the CYPT
- reduce the items on the Agenda by having reports that need considering, or commenting, or decide what action needs to be taken, rather than having reports that need “noting”

31.2 Members heard that at the 5 January, 2010 Budget meeting that the Director of Children’s Services would present to CYPOSC the 3 challenges of the budget proposals:

- Interventions with complex family situations
- In-house provision of foster care
- Potential for an Ad-hoc Panel: families affected by the recession

31.3 Members agreed not to have the Children and Young People’s Plan at the 20 January, 2010 meeting as the Committee had been involved in the consultation process and now that the planned had been endorsed by the trust Board, the Plan have come to CYPOSC just for noting.

31.4 Members agreed to have the following reports at the 20 January, 2010 meeting:

- Child Development & Disability: changes and improvements
- Equalities- Charter on the Rights of Child ; involvement and impact on council services
- Child Poverty – comparisons to national bodies, what are the improvements and challenges

31.5 A Member requested that Attainment of Children In Care is accordingly planned into the work programme, to have as a future Ad-hoc Panel.

**31.6 RESOLVED –**

(1) The Work Programme to incorporate the changes above.

**32. ITEMS TO REFER TO CABINET MEMBER, CABINET AND COUNCIL**

32.1 There were no items referred to the Cabinet Member, Cabinet or Full Council.

The meeting concluded at 7.10pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

Tom Hook,  
Head of Scrutiny,  
Brighton & Hove City Council

7<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Dear Tom,

**Audit Commission 'Oneplace' report – Secondary School performance in Brighton & Hove.**

I am writing to request that the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee look in detail at the findings of the Audit Commission in relation to secondary school performance across Brighton and Hove. These findings were recently published in the Commission's 'Oneplace' report published on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009 and contain some worrying criticisms. In summary the report indicates that in Brighton and Hove's secondary schools;

- Achievement by Black children is low by national standards.
- At 16, fewer young people achieve 5 good GCSEs, including English and mathematics, compared to other similar areas or the UK as a whole.
- The rate of improvement is not as fast as in other similar areas.
- Fewer than average youngsters achieve 2 or more good GCSEs in science.
- Fewer than average schools have a good standard of behaviour.
- The gap in educational achievement between children from disadvantaged backgrounds and those living in more affluent areas is not being narrowed.

The recommendation to Cabinet on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 merely requests that officers take the issues of concern highlighted by the Audit Commission into account within their general service delivery. Given the very serious nature of the specific concerns relating to the City's secondary schools I would request that the Committee considers the following proposals;

Tel/Fax: (01273) 291159

Email: [pat.hawkes@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:pat.hawkes@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Labour Member for Hollingdean & Stanmer Ward

- That a report is requested to come to CYPOSC detailing the performance across all secondary schools that will give an indication of trend of educational performance over the past two years.
- That an action plan is requested for consideration by CYPOSC based on the above report that will demonstrate how resources will be targeted to address the specific concerns raised in the Audit Commission report.
- That the Committee considers how educational achievement and school performance trends across the city as a whole can be better reported to all councillors on a regular basis.
- That the Committee considers how the issue of below average standards of behaviour in some Brighton and Hove secondary schools can be examined.
- That the Committee also considers how the issue of closing the educational achievement gap between areas of disadvantage and other areas can be examined in more detail by looking at current council practice along with relevant deprivation indices.

I believe that all of our young people need the very best start in life and as councillors we must assure ourselves that all steps necessary are being taken to achieve this. I do hope that the Committee will give serious consideration to these requests.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor Pat Hawkes  
Lead Labour Opposition Councillor for Children and Young People.

Tel/Fax: (01273) 291159  
Email: [pat.hawkes@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:pat.hawkes@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Labour Member for Hollingdean & Stanmer Ward



# **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## **Agenda Item 41**

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** **An update and review of therapy services for Disabled Children**

**Date of Meeting:** **20<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**Report of:** **Director of Children's Services**

**Contact Officer:** Name: **Jenny Brickell** Tel: **265870**

E-mail: [Jenny.brickell@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Jenny.brickell@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Wards Affected:** All

## **FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

### **1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

This report provides an update on the actions taken by the Children and Young Peoples Trust (CYPT) regarding therapy provision for disabled children in Brighton and Hove, following the concerns raised from CYPOSC regarding delivery of therapy services to children and capacity issues raised by the Parent Carer Council. It follows a presentation to CYPOSC in January 2009

#### 1.1 The key national policy drivers are

- Commissioning a World Class Service. (DH 2007)
- Every Child Matters(DH 2003)  
Parliamentary Disabled Children's Review (SO 2007)
- Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People (DWP/DfES/DH 2005)
- Removing Barriers to Achievement (DfES 2004)
- National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services, especially Standards 6 and 8. (DH 2004)
- Palliative Care Services for Children and Young People in England. (DH 2007)
- Aiming High for Disabled Children; Better Support for Families (DfES 2007)
- The Bercow Review of Services for Children and Young People (0-19) with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (DCSF 2008).

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 CYPOSC is asked to note the progress that has been made following the decision by the CYPT to commission an external consultant to undertake a review of all therapy service provided within the Integrated Child Development and Disability Service (ICDDS).
- 2.2 CYPOSC is asked to note that the ICDDS together with the PCT has planned a consultation event with all key partner agencies from health, social care and education services and to include the Parent Carer Council (PCC) in order to agree an action plan following the review. This is scheduled to take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2010
- 2.3 CYPOSC is also asked to note that the CYPT has planned a whole scale review of the 2005 commissioning strategy for 2010 which will further inform therapy provision and take account of key commissioning decisions in relation to Chailey Heritage Clinical Services.

## **3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**

- 3.1 Local policy drivers which have influenced the review include:
  - The Commissioning Strategy for Children and Young People with a Disability, Complex Health Needs and SEN.
  - The Commissioning Strategy 2005/6.
  - The Disability Strategy three years on - A stock take. July 2009
  - Background papers from parent/carer consultations December 2008 to present
  - Business Case and Options Appraisal initial report to the PCT September 2009.
- 3.2 As a response to concerns raised in a report presented to CYPOSC in January 2009 by the PCC and in order to achieve the requirements of World Class Commissioning within the NHS, an external review was commissioned jointly by the CYPT and PCT using the expertise of the College of Occupational Therapy. The findings of the report are presented in brief as Appendix 1.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The review involved all key partner agencies and this involved one to one interviews. The consultant undertook an analysis of the strategic and operational activity regarding therapy services undertaken in the last 4 years.

## **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

- 5.1 Financial Implications:

Any recommendations made as a result of the reviews of therapy services or of the commissioning strategy will need to be properly costed. If the costs of these are in excess of the existing budgets for this service then alternative funding will need to be identified.

Finance Officer Consulted: Jeff Coates

Date: 08.01.10

5.2 Legal Implications:

The review will assist the agencies within the CYPT to deliver their duties in this area, both under statute and within the national framework and expectations outlined in the body of the report.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 06.01.10

5.3 Equalities Implications:

The capacity for disabled children to access therapeutic support in an effective and timely way impacts, in turn, on their capacity to meet their full potential and as such to play a full role in their community.

5.4 Sustainability Implications:

There are no sustainability Implications

5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:

There are no implications for crime and disorder

5.6 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

There are no risk and opportunity management implications

5.7 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

There are no corporate or citywide implications

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Executive Summary Review of Children's Occupational Therapy Services for Brighton & Hove Children's Trust – College of Occupational Therapists.

### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

1. Review of Children's Occupational Therapy Services for Brighton & Hove Children's Trust – College of Occupational Therapists.

### **Background Documents**

- 1.
- 2.



**DRAFT**



**Consultancy  
Service**

College of Occupational Therapists

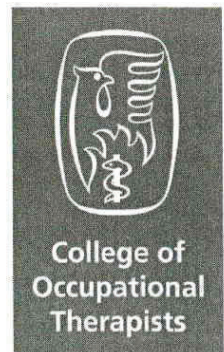
# **Review of Therapy Services for Brighton and Hove Children's Trust**

**Denise Jacobson**

CONFIDENTIAL

**November 2009**

A division of



---

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. A review of children's therapy services was commissioned by the PCT commissioners and the Head of the Integrated Children's Development and Disability services.
2. The purpose of this document is to provide recommendations on the therapy services to provide the best service for the best value, in terms of:
  - current performance and capacity,
  - the effectiveness of current pathways across health and education
  - the development of further integration.
3. The extent of the brief was to work closely with service providers and consult as many stakeholders as possible within the limited timeframe of the project.
4. The review draws heavily on the wealth of existing information referring to the Trust strategy, various consultations with parents/carers and recent preparation for a business case.
5. The review was also based on information obtained from detailed questionnaires completed by providers and stakeholders and interviews with providers and available stakeholders.
6. The agreed timeframe precluded a full representation of stakeholders and an assumption was made that the views contained in this document are broadly representative.
7. The review has taken direction from the following seminal documents:
  - Commissioning a World Class Service. (DH 2007)
  - Every Child Matters(DH 2003)
  - Parliamentary Disabled Children's Review (SO 2007)
  - Improving the Life Chances of Disabled People (DWP/DfES/DH 2005)
  - Removing Barriers to Achievement (DfES 2004)
  - National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services, especially Standards 6 and 8. (DH 2004)
  - Palliative Care Services for Children and Young People in England. (DH 2007)
  - Aiming High for Disabled Children; Better support for Families (DfES 2007)
  - The Bercow Review of Services for Children and Young People (0-19) with Speech Language and Communication Needs (DCSF 2008).
8. Local policy drivers which have influenced the review include:
  - Draft Commissioning Strategy 2005/6
  - The Disability Strategy three years on - A stock take. July 2009
  - Background papers from parent/carer consultations December 2008 to present
  - Business Case and Options Appraisal 2009.

9. The review established that the Trust has made considerable progress towards achieving integrated services.
10. Education Health and Social Care have been combined in a single structure with a vision and purpose to improve life chances for all children
11. There is commitment to disabled children as evidenced by the Trust as a signatory to the Every Disabled Child Matters charter and the integrated care pathway in the disability service.
12. There is further scope for integrating and co-ordinating therapies outside of the Child Development Centre.
13. Further development and the formal implementation of the principles of the Early Support Programme and the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) will assist in extending the ethos of the 'team around the child'.
14. The role of keyworker or lead professional will also ensure that families have a point of contact and assistance in navigating services and contribute to the efficiency of services by reducing duplication.
15. Parents are well organised and enthusiastic partners and wish to bring their expertise to all appropriate strategic and operational meetings to ensure that services have a child and family focus.
16. Anomalies in the equity of provision have been raised and need to be addressed to make the system fair for all.
17. Funding issues relating to the Chailey School impact on the ability of community therapists to provide a service to children with complex needs now included in local mainstream schools.
18. Training has been an iterative theme for providers and stakeholders. There is concern in terms of ensuring that therapists are appropriately skilled and updated, that parents are empowered through the requisite training for them to manage their children's needs and that the wider children's workforce are skilled up to include complex children in universal settings.
19. A decision is needed about a cost effective way of progressing this, whether through additional recruitment of therapists or buying in defined training from outside providers.
20. Therapy services are working to capacity and they should explore different working practices and collaboration with other teams e.g. advisory teachers to maximise resources. Speech and Language Therapy is pursuing this course of action.

**DRAFT**

- 
21. Physiotherapists are to be transferred to the community team in February and this presents a fresh opportunity to examine the interface of the physical therapies to stretch resources.
  22. Occupational Therapy is struggling with long waiting lists and times.
  23. Therapy services should be looking to work more closely across issues such as clinical governance where many examples of good practice appear in individual services.
  23. Therapy services still appear to be working in parallel rather than in an integrated way.
  24. Although there is no benchmarking standard for number of therapists, the services do not appear to be obviously under-resourced by comparison with similar services.
  25. Other services are increasingly looking to skill mix to provide additional capacity and provide direct intervention under supervision of qualified therapists. This has the potential to provide transformational change and is recommended in the NSF standard 8 as the development of a 'para-professional workforce'.

**Key recommendations:**

26. Twelve recommendations have been made encompassing the following:
  - 26.1 Data collection and records management.
  - 26.2 Information about services
  - 26.3 Capacity and Best use of Resources
  - 26.4 Skill mix
  - 26.5 Training
  - 26.6 Access
  - 26.7 Parent Participation
  - 26.8. Child and Family Centred Services
  - 26.9 Outcome focused Services
  - 26.10 Equity
  - 26.11 Gaps in services
  - 26.12 Fundamental Principles for inclusion in Service Specifications.



# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Agenda Item 42

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** *Children's Rights Convention and CYPT Equalities Arrangements*

**Date of Meeting:** 20 January 2010

**Report of:** Director of Children's Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: *Pauline Lambert* Tel: 267302  
E-mail: [Pauline.lambert@southdowns.nhs.uk](mailto:Pauline.lambert@southdowns.nhs.uk)

**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide this committee with assurance that that CYPT has structures and processes in place to ensure compliance with Local authority equalities requirements.
- 1.2 National Policy; The UK ratified the Convention on the rights of the Child on 16 December 1992. This means that the UK government now has to make sure that every child has the rights which are outlined in the treaty, except those where the government has entered a specific reservation. This means that the Local Authority should have an understanding of how children's rights are included and impact on the provision of CYPT services.
- 1.3 BHCC Equalities and Inclusion: Important aspects of children's rights are ensuring equalities and inclusion is embedded in the delivery of care and services. The Equalities Standard for Local Government has been replaced by a new Equalities Framework which has a greater focus on measurable outcomes and a stronger alignment to the Comprehensive Area Assessment. This paper provides a summary of CYPT Services connections to Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) Equality and Inclusion team and arrangements.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to comment on the approach to children's rights and their inclusion in the delivery of CYPT services.
- 2.2 The Committee is asked to comment on CYPT connections to BHCC Equalities and Inclusion arrangements.

### **3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**

#### ***Children's Rights***

- 3.1 The United Nations Convention of the Rights of Children applies to all children and young people aged 17 years and under. Some children and young people, for example, those living away from home and young disabled people have additional rights to make sure they are treated fairly and their needs are met.
- 3.2 A convention is an agreement between countries to obey the same law. When the UK ratified the convention it agreed to obey the rules set out in that convention. Which include:
- The right to life, survival and development
  - The right to have their views respected and to have their best interests considered at all times
  - The right to a name and nationality, freedom of expression and access to information concerning them
  - The right to live in a family environment or alternative care and to have contact with both parents wherever possible
  - Health and welfare rights, including rights for disabled children, the right to health and health care and social security
  - The right to education, leisure, culture and the arts
  - Special protection for refugee children, children in the juvenile justice system, children deprived of their liberty and children suffering economic, sexual or other forms of exploitation
- 3.3 These rules are embedded in UK law and mean the committee should consider the rights of children in all aspects of their scrutiny of council services including the provision of health care, social care and education and the commissioning of services.

#### ***Local Context***

- 3.4 BHCC Equalities and Inclusion Team undertake a 'needs assessment' with departments across the council which is used to inform BHCC equalities and inclusion planning. The CYPT contribute to the needs assessment process.
- 3.5 The rights of the child are included and incorporated into CYPT operational and clinical policies and procedures. These documents are used to inform practice and delivery of health care, social care and education services.
- 3.6 Local child protection and safeguarding procedures explicitly remind workers to consider the wishes and feelings of children during assessment, provision of care and/or services, and/or interventions.
- 3.7 Child protection and safeguarding training includes development of this aspect of worker understanding and practice. Encouraging reflection on undertaking assessment, inclusion of the child, young person, parents and/or carers in decisions, planning and review of care/services as appropriate depending on the individual circumstances of each child or young person.
- 3.8 The CYPT and its services also pro-actively obtain information on the experiences of those who receive those services via:

- Young people advocacy services, young people participation services, children in care independent home visiting,
  - A range of forums and groups ( parents forum, youth council, schools council, children’s disability partnership, CYPT Board representation, etc)
  - User surveys and staff surveys
  - Complaints and plaudits reports
  - Incident reporting systems and case reviews
  - The management of allegations against staff
  - Providing information for the public on websites and via services information leaflets and letters
  - Enabling and supporting access to records
  - Through the use of consultation
- 3.9 The CYPT supports and encourages children, young people, parents and/or carers to express their views via external independent systems or routes, such as Amaze.

***Equalities and Inclusion arrangements***

- 3.10 Addressing inequalities and ensuring inclusion for all children and young people in the city is a key objective of the CYP Plan, it is high on the agenda for all services delivering care to children and young people.
- 3.11 The CYPT is connected to Brighton and Hove City Council (BHCC) Equalities and Inclusion arrangements. The CYPT is represented on the BHCC Equalities Steering group by the chair of the CYPT Equalities group. The CYPT Equalities group service representatives debate equalities issues, review services Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) and contribute to BHCC equality needs assessments and reviews. The group is supported by a member of the BHCC Equalities team.
- 3.12 The CYPT Equalities group is also part of the CYPT governance structure and works to embed the equalities agenda and requirements of services and workers into the integrated management structure.
- 3.13 The CYPT has a three year EIA rolling programme covering all CYPT services. An annual Equalities report is taken for review to the CYPT Departmental Management team. The CYPT Performance Improvement Report has a section on equalities. Issues which are captured via Equality Impact Assessments and reports are included in each service areas’ Business Plan to inform service development and planning.
- 3.14 The CYPT is responsible for promoting awareness of children and young people views, interests and other rights which have been guaranteed in the convention referred to above and these are included as part of the equalities agenda.

**4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 This report was completed in consultation with the CYPT Equalities Group.

**5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

5.1 Financial Implications:

Any requirements arising from the Children's Rights Convention and Equalities will be met from within existing resources

*Finance Officer Consulted:* Louise Hoten *Date:* 11.1.2010

## 5.2 Legal Implications:

*The Equalities Framework was introduced in April 2009 as a tool to enable Local Authorities to maintain disability, race and gender equality under council policy and practice. This report sets out the structures and processes that the CYPT have out in place to ensure compliance with the equalities requirements. There are no other legal implications arising from this report.*

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston Date: 11.1.2010

## 5.3 Equalities Implications:

An Equality Impact Assessment has not been undertaken for this report. There is an Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) Timetable for all services provided by CYPT. An EIA has been undertaken for the Children and Young People Plan which informs CYPT priorities.

## 5.4 Sustainability Implications:

Any sustainability requirements are addressed as part of CYPT service provision.

## 5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:

Any prevention of crime and disorder requirements are addressed as part of CYPT Service provision.

## 5.6 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

Requirements arising from the Children's Rights Convention and Equalities are met within existing resources.

## 5.7 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

All council services should hold in mind children's rights, child protection and safeguarding requirements as an integral aspect of service provision. Council Equalities requirements are led by the BHCC Equalities and Inclusion Team.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. CYPT Equalities structure chart
2. CYPT Equalities group Terms of Reference

### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

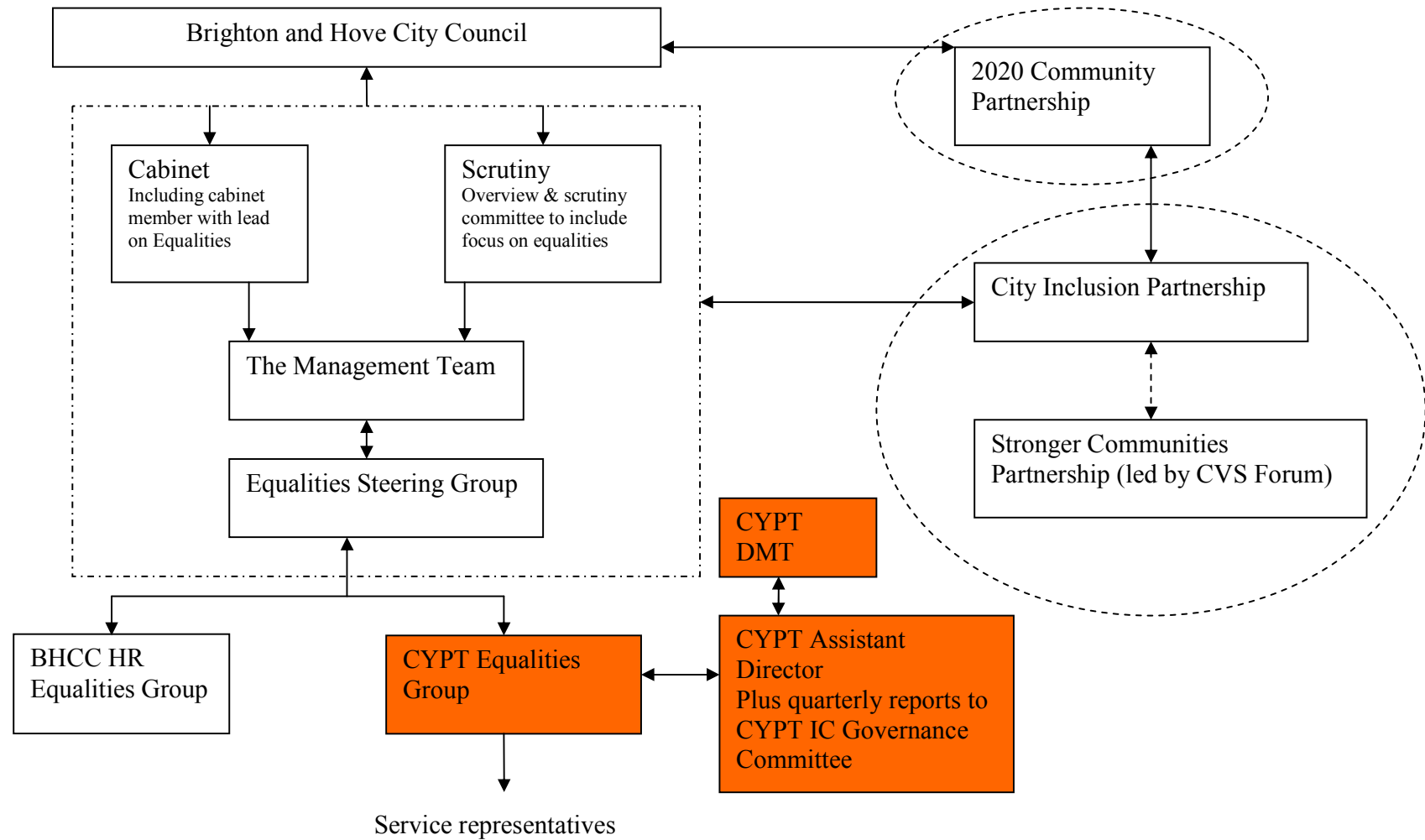
1. None

### **Background Documents**

1. None

CYPT EQUALITIES ACCOUNTABILITY STRUCTURE 2008/09

CYPTCYPT







**CYPT  
Equalities Group**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

<b>Title of Group</b>	CYPT Equalities Group
<b>1. Overall Purpose of Group</b>	The group has been set up to implement Brighton and Hove City Council's Working towards an Equal City Policy 2008-2011 within the CYPT.
<b>2. Specific Objectives/Scope</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To progress equality and diversity practice.</li> <li>2. Development of CYPT Equalities action plan</li> <li>3. Monitoring and review of CYPT Equalities action plan</li> <li>4. Management and overview of CYPT Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) timetable</li> <li>5. Monitoring and endorsement of CYPT service EIAs</li> <li>6. Reports to CYPT Integrated Care Governance Board/CYPT DMT</li> <li>7. Provision of equality and inclusion assurance evidence for Standards for Better Health/OFSTED/JAR as required.</li> <li>8. Dissemination of BHCC Equalities policy and documents to CYPT managers and staff</li> <li>9. Development of additional CYPT equalities policy and guidance as required to inform provision and commissioning of services.</li> <li>10. To inform the BHCC Equality Scheme Action Plan</li> <li>11. To provide evidence of compliance with the Equality Standard</li> </ol>
<b>3. National Requirements</b>	Equality and Human Rights Commission Standards for Better Health, NHSLA standards OFSTED and JAR inspections
<b>4. Source Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brighton and Hove City Council's Working towards an Equal City Policy 2008-2011</li> <li>• Sustainable Communities Strategy ( 2020 Community Partnership)</li> <li>• Local area Agreement 2008-11</li> <li>• Local development Framework</li> <li>• Neighbourhood Re-newel Strategy 2002-2010</li> <li>• Children and Young People's Plan 2006-2009</li> <li>• Housing Strategy 2008-2013</li> </ul>



<p><b>5. Scope of Decision Making</b></p>	<p>To monitor and endorse CYPT service EIAs To develop and agree the CYPT Equality Action Plan To report on progress to CYPT DMT/Integrated care Governance Committee and BHCC Equality Steering group</p>
<p><b>6. Accountable To</b></p>	<p>CYPT DMT CYPT Integrated Care Governance Board BHCC Equality steering group</p>
<p><b>7. How Accountability is Demonstrated</b></p>	<p>Draft Terms of Reference to be ratified by CYPT DMT  Presenting minutes to CYPT Integrated Care Governance Board and to BHCC Equalities Steering Group and/or regular reports to the parent committee, being delegated work by the parent groups.</p>
<p><b>8. Reporting</b></p>	<p>CYPT Integrated Care Governance Board BHCC Equality Steering group</p>
<p><b>9. Chair</b></p>	<p>CYPT Head of Nursing, Governance and Safety  Before: Set agenda Plan the meeting, allocate time for each item.  During: Control the progress of the meeting, ensure participants stick to the agenda and that action agreed is clear. Manage the time so that the meeting starts and finishes on time and that appropriate time is spent on each subject.  After: Ensure minutes are circulated promptly Take any follow up action in preparation for the next meeting.</p>
<p><b>10. Deputy</b></p>	<p>To be agreed</p>
<p><b>11. Members</b></p>	<p>Sharon Donnelly, Head of Service Fostering and Adoption Steve Healey, Head of Schools Admissions and Transport Cathy Lythe, Head of EMAS Jenny Brickell, Head of Integrated Social Care Disability Melanie Parr, Participation and Equalities Consultant Judy Redford, Access Manager Vicky Jenkins, Early years and Children's Centres  Follow up: Beverley Cohen Schools and Community teams Safeguarding Teams Youth and Communities teams</p>





	<p>Members report back to line managers and services</p> <p>Participants should ensure they have read the minutes, completed any action points from the last meeting and prepared for any upcoming agenda items.</p> <p>Participants should come prepared to take an active part in discussions. If unable to attend, participants should send apologies and, if appropriate, delegate someone to attend on their behalf.</p>
<b>12. Quorum</b>	5 service representatives
<b>13. Minutes/Notes</b>	<p>Notes will record the decisions and key actions agreed during the meeting; the notes of the previous meeting will be reviewed at the start of the meeting.</p> <p>The date of the previous meeting and the job title of those present and absent must be noted. The notes must be dated and paginated and include the filename and path.</p> <p>Actions can only be allocated to those at the meeting. If someone else is required to take action the minutes/notes should note that "someone will talk to X to ask them to do this".</p> <p>When reviewing notes of the previous meeting the Chair will review them for accuracy then for action only.</p> <p>At the beginning of the meeting the Chair will ask for items for AOB so he/she is aware of how much time to leave at the end for this. Technically AOB should not be accepted if it is not tabled at this point.</p>
<b>14. Confidentiality</b>	Notes of the meeting can be released under the Freedom of Information Act after they have been confirmed as accurate.
<b>15. Frequency</b>	Quarterly meetings
<b>16. Lifespan of Group</b>	This is a standing group. There will be regular rotation of membership from third tier managers.
<b>17. Terms of Reference Approved By</b>	CYPT DMT
<b>18. Date Approved</b>	Ratified 25.1.09

APPENDIX 2 - T/child protection/GOVERNANCE/December 2008



<b>19. Review Date</b>	Annually
<b>20. Author</b>	Pauline Lambert, Head of Nursing, Governance and Safety

# CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Agenda Item 43

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Child Poverty Summary  
**Date of Meeting:** 20 January 2010  
**Report of:** Director of Children Services  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Sarah Colombo Tel: 29-4218  
E-mail: sarah.colombo@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 In 2007/08 there were 2.9 million children living in relative low income in the UK, and 2.2 million children living in relative low income and material deprivation, according to Government figures. The Government has a longstanding aim to eradicate UK child poverty by 2020, and is refocusing its efforts through the introduction of the Child Poverty Bill.
- 1.2 Prior to the announcement of the Bill, child poverty was already identified as a priority in Brighton & Hove being one of the selected National Indicators in the city's Local Area Agreement. This paper details plans to reduce child poverty in Brighton & Hove, including forthcoming requirements placed on the local authority in the Child Poverty Bill.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to nominate up to two representatives to sit on a child poverty task sub-group of the city's Local Strategic Partnership (para. 3.16).

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

##### National Context

- 3.1 In 2008 The Treasury, the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department for Children Schools and Families jointly published *Ending child poverty: everybody's business*, alongside the Budget. This detailed spending plans to put the UK back on course to meet the Government's 2020 target to eradicate child poverty. The resulting Child Poverty Bill was announced in the Queen's speech in November 2009 and is expected to come into effect in spring 2010.

### The Child Poverty Bill

- 3.2 The Child Poverty Bill will require the Government to publish a national child poverty strategy, to be refreshed every three years, evaluating progress towards the 2020 vision according to key targets and setting out aims for future action across a range of policy areas. It will require local authorities and their partners to work together to tackle child poverty (covered in paras. 3.11-3.13).
- 3.3 The Government's strategy will set out what action, if any, needs to be taken nationally across the 'building blocks', four key areas aimed at driving sustainable progress. These are:
- More parents in work that pays
  - Financial support that is responsive to families' situations
  - Improvements in children's life chances so that poverty in childhood does not translate into poor outcomes
  - Safe, cohesive communities that support children to thrive

### Child poverty pilots and Beacon Councils

- 3.4 *Ending child poverty: everybody's business* announced £125 million for child poverty pilots in 2008–2011, to explore practical approaches to reducing child poverty. These include:
- Tax credit advisors based in Children's Centres providing signposting and guidance
  - Work focused services through Children's Centres, with dedicated Job Centre Plus Advisors
  - New Family Intervention Projects for families who experience poverty, coordinated by an assertive key worker
  - Child Development Grants offering parents financial incentives to enhance their child's early development
  - Housing, health and learning support provided to teenage parents living independently in supported housing
  - Local Authority Innovation grants to develop innovative approaches to tackling child poverty with partners
  - Childcare Affordability Programme in London offering cash incentives to parents to take up support and tackle barriers into work
- 3.5 Three local authorities – Cornwall Council, London Borough of Tower Hamlets and Newcastle Upon Tyne City Council – have been awarded Beacon status for 'Preventing and Tackling Child Poverty' in 2009. All three Beacons share a common overriding approach; an understanding of the needs of the local community, developed through engagement with them, and used to inform strategic priorities and service delivery in partnership with other agencies.

### **Local Context**

- 3.6 The Reducing Inequality Review (2007) found that the city contains some of the most significantly deprived areas in England, particularly in East Brighton,

Queens Park and Moulsecoomb and Bevendean wards. However, it also determined that there are large numbers of individuals in other neighbourhoods who also experience high levels of deprivation. There are also expectations that high levels of in-work poverty exist within the city, compounded by the high relative cost of private housing. A more detailed account of factors contributing toward child poverty levels within in the city is included at Appendix 1.

- 3.7 Brighton and Hove is one of 45 local authorities to have included the child poverty measure (NI 116) in its Local Area Agreement (LAA). However, there are currently limitations on how accurately we can use this to determine levels of poverty in the city due to a lack of existing local data. The new national Child Poverty Unit has committed to providing this level of detail, though it is now overdue.
- 3.8 Reducing child poverty and health inequality has been identified as one of four overarching improvement priorities in the new Children & Young People's Plan (CYPP), the governing document for all children and young people's outcomes in the city. Progress on the CYPP will be monitored bi-annually, with more regular quarterly updates on actions to address measures that do not meet targets.
- 3.9 Services that aim to raise income and increase wellbeing for families, are already coordinated across the city focussing particularly on take up of childcare allowance and employment advice and training. Co-location of advice and services in Children's Centres is a key way of reaching families. A summary of selected activity is included at Appendix 2.
- 3.10 Pilots are underway in Brighton & Hove aimed at remodelling the way in which core services are delivered to reduce inequality and end the cycle of disadvantage for families, such as *Turning the Tide* in the neighbourhoods covered by the Selsfield Drive housing office and the CYPT Family Pathfinder to improve the lives of families living in East Brighton.

#### Requirements of the Child Poverty Bill for Local Authorities

- 3.11 Once implemented, the Child Poverty Bill will require each responsible local authority to prepare and publish a needs assessment for children living in poverty in its area, according to guidance that will be issued by the Secretary of State once the Bill gains Royal Assent.
- 3.12 The council will also be expected to work in cooperation with statutory partners to produce a joint child poverty strategy, in order to reduce and mitigate the effects of poverty. These partners are represented by the existing Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The Bill will allow for the creation of pooled budgets to tackle child poverty with partners.
- 3.13 The council will also be required to 'have regard' to its local arrangements for delivering the Bill in the local Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). A refresh of the Brighton & Hove SCS is currently being undertaken by the LSP and is due to be completed and published by March 2010.

## Brighton & Hove delivery arrangements

- 3.14 Having been one of the first local authorities to create a Children & Young People's Trust (CYPT), Brighton & Hove already has a number of joint staffing arrangements, and shared budgets and priorities with the health service. A number of discussions with other partners have already been held on child poverty, and there is a willingness and recognition that we need a citywide approach to the issue.
- 3.15 Despite early progress and clear examples of good practice there is still much to do if we are to achieve the kind of impact proposed by the Government. Therefore, a child poverty sub-group of the LSP will be convened, under the CYPT thematic partnership, ahead of and ready for implementation of the Bill. This would consist of a strategic 'task' group to coordinate and oversee progress and an officer level 'finishing' group to conduct necessary research and analysis.
- 3.16 **CYPOSC is asked to nominate up to two of its members to sit on the task group.**
- 3.17 The first action for the task and finish group will be to draw together quickly existing actions that contribute to tackling child poverty from various strategies; the SCS, the CYPP and across the 7 themes of the LAA. The aim is to identify any gaps that exist in order to understand better and maximise the collective impact on child poverty.
- 3.18 An officer level CYPT performance board is being established to monitor service performance and workforce information on a monthly basis. In addition the CYPT Board will receive focussed reports on the CYPP, produced through the Interplan performance management system, referred to in para. 3.8.
- 3.19 The Brighton and Hove Local Intelligence System (BHLIS) allows for detailed analysis of geographical patterns (down to the smallest level – the 'super output area') and is being developed to deliver data in support of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and to map progress against the four strategic objectives of the CYPP, including child poverty.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 A themed discussion on child poverty was undertaken by internal and external staff representing the city's major partnerships at Partnership Managers Group (PMG) on 26 June 2009. This group includes colleagues from a number of agencies named as statutory partners in the Bill.
- 4.2 On 04 December 2009 an update was taken to PMG on the Child Poverty Bill and the plans for implementation in Brighton & Hove, as detailed in this paper. There was acknowledgment from partners around the table that the issue reaches beyond the CYPT partnership and will need support from all agencies.

## 5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no additional costs as a result of this report and any current initiatives will continue within existing funds and resources

Finance Officer Consulted: Michelle Herrington                      Date: 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The review will assist the agencies within the CYPT to deliver their duties in this area, both under statute and within the national framework and expectations outlined in the body of the report.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson    Date: 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Plans to reduce child poverty will make provision for those individuals, groups and communities most at risk of falling into poverty (see Appendix 1). The Children & Young People's Plan includes Child Poverty as one of four overarching strategic objectives, and an Equalities Impact Assessment has been produced for the CYPP. A separate Equalities Impact Assessment may be carried out if an independent child poverty strategy is required, once the details of the Child Poverty Bill are made available.

### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 Plans to reduce child poverty will promote the *Sustainable Communities* priority of the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy. The Child Poverty Bill will require the council and partners to engage directly with service providers and users to establish local need. It will build on existing partnership arrangements with the shared aim of reducing poverty, thereby creating a greater sense of pride and cohesion within neighbourhoods to the long term benefit of the community and local environment.

### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There is strong evidence that childhood poverty can lead to a cycle of generational poverty and low aspiration, particular in more deprived neighbourhoods. Reducing poverty and increasing engagement in education and community activity will help create community cohesion and reduce instances of anti social behaviour. Increased income for families will alleviate the associated emotional stress of poverty on households and should lessen instances of violence or criminal behaviour.

### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Plans to reduce child poverty will directly contribute to delivery of Brighton & Hove's Local Area Agreement (LAA) and the priorities of key city strategies, including the Children & Young People's Plan, the Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy. Therefore failure to deliver against targets on child poverty could have a detrimental impact on achieving city priorities.

The multiple issues which can lead to child poverty determines that a wide number of services, both internal and external to the council, have a role in reducing poverty. Therefore, as captured by the Bill, there is an opportunity to build on existing partnerships to reduce the negative social and financial impacts of poverty on the city.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 As described above, coordinated activity to reduce child poverty will contribute to delivery of a range of corporate and citywide priorities. Given the evidence that, in many cases, child poverty is intergenerational, tackling the causes of poverty now will potentially reduce the dependency of future generations on state financial support, associated costs of intervention and secure the future economic and social vitality of the city.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Child poverty in Brighton & Hove
2. Action to reduce child poverty in Brighton & Hove

### **Documents In Members' Rooms**

- 1.
- 2.

### **Background Documents**

- 1.
- 2.



## **Child poverty in Brighton & Hove**

National Indicator (NI) 116, is defined as a reduction in the number of children in households living on less than 60% of the national median income. There is currently no accurate data to monitor household income at the local level, though the national Child Poverty Unit is committed to providing this (though it is now overdue).

Instead, the measure of child poverty currently used in Brighton & Hove is the proportion of children who live in households where out of work benefits are received. A figure of 21% was given by Government Office for the South East (GOSE) in 2007/08, prior to the recession taking hold, with a target set to reduce by 1% each year. In view of the recession this figure is almost certain to have increased and the Government has agreed to renegotiate with councils the targets for economic indicators in their LAAs.

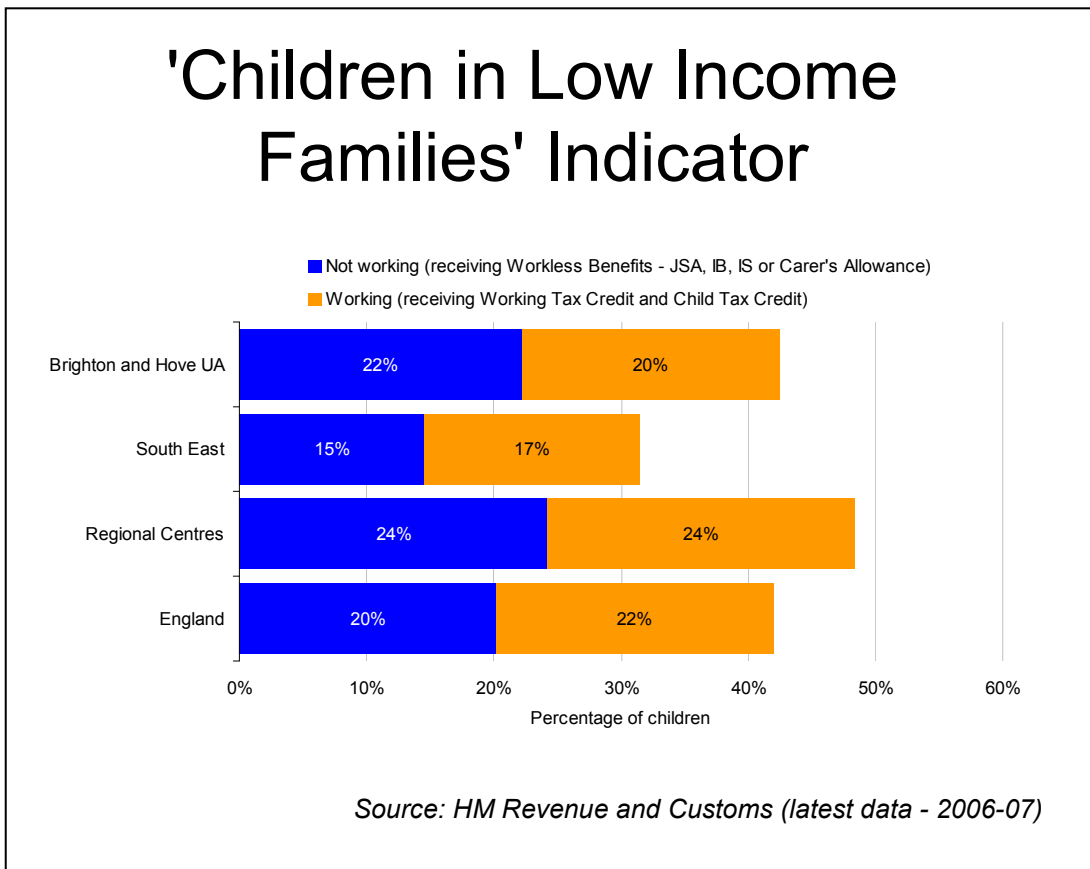
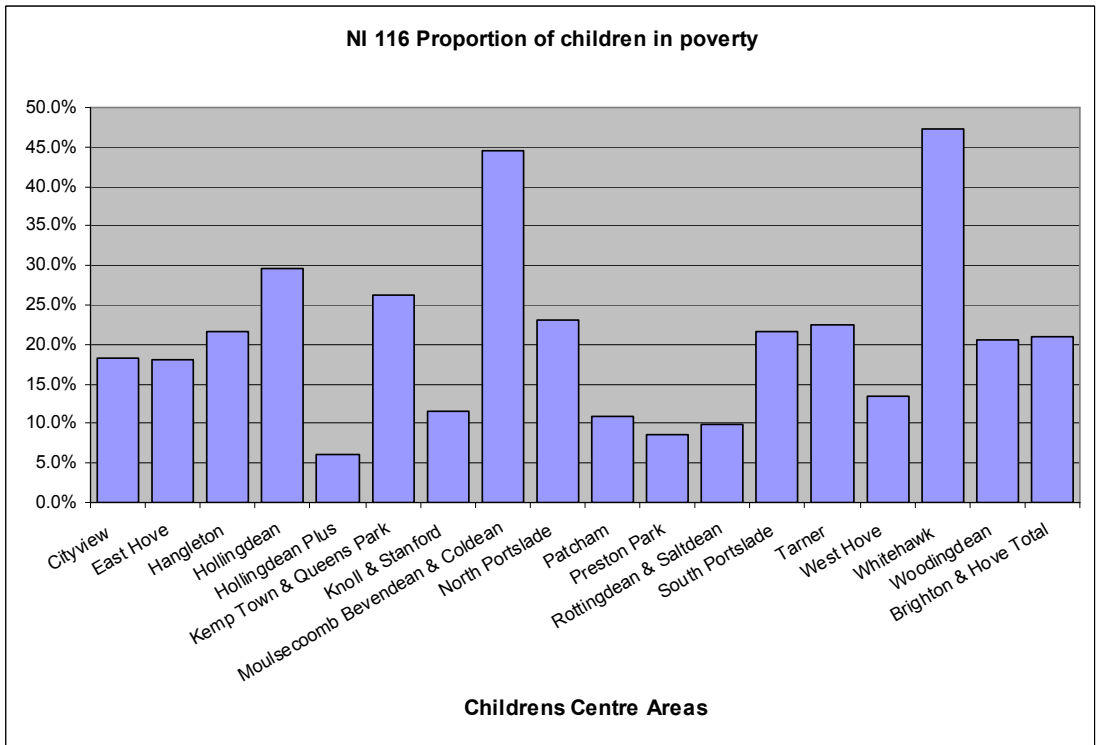
Work in itself is not a guaranteed route out of poverty for families. To account for families experiencing in-work poverty NI 118, the rate of take-up of the childcare element of the Working Tax Credit, is also measured. This equates to 21.83% children in the city, with a target set to reduce this number by 2% each year. In order to qualify for Working Tax Credit, families must be on low working incomes and work for 16 hours per week.

The charts below show the breakdown of the Brighton & Hove statistics for NI 116 and NI 118 by Children's Centre area. The figures correlate with general deprivation statistics for the city, with high levels of child poverty in Moulsecoomb and Whitehawk combined with a very low take up of the Childcare Tax Credit. There are also relatively high numbers of families with disabled children and in receipt of Disability Living Allowance in the city.

However we also know from the Reducing Inequality Review, that inequality in the city is by no means confined to geographically specific areas and that large numbers of people experiencing inequality do *not* live in the most deprived areas. Of the more than 4,000 children living in low income, out-of-work families across the city, nearly 60% do not live in the most deprived 20% of areas.

Children with multiple issues are heavily concentrated in the most deprived areas – nearly one half of all children across the city experiencing *both* low income and Special Educational Needs live in the most deprived 20% of areas. The same is true of Bangladeshi and Black African populations, though not minority ethnic groups overall (RIR, 2007).

The local disability charity, Amaze, reports that a quarter of the 1,500 disabled children on their Compass database live in East Brighton and Moulsecoomb and Bevendean wards. Similar patterns arise for children and young people with a child protection plan, 16-18-year-olds not engaged in education, employment or training, teenage parents and a range of other groups.



## **Action to reduce child poverty in Brighton & Hove**

This is not an exhaustive list, but details a selection of the service activity taking place in the city with a view to minimising contributing factors to child poverty.

### *Sure Start Children's centres*

A citywide network of children's centres to improve the outcomes of children under 5 by providing integrated early childhood services, including information and advice to parents on training and employment.

### *Childcare element of the Working Tax Credit*

A universal campaign to promote take up of the tax credit to all parents and carers, along with targeted information for those families least likely to take up the tax credit.

### *Childcare Sufficiency Assessment*

Ensuring there is sufficient childcare for parents who wish to work or undertake training which will lead to work in accordance with duties under s.6 of the Childcare Act 2006. This duty includes providing childcare which is suitable for disabled children, and in Brighton & Hove funds are made available to ensure that the additional cost of including disabled children in childcare settings can be met

### *Free childcare for 2-4 year olds*

All 3 and 4 years olds are entitled to 12.5 hours a week of free early learning, extended to 15 hours for those areas with the highest proportion of disadvantaged children from September 2009 (available for all children from September 2010).

A pilot for funding 10 hours of free childcare for 104 of the city's most disadvantaged 2 year olds began in September 2009 and ends in March 2011.

### *Aiming High for disabled children*

Brighton & Hove is one of 21 areas in the country piloting a scheme to increase the availability of short breaks for parents and disabled children as part of the Aiming High programme

### *Attainment in education*

From April 2010 the council will take on responsibility for commissioning 14-19 education and training, implementing the new broader curriculum and the increased age of participation to 18 by 2015

### *Supporting adults into work*

The Adult Advancement and Careers Service prototype provides a new careers service for adults alongside more integrated working between organisations that provide learning and employment support



# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**Agenda Item 44**  
Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Work Programme Report  
**Date of Meeting:** 20 January 2010  
**Report of:** The Director of Strategy and Governance  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Tom Hook Tel: 01273 291110  
E-mail: [Tom.hook@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.hook@brighton-hove.gov.uk)  
**Wards Affected:** All

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report contains general information on Overview & Scrutiny Committee work programmes.
- 1.2 Also included is the work programme for CYPOSC to be discussed by members (see **Appendix 1**).

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members:
  - (1) note the general information on Overview & Scrutiny work programmes;
  - (2) agree which reports need to be included in the CYPOSC work programme for 2010 (attached as **Appendix 1** to this report).

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Each Overview & Scrutiny (O&S) committee is required to have its own work programme, setting out the committee's schedule for the current council year (Constitution Part 6:2.2). Setting a work programme in advance in this way facilitates effective planning by council officers, and should ensure that all reports to O&S Committees are delivered on time and are of a high quality.

- 3.2 One of the duties of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission (OSC) is to “co-ordinate the work of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees” (Constitution Part 6:2.1.1) so as to ensure that “there is efficient use of the Committees’ time and that the potential for duplication of effort is minimised” (Constitution Part 6:3.1). In order for the OSC to carry out this task effectively, it is important that each individual O&S committee maintains its own coherent, readily comprehensible work programme.
- 3.3 O&S committees are responsible for determining their own work schedules, providing these accord with the Committee Terms of Reference; and subject to co-ordination and monitoring by the OSC (as detailed in point 3.2 above).
- 3.4 However, it is incumbent upon O&S committee members to ensure that Overview & Scrutiny is as effective as possible. To this end, members should seek to ensure that items placed on committee work programmes are:
- (i) significant issues;
  - (ii) issues where there is a genuine opportunity for O&S to make a positive contribution;
  - (iii) dealt with at the appropriate time (i.e. when there is the greatest opportunity for O&S to ‘add value’);
  - (iv) aligned with the council’s corporate priorities, and with its commitments to promoting democracy, encouraging social inclusion etc.
- 3.5 O&S committees are, as noted above, free to develop their own work programmes. However, members may also wish (and may in some instances obliged) to consider work programme ideas from other sources. These sources include:
- 3.5(a) **Plans or strategies which comprise part of the Council’s Budget and Policy Framework.** The council’s constitution requires the Executive to consult with O&S before formulating its final proposals for these plans and strategies. The Executive must take account of any O&S response in drawing up firm proposals to be submitted to Full Council (Constitution Part 4:4.2.(b)).
- 3.5(b) **Other plans and strategies.** Members of the Council’s Cabinet and senior officers in the council’s directorates may choose to consult with O&S concerning the development of plans and strategies which do not form part of the Budget and Policy framework, but are nonetheless considered to be of particular importance (including, but not limited to, items which feature on the Council’s Forward Plan).

- 3.5(c) **Items put forward by other members.** Any member of the Council may place a written question to the Leader of the Council, Cabinet members or Chairmen of any Committee or Sub-Committee (including O&S committees). Such questions should be included on the agenda of the next suitable committee meeting, where members will determine how best to deal with them (Constitution Part 3: 9.2).
- 3.5(d) **Public Questions.** Members of the public may submit questions to O&S committees no fewer than 8 working days before a scheduled committee meeting. Providing a question is relevant to the work of the committee, is not vexatious, and is not substantially similar to a question which the committee has recently debated to its satisfaction, it will be added to the agenda for the appropriate meeting.
- 3.5(e) **Referrals from other Council bodies/committees.** Any Council body or committee may choose to refer items to the appropriate O&S committee for consideration.
- 3.5(f) **Referrals from Outside Bodies.** Other organisations (e.g. The Older People’s Council, the Youth Council, LAA partners, neighbouring Local Authorities etc) may refer items to O&S committees for consideration.
- 3.5(g) **Referrals from Outside Bodies with statutory powers of referral.** In some instances, external bodies may have a statutory power/obligation to refer items to O&S committees for consideration. These include:
- (i) **Local Involvement Networks (LINKs).** LINKs were granted powers of referral by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007). LINKs can refer items to any local O&S committee responsible for aspects of adult health and social care and/or children’s health issues. In the context of Brighton & Hove, this means that the Brighton & Hove LINK has a statutory power of referral to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), the Adult Social Care and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ASCHOSC), and the Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC).
  - (ii) **NHS trusts.** NHS trusts are required by the Health and Social Care Act (2012) to refer plans for ‘substantial variations or developments’ of local healthcare services to the appropriate HOSC(s).
- 3.5(h) **Councillor Call for Action.** This is a power which was introduced in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007). It enables ward Councillors to bring items of local concern, which could not be resolved via other avenues, to the appropriate O&S committee for investigation.

- 3.5(i) **Councillor Call for Action in relation to Crime and Disorder.** The Police & Justice Act (2006) introduced a power for ward Councillors to refer crime and disorder matters to a Crime and Disorder Committee (CDC). In Brighton & Hove, the Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ECSOSC) has been designated the council's statutory CDC. Ward Councillors may therefore refer crime and disorder issues to ECSOSC.
- 3.5(j) **Scrutiny of Petitions.** The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill (2008/9) currently going through parliament contains provision which will require local authority O&S committees to consider matters relating to Petitions to Council (i.e. in instances where petitioners feel that they have not received an adequate response to their representations). It is not yet clear how this will effect O&S in Brighton & Hove.
- 3.6 The above list is not intended to be prescriptive; Overview & Scrutiny has an important role to play in encouraging closer working between various parts of the council; between the council and its key city partners; and in fostering better relationships between the council and local residents. Any suggestion for the work programme which may help achieve these goals should therefore be given serious consideration, whether or not it accords with the formal means of referral listed above.

#### **4. THE FORMAT OF WORK PROGRAMMES**

- 4.1 O&S work programmes should:
- (a) List all items for scrutiny in the current council year;
  - (b) Indicate the date when an item is to be considered;
  - (c) In instances where an item has not been requested by committee members, indicate where the item originated (e.g. referral from Cabinet, public question etc);
  - (d) Indicate a mode of enquiry (e.g. ad hoc panel, workshop, report for information etc);
  - (d) Provide any necessary additional information (i.e. why the O&S committee is looking at a particular item).
- 4.2 An updated copy of the work programme should be included in each committee agenda for information. (There should generally no need for members to agree the work programme at each meeting.) Items which have already been dealt with should remain on the work programme, with an indication of the date they were addressed and any action agreed. Therefore, anyone consulting an O&S committee work programme should be able to tell at a glance what work the committee has already undertaken in the current year and what work it is planning to undertake.



- 4.3 There is an obvious utility in committees agreeing and keeping to an annual work programme. However, it may well be necessary to add items to the work programme throughout the year (e.g. in response to unanticipated events etc). In general it should be possible to add individual items at the Chairman's discretion. However, if very significant changes to the work schedule are required, it may be necessary to ask committee members to agree a revised work programme.

## **5. THE CYPOSC WORK PROGRAMME**

- 5.1 A copy of the CYPOSC work programme is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report, and members are asked to formally approve this draft.

## **6. CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 No formal consultation has been undertaken in compiling this report

## **7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no financial implications to this report. Issues relating to O&S committee work programmes may impact upon the allocation of resources within the Scrutiny team, but this will relate to the existing Scrutiny budget and will not involve additional funding.

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The legal implications are addressed in the body of the text.

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 O&S committee work programmes should be formulated with equalities issues in mind.

### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 Members should consider whether the draft committee work programme adequately reflects the importance of sustainability issues to the committee's Terms of Reference.

### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 Members should consider whether the draft committee work programme adequately reflects the importance of crime and disorder issues to the committee's Terms of Reference.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Members should consider whether risk and opportunity management issues have adequately been addressed in formulating the draft committee work programme.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 O&S committee work programmes should reflect corporate and citywide priorities.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. The CYPOSC work programme

**Documents in Members' Rooms:**

None

**Background Documents:**

None

**AGENDA ITEM 44-APPENDIX 1- Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny (CYPOSC)  
Work Programme June 2009- March 2010**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason for the agenda item</b>	<b>Outcome and Monitoring</b>
Update on the Falmer Academy	17 June	Opportunity to receive an update and identify whether future issues need to come to CYPOSC	To come back to CYPOSC 18 November 2009
Sure Start Children's Centre's Self Evaluation City Wide Summary	17 June	Information on early years equalities	Noted and further information requested on breastfeeding and IT issues
Ad-hoc Panel report- reducing alcohol related harm to children & young people	17 June	Feedback to CYPOSC and the Committee to endorse the report	Report endorsed to go to CYPT Board, Cabinet, Council & Licensing Committee
Consultation on the CYPP proposed workshop	17 June	The Committee to submit its comments to the Plan (1 of the 10 budget and policy framework items)	Workshop arranged for the 7 July 2009.
Draft Work Programme	17 June	To be agreed by the Committee	Work Programme agreed
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter PIR	16 September	Standing item- CYPOSC to review underperforming items	Noted the report and requested further information on the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan
Ofsted Inspection reports	16 September	Standing item – Portslade CC to be reviewed	Noted the report and the improvements made by PCC
An Update on Safeguarding	16 September	Updating CYPOSC on the national and local changes	Noted the report and recommended that the budget for 2010/11 should take the Trusts challenges into account
Corporate Parenting	16 September	Information requested on Councillors responsibilities	Agreed the recommendations and recommended that good outcomes for LAC should be considered with the budget setting process
Universal Free School Meals	16 September	Report requested – 17/6/09, from Cllr. question	Noted the report, receive an update on the take up and the progress on the cashless system in a year's time

**AGENDA ITEM 44-APPENDIX 1- Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny (CYPOSC)  
Work Programme June 2009- March 2010**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Reason for the agenda item</b>	<b>Outcome and Monitoring/Dates</b>
St. Mary's School Closure	16 September	Report requested – 17/6/09, from Cllr. Question	Noted the report and take no further action
Work Programme	16 September	The Committee to review the updated work programme	Agreed and Quality of Care and Attainment of CiC to be added to the Work Programme
Teenage pregnancy including teenage conception action plans	18 November	Directorate (1 of 10 PCT priorities)	Noted the report and take no further action
Childhood Obesity	18 November	Directorate (1 of 10 PCT priorities)	Noted the report and requested further information on which activities were happening after schools
Building schools for the future	18 November	Directorate	Noted the report
CYPT Budget Strategy	5 January – Budget meeting	CYPOSC to examine plans for the budget	Further information requested and comments to be forwarded to OSC
An Update and Review of therapy Services for Disability service	20 January	Committee asked for this item to return to CYPOSC (25/3/2009)	
Children's Rights Convention and CYPT Equalities Arrangements	20 January	CYPOSC agreed (25/3/2009)	
Child Poverty- CYPP & LAA	20 January	CYPOSC agreed (25/3/2009)	

**AGENDA ITEM 44-APPENDIX 1- Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny (CYPOSC)  
Work Programme June 2009- March 2010**

**Suggestions for reports for the CYPOSC 2010 Work Programme:**

1. Information requested in Councillor Pat Hawkes' letter
2. Interventions with complex family situations (the Team Around the Child (TAC)/Family Intervention Project (FIP)/Family Pathfinder agenda)
3. In-house provision of foster care placements
4. School Examination and Test Results
5. Update on Traveller Education Service (TES) in B&H with reference to Achievement Programme Model
6. Review the recommendations from the Children and Alcohol report (after July)
7. Annual PIR – (after Sept.)
8. Annual Report on the CYPP – (after Dec.)

**Suggestions for Future Ad-hoc panels:**

- Council support for families affected by recession
- Quality of Care & Attainment of Children in Care- what are the challenges, are other LA's increasing attainment, (timing needs to be correct on this).

