



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Overview & Scrutiny

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| Title: | Children & Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 10 November 2010 |
| Time: | 5.00pm |
| Venue | Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall |
| Contact: | Sharmini Williams Overview & Scrutiny Support Officer 29-0451 sharmini.williams@brighton-hove.gov.uk |

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CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The following are requested to attend the meeting:

Councillors:

Older (Chairman), McCaffery (Deputy Chairman), Davis, Deane, Hyde, A Norman, Phillips and Smart

Statutory Co-optee with Voting Rights

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mike Wilson | Diocese of Chichester |
| David Sanders | Diocese of Arundel & Brighton |
| Amanda Mortensen | Parent Governor Representative |
| Vacancy | Parent Governor Representative |

Non-Statutory Co-optees without Voting Rights

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Carrie Britton | Children's Health |
| Joanna Martindale | Community Voluntary Sector Forum |
| Mark Price | Youth Services |
| Rohan Lowe | Youth Council |
| Alex Qiu | Youth Council |
| Vacancy | Children's Social Care Representative |

AGENDA

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| <p>26. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 15 September 2010. (Copy attached).</p> | 3 - 10 |
| <p>27. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS</p> | |
| <p>28. PUBLIC QUESTIONS No public questions had been received.</p> | |
| <p>29. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS No letters had been received from Councillors.</p> | |
| <p>30. THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE Invitation for the Strategic Director of People to speak to the Committee.</p> | |
| <p>31. YOUTH COUNCIL 3-IN-1 CAMPAIGN Presentation from the Youth Council.</p> | |
| <p>32. YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSIONING REVIEW - UPDATE Report of the Strategic Director for People. <i>Contact Officer: Steve Barton Tel: 29-6105</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i></p> | 11 - 16 |
| <p>33. COMMISSIONING REVIEW OF SERVICES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN Report of the Strategic Director of People. <i>Contact Officer: Steve Barton Tel: 29-6105</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i></p> | 17 - 22 |
| <p>34. NEXT STEPS OF ACADEMIES Presentation from Gil Sweetenham - Schools Futures Project Director.</p> | |
| <p>35. OFSTED INSPECTION Report of the Strategic Director of People. <i>Contact Officer: James Dougan Tel: 295511</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i></p> | 23 - 30 |

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.

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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) or email scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication - Tuesday, 2 November 2010

Agenda Item 25

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 15 SEPTEMBER 2010

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Older (Chairman); Davis, Deane, Phillips, Smart, Cobb, Janio and Allen

Statutory Co-optees: with voting rights:: Mike Wilson (Diocese of Chichester), David Sanders (Diocese of Arundel & Brighton) and Amanda Mortensen (Parent Governor Representative)

Non-Statutory Co-optees: Carrie Britton (Children's Health) (Non-Voting Co-Optee), Mark Price (Youth Services) (Non-Voting Co-Optee), Kenya Simpson-Martin (Youth Council) (Non-Voting Co-Optee) and Azdean Boulaich (Youth Council) (Non-Voting Co-Optee)

Apologies: Councillor Juliet McCaffery, Councillor Lynda Hyde, Councillor Ann Norman and Joanna Martindale

PART ONE

12. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

12a. Declaration of Substitutes

12.1 Councillors Lynda Hyde, Ann Norman, Juliet McCaffery and Joanna Martindale (CVSF representative) sent their apologies.

Substitutions for Councillors included Tony Janio for Lynda Hyde, Denise Cobb for Ann Norman and Kevin Allen for Juliet McCaffery.

12b. Declarations of Interest

12.2 There were none.

12c. Declaration of Party Whip

12.3 There were none.

12d. Exclusion from the Press and Public

12.4 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.

12.5 **RESOLVED-** That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting.

13. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

13.1 The minutes were approved.

13.2 In relation to the report on the Arrangements for Governance, Commissioning & Provision for Children's Services - Item 7, it was asked whether a response had been received from the Chair of the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) Board to seek the views of the Parent Carers' Council when looking at issues where there was significant parent carer interest.

It was agreed to ask the Chair of the CYPT Board for a response.

14. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

14.1 The Chair welcomed Councillor Lizzie Deane (who was replacing Ben Duncan) and Amanda Mortensen (Parent Governor representative) to CYPOSC.

15. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

15.1 None were received.

16. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

16.1 None were received.

17. SHORT FILM AND A DISCUSSION WITH HANGLETON & KNOLL YOUTH FORUM AROUND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

17.1 Adam Muirhead (Sports Development Worker) and young people involved in the Hangleton & Knoll Youth Forum: Sophie Murphy, Leon Weller, and Hannah Norman, presented a short film. The main ethos of the project was to include young people in any decisions that would affect them.

17.2 In answer to a question on what age group the Forum worked with, the Committee were advised that membership was fluid and that the age range was between 11-19 years and they had 15 young people that attended the Forum.

17.3 In response to a question on whether the Forum had been consulted on the Youth Service Review, Sophie explained how they had been consulted and informed the officers about workshops that they had been involved in and how these had given her stability and a positive outlook.

17.4 The Committee heard about a visit to the Forum and the enthusiasm and encouragement that the Project had demonstrated.

17.5 RESOLVED

- (1) The Committee thanked the young people and Officer for their time.
- (2) The Committee agreed to hear about the Youth Council 3:1 campaign.

18. PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES IN BRIGHTON & HOVE

- 18.1 Gil Sweetenham (School Futures Project Director) and Steve Healey (Head of School Admissions and Transport) presented the report and answered questions.
- 18.2 A Member reiterated the importance of having local schools, as families did not want to travel across the city to their allocated schools.
- 18.3 The Committee were advised that there were plans to upgrade school buildings but these depended on the level of funding available following the review of capital funding.
- 18.4 Members were informed that in the Officers view the GP data figures were the most accurate available. Child benefit data was not as accurate as the benefit wasn't always paid to the address where the children were living.
- 18.5 Members were informed how some GP data didn't match the numbers attending primary/infant state schools as families moved around and some children went into private education.
- 18.6 The Committee was advised that there was pressure on school places for schools within the BN 31 to BN 34 areas (along the Hove seafront). Historically some of these children used to go to schools in Portslade; however these schools are full to capacity too.
- 18.7 In response to what communication has been made with parents, the Committee were informed that Officers would attend school meetings, the school admissions booklet would outline the authorities future plans, information would be available on the council website and the information would be released to the press. This would enable all parents to make informed decisions when going through the school admissions process.
- 18.8 In answer to a question on when does the authority receive the capital funding, Members were advised that the funding was allocated on a 3 year basis, the latest allocation being made 3 years ago. The authority has used the 3 year capital programme funding and "safety valve" money for school expansion projects and the additional temporary accommodation.
- 18.9 The Committee were informed that a temporary school would be opened for September 2011; this would be managed by local primary schools for a period of up to two years, until formal government approval was given. This will allow sufficient time to plan for a permanent three form entry all through primary school, including management of the school whether this was parents, the local authority, faith groups or other bodies.

The authority has two plans and will continue to work with these options to ensure that one of them will come to fruition.

It was confirmed that unless suitable accommodation was found, mobile classrooms would have to be used

- 18.10 In answer to a question on the forecast figures that showed another school would be needed in 2016 and what plans were in place to meet these forecasts, Members were told that projections were based on trends, there were schools in the east of the city that had vacant places and whether these places needed to be filled first, to ensure funding was spent wisely. Planning so far ahead was difficult as the children were not born yet and there was limited space within the city to build on. The authority were already looking into alternative, high quality accommodation, investigating modern methods of learning and keeping all options open.
- 18.11 In response to a question on whether suggestions from the public were welcome as the idea of negotiating with the Connaught Centre came from a member of the public, it was confirmed that the authority welcomed all local involvement.
- 18.12 Members heard that the authority was working with all potential providers to look at future opportunities and the implications of these to schools.

18.13 RESOLVED

- (1) The Committee noted the actions proposed to secure additional primary school places in the City and particularly in Hove.
- (2) The Committee noted the statistical information on which the proposals had been based on and the potential variations which must be allowed for in forecasting.

19. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST PERFORMANCE

- 19.1 Paul Brewer (Head of Performance) presented the report and answered questions.
- 19.2 In answer to question on the why certain cities were benchmarked with Brighton & Hove, the committee were told that the deprivation profiles within these cities were similar to Brighton & Hove's.
- 19.3 In response to a question on the reasons why the achievement of good GCSE's (including Maths and English) for 2009 had declined, members were advised that a Working Group had met up to answer Councillor Pat Hawkes letter which expressed concerns stipulated in the "Oneplace" Audit Commission report. The final report on the group's findings, which covered underachievement would answer CYPOSC's queries, and the report would be circulated out to members shortly.
- 19.4 In relation to a question on the reduction in funding for Connexions, the committee were told that there was a genuine concern on collating high quality data from the different providers.

A member told the committee how the connexions 1:1 intensive work with vulnerable young people was still required as this was preventative work.

- 19.5 A member informed the committee how performance must be related to getting young people involved in the community projects, e.g. like the Hangleton & Knoll Youth Forum.
- 19.6 Azdean Boulaich (Youth Council representative) asked why the government had abolished the Tellus4Survey even though there was a rise in reported substance misuse; members were informed that the authority will utilise the *Safe at School Survey* in it's place to ensure that young people were still consulted.

The committee noted that future figures would be difficult to compare with previous results from the TellUs survey as the surveys are delivered differently

Additionally, substance misuse was also an issue for young people who had left school and RU-OK and A&E figures should also be reported in future reports

The issue of substance misuse was complex and lengthy and there was a whole range of data relating to this which the officer suggested would be best explored in detail as a theme

- 19.7 A member requested whether there was any data comparisons made with other South East regions, the committee heard how this data could be collated CYPOSC, however it was noted that Brighton & Hove would compare unfavourably with other authorities due to the high profile of substance misuse within the city.
- 19.8 There was a debate over the best way that performance data could be reported to the committee.

Members requested that all the indicators would need to be reported with a summary of the challenges, action plans and outcomes for the indicators that were under- achieving (in red). This would help members understand the context and have a more holistic approach. Equalities issues information was also requested.

19.9 RESOLVED

- (1) The committee noted the information.
- (2) The committee requested that the information be presented differently with all 19 priorities (including equalities issues), any indicators in red to have a summary on the challenges, action plans and outcomes.

20. IN-YEAR GRANT SAVINGS

- 20.1 Steve Barton – Assistant Director, Strategic Commissioning & Governance gave a verbal report and answered questions.

- 20.2 Members were informed that the service is not in a position to discuss details as the council are currently in negotiations with external providers that are commercially sensitive and in discussions with the Trade Unions.
- 20.3 In answer to a question on what information did staff have in relation to their contracts the committee heard that there were face to face conversations and a formal consultation letter that had been sent to staff.
- 20.4 Members requested a short report to come to be sent to members before the next CYPOSC meeting; with a summary of the main points.

20.6 RESOLVED

- (1) The Committee agreed to have a short report summarising the main points of the Connexions savings and it's impact on services before the next CYPOSC meeting.

21. CYPOSC WORK PROGRAMME

- 21.1 Tom Hook (Head of Scrutiny) introduced the report and answered questions.
- 21.2 Members heard how several panels had been suggested through the Scrutiny consultation that was carried out in July 2010 and 5 of the responses were for CYPOSC to consider. Some of the suggestions for CYPOSC had been tabled into the CYPOSC work programme; these were:
- Support/outcomes for young people 16-25 from the care system – transition into adulthood – for 2010
 - Obesity and the planning restrictions of fast food outlets near to schools – for 2011

Members agreed to wait for the annual Children & Young People's Plan (CYPP) report and request a scrutiny panel from an area of the CYPP that CYPOSC wished to investigate.

- 21.3 Members requested to hear the draft Youth Service Review at the next CYPOSC meeting, as the final version would not be completed until the end of January 2011.
- 21.4 Members asked whether the report on "What support /outcomes are there for young people who are care leavers and transferring into adulthood" would be heard at the next CYPOSC meeting, and whether it could also have information on what impact the Connexions savings had on the service.

21.5 RESOLVED

- (1) CYPOSC agreed the work programme.
- (2) CYPOSC noted the panel consultation responses.
- (3) It was agreed to hear the draft report of the Youth Service Review at the 10 November 2010 meeting.

(4) It was agreed to include what, if any impact the Connexions savings had on the support/outcomes of young people who are care leavers and transferring into adulthood

22. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO CABINET, OR THE RELEVANT CABINET MEMBER MEETINGS AND FULL COUNCIL

22.1 There were none.

The meeting concluded at 7.30pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 32

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Youth Services Commissioning Review – update

Date of Meeting: 10th November 2010

Report of: Director of Children's Services, Terry Parkin

Contact Officer: Name: **Steve Barton** Tel: **29-6105**

*Lead Commissioner for
Children Youth and Families*

E-mail: steve.barton@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1. This report is produced to enable the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC) to review and monitor the progress of the Children and Young People's Plan and the Section 75 Improvement Plan i.e.:

CYPP Priority 3c - work with our local partners to ensure local youth provision including opportunities to volunteer and participate in community activities sport and leisure activities are accessible to all children and young people

The Section 75 Improvement Plan:

To review and enhance the design of youth service provision across the Partnership building on the work that has already taken place to date including the development of the Integrated Youth Support Services, the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan 2009, the Alcohol and Substance Misuse Strategies and the development of 14-19 provision; and including as appropriate a service redesign process with stakeholders and service users.

- 1.2. The purpose of this report is to enable CYPOSC to contribute to the development of the commissioning plans for youth service provision at this pre-policy stage.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the proposed direction of travel and the model of service suggested.
- 2.2 Contributes to the development of the proposed model of service.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 The core purpose of the youth service is to provide opportunities to help young people learn about themselves, others and society, through non-formal educational activities building social and personal development (National Youth Agency). Brighton & Hove's youth work curriculum addresses those issues including: participation and inclusion; creativity and challenge; equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; personal and social development; and education and independence.

3.2 A report came to CYPOSC in June 2010 setting out the scope and timescale of the review. The following work has now been completed:

- A needs assessment
- Service mapping – see links to resource maps in Appendices (hard copies will be available to view at the meeting)
- A series of Joint Commissioning Group meetings involving key partners and young people
- consultation with young people across the city

The Joint Commissioning Group has identified an outline model for the delivery and development of youth service provision. These changes will improve:

- numbers of young people/families who know about and can access the wide range of positive and recreational activities available across the city
- numbers of young people who use open access youth services i.e. structured activities (not 'free play')
- numbers of the approx 4,000 or so young people known to be most at risk of poor outcomes leading to high expenditure who are contacted by and engage with support programmes, training and personal development that lead to work and improved life chances

Ofsted's review of the council's Youth Service that took place 17th to 19th November 2009, challenged a perceived disconnection between core Youth Service (curriculum led activities) and the city's wider youth offer and positive activities. This challenge is the rationale for the more joined-up approach which is being suggested.

3.3 These changes also reflect the partnership approach to the current review which builds on existing relationships and will promote innovation, improvement and value for money - especially managing the anticipated pressure on resources following the Comprehensive Spending Review.

3.4 The commissioning review has found:

- Good out of school and community based provision from sports clubs, arts and cultural activities to libraries, youth clubs including mobile services, youth café's.
- a wide range of activities that young people can access including drama, football and uniform activities

However, the review has also found:

- limited understanding of the full range of activities available amongst young people and families
- that there are more opportunities for young men than for young women
- That many of the activities are used by under 15's and less by 16 – 19's – although the latter group do want to have things to do in their leisure time.

3.5 Emerging proposal:

There are two complementary strands to the proposed model:

- Firstly to co-ordinate more effectively services commissioned or provided by the council which give opportunities for children and young people to participate in positive activities including through sports and leisure, culture and libraries.
- Secondly, working in partnership to commission a network of local centres in neighbourhoods that build on existing provision - while recognising that:
 - Pattern and distribution of some resources and facilities is historical and not ideal
 - the level of resources available to the council will determine the number of centres commissioned
 - providers will consider how they work together in the future

It is envisaged that each local centre would have 4 main functions:

- To lead the development and delivery of local youth service provision – building provider networks and be part of the local community
- To signpost and market activities available across the city as well in the local area
- To deliver a programme of activities to attract young people, including outreach/detached work; ensure young people participate in the design and delivery of service; provide early identification and interventions to support behaviour change and build resilience through individual and group support to those most need and those at risk of poor outcomes.

Delivery of these functions will require:

- A common service specification that ensures consistent provision linked to a recognised Youth Service curriculum which ensures statutory duties are met (and will include requirements re: data, tracking, etc)

- connected 'neighbourhood development plans' which build on and/or rationalise existing local facilities
- making best use of local knowledge and skills of paid staff and volunteers from the council, 3rd sector and local communities.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 A group young people were involved in feeding back on what standards of service they would like to see as part of the youth services provision across the city. This involved representatives from each youth centre discussing standards with other young people attending the centre. The young people were supported throughout this process by facilitators from community and voluntary sector agencies and the council's youth participation team.
- 37 young people in total were involved in auditing and feeding this information into the review process across statutory youth services and 3rd Sector providers (participants)
 - 92 young people provided a response to the audit process as representatives from youth services across 3rd sector and statutory services to the above assessors.
- 4.2 An on line survey of young people was carried out and 76 responses were received and fed into the review process.
- 4.3 Information has also been included from consultations with young people that have been conducted within the last two years and that is relevant to youth services.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 Whilst there are no direct financial implications stemming from the recommendations in this report, commissioning of services does have a vital role to play in future resource allocation. The commissioning strategy outlined in the report must have, as one of it's priorities, a continuing focus on effective use of financial resources to ensure the optimum value of money for the Council. It will be important that any service redesign, as well as decisions concerning ongoing service provision are tested and benchmarked to evidence best value for money has been achieved.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 25-10-2010

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report enables the Committee to consider and monitor the progress of the Children and Young People's plan and the section 75 improvement plan relating to Youth Services.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The council's equalities policies are central to the draft proposals set out in this paper.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are none

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 Supporting young people most in need and providing joined up positive activities across the whole city will support the target of reducing the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Analysis of risks and opportunities will be included in the final strategy.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The aim is to have a joint approach to the commissioning of positive activities across the council as part of the new council commissioning arrangements.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Please press CTRL and click to open the link below:

[Culture Activities Map 04-10-2010](#)

[Faith / Uniform / Other Activities Map 04-10-2010](#)

[Community Centre / Local Activities Map 04-10-2010](#)

[Schools / Colleges / Specialist Activities \(Education\) Map 04-10-2010](#)

[Youth Centres / Commissioned Services Map 04-10-2010](#)

[Sports / Leisure / Physical Activities Map 04-10-2010](#)

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 33

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: *Commissioning review of services for disabled children*

Date of Meeting: 10th November 2010

Report of: Terry Parkin Strategic Director – People

Contact Officer: Name: *Steve Barton* Tel: 29-6105
Lead Commissioner
Children , Youth and Families

E-mail: Steve.Barton@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report is produced to enable the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC) to review and monitor the progress of the Children and Young People's Plan and the Section 75 Improvement plans i.e.

CYPP Initiative 2b Provide support to families of children with disabilities or complex health needs through universal and specialist services and by delivering on the commitments made by the city council and NHS Brighton and Hove by signing the Every Disabled Child Matters charter

Section 75 Improvement Plan:

1. Improving support to children and young people with a disability or complex health needs and their families
2. To redesign services for children with disabilities
3. The implementation of the Every Disabled Child Matters Programme

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 CYPOSC is asked to note the progress within the commissioning review and agree emerging recommendations and plans for transformation of services
- 2.2 CYPOSC is asked to critically challenge officers in relation to the commissioning review and any key risks or issues arising

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 In 2009, a Commissioning Team was formed within BHCC children's services and was charged with reviewing services for disabled children. This process began in May 2010 when the scope and process for the review was agreed. The scoping document and project brief for the review was taken to CYPOSC.

3.2 Key outcomes of the review:

Through partnership working and in the context of financial restraint, to develop a refreshed 3 year strategy defining commissioning activity, improvement plans and establishing clear outcome measures.

3.3 Key priorities ;

- Provision of timely interventions which meet the needs of individual children.
- Empowering parents and carers – equipping parents and carers with information and skills and strengthening family-focussed networks in order to build resilience in parents and carers
- Supporting parents to look after their children at home or, wherever possible, in the local community. We seek services that make early intervention a priority - in order to prevent families reaching crisis point, and to plan well in advance for the future, especially where a child's needs are complex.

To explore further the emergent agenda around personalisation and choice in children and young people's services.

To ensure the children's workforce is competent and equipped to meet the needs of disabled children.

To ensure that children and young people with disabilities are effectively protected and safeguarded.

To deliver Value for Money (VFM), ensuring that the council is able to provide good outcomes and services whilst demonstrating efficiency and cost effectiveness compared to similar authorities or service providers.

To identify options for a 15% cost reduction across the Pooled Budget set out in the S75 Agreement between the council and the PCT and including the use available external grant funding.

3.4 **The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)** produced in 2010 provides detailed analysis of current and predicted demographics and identified that :

- The resident population of Brighton and Hove is 256,300 with 22% of the population aged 19 years or under.
- The population as a whole is younger than both England and the South East, although the 15 years or under population is smaller.
- The greatest proportion of children and young people with disabilities and complex health needs in the city are aged 11-16 years.
- Estimates of the number of children and young people with a disability in Brighton and Hove range from 1,299 to 3,787, the variation being due to the lack of an accepted definition of disability and based on national % ranges.
- The Compass database, the voluntary city register for children and young people with disabilities and complex health needs, currently holds information on 1,606 children and young people.
- Consistent with the national picture it is expected that the numbers of children and young people with disabilities will increase over coming years.

3.5 **Recommendations for commissioning:** The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment led to a number of recommendations for commissioning. Via a series of partnership meetings, key principles, priorities, outcomes and plans for transformation have emerged and been pulled together into a Draft Commissioning Strategy and Transformation plan.

It is the intention that services will be redesigned and remodelled to deliver against the following key outcomes:

- ✚ To demonstrate increased resilience in parent carers of children/young people with disabilities
- ✚ To show an increase in the independence of children and young people with disabilities
- ✚ To reduce social isolation of children and young people with disabilities and their families
- ✚ To reduce poverty and ensure a better standard of living for families with a disabled child
- ✚ To increase inclusion within mainstream services
- ✚ To minimise impairment and disability

✚ To improve participation of children, young people and parent carers in the design and delivery of services

✚ To improve the quality and transparency of decision making

3.6 To achieve the outcomes a transformation plan is being developed to address the need to:

- Reconsider the balance of qualified and non-qualified staff in teams
- Consider how best to move towards a greater degree of flexibility and control for families/young people over their individual packages and budgets
- Remove overlaps in services
- Ensure current services are fully utilised and represent value for money
- Ensure the current integrated care pathway is effective and timely in its response
- Ensure the drive towards inclusion is maintained
- Take a strategic approach to the provision of residential services, considering all options and taking into account market forces
- Ensure a focus on building parent carer resilience
- Work strategically with third sector partners to seek innovation and work together towards meeting key outcomes and priorities

3.7 Services are being redesigned within a partnership approach to commissioning and this includes discussion of financial efficiencies and achieving Value for Money.

3.8 Timescales: Commissioning Strategy to the Children's Services Strategy Group November 25th and Cabinet Member Meeting 17th January 2011.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Consultation is being carried out on an ongoing basis via the Strategic Partnership Board which includes all key stakeholders and parent carers. Parent carers' s views are also being sought via the Parent Carer Council

4.2 Young people have been consulted via a pre-existing advisory group called the AHA! Group and their views will be gathered against the emerging recommendations in Autumn 2010

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1

One of the key elements driving the review of services to children with disabilities in the above report is to achieve financial efficiencies, ensuring best value and generating savings, with options for cost reductions of up to 15% across the pooled budget. Whilst there are a number of proposals for

service redesign outlined in the report, it is not possible at this stage to accurately calculate the potential for specific savings. A savings target of 15% will prove extremely challenging, particularly as a number of services are currently underpinned by government grants, for which future funding is likely to be reduced or withdrawn. It will be important that any service redesign, as well as decisions concerning ongoing service provision are tested and benchmarked to evidence best value for money has been achieved.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 25.10.10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report is produced to enable the Committee to review and monitor the progress of the Children and Young People's plan and the section 75 improvement plan, and so meet the responsibilities towards disabled children and their families within the budget constraints identified.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson

Date:29.10.10

- 5.3 Equalities Implications:

Equalities Impact Assessment will be completed as part of the strategy

- 5.4 Sustainability Implications:

It is expected that the outcome of the review of service will enhance community sustainability, increasing resilience and independence in children, young people and their families and thus promoting economic wellbeing.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Will be included in the strategy

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The report addresses strategic Improvements within the CYPP which in turn support the council's key priorities .

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

None

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 35

Brighton & Hove City Council

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|--|
| Subject: | Annual unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements within local authority children's services | | |
| Date of Meeting: | 10 November 2010 | | |
| Report of: | <i>Terry Parkin, Strategic Director for People</i> | | |
| Contact Officer: | Name: <i>James Dougan</i> | Tel: 295511 | |
| | E-mail: <i>james.dougan@brighton-hove.gov.uk</i> | | |
| Key Decision: | Yes/No Forward Plan No. (7 Digit Ref): | | |
| Wards Affected: | All | | |

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report is to inform the Children & Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the outcome of the annual unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements within Brighton & Hove City Council's Children's Services
- 1.2 Following the death of Baby Peter in Haringey and the subsequent Laming report, recommendations were made for the review of local authorities children's safeguarding services. As a result, from April 2009, the Joint Area Review inspections of children's services ceased and were replaced by a new programme of inspection. The two new inspection processes in relation to safeguarding children and young people are an annual unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment of children in need and children who may be in need of protection, and an announced inspection of safeguarding and looked after children's services to take place every three years.
- 1.3 The unannounced inspection lasts for two days with no prior warning of the visit being given. There is no grade awarded for the inspection, however it will contribute to the annual review of performance of the local authority children's services for which Ofsted will award a rating later in the year. The inspection details its findings under the following headings:
 - Strengths
 - Satisfactory practice
 - Areas for development
 - Priority actions

If local authorities are given priority actions, this is a limiting judgement that affects the overall rating for children's services.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Board is asked to note the findings of the annual unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The inspection was carried out on 7th and 8th July 2010 and is part of the new arrangements Ofsted introduced in 2009/10. This is the first time this type of inspection has been carried out in Brighton & Hove. It involved three on-site inspectors undertaking case auditing and interviewing of social workers and managers. The inspectors examined a number of children's cases in detail and their conclusions reflect this investigation.
- 3.2 The conclusions are contained in the attached Ofsted letter that details in Brighton & Hove the areas of strength, satisfactory practice and areas of development.
- 3.3 In Brighton & Hove we did not receive any area of priority action.
- 3.4 At the time of the inspection, 16 of the 19 local authorities had been inspected in the South East region. A GOSE analysis of the findings of the unannounced inspections found that 8 local authorities were identified as having priority actions. The most common underlying factors identified in the priority actions were:
- staff shortages/ high staff turnover/ lack of capacity and the impact on timely assessments or timely provision of services
 - lack of evidence of management oversight/decision making/quality assurance arrangements.
- 3.5 The Ofsted unannounced inspection of Brighton & Hove's contact, referral and assessment whilst not revealing any areas which required a priority action, did indicate a number of areas for development. One of these was the speed at which children in need are seen. Clearly this presents us with significant additional resource pressure on top of the increase in activity seen within the service.
- 3.6 There continues to be significant pressures in terms of the Area Teams, particularly the impact of dealing with increased numbers of children the subject of Child Protection Plans. Over the last year there has been a significant increase from 328 in August 2009, to 414 in July 2010. It remains a challenge to ensure not only that all cases are allocated, but that there are robust interventions designed to effect change, or in the absence of change or risks increasing, alternative plans. There have also been increases in terms of the number of children in care. The numbers rose from 448 in August 2009 to 472 in July 2010. Again, the challenge has

been to ensure all children in care are allocated and time given to ensure Care Plans are effectively delivered.

Whilst there has been an increase in statutory activity over the past year (i.e. August 09 to August 10), this is on top of increases between August 08 to August 09. The cumulative figures accordingly are:-

| | <u>Children the subject of CP Plans</u> | <u>CiC</u> |
|-----------|--|-------------------|
| July 2008 | 245 | 386 |
| July 2009 | 314 | 444 |
| July 2010 | 414 | 472 |

Clearly there has been significant increase in statutory social work activity, which has had significant impacts on the capacity of the service.

Between January and July of this year (2010) the Area Social Work Teams had between them 1690 contact/referrals, of these an average of 72% resulted in Initial Assessments. During the same timescale, 155 Core Assessments were completed.

- 3.7 The next step is the development of an Areas for Development Plan which will address all of the areas highlighted in the Ofsted letter for development. This plan is in an advanced stage of development and will be brought to the next Board meeting.

4. CONSULTATION

None

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 When the Areas for Development Plan is produced there will need to be an analysis of the additional costs and a strategy explaining how these will be funded.

Finance Officer Consulted: Louise Hoten Date: 20th October 2010

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The legal context of the inspection is contained within the body of the report. Consideration of the outcome of the inspection will assist the Board in monitoring the effective delivery of the services referred to.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson Date: 20th October 2010

Equalities Implications:

5.3 None

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 None

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 The Board is asked to note the findings of the annual unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Ofsted letter dated 5th August outlining outcomes of inspection

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

5 August 2010

Ms Di Smith
Director of Children's Services
Brighton and Hove City Council
Kings House
Grand Avenue
Hove
BN3 2SR

Dear Ms Smith

Annual unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements within Brighton and Hove children's services

This letter summarises the findings of the recent unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements within local authority children's services in Brighton and Hove City Council which was conducted on 7 and 8 July 2010. The inspection was carried out under section 138 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. It will contribute to the annual review of the performance of the authority's children's services, for which Ofsted will award a rating later in the year. I would like to thank all of the staff we met for their assistance in undertaking this inspection.

The inspection sampled the quality and effectiveness of contact, referral and assessment arrangements and their impact on minimising any child abuse and neglect. Inspectors considered a range of evidence, including: electronic case records; supervision files and notes; observation of social workers and senior practitioners undertaking referral and assessment duties; and other information provided by staff and managers. Inspectors also spoke to a range of staff including managers, social workers, other practitioners and administrative staff.

The inspection identified areas of strength and satisfactory practice, with some areas for development.

From the evidence gathered, the following features of the service were identified:

Strengths

- Staff report that they benefit from good levels of professional support and development opportunities including regular high quality supervision and comprehensive training.
- The council has been very successful at recruiting permanent social workers to the referral and assessment team and is reducing the reliance on agency staff



and increasing the stability of the workforce.

- There is evidence of good strategic planning by senior managers which has led to significant improvements in the service from a low base. Consequently staff report morale is high.

Satisfactory practice

- Monitoring and auditing of cases by senior managers has led to improvements in some areas of practice. This is being developed further through a programme of themed audits.
- Decisions about contacts and referrals are made in accordance with statutory timescales.
- Child protection enquiries are timely and are carried out thoroughly by suitably qualified and experienced social workers.
- There is good partnership working with the police which results in timely and appropriate action to protect children and young people.
- Arrangements for transferring cases between social work teams are effective and efficient. The majority of cases are transferred in a timely manner and at an appropriate point within the casework plan.
- Case recording is generally up to date and comprehensive.
- There is evidence of effective support and intervention to families and children by the Family Intervention Project.
- Core assessments following child protection enquiries are at least adequate and some are of good quality.

Areas for development

- Although significant progress has been made in reducing the caseloads of social workers, the high numbers of section 47 enquiries and their prioritisation is impacting on the management of children in need assessments. The council has yet to review the thresholds for section 47 enquiries and the comparatively low numbers of these resulting in initial child protection conferences.
- There are unacceptable delays in seeing some children in need. This delay results in potential risk to children.
- In order to meet conflicting priorities and manage the pressure of work a significant number of initial assessments are being signed off by managers as complete before the child or young person has been seen. Because of drift and delay in completing initial assessments core assessments are being started and used inappropriately to complete what could be clearly covered by an initial

assessment.

- The current management practice in the recording of completed initial assessments significantly affects the accuracy of performance data and prevents effective performance monitoring by senior managers.
- Assessments are of variable quality and some initial assessments are poor as the views of parents, children and young people are not sufficiently evidenced.
- Some initial and core assessments of children in need are undertaken by unqualified staff. This is not compliant with *'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2010)*.
- Child protection plans and those for children in need are of variable quality and are not sufficiently specific with clear measurable outcomes.
- Some files do not have chronologies or they are incomplete and there is no single record for children and families. This makes it difficult to safely ensure that all information relevant to the family is taken into account in assessment and decision making.
- Although there has been recent improvement in the use of the common assessment framework it is not yet sufficiently established to ensure children with additional needs receive a timely and effective response.

Any areas for development and priority action identified above will be specifically considered in any future inspection of services to safeguard children within your area.

Yours sincerely

Paul d'Inverno
Her Majesty's Inspector

Copy: John Barradell, Chief Executive, Brighton and Hove City Council
Alan Bedford, Chair of Brighton and Hove Safeguarding Children Board
Vanessa Brown, Lead Member for Children and Young People, Brighton and Hove City Council
Andrew Spencer, Department for Education

**AGENDA ITEM 36 - Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny
(CYPOSC) Work Programme June 2010- March 2011**

| Issue /Topic | Date | Reason for the agenda item | Outcome and Monitoring |
|---|-------------------|---|--|
| Letters from a member of the public and Cllr Davis on Primary School Places | 16 June 2010 | Standing Items on the Agenda | CYPOSC agreed to forward the concerns of the member of public to the CMM and a report was requested to answer Cllr. Davis' concerns |
| New Council's responsibilities for 16-19 Education and Training | 16 June 2010 | Suggested by the Directorate | Considered and commented on the report. |
| Schools Exclusions Scrutiny Report | 16 June 2010 | CYPOSC to endorse the report before it goes to any other committees | Endorsed and refer the recommendations to the council's Executive and to the appropriate partner organisations |
| Arrangements for the governance, commissioning and provision of children's services | 16 June 2010 | Important changes to the governance and working structure of CYPT – in response to legislative changes and emerging best practice | Youth Services Review to be timetabled into the work programme. CYPOSC to ask the CYPT to seek the views of the Parent Carers' Council when looking at issues with parent carer interest |
| Understanding Intervention | 16 June 2010 | Suggested by the Directorate | Considered and commented on the presentation |
| | | | |
| Performance Update for CYPOSC | 15 September 2010 | Standing item | Noted the report and requested that the information be presented in a different format next time |
| In-Year Grant Savings | 15 September 2010 | From Full Council 15/7/2010 | Agreed to have a short report summarising the main points of the connexions savings and it's impact on services |
| Primary School Places | 15 September 2010 | In response to Cllr Davis' letter | CYPOSC noted the proposals and statistical information |
| | | | |
| Strategic Director of People | 10 November 2010 | CYPOSC invited | |
| Youth Council 3:1 Campaign | 10 November 2010 | YC put forward | |
| Draft Youth Services Review | 10 November 2010 | Report requested from the 16/06/2010 meeting | |
| Next steps of Academies | 10 November 2010 | Suggested by the Directorate | |

**AGENDA ITEM 36 - Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny
(CYPOSC) Work Programme June 2010- March 2011**

| Issue | Date | Reason for the agenda item | Outcome and Monitoring |
|--|------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Ofsted inspection | 10 November 2010 | Monitoring Trust's performance | |
| CYPT Budget proposals | 26 January 2011 | To feed into the budget proposals | |
| Annual CYPP Report | 23 March 2011 | CYPOSC to follow up | |
| Local Safeguarding | 23 March 2011 | Suggested by the Directorate | |
| What support/outcomes are there for YP 16-25 who are from the care system | 23 March 2011 | From the scrutiny consultation July 2010 | |
| Update on the progress of therapy services and how the Lamb Enquiry has impacted on the improving educational confidence | 23 March 2011 | Report requested from the 24/03/2010 meeting | |
| Review recommendations of the Children and Alcohol Panel report (link in with the Intelligent Commissioning Pilot) | 23 March 2011 | Monitoring of previous panel report | |

Suggestions from CYPOSC Members

1. Trends in the recruitment of Heads, senior and other staff in schools (strength and size of fields).
2. Impact and outcomes of the first year of the new inspection frameworks (Ofsted and SIAS).