





**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	Children & Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date:	25 March 2009
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), Allen, Duncan, Hyde, Mrs Norman, Smart and Wakefield-Jarrett

Statutory Co-optee with Voting Rights

Nigel Sarjudeen

Vacancy

Vacancy

Vacancy

Diocese of Chichester

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton

Parent Governor Representative

Parent Governor Representative

Statutory Co-optee without Voting Rights

Youth Council Representatives

Dr. Carrie Britton

Mark Price

Rachel Travers

Children's Health

Youth Services

Community Voluntary Sector Forum (CVSF)

AGENDA

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54. PUBLIC QUESTIONS The closing date for receipt of public questions was 12 noon on the 17 march 2009. No public questions have been received as of the 2 March 2009.	
55. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS No questions or letters have been received.	
56. CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS Presentation by Liz Rugg. <i>Contact Officer: Liz Rugg</i> <i>Tel: 295388</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards</i>	
57. CHILDREN IN CARE STRATEGY FOR CHANGE Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Liz Rugg</i> <i>Tel: 295388</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards</i>	11 - 32
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- 60. EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL** **71 - 88**
Report of the Director of Children's Services.
Contact Officer: Janet Swingle *Tel: 29-4206*
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- 61. SUMMARY OF OFSTED REPORTS** **89 - 106**
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- 62. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2009-10** **107 - 116**
Report of the Director of Strategy & Governance.
Contact Officer: Sharmini Williams *Tel: 29-0451*
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 63. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO CABINET OR CABINET MEMBER MEETING**
- 64. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO FULL COUNCIL**

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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

Agenda Item 51

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 28 JANUARY 2009

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Councillors Older (Chairman); McCaffery (Deputy Chairman), Allen, Duncan, Mrs Norman, Smart and Wakefield-Jarrett

Statutory Co-optees: with voting rights:: Nigel Sarjudeen (Diocese of Chichester)

Non-Statutory Co-optees: Dr. Carrie Britton (Children's Health) (Non-Voting Co-Optee) and Mark Price (Youth Services) (Non-Voting Co-Optee)

Apologies: Councillor Lynda Hyde and Jonathan Stearn

PART ONE

38. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

38.1 Declaration of Substitutes

There were none.

38.2 Declaration of Interests

Dr. Carrie Britton (Co-optee for Children's Health) declared a personal interest in Item 46 (Children with additional needs) as she is a Children's Services Engagement Advisor, Brighton & Hove City PCT and carries out Development Work for the Parent Carers' Council, Amaze, Brighton & Hove.

38.3 Declaration of Party Whip

There was none.

38.4 Exclusion of 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.

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

39. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

39.1 It was noted that further information was required in relation to paragraph 30.4 as to when the PCT would take the Chair of the Trust Board again.

39.2 In relation to paragraph 30.6, on the ratio of Children to Social Workers, a response to this question was sent out with the agenda papers on Tuesday, 20 January 2009

In response to a question as to why there were 11 Social Worker vacancies and whether staff retention was an issue Liz Rugg (AD Specialist Services) informed Members that these figures were lower than other Local Authorities and that Social Services were confident that they could recruit these numbers and were managing this process.

Additionally, the service were trying out a range of different approaches to retain staff, however that the reality was that some staff would leave. It was also important that Social Workers had experience in a range of other services to build on their experience and this was something that the service was working on.

Further information on the how many qualified Social Workers had more than 5 years experience was requested.

39.3 RESOLVED-

(1) That the minutes of the meeting on the 19 November, 2008 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

40. CHAIRMAN' S COMMUNICATIONS

40.1 Councillor Lynda Hyde and Jonathan Stearn send their apologies.

40.2 The Chairman of the Ad-hoc Panel, Councillor Ann Norman updated the Committee on – “Reducing alcohol related harm to children and young people” informing members that at the last meeting on the 22 January there were another 4 witnesses and the existing evidence was that there was so much work being done so far to tackle this issue. Most of the alcohol that young people were drinking was obtained at home and had been given to them by family members.

40.3 The Working Group for the Public Health Report met on 1st December and the group decided that there was a need to look into early years and understand further what the current pathway is for a couple visiting their GP, having a visit from a midwife, health visitor and then onto the school nurse. Additionally, how the medical records are shared and how do these services work with one another? In connection with this, in June 2009 the report on Sure Start Self Evaluation Form (SEF) will be presented to CYPOSC which will give the opportunity to examine the early years service and also it maybe an opportunity to have an Ad-hoc Panel leading on from this?

40.4 At the Chairs discretion the Agenda items were altered with items being tabled in the following order:
46, 47, 45, 49, 44, 48 & 50.

41. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

41.1 There were none.

42. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

42.1 No letters or written questions were received.

43. NOTICE OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL

43.1 No notices or motion have been received.

44. UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED FALMER ACADEMY

44.1 This item was taken after Agenda Item 49.

44.2 Lorraine O'Reilly, Project Director for Falmer Academy presented a verbal report which was based on the "Falmer Newsletter January 009" handout.

44.3 Members were informed that:

- The Funding Agreement had been signed by the government.
- The Outline Business Case had been approved and the £28 million had been earmarked for the project.
- Two contractors were being considered for the building and the preferred bidder would be announced in May.
- The appointment of the Principal had been unsuccessful so far and the next round of interviews was in March.
- Falmer Parents' Council was to be set up by Easter.
- Construction work is scheduled to start in Summer 2009.
- The Academy opens in September 2010.
- All the building work is to be finished by the end of 2011.

44.4 In response to a question on what parents views were taken into account, Members were advised that the Parents Council would enable them to give their views into the branding, school uniforms, bus routes, length of school day and the nutritional value of school meals.

44.5 In relation to a question as to what the Terms of Reference of the Parents Council consisted of, it was noted that any parent could join the Parents Council as they wanted to encourage parent engagement as much as possible and that the group itself would develop the Terms of Reference.

44.6 In answer to a question on why a Principal had not been selected, the Committee was told how broad the interview process was and that it had consisted of psychometric tests, educational representative panels, and student and community panels. The final interview panel consisted of the Trustees and Di Smith (Director of Children's Services) and a senior representative of the DCSF. It was noted that there was a shortage of headteachers but it was felt that Brighton & Hove would attract potential applicants.

44.7 Members were informed how the legal challenges within European Law would probably not affect the Academy in Brighton but future Academies may be affected if there was a breach of the procurement process.

44.8 **RESOLVED** – Members noted the update on the Falmer Academy.

45. THE TRAVELLER EDUCATION TEAM ANNUAL REPORT 2007/08

45.1 This item was taken after Agenda item 47.

45.2 Jo Lyons, AD Learning & Schools, Jackie Whitford, Co-ordinator of Traveller Education Team and Hilary Ferries, Acting Senior Adviser Early Year and Primary presented the report to Members and answered questions.

45.3 In answer to a question about the 50% of children engaged in appropriate education, it was explained how these families are highly mobile and can change location regularly making it difficult to maintain contact. Transport was frequently arranged to pick up these children from the sites and take them to the schools. Where the onward location of a family outside of Brighton and Hove was established, coordination between Local Authorities is undertaken to ensure future education provision is available.

45.4 Members were informed the current Service Level Agreement (SLA) between Brighton and Hove and East Sussex provided excellent value for money.

Having the SLA in place helps even out the peaks and troughs in of the service. Regular meetings are held to ensure adequate resource is being provided.

45.5 It was noted that percentage targets for the engagement of children were increasing. Where it was felt that children were at risk, assessments were taken and appropriate action agreed.

45.6 CYPOSC requested an annual report on the performance data of this issue along with more regular updates on issues arising throughout the year.

45.7 Members were informed how difficult it can be to prove that children have not attended the 200 half days a year and how it was very complex to prove that a legal arrangement had not been adhered to.

45.8 In answer to a question what support teachers received to deal with transient children, it was noted that a Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) met the diverse needs of the children, bespoke training was offered to teachers and schools were advised on how to prepare for transient children.

45.9 **RESOLVED** –

(1) Members consulted and approved the report.

(2) That the Annual Report and any major issues which have arisen be brought to CYPOSC.

46. AN UPDATE ON CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

- 46.1 This item was taken after Agenda Item 43.
- 46.2 Dr. Carrie Britton, CYPOSC Health Co-optee presented the report including a presentation on the "The local experience of families of children with additional needs" and answered questions.
- 46.3 In response to a question on whether the Parents Carers Council in Brighton and Hove reached out to wider areas it was confirmed that they did, that West Sussex had been going for longer and engagement with a wider group of Parents was important so as to make more people aware of the Parents Carers Council.
- 46.4 Members thanked Carrie on the report and for highlighting the issues raised by the Parent Carers Council.
- 46.5 The discussion on this is report was incorporated in Agenda Item 47.
- 46.6 **RESOLVED-**
- (1) The Committee noted agenda items 46 and 47.
 - (2) The Committee thanked Dr. Carrie Britton and the Parents Carers Council
 - (3) It was agreed to receive a more in depth report from the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) and it's Partnership Boards at the 25 March CYPOSC meeting before addressing the recommendations within this report.

47. AN UPDATE ON CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

- 47.1 This item was taken after Agenda Item 46.
- 47.2 The CYPT provided a short report to CYPOSC in response to the process issues raised by Dr Britton's presentation and Liz Rugg (AD for Specialist Services) answered questions from members. The CYPT undertook to give a fuller written response to Dr Britton's report at the next CYPOSC meeting
- 47.2 Members were assured that CYPT viewed the report on the Item 46 "Children with additional needs" as invaluable input into developing the service. Many of the issues raised are challenging and will need detailed discussion to respond to fully.
- 47.3 The issue of service users presenting directly to committee's was discussed and whether they need to report their findings to CYPT and other partnerships first? Members agreed the service user feedback was useful but needs to be contextualised.

47.4 RESOLVED –

(1) Members requested a detailed response to the recommendations made in Agenda Item 46 “Children with additional needs” (page 34):

- Annually review delivery of protocols/charters that BHCC has signed up to
- Encourage better joint intelligence
- Widen evidence heard at CYPOSC
- Work with partners to consider reform and reconfiguration of services across hospital/community boundary for children with ongoing and complex health needs
- Seek and support representation from the Parents Carers’ Council
- Smarter use of consultation information from service user groups
- Look at further funding for the Parent Carer Council

(2) Additionally, a response is requested to include a view as to how CYPOSC can best engage with service users in the future.

48. CHILDREN'S CENTRES

48.1 Caroline Parker, Head of Service for City Early Years and Childcare presented the report to Members and answered questions.

48.2 In answer to a question as to how potential hosts for a Children Centre in Preston Park had been selected, it was explained that all childcare and education providers to the south of Preston Drove and east of London Rd had been invited to express an interest. A paper had gone to the Children and Young People Trust Board in September 2008 which had noted that the Preston Circus area is in a worst 30% Super Output Area and that the centre would need to be accessible from London Road.

48.3 In response to a question on funding and whether it was secure, the Committee were informed that both the capital and revenue funding for Children’s Centres come in a ring-fenced grants from the Department for Children, Schools and Families which are announced in three year allocations. This is similar to the funding arrangements for schools. The Government has already legislated to give local authorities a duty to provide integrated early years services and are planning further legislation to make Children’s Centres permanent.

48.4 In answer to a question on the monitoring of Children’s Centres it was explained that progress on Children’s Centres is monitored by a government funded organisation called Together for Children who decide when a Children’s Centre is ready for full designation. Ofsted is piloting inspecting Children’s Centres and it is likely that these arrangements will be rolled out nationally.

48.5 Members noted that children with additional needs are included in one of the hard to reach groups who have to be monitored as part of the Self-Evaluation Framework. This should be noted in the equalities implications in future.

48.6 RESOLVED-

- (1) The Committee noted the information in the report.
- (2) To include children with additional needs in the equalities implications within any future reports.

49. STANDARDS IN EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE AND KEY STAGES 1-5, 2007-8

49.1 This item followed on after Agenda Item 45.

49.2 Jo Lyons, AD Learning & Schools, Linda Ellis, Senior Secondary and Special Schools Adviser and Hilary Ferries, Acting Senior Adviser Early Year and Primary, presented the report to Members and explained that it was "good news" and this report was a requirement and additional to the Ofsted reports.

49.3 It was noted that Carlton Hill School's high performance and as a school in one of the most deprived super output areas; it was thought that it could be due to the neighbourhood management work that had been carried out on the area. However it wasn't certain whether budgets would be continued for this work which may jeopardise any future good performance within schools in the Tarn area.

49.4 Members were informed that there were no fixed term exclusions at young ages.

49.5 Definitions of gifted and talented pupils were discussed. It was noted that all schools were required to identify at least their highest achieving 5% of pupils. Gifted is commonly used to refer to academic achievement, talented is used for areas such as the arts and sports. Every school in Brighton and Hove has a member of staff responsible for this area of development.

'Although DCSF guidance suggests a norm of around 10% of learners per school should be regarded as gifted and talented, schools are free to determine the size of their gifted and talented population but this should be broadly representative of the whole school intake in terms of gender, ethnicity and socio-economic background, be justified as part of whole-school policy and understood by all staff, students and parents/carers.' (from Brighton and Hove Gifted and Talented Policy 2008)

49.6 **RESOLVED-** The Committee noted and approved the report.

50. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2008-2009

50.1 Members requested that the CYPOSC Work Programme connect more closely with the CYPT Board reports and have a link with the Children's Trusts and Governance issues.

50.2 Additionally it was noted that the CYPOSC Work Programme needs to have more connection with the Forward Plan and have the capacity to respond to emerging issues/priorities e.g. "Stocktake of Safeguarding Service" due to a recent Council's serious safeguarding case.

- 50.3 The "Brighton and Hove Admissions Forum Annual Report 2008" was handed to Members and to find out whether Members wanted further information on this, as it is on the Work Programme as "Primary Schools Admissions" for the 25 March 2009.
- 50.4 Officers to advise Members on what areas were covered in the "Child Poverty" report, which is due to CYPOSC on the 25 March 2009.
- 50.5 **RESOLVED-** The Work Programme to reflect and link closely with the Children's Trust Board issues and to bring relevant items from the Governance Committee to CYPOSC.

The meeting concluded at 7.50pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda item 57

Brighton and Hove City
Council

Subject: **Children in Care Strategy for Change**

Date of meeting: **25th March 2009**

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

Contact officer: Name: Liz Rugg Te: 295388
E-mail: liz.rugg@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 In March 2008 the CYPT board agreed to endorse a Children in Care Strategy for Change in the context of high numbers of children in the care system and budget pressure as a result.
- 1.2 This report was requested by CYPOSC to gain an understanding of the Council's current position within Children in Care.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 CYPOSC to consider the enclosed report and decide what action, if any, they wish to take on a specific issue.

3 INFORMATION/BACKGROUND:

- 3.1 In 2006/7 the CYPT adopted 3 key targets:
 - Reduction of numbers of Children in Care (CiC)
 - Reduction in Children not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS)
 - Reduction in exclusions
- 3.2 The strategy addressed the first of these and also the target first outlined in the Joint Area Review in 2006 and restated in the 2007 Annual Performance Assessment i.e. 'ensure implementation of a

comprehensive commissioning strategy that improves the effectiveness of preventative services in safely reducing the number of looked after children and young people, and extends placement choice for those who need to be looked after'. The strategy is appended to this report.

- 3.3 At the time of writing the strategy within the City numbers of CiC were high with the most recent set of national figures at that time from May 2007 showing Brighton and Hove as having 84.8 per 10,000 of the 0-19 population as CiC compared to 65.7 in cohort authorities. Because of this, the per capita spend on personal social care for children and families was 20% higher than our statistical neighbours at £773 compared to £511 and as result critical CYPT budgets were overspending each year.
- 3.4 In that there were benchmark authorities, within our statistical neighbours group, which performed better in terms of CiC numbers and costs it was both reasonable and feasible for the CYPT to set itself reduction targets, providing they were realistic, reflected our demography and CiC cohort, and there was a clear understanding of the need to triple-track placement changes with the demands for quality inherent in the task of corporate parenting and the need for cost reductions. Reduction of numbers of CiC per se was not the whole task and it was necessary to try to reduce proportions in subgroups and specifically within the population of children in Independent Fostering Agency placements since these are relatively expensive placements.
- 3.5 In order to carry out this task safely and competently corporate project management support was secured, a high level project board was established and a commissioning group was set up with supporting work streams focused on particular subsets of the CiC cohort eg young people aged 16 plus, parent and baby placements etc. A number of quick wins in terms of process were undertaken in 07 whilst a fuller strategy was developed and these are outlined in Appendix 4 of the strategy.
- 3.6 Child specific planning was instigated at a team level to ensure that work was focussed appropriately and was achievable. The cohort of CiC was broken down into three subgroups:
- Children mostly 11+ who are largely static in the sense that they are unlikely to return home because of their age and legal status.
 - Children mostly under 11 who are a changing and churning group in the sense that children enter and leave this group as the result of social work intervention.
 - The children who are 'beyond our control' in the sense that staff can neither predict nor control numbers. This group will include:
 - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children
 - Children remanded into custody

- Children leaving the secure estate ie. Young Offenders Institutions- commonly known as Sutton Judgement young people.

- 3.7 Clearly different subgroups of CiC required different interventions and responses and for those children who could not return safely to their families of origin the task was to ensure that placements were good quality and procured using a VFM focus.
- 3.8 In November 08 a sub regional procurement process tendered jointly with colleagues from West Sussex for agency placements for children went 'live'.
This process focussed equally on improving/sustaining outcomes for individual children and on reducing placement costs. Although it is early days as yet there are encouraging early signs of improved VFM and continuing good performance against outcome targets for CiC.
- 3.9 Monthly reporting to lead members on the underlying detail of numbers and costs has continued throughout.
- 3.10 Performance for CiC has not been compromised during the push to reduce overall numbers of CiC and the CYPT continues to see good and improving outcomes across a range of indicators relating to health, education and placement stability for CiC. The 2007 APA judgement for the CYPT as a whole and for the ECM outcome Stay Safe specifically moved from 'satisfactory' to 'good'. This position and grade judgement was retained in 2008.
- 3.11 At the end of the calendar year 07 numbers of CiC had fallen to 374, an overall total reduction of 27 from a high of 401 in the autumn of 2006. At the end of the calendar year 08 numbers of CiC stood at 377 having been as low as 366 in the summer of 2008.
- 3.12 The context within which this work and strategy is set has now changed substantially with the death of baby P in Haringey and the consequent Laming Review. It is clearly also related to the in-house stocktake on safeguarding that is ongoing.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:

- 4.1 No formal consultation was undertaken

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The drive to reduce CiC numbers and improve the VFM position was designed to reduce the budget pressure on an area that is classed as a Corporate Critical budget. The end of year position in 2007-08 was an overspend on the placement budget for children of £348,600. The total placement budget in 08-09 for CiC is £16,378,800 with a current projected outturn spend of £14,937,800 and thus a projected underspend of £1,441,000. This has largely been achieved by a

sustained focus on the procurement of agency placements and it will be important to nurture and develop this work further.

Finance Officer: David Ellis

Date: 13.03.09

Legal Implications:

5.2 No legal implications are anticipated and no legal advice has been sought.

Equalities Implications:

5.3 No equalities implications have been identified

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 No sustainability implications have been identified.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 No crime and disorder implications have been identified.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 No risk and opportunity management implications have been identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 In determining the reports, members should be aware of the Council's corporate priorities, particularly the priority to "reduce inequality by increasing opportunity" and their duty as a Corporate parent to CiC.

6. CONCLUSIONS:

6.1 There was a much greater focus by all staff within the CYPT on reduction of CiC numbers in 07-08, this work has continued in 08-09 to ensure that all alternatives are explored before a child enters the care system and to work towards a swift and lasting resolution and permanency plan, including rehabilitation to the family system if it is safe to do so.

6.2 Standards and outcomes for CiC have not been compromised and the CYPT continues to ensure good levels of support for our CiC. VFM performance has improved. The CiC Strategy for Change has been a useful development thus far and will continue to act as the road map for developments into the future.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Appendix a is the Children in Care Strategy for Change

Documents in Members' Rooms:

Not applicable.

Background Documents:

1. None.

Children in Care Strategy for Change: commissioning, delivery and organisational development.

1. Opening words:

- 1.1 In 2006/7 the CYPT adopted 3 key targets:
- Reduction of numbers of Children in Care (CiC)
 - Reduction in Children not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS)
 - Reduction in exclusions
- 1.2 This strategy addresses the first of these and also the target first outlined in the JAR in 2006 and most recently restated in the 2007 APA ie 'ensure implementation of a comprehensive commissioning strategy that improves the effectiveness of preventative services in safely reducing the number of looked after children and young people, and extends placement choice for those who need to be looked after'.

2. The Challenge:

- 2.1 There are three main challenges
- Within the City numbers of CiC are high with the most recent set of national figures from May 2007 showing Brighton and Hove as having 84.8 per 10,000 of the 0-19 population as CiC compared to 65.7 in cohort authorities.
 - The per capita spend on personal social care for children and families is 20% higher than our statistical neighbours at £773 compared to £511
 - As a result critical CYPT budgets overspend each year.

3. Impact of the new CYPT arrangements:

- 3.1 Nationally the integration of children's services has led to an initial increase in numbers of children in care. Effective management, coordinated professional interventions and strong partnership working means that Brighton and Hove has bucked this trend. Since the inception of the CYPT in October 2006:
- The number of children in care has seen a steady downward trend over the past year with the current numbers standing at 374 at the end of December 2007, down from a high of 401 in November 06.
 - 112 children and young people left the care system in 07
 - Area Operational Management Plans have been put in place including three local panels, chaired by Assistant Directors, to oversee decision making for children on the cusp of entering state care (See Appendix 1)

- Integrated locality teams and a range of family information, support and early intervention services has led to a sustained reduction in the number of referrals to Safeguarding Teams and we are now broadly in line with referral rates for our statistical neighbours.
- Unit costs for residential placements have been held below the projected increase

3.2 The 2007 Annual Performance Assessment judged the CYPT to be good in all areas and specifically Staying Safe improved from a score of 2 (satisfactory) to a 3 (good) and, despite significant changes within the cohort, placement stability has remained good

4. The national and local context:

4.1 Within Brighton and Hove one of the four overarching corporate priorities is to; 'ensure that all children and young people have the best possible start in life'.

4.2 This is reflected in the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) overarching aspiration that:

"Brighton and Hove should be the best place in the country for children and young people to grow up. We want to ensure all our children and young people have the best possible start in life, so that everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential, whatever that might be".

4.3 The current Bill going before Parliament and based on the White Paper: "Care Matters: Time for Change" also poses some important challenges to local authorities about how best they might undertake their task of corporate parenting. In the introduction it says:

"The aspiration that the State has for these children should be no less than each parent would have for their own child. We must ensure that they receive the security, support and schooling they need to reach their full potential and lead a happy and fulfilled life."

4.5 The council's Reducing Inequalities Review for the Local Strategic Partnership and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment of children's health services will inform key local plans that directly support this strategy especially the Local Area Agreement, the PCT Strategic Commissioning Plan, the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2008 (which will focus on children and young people) and a new Children & Young People's Plan.

5. Executive Summary:

i. Introduction

- In the most recent national data set (May 2007) Brighton and Hove has 84.8 children in care per 10,000 of the population aged 0-19 compared to 65.7 in our statistical neighbours
- Our per capita spend on personal social care for children and families is more than 20% higher than our statistical neighbours at £773 compared to £511
- As a result critical CYPT budgets overspend each year
- Effective management, coordinated professional interventions and strong partnership working means that Brighton and Hove has bucked national trends which have seen an increase in the numbers of children in care following service integration.
- Current performance on the quality and outcome indicators for CiC is good.

ii. Aims:

This strategy aims to:

- Reduce the number of children and young people in the city who cannot live with their birth families or within their extended family or local community
- Improve placement choice, well being and outcomes for those children and young people who are in care
- Reduce expenditure on children and young people in care to within available resources and, where possible to shift that expenditure towards early intervention, support and preventive services for vulnerable families and children in need

iii. Analysis:

A full baseline analysis is set out in Appendix 3 and provides the rationale for this change strategy.

To quote from the 2007 Annual Report of the Director of Public Health:

“Brighton and Hove differs from the national population profile by having a much higher proportion of working age adults...the relatively younger population may mean that pressures on services regarding sexual health -including alcohol and substance misuse, obstetrics, breast care and paediatrics- much of which increasingly concerns behavioural problems will assume greater prominence. Part of this population shift will come from immigrant and migrant populations. These changes are particularly difficult to predict ...and such shifts do bring particular health, social and economic pressures.”

This is the context within which the local CiC cohort must be set. It presently falls into three distinct sub-groups.

- Children mostly 11+ who are largely static in the sense that they are unlikely to return home because of their age and legal status.
- Children mostly under 11 who are a changing and churning group in the sense that children enter and leave this group as the result of social work intervention.
- The children who are 'beyond our control' in the sense that staff can neither predict nor control numbers. This group will include:
 - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children
 - Children remanded into custody
 - Children leaving the secure estate ie. Young Offenders Institutions- commonly known as Sutton Judgement young people.

iv. Conclusions:

1. It is legitimate to conclude that there is something different about Brighton and Hove. This flows from the baseline analysis and is what drives and sustains some of our particular dilemmas.
2. The external Care and Health/ 'Blackmore' analysis commissioned in the autumn of 2006 was substantially impaired because:
 - It used false statistical comparators
 - The analysis failed to recognise critical demographic sub-sets of either Brighton and Hove's population or of the CiC cohort
 - The financial model, and therefore the reduction target were thus flawed
3. There are benchmark authorities, within our statistical neighbours group, which perform better in terms of CiC numbers and costs and have tackled some of the challenges set out in the introduction. It is therefore both reasonable and feasible for the CYPT to set itself reduction targets – providing they are realistic, reflect our demography and CiC cohort, and are clear that we have to triple-track placement changes with the demands for quality inherent in the task of corporate parenting alongside the need for cost reductions. Reduction of numbers of CiC per se is not the whole task and it is necessary to reduce proportions in subgroups and specifically within the population of children in IFA placements.
4. Commissioning, procurement and provider functions in the CYPT need further development to bed in:
 - Where does responsibility sit for strategic commissioning of services for children in care?
 - Where does responsibility sit for the procurement of individual placements or care packages and for block contracts and joint commissioning with other authorities etc?

- How do we balance internal provider functions (stranger foster care, support to Kinship Care placements, adoption and residential placements) with residential and foster placements purchased from external agencies?
 - How do we reconcile budget accountability for CYPT critical budgets and/or procurement of care plans for individual children?
5. The CYPT partnership already has and is developing a wider range of effective services which need to be pulled together into a coherent whole so that children are diverted from the trajectory into care or move through the care system in the most cost effective and timely way if they cannot be diverted.
 6. The CYPT needs to develop a coherent approach to the cohort of children in care which encompasses:
 - Commissioning plans for the next 3/5 years
 - Review and development of Area Management Plans
 - Review of its organisational development plans
 - Links to wider CYPT plans eg the Preventative Strategy and the Parenting Strategy
 - Links to city wide plans which can/ought to drive this change agenda e.g. the LAA
 7. The Strategy for Change therefore needs to cover:
 - Organisational Structure
 - Service coordination and development
 - Planning and commissioning
 8. There are a number of outstanding issues at both a CYPT level and corporately that will need to be addressed such as realigning budgets to reflect changes in legislation or practice.

iv Planning and Commissioning:

Year 1: See Appendix 4

Year 2: 2008-09

Strategic Action	Management action/operational changes	Lead Manager(s)	Performance Information: e.g. development milestones, targets, indicators etc
1. Implement new	Implement commissioning	AD Specialist Services	Extended PPL in place for

APPENDIX A

commissioning arrangements for external placements	consortium with West Sussex for external placements		residential and IFA provision by autumn 08
2. Set targets for in- house provider functions	Align annual foster carer recruitment targets more closely with predicted cohort of CiC Continue recruitment and support of specialist childminders Target activity of Children's Centres towards assessment and improvement of parenting capacity for parents whose children are in the care system or within CP process	AD Specialist Services Area ADs	Reduction in proportion of CiC in IFA placements
3. Prioritise movement of stable CiC in long term placements to SGOs.	Set child specific targets for CiC in in- house placements Negotiate contractual change with IFA providers to prioritise children in their cohort	AD Specialist Services	Further reduction in overall CiC numbers
4. Reduction in number of babies entering the care system	Fast track assessment of pre-birth cases	AD West/AD Specialist Services	Smaller numbers in subset of under 1s in the CiC cohort
5. Reduce spend on Family and Friends placements	Rewrite financial policies supporting Family and Friends placements	AD Specialist Services	Revised policy in place by 1.4.08
6. Reduce overall numbers of CiC	Set child specific targets for area teams	AD Specialist Services/Area ADs	Further reduction in CiC cohort by 1.3.09
7. Reduce proportion of CiC in IFA placements	Set targets for reduction of CiC in IFA placements – align with 2 above.	AD Specialist Services/Area ADs	Reduction in proportion of CiC in IFA placements

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8. Increase range of placement options for young people 16+	Recruit additional SL carers Commission wider range of supported accommodation post 16.	AD Specialist Services/ AD East	Additional SL carers and supported housing options available
9. Maintain good progress on outcomes for CiC	Review PIs actively throughout the year and implement corrective action as required	DMT	Continued improvement in the PI basket that relates to CiC
10. Revise strategic actions contained within CiC strategy for change	Review CiC cohort at the end of 08-09 Refresh action plan for CiC Set targets for 09-10	DMT	

Years 3 & 4: 2009-2011

Strategic Action	Management action/operational changes	Lead Manager(s)	Performance Information: e.g. development milestones, targets, indicators etc
1. Review outcome for target setting in 08-09	Re-set targets	AD Specialist Services/Area ADs	Further reduction in overall CiC cohort and in proportion of CiC within IFAs
2. Revise action plan	Implement revisions	DMT	As above

iv **Performance Management:**

Simply monitoring the numbers of CiC is too blunt an instrument and doesn't enable us to track and demonstrate the progress that has already been made to stabilise the CiC cohort and maintain placement stability, nor does reduction in numbers per se result in reduced budgetary pressure.

Thus performance management needs to fall into two parts. Firstly the detailed performance data which monitors progress on a month by month basis and secondly higher level PIs contained within the

Performance Improvement Report for the CYPT board so the board can track the strategic progress for which they are accountable. The latter would include:

Top Targets:

- Number of children in care per 10,000 of the population aged 0-19 reaches statistical neighbour average by 2011.
- Per capita spend on personal social care for children and families reaches statistical neighbour average by 2011.

Commissioning Targets:

- Numbers of placements commissioned and used
- Predicted and actual changes to the population of our key local subsets of CiC
- Financial trends re use of IFA's etc

1. Introduction:

- 1.1 In the most recent national data set (May 2007) Brighton and Hove has 84.8 children in care per 10,000 of the population aged 0-19 compared to 65.7 in our statistical neighbours. Our per capita spend on personal social care for children and families was more than 20% higher than our statistical neighbours at £773 compared to £511 and as a result critical CYPT budgets overspend each year.
- 1.2 In response to this position, in the winter of 2006 an external consultant, Jack Blackmore from the independent consultancy Care and Health, was commissioned by The Management Team for BHCC to look at the CiC population and to advise whether any steps could be taken to reduce both numbers and spend. At the time of writing his report the CiC population stood at 401 and so was at a very high level. To quote from the summary report:

“The prize would be high if costs could be reduced just to the level of the near comparators in the various lists. For example, Brighton and Hove tops the unitaries list for 2005/06 at £731; next is Hull (a city with massive concentrations of deprivation) at £671. If Brighton reduced spend to Hull’s level £2.79m would be saved. In the nearest neighbour group, close comparators are Blackpool @ £651 and Plymouth @ £589. If spend could be reduced to their levels it would save £3.73m and £6.6m respectively. If spend could be reduced to the level of Slough, the second highest in the SE group, it would save £9.25m.”

- 1.3 Following this report a targeted reduction of 56 CiC within the calendar year was allocated to the teams proportionately for the period January to December 07. This target was not applied to severely disabled children however since numbers in placement in that sector are not high and are stable. Unfortunately the target in the Blackmore report was not arrived at with reference to the CiC population in Brighton & Hove in that it took no account of the actual profile of children either in terms of age or in terms of legal mandate for their placement. Thus it was arguable whether a reduction of this magnitude within the allotted timescale was ever achievable. For example, in an authority such as the London Borough of Merton, which is an acknowledged national leader in terms of CiC reduction, it has taken five years to achieve the level of reduction envisaged in the Blackmore report.
- 1.4 In order to attempt to manage this targeted reduction, case loads were considered at a child specific level and individual exit plans were put in place for those children who had a realistic prospect of leaving the care system within the calendar year. A monthly graphical performance report was also set up and has been ongoing throughout the year broken down into team specific information so that managers can accurately monitor progress.
- 1.5 In line with the conclusions of the Blackmore report and as already agreed as a priority for the new area teams, multidisciplinary panels were launched in April 07 in each of the areas to address all three of the key targets for the CYPT. The project plan for this work forms Appendix 1. In 2007 112 children have left the care system following this focussed piece of work.
- 1.6 Having acknowledged the challenges however, it must also be said that current CYPT performance on outcome PIs is good and improving for CiC with all five ECM outcomes judged as good in the most recent Annual Performance Assessment. Performance on adoption targets has consistently been very good for several years with Brighton and Hove sitting well within the top quartile.

2. Aim, Purpose and Methodology of the Commissioning Strategy:

2.1 Aim:

Set within the wider context the headline issues which the strategy seeks to address are as follows:

- that we have more CiC than our comparators
- therefore our baseline budgets are persistently under pressure
- that we must also assure the quality of corporate parenting & the Trust's statutory responsibilities.

2.2 By the time a child is within the care system it becomes more difficult to make a real difference, thus the focus of work for CiC has to shift further upstream and offer more responsive, diversionary services for families before they experience such significant difficulties that their children teeter on the brink of care.

2.3 This shift in focus is supported by other strategic initiatives such as the Parenting Strategy and the Preventative Strategy and is supported by work that is ongoing both within the wider CYPT and with partners in the voluntary and community sectors. Examples of this would be development of the Children's Centres and of the Triple P parenting programme that is being rolled out across Brighton and Hove in a number of settings.

2.4 The pathway describing the means by which a child might enter the care population will be addressed by current corporate VFM work that will focus on **key cost pressures** along the 'safeguarding pathway'

- Common Assessment Framework
- Referral to safeguarding teams, response from duty & family support
- Section 47 and/or Core Assessment
- Child protection plans, care proceedings
- Family & friends, foster, residential or adoptive placements
- Leaving care - transition to adult services, return home, move to independence

2.2 Purpose of this strategy:

2.2.1 The purpose of this strategy is to pull together into a coherent whole the present themes that emerge when considering our CiC cohort and in response to co-ordinate services which the CYPT commissions or provides to both divert children who are clearly on the trajectory into care and to move children through the care system in the most cost effective and timely way by building on a strengths based model of assessment to achieve the following objectives

- Increased use of written agreements and of Section 20 Accommodation leading also to an increase of children who are able to remain within their extended family systems using the Kinship Care model.
- Reduced instigation of expensive care proceedings
- Reduced time that children spend in care
- Movement of young people out of expensive residential care placements and into more cost effective options.
- Improved local support services
- Procurement of placements that represent the best VFM

2.3 Methodology:

2.3.1 In order to develop the CiC Strategy for Change, support was enlisted from the corporate project services team to follow a Prince 2 project management approach to construct a Project Initiation Document (PID) that was presented to and agreed at the CYPT DMT. More information on the methodology is contained within Appendix 2.

3 Baseline Analysis

3.1 More information on the current situation is presented as Appendix 3. In summary the local CiC population falls into three distinct sub-groups:

- Children mostly 11+ who are largely static in the sense that they are unlikely to return home because of their age and legal status.
- Children mostly under 11 who are a 'changing and churning' group in the sense that children enter and leave this group as the result of social work intervention.
- The children who are 'beyond our control' in the sense that staff can neither predict nor control numbers. This group will include:
 - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children
 - Children remanded into custody
 - Children leaving the secure estate ie. Young Offenders Institutions- commonly known as Sutton Judgement young people.

3.2 The current profile of the CiC cohort will make a very dramatic reduction in the short term unlikely. This is a combination of two factors: the legal status of the children and the age distribution. Put simply we are living with the consequences of decisions that were made some time ago and which will not be easy to unpick quickly as the CiC population in the upper age range is disproportionately large with many of these older children subject to legal orders which cannot easily be discharged. Thus the task for this older group of children may be to secure placements that are most cost effective rather than seek a dramatic reduction in numbers.

- 3.4 Since it is not possible to influence numbers within ‘uncontrollable’ groups, extensive and detailed work has been undertaken in the teams to review individual children in the other two groups and to target those children who were able to cease being in care in the calendar year 07 or who could move out of expensive residential or IFA placements. This has resulted in a large number of children (112) leaving the system in 2007 and in a significant reduction in overall numbers (27).
- 3.5 Considerable work has also been carried out to look at the profile and unit costs of both in-house and externally provided services. Numbers of children who are placed within residential provision are well within the accepted range and performance on residential unit costs is good. An analysis of indicative costs of managing an in house mainstream residential service did not confirm that any savings could be made by adopting this option and a strategy of working closely with certain private sector partners was employed instead. This has resulted in reductions in unit costs and rises below the rate of inflation.
- 3.6 Since 2000 when Brighton and Hove closed its own in-house mainstream residential service, numbers of residential agency placements have understandably increased and 2001, when the education and social care services for children joined to form the Children, Families and Schools, saw another gradual rise in CiC numbers. Nationally integrated services have tended to produce higher numbers of CiC at least in the short term since children are responded to holistically and separate departments cannot play the game of passing responsibility between them. The other full scale Children’s Trust, Telford and Wrekin, has similarly reported rises in their care population, thus it demonstrates real progress within the CYPT that numbers have at least stabilised and that there are currently 27 fewer children in the care population than were in placement at the start of the year.
- 3.7 Use of foster placements is high relative to comparator authorities and locally children are placed with foster carers who might be placed residentially in other authorities. This does help to manage costs. However in common with many other local authorities there are continued difficulties in recruiting sufficient numbers of in house foster placements generally because Brighton and Hove is small and geographically compact. There are particular placement difficulties with parent and baby placements, for sibling groups, for BME children and for challenging teenagers. We have thus seen a steady increase year on year of IFA placements, although more recently this is also stabilising. This is despite the fact that at the present time there are the highest number of foster placements in- house that there have ever been.
- 3.8 In the past calendar year recruitment activity for foster carers has been focused specifically on our most challenging subsets of children. Four

new BME carers, two new parent and baby carers and three new placements for teenagers have been approved. Thus it would appear that targeted work is beginning to bear fruit and relative to our local authority cohort, recruitment activity is good.

- 3.9 Following the Munby Judgement [Re M care proceedings – judicial review 2003] which has resulted in Courts being unwilling to separate infants from their mothers at birth and in common with the two other Local Authorities in Sussex, we have seen a steady rise in the numbers of parent and baby placements ordered during care proceedings. A short piece of research was undertaken in 2006 to look at outcomes for children who had been placed in parent and baby placements which showed approximately 25% resulting in a successful rehabilitation home. Thus the task is to ensure that duration for these sorts of placements is as short as possible and that dialogue continues with the local Courts to consider where they are best targeted.
- 3.10 Preferred provider mechanisms have been employed for both residential and IFA placements with cost volume agreements with partners in the private sector to create the PPL. There is also an overt strategy of placing children in care who can cope with a boarding school in such provision since it is both a less stigmatising and a cheaper option and the proportion of residential placements in this sector is good, presently 15 out of 39 in total.
- 3.11 It is important to be aware that both numbers of CiC and overall costs to the social care budget within the CYPT are equally important variables because it would be possible to reduce numbers of CiC via a range of options that might include increased use of Residence Orders, Special Guardianship Orders or de-accommodating all young people as they turn 16 without reducing overall costs. Whilst these options could produce savings in terms of social work and Independent Reviewing Officer time they might not translate into cashable savings and it would be possible for numbers of CiC to fall while spending remained high, thus actually increasing overall unit costs of CiC.

4. Strategic priorities for change

- 4.1 The baseline analysis identified the following priority sub-sets within the city's CiC population in terms of both numbers and costs:
- Pre-birth assessment work and the continued high numbers of small babies born to families causing concern, including those resulting in court ordered parent and baby placements
 - Teenagers entering the care system via Sec 20 accommodation and often in an unplanned way
 - Young people 16+ who are already in care placements
 - Residential agency placements for any of these subgroups
 - Independent Fostering Agency placements for any of these subgroups

4.2 Strategic priorities – levers for change

The baseline analysis also identified the following strategic priorities to achieve the objectives of this strategy:

- Cultural change within the CYPT partnership - specifically addressing children not in mainstream education, at risk of pregnancy and crime and what we want colleagues to do differently
- Cultural changes within the city so that placement of a child in care is seen as a last resort and so that partners who see care as a way of rescuing children from poverty or other forms of adversity are challenged and supported to manage children differently.
- Developing links with the LAA so that the targeted work on reducing inequalities has improved support for families firmly embedded within it

4.3 Initiatives put into place in 2007 are listed as Appendix 4

4.4 The proportions of children in the care system in various types of placements at present have been calculated and work will now focus on repeating the exercise at an individual child level to identify the next group of children who will leave the CiC cohort.

4.5. Priorities for Commissioning are as follows:

- Increase housing options for young people 16+ via extended contracts with HCS and voluntary sector partners to enable young people to leave expensive agency placements if appropriate and return to the city to live.
- Increase number of supported lodgings placements via a targeted recruitment strategy across Sussex, potentially in partnership with local IFA providers.
- Increase overall capacity of in-house foster care placements with specific targets for parent and baby placements and for placements for teenagers to reduce dependence on IFA provision.
- In line with developments in the forthcoming Public Law Outline, improve focus and timeliness of assessment of parenting capacity for parents pre-birth via targeting of work at the RACH, Clermont, Concurrency Team and Children's Centres.
- Develop commissioning arrangements with West Sussex to increase VFM and maximise placement matching and choice.

- Recruit specialist childminders to prevent children entering the care system and facilitate rehabilitation.
- Target activity of Children’s Centres to focus on children for whom there is a child protection plan to prevent them entering the care system.

4.6 This is summarised in the following Action Plan:

Year 1: See Appendix 4

Year 2: 2008-09

Strategic Action	Management action/operational changes	Lead Manager(s)	Performance Information: e.g. development milestones, targets, indicators etc
1. Implement new commissioning arrangements for external placements	Implement commissioning consortium with West Sussex for external placements	AD Specialist Services	Extended PPL in place for residential and IFA provision by autumn 08
2. Set targets for in- house provider functions	Align annual foster carer recruitment targets more closely with predicted cohort of CiC Continue recruitment and support of specialist childminders Target activity of Children’s Centres towards assessment and improvement of parenting capacity for parents whose children are in the care system or within CP process	AD Specialist Services Area ADs	Reduction in proportion of CiC in IFA placements
3. Prioritise movement of stable CiC in	Set child specific targets for CiC in in- house	AD Specialist Services	Further reduction in overall CiC numbers

APPENDIX A

long term placements to SGOs.	placements Negotiate contractual change with IFA providers to prioritise children in their cohort		
4. Reduction in number of babies entering the care system	Fast track assessment of pre-birth cases	AD West/AD Specialist Services	Smaller numbers in subset of under 1s in the CiC cohort
5. Reduce spend on Family and Friends placements	Rewrite financial policies supporting Family and Friends placements	AD Specialist Services	Revised policy in place by 1.4.08
6. Reduce overall numbers of CiC	Set child specific targets for area teams	AD Specialist Services/Area ADs	Further reduction in CiC cohort by 1.3.09
7. Reduce proportion of CiC in IFA placements	Set targets for reduction of CiC in IFA placements - align with 2 above	AD Specialist Services/Area ADs	Reduction in proportion of CiC in IFA placements
8. Increase range of placement options for young people 16+	Recruit additional SL carers Commission wider range of supported accommodation post 16.	AD Specialist Services/ AD East	Additional SL carers and supported housing options available
9. Maintain good progress on outcomes for CiC	Review PIs actively throughout the year and implement corrective action as required	DMT	Continued improvement in the PI basket that relates to CiC
10. Revise strategic actions contained within CiC strategy for change	Review CiC cohort at the end of 08-09 Refresh action plan for CiC Set targets for 09-10	DMT	

Years 3 & 4: 2009-2011

Strategic Action	Management action/operational changes	Lead Manager(s)	Performance Information: e.g. development milestones,
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			targets, indicators etc
1. Review outcome for target setting in 08-09	Re-set targets	AD Specialist Services/Area ADs	Further reduction in overall CiC cohort and in proportion of CiC within IFAs
2. Revise action plan	Implement revisions	DMT	As above

- 4.8 In addition there are a number of outstanding issues that will need to be addressed at a DMT and Corporate level. These include:
- a) If a number of young people who would previously have been the responsibility of colleagues in HCS have now become CiC because of the Sutton Judgement, should there be a discussion at TMT level for funding to follow the young person and agreement that the budget will transfer from HCS to the CYPT?
 - b) If the budgets within the 16+ Service are absorbing some of the pressure from returning young people from expensive residential placements to supported lodgings, YMCA etc should we realign the budgets to reflect this?
 - c) How can we engage with colleagues within Adult Services more effectively to ensure that staff develop a culture that recognises and prioritises child protection issues and that parents of vulnerable children are fast tracked into services?

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The work of reducing numbers of CiC and related spend is already well underway and staff across the CYPT have engaged energetically and creatively with this task.
- 5.2 A much greater degree of intelligence is now in place regarding the CiC population and this is translated regularly into performance reports that enable and support managers to sustain momentum.
- 5.3 It should be possible to realign both numbers of CiC and spend with cohort authorities by 2011 with significant progress on both fronts in the interim.

Liz Rugg.
AD Specialist Services.
February 2008

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 58

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Effectiveness of Safeguarding practice		
Date of Meeting:	25th March 2009		
Report of:	Director of Children's Services		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Steve Barton	Tel: 29-6105
	E-mail:	Steve.Barton@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Following events in the London Borough of Haringey (the Baby P. case) all Local Authorities and NHS organisations are required to take stock of the effectiveness of safeguarding practice in their areas including a review of assurance arrangements at Board level.
- 1.2 This report summarises the actions taken so far by the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT), the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCBs) and the PCT, on behalf of the local health economy.
- 1.3 This report has come to CYPOSC as it is one of the Children's Services and to make CYPOSC aware of the follow up work with the Board/LSCB and PCT.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That CYPOSC comments on the content of this report and decides if there are any additional actions the Board wishes to take as part of the overall review process.
- 2.2 That CYPOSC agrees to receive a further report outlining the findings and recommendations of Lord Laming's second report 'The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report (published March 12th 2009) and providing an update of the review of safeguarding practice in Brighton and Hove.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1. Chronology of key events:

November 12th 2008:

- Ed Balls, Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families received the Serious Case Review Overview Report from Haringey Council in respect of the Baby P. Case and immediately initiated an urgent inspection of safeguarding in Haringey by Ofsted, the Healthcare Commission and the Chief Inspector of Constabulary

November 17th 2008:

- The Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families and Beverly Hughes, Minister of State for Children, Young People and Families asked Lord Laming to prepare an independent report on progress implementing effective arrangements for safeguarding children and specifically to make recommendations to improve the effectiveness of local children's Safeguarding Boards (LSCBs) and the quality, consistency and impact of Serious Case Reviews.

December 1st 2008:

- Publication of Joint Area Review of Haringey services for children and young people with particular reference to safeguarding
- Letter from the Secretary of State to all Directors of Children's Services and Lead Members for Children's Services requiring them to 'take stock of the effectiveness of safeguarding practice in their own areas'
- Statement by Alan Johnson the Secretary of State for Health announcing the Healthcare Commission's 'swift review' of Health Board assurance arrangements for safeguarding
- Letter from David Nicholson NHS Chief Executive to ensure every NHS organisation actively considers the issues raised by Ofsted, and the further action they need to take
- Publication of the letter from Lord Laming to the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families recommending that the government should not undertake a Public Inquiry into the Haringey case but should, instead, recognise the 'robustness of the foundation on which current children's services are based' and focus on ensuring that the system is fully implemented across the country and on improving the effectiveness of Serious Case Reviews
- Publication by Ofsted's report 'Learning lessons, taking action' evaluating serious case reviews in the year to March 2008
- Publication of government's response to the Joint Chief Inspectors' Report July 2008 accepting all of the safeguarding recommendations

December 16th 2008:

- Letter from Beverly Hughes, Minister of State for Children, Young People and Families detailing the action to be taken by any LSCB responsible for a Serious Case Review judged by Ofsted to be inadequate.

December 23rd 2008:

- Letter from the Healthcare Commission outlining the Safeguarding Children Review announced on December 1st

March 12th 2008:

- Publication of Lord Laming's second report 'The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report

3.2. Arrangements to ensure the effectiveness of safeguarding practice in Brighton and Hove are set out in Appendix 1. These arrangements ensure compliance with legislation and statutory guidance including the Children Act 2004, Working Together 2006 and the new Children's Trust Guidance on Interagency Cooperation 2008. The arrangements also ensure compliance with external inspection regimes and national standards including Ofsted's Annual Performance Assessment and Standards for Better Health (Core Standard 2). In summary the arrangements are:

- Appointment by the local authority of a Director of Children's Services and designation of a Lead Member for children's services (Children Act 2004)
- Creation by the local authority of a Local Safeguarding Children's Board (Children Act 2004 and Working Together 2006)
- Establishment of a Children and Young People's Trust to ensure planning and commissioning of services takes account of the need to safeguard and promote children's welfare (Statutory Guidance 2008)
- A Quality and Performance Branch in the CYPT to provide offline assurance for Trust services including safeguarding and child protection. And to provide management support to the LSCB and host the designated professionals for child protection who provide assurance for the local health economy.
- Area and city wide safeguarding and child protection services, which include management and assurance process to ensure effective delivery.
- An integrated Safeguarding Children Training and Development Strategy and Workforce Development Strategy

3.3. Safeguarding and child protection services provided or commissioned by the CYPT were judged to be adequate by the Joint Area Review in 2006 and improved to good in Ofsted's Annual Performance Assessment (APA) in 2007 and 2008. For 2007/8 all NHS Trusts in Brighton and Hove reported themselves to be compliant with Core Standard 2 Safeguarding Children (see Appendix 2).

3.4. In order to take stock of the effectiveness of safeguarding practice, and in the absence of guidance from the DCSF or the Healthcare Commission, the CYPT's senior management team (DMT) developed an interim assessment framework with assistance from the Children's Service Advisor at the Government Office for the South East GOSE) which included

- The main findings of the Joint Area Review of children's services in Haringey
 - Preliminary issues identified by the Healthcare Commission
 - An early draft Children's Social Care Performance Framework and LSCB Quality Assurance checklist developed by GOSE
 - A Social Care Governance Exercise completed by CYPT Area Managers (7th January 2008)
- 3.5. As a result of applying the assessment framework the following work programme was agreed by the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) Board on January 19th 2008:
- Self Assessment Programme - see paragraph 3.6.
 - Review of Safeguarding Services for the local health economy (Healthcare Commission and Strategic Health Authority): this work is being coordinated by the Designated Nurse
 - Review of functioning of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board (LSCB): this work is being coordinated by the LSCB Manager and will be reported to the LSCB in March
 - Presentation of further evidence and discussion at the CYPT Board March 2nd 2009
- 3.6. The self-assessment programme addresses the following issues:
- Compliance with the recommendations of the Climbié Inquiry (2005)
 - The structure and content of the CYPT's Monthly Monitoring Reports of social care and safeguarding data
 - The operation of the CYPT Area Panels for complex, high risk cases
 - Compliance with the CYPT Supervision Policy with particular reference to safeguarding and child protection
 - Thresholds, or access criteria for targeted and specialist safeguarding and child protection services commissioned or provided by the CYPT
 - The effectiveness of CYPT safeguarding and child protection audit programmes and, following discussion with the its new Executive Group, the multi-agency file audit undertaken by the LSCB
 - Summary Report on progress/implications of the ICS programme for safeguarding and child protection practice in Brighton and Hove
 - Recruitment and retention of social care staff.
 - Standards of record keeping on case files with particular reference to safeguarding and child protection and to consulting with and recording the wishes and feelings of children and young people and obtaining user feedback generally
- 3.7. The programme is project managed by the Quality and Performance Branch and is integrated with reviews of safeguarding services required by the Healthcare Commission and the Strategic Health Authority, and an operational review of Brighton and Hove's LSCB.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The content of this report has been jointly developed by senior managers in the CYPT and in the PCT. A parallel report was taken to the PCT Integrated Governance Committee.

4. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The cost of the assessment programme will be met from within existing CYPT revenue budgets. Any recommendations made as a result of this programme may have financial implications. These will need to be assessed at the time and funding identified from within the CYPT budget. It is currently estimated that the recruitment and retention strategy will cost approximately £90k per annum. This figure may change depending on the final package of measures adopted. Resources to fund this on an ongoing basis will need to be identified from within the CYPT budget.

Finance Officer Consulted: Jeff Coates

Date: 13/03/2009

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report sets out the context for reviewing safeguarding practice as required by the Secretary of State following events in the London Borough of Haringey.

The report concludes that the CYPT 's safeguarding arrangements are compliant with both the Children Act 2004 and statutory guidance and sets out the proposals for the further action to be taken, following the findings which have arisen from the Joint Area Review in Haringey.

Lawyer Consulted: Hilary Priestley

Date: 19/01/2009

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Statutory Guidance (Working Together 2006) and local procedures (Pan Sussex Child Protection Procedures) take full account of the equalities issues in ensuring the safeguarding of all children, especially those from vulnerable or marginalized groups.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no immediate sustainability implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no immediate Crime & Disorder implications.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Effective management of risk is a central feature of safeguarding children and is at the heart of this report.

- Corporate / Citywide Implications:
- 5.7 Events in the London Borough of Haringey following the Joint Area Review of children's services demonstrate that the effectiveness of safeguarding children arrangements have very significant implications for the city council and all of its partners.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Summary of safeguarding arrangements
2. Summary of the assurance provided by external inspection that safeguarding practice in Brighton and Hove is effective

Appendix 1

Summary of safeguarding arrangements

The Children and Young People's Trust:

Brighton and Hove's Children and Young People's Trust is compliant with legislation and statutory guidance, i.e., in line with the Children Act 2004 the City Council has appointed a Director of Children's Services (DCS) and designated a Lead Member for children's services with responsibility for all relevant functions including the arrangements to secure co-operation and establish LSCB. The DCS and Lead Member both fulfil a key leadership role in bringing together local partners, both statutory and non statutory across the full range of children's services.

Also in line with the Children Act 2004, and in accordance with the statutory guidance 'Working Together 2006', the city council has established a Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB). The Board includes representatives of relevant persons and bodies in the city (see below).

Because Brighton and Hove's CYPT has been established since November 2006, it is in a strong position to demonstrate compliance with the new Children's Trusts Statutory Guidance on inter-agency cooperation to improve well-being of children, young people and their families (November 2008), particularly in respect of safeguarding and child protection, i.e. 'Safeguarding children depends on effective joint working between agencies and professionals that have different roles and expertise. In order to achieve this joint working, the Children's Trust needs to take a strong lead in emphasising to all partners the importance of universal, targeted and responsive safeguarding. It has a key role to play in ensuring that planning and commissioning of services takes account of the need to safeguard and promote children's welfare. The Children's Trust should consult the Local Children's Safeguarding Board on coverage and performance of services that contribute to the 'staying safe' outcome (2.12)'.

The CYPT's Quality and Performance Branch provides offline assurance and support to all of the Trust's services including safeguarding and child protection arrangements in order to ensure compliance with legislation, statutory guidance and national standards. The branch includes:

A Quality Assurance Programme Manager: to maintain an overview of quality assurance in social care services through regular case file auditing; act as LSCB Business Manager; and oversee safeguarding policies and procedures to ensure compliance to legislation.

The Senior Independent Review Officer (IRO); the IRO team chair both child protection conferences and looked after children (LAC) reviews. They are independent of operational and line management responsibility and have the status to ensure inter-agency commitment to effective safeguarding and child protection practice.

The Nurse Consultant Safeguarding & Designated Nurse: provides local health economy safeguarding children assurance and compliance to the PCT. The Head of Nursing, Governance and Safety; this new post is responsible for service governance and risk management across the CYPT, including the interface with the PCT and the city council, which underpins much of the work outlined in this section.

The Senior Performance Development Manager: the performance team provides operational managers with monthly monitoring reports of social care data including safeguarding and child protection.

The Manager for the Youth Advocacy and Participation Team: provides support to some children and young people involved in the safeguarding and children in care system

The CYPT has in place a comprehensive range of safeguarding and child protection services as a key element of its wider integrated provision, i.e. front-line safeguarding and child protection services are delivered primarily through area safeguarding teams as part of the CYPT's integrated locality based services, and include child protection support to the Social Work Team at the Children's Hospital. Each safeguarding team provides an immediate front line response to enquiries and referrals through their duty and assessment teams and on going casework support through their family support and long-term teams for looked after children and those with a child protection plan.

Safeguarding and child protection services are also provided by specialist services within the CYPT or commissioned from the Community and Voluntary Sector including: the CYPT's Integrated Disability Team, the Fostering & Adoption, the 16+ Team; Clermont Child Protection Unit; Safety Net; and RISE (Women's Refuge). Other Child Protection Services, and particularly those provided by Sussex Police fall under the remit of the LSCB.

A range of management and assurance process is in place to ensure the effectiveness of these services, i.e. the DMT Safeguarding Sub Group is a

meeting of 2nd and 3rd tier managers to oversee safeguarding and care pathways and to report to the CYPT's senior management team (DMT).

Front-line safeguarding and Child Protection arrangements include: all referrals are seen by the practice managers who oversee the allocation of cases; all social care staff provided with regular one to one supervision; Section 47 procedures in place to trigger child protection investigations including strategy discussions, initial child protection conferences, core group meetings, review child protection conferences. Multidisciplinary Area Panels chaired by Assistant Directors consider cases where children are at risk of exclusion, eviction or entering care. Specialist arrangements include placement stability meetings and disruption meetings, professional meetings for children in need planning

Arrangements to quality assure the work of front line services include:

A programme of quarterly case file audits and monthly Section 47 audits; LSCB bi-annual auditing of a sample of child protection cases to ensure compliance with procedures; an annual thematic audit by the LSCB, which is informed by performance data and challenge at the LSCB and includes scrutiny of case files to address specific issues of concern (e.g. 2006 Referrals and Re-referrals; 2007 Child Sexual Abuse).

Every school has a designated child protection co-ordinator and the CYPT has a named senior officer and three local authority designated officers (LADO's) to deal with allegations against members of staff.

In order to ensure front line staff have the support, skills and capacity to deliver effective safeguarding and child protection services the CYPT has in place: an integrated Safeguarding Children Training and Development Strategy 2007 –2010, that has been approved by CYPT DMT and LSCB. The strategy comprises staged approach to training and development in safeguarding with different staff being required to access specific levels dependant on the skills, knowledge and competencies that are needed to fulfill their role. The training programme is based on the Children's Workforce Development Council's common core of skills and knowledge. The CYPT's Workforce Development Strategy is underpinned by a range of professional leadership and development initiatives including post qualification training. The CYPT are partners in Research in Practice and Making Research Count both of which promote evidence based practice, and learning from child care research, to staff in the Trust.

Front line safeguarding and child protection services commissioned and provided by the CYPT are subject to regular external inspection. Foremost of these is Ofsted's Annual Performance Assessment of Children's Services, which will be revised as part of implementing the new Comprehensive Area Assessment regime from April 2009. In addition the GOSE Children's Service Advisor meets regularly with senior managers in the CYPT to review safeguarding and child protection practice, including Serious Case Reviews.

The Local Health Economy:

The PCT is expected to have an overview of local health economy Safeguarding Children arrangements in the city and be assured that NHS safeguarding functions are in place and undertaken. These functions include:

- Senior engagement at the Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Safeguarding Children Commissioning arrangements are in place
- Have a designated doctor and designated nurse for Safeguarding Children
- Ensure all statutory health trusts have a named doctor and named nurse in place and are compliant with all relevant NHS safeguarding standards.
- Have Child Death Overview Panel, Child Death Rapid Response and Serious Case Review processes in place
- Have a designated nurse and designated doctor for Looked After Children
- Ensure Safeguarding children is embedded within NHS governance systems across the city
- Allegations against staff are reported and managed in line with safer workforce guidance
- Safeguarding children in general practice is in place

A number of safeguarding children systems and arrangements are used in Brighton and Hove City to provide an overview of statutory health organisations, independent health providers and NHS staff learning and development. Statutory health organisations provide the PCT with a number of key safeguarding children documents to demonstrate safeguarding governance and Core Standard 2 compliance. These documents form part of the evidence required by health organisations for inspection purposes so do not create unnecessary additional work. If more detailed in depth service or practice information is required it can be requested from the NHS trust or independent provider. The LSCB undertakes multi-agency audit work which along side, complaints, plaudits, training and practice issues arising from other LSCB subgroups are used to identify when more in depth scrutiny is required.

A city wide 'Safeguarding Children Local Health Economy Quality Framework' (2007) makes explicit health sector safeguarding arrangements and systems. This document was endorsed by Brighton and Hove City PCT (B&HC PCT) during 2006, then by BSUH, SDHT, and SPT during 2006/07 and then by the Local Safeguarding Children Board in 2007. Since production of this document there has been organisational change in the city therefore safeguarding children lines of accountability have been reviewed and are being updated.

Safeguarding children developments during 2008 have included: setting up the Child Death Overview Panel, strengthening Child Death Rapid Response

practice and delivery, reviewing health sector input into the Brighton and Hove Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Committee (MARAC) and the wider domestic abuse agenda. Any gaps in connections and/or systems identified, or which emerge through service delivery, or case/service reviews and which impact on safeguarding children will be considered and where appropriate added into the PCT local health economy overview and made explicit as expectations in a PCT Safeguarding Children Policy which will be developed this year to replace the 'Safeguarding Children Local Health Economy Quality Framework' (2007).

Each Statutory health organisation providing services in the city is required to provide evidence of compliance with Standards for Better Health Core Standard 2 and NHSLA Risk Management Standards for child protection and safeguarding.

A summary of this evidence is shared with B&HC PCT via the designated nurse. An assurance review process for this evidence is currently being discussed to ensure and to inform full understanding of local health economy safeguarding children issues. 'Independent Health Care Provider Safeguarding Children Assurance packages also need to be in place. A GP Child Protection Local Enhanced Service (LES) is already in place and was reviewed during 2008. Others arrangements are required for: Dentists, Pharmacists, Opticians, large independent health care providers, and other community health care providers.

The PCT Named Doctor and Named Nurse have undertaken extensive work with GP surgeries. A Safeguarding children lead has been identified in each primary care team. A training programme has been delivered for GP Practices. A report has been produced for this committee outlining what has been achieved and next stage developments.

Some work is already underway with other independent providers to review and support their safeguarding children arrangements. Some of the larger providers are linked into the Brighton and Hove Safeguarding Children Co-ordinators group.

The CYPT provides assurance through its Children and Young People's Integrated Care Governance system that health care is safe, effective and informed by relevant evidence. Compliance with health care standards is provided through joint working with Southdowns Health NHS Trust, Sussex Partnership Trust and Brighton and Hove City PCT. The Designated Professionals for Child Protection (who are hosted in the CYPT) provide local health economy safeguarding children assurance and compliance evidence to the PCT via the PCT Integrated Governance Committee and PCT Child Protection & Safeguarding Lead Director. Accountability for delivery of this assurance is through the Section 75 Agreement.

The CYPT has separated named and designated nurse functions, which were co-located in the same post during 2008 so that the PCT can be assured there is no conflict of interest for assurance purposes for those undertaking these functions. Designated and named doctor functions will also be separated into separate posts during 2009. Safeguarding Children specialist roles will be regularly reviewed and updated.

A range of safeguarding commissioning indicators and a number of safeguarding service delivery standards have been developed which can be used to underpin commissioning contracts and service level agreements. Service Level Agreements/Understandings are being reviewed or developed to ensure transparency and clarity between and across the local health economy providers and commissioners.

Public involvement in the scrutiny and review of NHS safeguarding children arrangements is through non-executive membership of the Children and Young People Integrated Care Governance Board and through CYPT and PCT connections with patient forums. These links should be transparent and will be brought back to the PCT IGC for review and discussion.

The Local Children's Safeguarding Board (LSCB):

The LSCB is the key statutory mechanism to co-ordinate the safeguarding agenda in the city and ensure the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

The member agencies are: City Council and CYPT, Sussex Police, Brighton and Hove City Primary Care Trust, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust, Southdowns NHS Health Trust, Sussex Partnership NHS Trust, South East Coast Ambulance Service, Sussex Probation, National Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Children, RISE (Women's Refuge), Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service, Community and voluntary Sector Forum (represented by Safety Net).

Partners have a duty under S.11 of the Children Act 2004 to ensure their functions are discharged with regard to the city's safeguarding agenda. The core functions of the LSCB are set out in Working Together 2006, and it achieves these through 7 sub groups: Planning & Review; Child Protection Liaison; Training; Health Advisory; Staying Safe; Education Child Protection; Safer Recruitment; and participation in the Pan Sussex Procedures Group.

The LSCB is the responsible body for reviews of serious cases, either as a formal Serious Case Review or through Individual Management Reviews. These run alongside the Serious Untoward Incident procedures for health and the Youth Offending Team Serious Incident Reporting. Lessons learned are disseminated to staff through bulletins and staff seminars approved by the Integrated Care Governance Board and the DMT Safeguarding Sub Group.

The LSCB is also responsible for ensuring the effective operation of the Child Death Overview Panel, strengthening Child Death Rapid Response practice and delivery, and reviewing health sector input into the Brighton and Hove Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Committee (MARAC) and the wider domestic abuse agenda.

The effectiveness of the LSCB is reviewed as part of Ofsted's Annual Performance Assessment of Children's Services. The LSCB has a three-year strategy and an annual business plan. Following a strategic review in August/September 2008 the LSCB made three significant changes in December 2008:

- To appoint an Independent Chair
- To create a new Executive Sub Group (and enable the Planning and Review Group to focus on monitoring and evaluation)
- To allocate more resources for the operating costs and responsibilities of the LSCB

Appendix 2

Summary of the assurance provided by external inspection that safeguarding practice in Brighton and Hove is effective

Ofsted Annual Performance Assessment:

Safeguarding and child protection services provided or commissioned by the CYPT were judged to be adequate by the Joint Area review in 2006 and improved to good in Ofsted's Annual Performance Assessment (APA) in 2007 and 2008.

In 2008 Ofsted found that in respect of Staying Safe:

'The contribution of services to improving outcomes for children and young people in this aspect is good. The council's analysis of its strengths and areas for development for this outcome area is consistent with the evidence.

The CYPT's major strengths were:

- Initial and core assessments of children in need are completed in a timely fashion.
- The LSCB works effectively at both a strategic and operational level to ensure children and young people are safeguarded.
- A range of new, targeted family support strategies and services offering early intervention and support, are beginning to have a good impact on improving outcomes for children and their families.
- Multi-agency Area Panels provide good managerial support and oversight of a range of work with children and young people at high risk in various circumstances.

Ofsted also identified the following important weaknesses and areas for development:

- The common assessment framework for children and young people with additional needs was not being used with all age groups by the required date of March 2008.
- The proportion of reviews of looked after children completed on time has fallen.

Better Standards for Health:

All NHS Trusts complete an annual Self Assessment for Standards for Better Health returns to the Healthcare Commission. For 2007/8 all NHS Trusts in Brighton and Hove reported themselves to be compliant with Core Standard 2 Safeguarding Children.

Also during 2007/8 the Safeguarding Advisor from the Department of H undertook, on behalf of the South East Coast Strategic Health Authority and independent review of NHS Trusts Safeguarding arrangements across the region. Brighton and Hove were classified as green and as having robust arrangements in place.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 59

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Performance Improvement Report		
Date of Meeting:	March 25th 2009		
Report of:	Director of Children's Services		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Steve Barton	Tel: 29-6105
	E-mail:	Steve.barton@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report presents the 2nd and 3rd quarter Performance Improvement Report (PIR) for 2008/9.
- 1.2 The PIR provides CYPOSC with an overview of key issues which relate to the governance of the CYPT and to keep CYPOSC informed of the current situation.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 Receive the performance data, consider and comment on the areas of improvement and areas that need further development.
- 2.2 Notes that the Children and Young People's Board agreed to the inclusion of an additional indicator, NI 56 Obesity among primary age children in year 6 in order to ensure full alignment with the priority outcomes in the PCT Strategic Commissioning Plan.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Board has previously agreed to receive a quarterly PIR. The purpose and content of the report is set out in an introductory section to the document (Appendix 1).
- 3.2 The information in the PIR flows from, and/or informs a range of other documents including the council's Corporate Plan, the Local Area Agreement and the Joint

Strategic Needs Analysis of children's health services and the PCT's Strategic Commissioning Plan.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The PIR has been produced in consultation with the lead officers responsible for those areas of service.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Finance Officer Consulted: Jeff Coates

Date: 16.2.09

5.1 Legal Implications:

The report summarises performance improvement activity over the last 2 quarters and asks the Board to note areas of concern. The proposed actions will enable the Trust to more effectively meet its statutory duties to children and young people.

Lawyer consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 16.2.09

5.2 Equalities Implications:

This report addresses equalities issues reflecting the principles set out in the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) that determine the delivery and commissioning of services to improve outcomes for children and young people from diverse communities and groups, and for those who live in deprived geographical communities.

5.3 Sustainability Implications:

This report does not directly address sustainability issues but it underpins the CYPP which supports the council's sustainability strategy including, concern for quality of life and well being, health improvement and healthy schools, enjoyment and participation in cultural & leisure activities, achievement of economic well being and effective clinical governance and health.

5.4 Crime & Disorder Implications:

This Report includes a report on First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System and young people who are not in employment, education and training which includes young people supervised by the Youth Offending team

5.5 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

This report directly addresses issues of risk management.

5.6 Corporate / Citywide Implications:

Performance Improvement Reports are the basis for performance reporting to the council's TMT, to the PCT and for monitoring the Local Area Agreement and Sustainable Community Strategy. This report also informs performance report to the Local Safeguarding Children.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. 2nd and 3rd Quarter Performance Improvement Report

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None

CYPT - Performance Improvement Report

Quarter 2 (July to Sept 2008) & Quarter 3 (October to December 2008)



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Introduction

This Performance Improvement Report covers Quarter 2 (July to September 2008) and Quarter 3 (October to December 2008). The purpose of this report is to provide Board members with key information with which to track and challenge the progress, performance and management of the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT).

The report has three sections as summarised below:

1. **Early Intervention and Prevention:** three indicators to measure the development and impact of the Trust's strategic approach to commissioning and providing children's services. Key points:
 - A fundamental review of the CYPT's approach to the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework
 - A continuing reduction in referrals to the area safeguarding teams but a significant rise in child protection activity for those cases
 - The CYPT's parenting programme meeting targets for number of parents making an improvement
2. **Performance Exception Reports:** addressing those areas where the Trust persistently does not meet local or national targets. Key Points:
 - After a slight reduction in quarter 2 the number of looked after children increased to 375 in the third quarter to the level reported in June 2008
 - There has been a significant reduction in the percentage of young people aged 16-18 who are not in education training and employment (NEET)
 - Breast feeding data is now high quality with 100% of contacts recorded in quarter 3 which means the CYPT can now be confident that we are exceeding our target
 - Teenage conception rates remain a challenge
 - There has been a significant reduction in the number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System
3. **Service Management:** Four reports, which, alongside regular budget reports to the Board, summarise progress on the key issues that underpin and assure effective governance. Key points:
 - Consolidation of risk management arrangements which will generate more detailed reports in the future
 - Positive outcomes from the CYPT Value for Money Action Plan
 - Delivery of a robust workforce development plan with an increased focus on supporting multi-professional service integration
 - An equalities programme which has a higher profile in the CYPT and the capacity to report on critical issues

Early Intervention and Prevention

Assessments completed using the Common Assessment Framework

Summary:

We are still not in a position to report accurately on the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF), or to assess its impact on improving outcomes for children and young people as anticipated in the Quarter 1 Performance Improvement Report.

The CAF Board recognised that front line staff have struggled to introduce the framework into their practice, or to comply with the local 35 day standard for completion of assessments. As a result data quality in relation to the number of initiations, completions or closed episodes has not been reliable. The Board therefore ensured a review of all CAF initiations was undertaken. From launch (Dec 07) to January 2009, 204 assessments had been opened and 126 had been completed within 35 days with 12 designated as closed episodes.

Issues:

Implementation of the common assessment framework is being used as a proxy to measure the impact of the Trust's intention to commission and provide more early intervention and preventive services. It is also a proxy for the progress we are making in bedding down integrated working across children's services.

Phase 2 of the CAF implementation plan has been completed with schools and cluster partnerships all receiving training, and written guidance. Phase 3 is underway as planned and will include community and private childcare provision, adult services and housing and work with GPs, the Police and the CYPT's family support services.

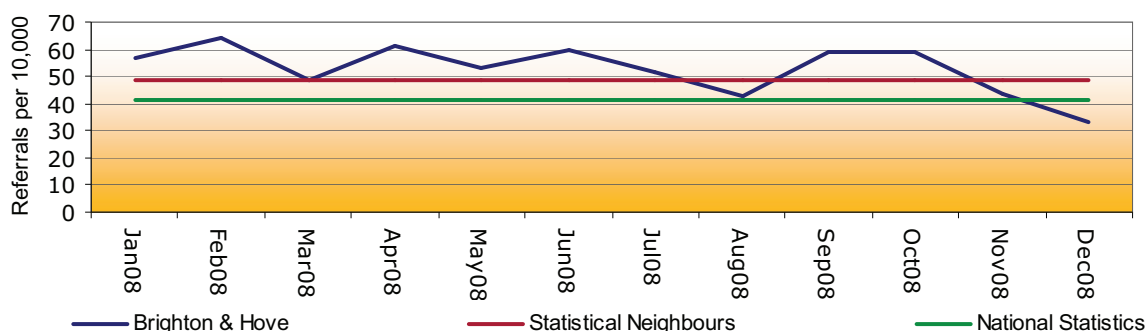
However, Ofsted's Annual Performance Assessment letter in December 2008 noted that 'The Common Assessment Framework for children and young people with additional needs was not being used with all age groups by the required date of March 2008'. The above summary makes it clear that insufficient progress has been made since then. Significant improvements will have to take place if the CYPT is to achieve the March 2010 national target for having effective early identification and preventive systems in place.

Performance Improvement Activity:

The CYPT Senior Management Team (DMT) received a report from the CAF Implementation Manager and the Head of Workforce Development in December 2008 detailing the issues summarised above. As result most of the 3rd Tier Managers Meeting at the end of January was devoted to a structured self-evaluation exercise to identify problems and find solutions in order to accelerate the implementation of CAF. DMT will take decisions on the findings and recommendations of that exercise before the end of February.

Early Intervention and Prevention

Referrals to CYPT Safeguarding Teams



Summary

Referrals to the three area safeguarding teams remained relatively stable during quarters 2 and 3, with a slight downward trend overall and an expected dip in December which occurs each year during the Christmas holiday.

During this period the pattern referrals to the area teams remained similar to quarter 1 with: East at **28%** ; Central **37%**; West **32%**; and **3%** to the Children's Hospital.

However, other indicators showed a significant increase in child protection activity in relation to those referrals. The number of children subject to a child protection plan remained high, although there has been monthly variation from a high in August of 264 to 246 in December. Importantly we know that in January 2009 the number has increased to 272. As noted elsewhere in this report, the number of looked after children has also increased and the overall number of children recorded as being in need (i.e. requiring a service) on the social care data base increased from 2,757 in September to 2,896 in December. The January figure for children in need is 2,994.

Issues:

The increase in child protection activity, and the overall increase in numbers of children in need, has a significant impact on front line services, especially social work and support staff and the team of Independent Reviewing Officers responsible for chairing child protection conferences and looked after children reviews.

This increase was flagged up in the Quarter 1 Performance Improvement Report and occurred before events in Haringey which, as noted elsewhere, has had a significant impact on the work of children's trusts and their partners both nationally and locally.

Performance Improvement Activity

To address these issues, and specifically to respond to events in Haringey and subsequent government requirements, the Children and Young People's Trust Board agreed the following on January 19th 2008:

- Completion of self assessment programme to review the effectiveness of safeguarding practice

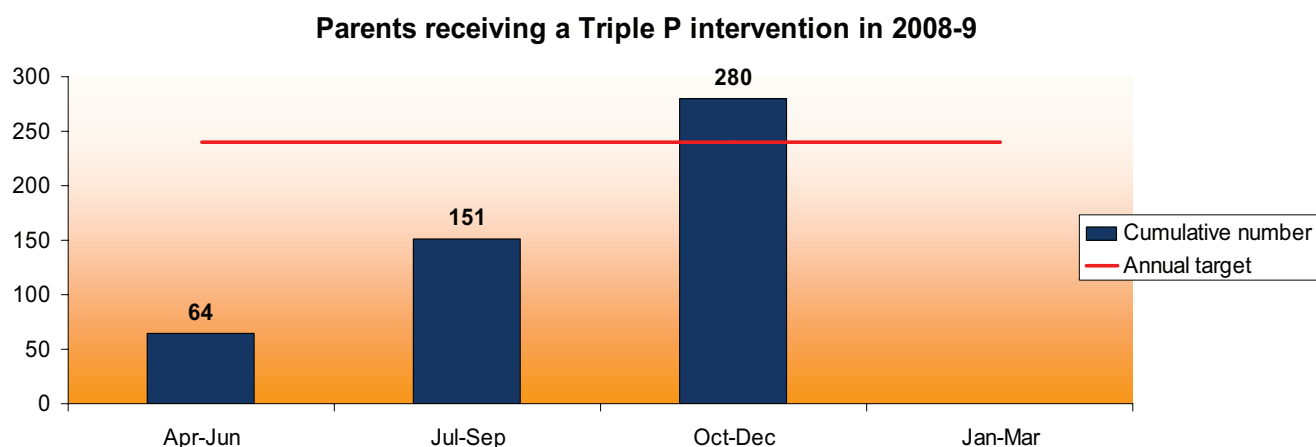
Early Intervention and Prevention

- Review of Safeguarding Services for the local health economy (Healthcare Commission and Strategic Health Authority)
- Review of functioning of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board (LSCB)
- Preparation of a seminar for the CYPT Board March 2nd 2009

In addition:

- The LSCB's 2008/9 thematic audit is examining referrals to the CYPT's safeguarding teams, and that work will be completed by March 31st
- Regular monthly monitoring reports of safeguarding and social care activity are scrutinised by operational managers

CYPT Parenting Programme



Summary

The 2008/9 performance targets include:

240 parents to receive a Triple P intervention in 2008-9

40 groups delivered

82% of parents make improvements following intervention

Quarter 2 results (July- September)

6 groups delivered to 45 parents

10 parents received individual work

32 parents received seminars

Total of 87 parents received an intervention

Quarter 3 results (October to December)

15 groups delivered to 84 parents

18 parents received individual work

27 parents received seminars

Total of 129 parents received an intervention

Issues

Outcome data:

We set a target of 82% of parents making an improvement following intervention for the year 2008-9. Our figures for 2007-8 were 79%. Between April and December, 83% of parents made an improvement.

Early Intervention and Prevention

Satisfaction with Triple P courses in Brighton & Hove: a recent sample of 42 parents who attended Triple P groups were surveyed:

- 80% were very satisfied with the group and 80% rated the facilitators as excellent
- 78% said the course had helped them deal more effectively with their children's behaviour.
- The vast majority of parents were very positive about the course and the impact on their families and said they would recommend the course to other parents.
- Some parents felt that there was too much information to take on board in too little time.

Performance Improvement activity

The Quarter 1 Performance Improvement Report outlined how the Triple P programme is promoted and improved. Specific activities during Quarters 2 and 3 include:

Providing information:

- Leaflets and posters have been produced and groups and seminars are publicised on the Family Information Service web based directory and the Parenting Team now have a dedicated web page
- The ABC magazine, which is distributed free to families with under 5's, now has a regular page giving parenting advice and information from Triple P Tip sheets. City News had tips on coping with children and young people over Christmas.
- A newsletter article is being prepared for inclusion in all school newsletters.

Parents week seminars and displays in libraries:

- Seminars were offered in libraries in the autumn half term week but they were not very well attended.
- There are now Triple P displays in Jubilee, Hove and Portslade Libraries.
- The Teen DVD is in the following Libraries: Hangleton; Hollingbury; Hove; Jubilee; Moulsecoomb; Portslade; Saltdean
- The Primary age DVD is in the following Libraries: Coldean; Hollingbury; Hove; Jubilee; Mileoak; Patcham; Portslade; Saltdean; Whitehawk; Woodingdean
- The Self-help Book is in the following Libraries: Coldean; Hangleton; Hollingbury; Hove; Jubilee; Mile Oak; Moulsecoomb; Patcham; Portslade; Saltdean; Whitehawk; Woodingdean

Awareness raising through Tip Sheet sessions:

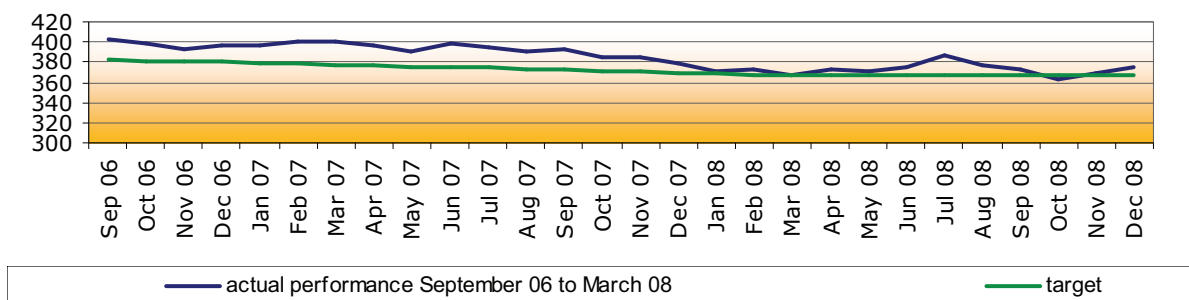
- 10 Tip Sheet sessions have been delivered between July and to December
- A pilot is running in the central area whereby each cluster in the central area is receiving a Triple P Tip sheet training session and a laminated folder of Tip sheets to use in school. If successful this will be rolled out to clusters in the other areas.
- Seaside view and the traveller education team are two of the other teams who have had a tip sheet session.

Performance Exception Reports

Rolling programme of groups and seminars:

There is now a well established termly rolling programme of provision in east area for parents of under 5's parents of primary age children and parents of teenagers. Central and West have elements of this rolling programme in place but there are gaps in the under 5 service in central.

Number of Looked after Children



Summary

At the end of Dec 08 we had 375 LAC which is the same number as the last reported figures in June 08.

Issues

Over the summer of 08 there had been a slight downward trend however since October 08 there has been an upward trend once again in overall numbers. There are several possible hypotheses to account for this. The implementation of the Public Law Outline in April 08 had resulted in a number of families being held for longer in the stage before formal Court proceedings whilst every attempt was made to engage them via a family support model. The high numbers of local children subject to child protection plans is probably also related to this new way of working but ultimately some families will not sustain improvement and legal proceedings will result in the child becoming Looked After. As the PLO came into force it was anticipated that a significant slowing of legal proceedings immediately after April would not be sustained and that the level of activity would pick up. Numbers of LAC appear to confirm this view.

In addition the outcome of the Baby P case in Haringey in November has resulted in increased anxiety in the local system both amongst professionals and members of the public and this is also likely to be contributing to a reluctance to hold significant degrees of risk within a family support model. This too will result in more children becoming LAC in Brighton and Hove and is mirroring a national rise in numbers.

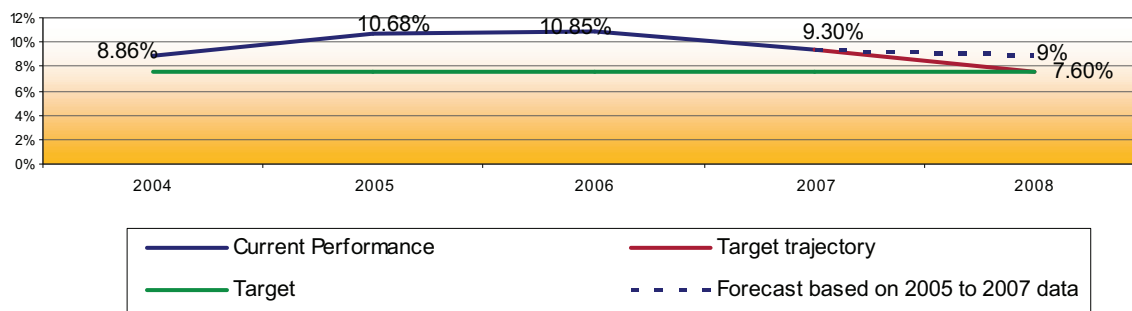
Performance Improvement Activity

The new arrangements for commissioning and procurement of placements for children went 'live' at the beginning of November and early indications are positive both in terms of unit costs and outcomes for children. An internal BHCC audit report has given positive feedback on this new process.

Performance Exception Reports

The Ofsted inspections for both the Fostering and Adoption Services have recently been undertaken and verbal feedback is extremely positive, the written reports are eagerly anticipated.

Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)



Summary:

The progress against the NEET target is measured annually as an average for November, December and January. Compared to the 2006 figure of 10.85%, a significant improvement was made in 2007 with the figure of 9.24%. The 2008 target is 7.6%. The encouraging news is that the average of figures submitted to DCSF for November, December 2008 and January 2009 is 7.8% and the corresponding Unknown figure is 4.6%. The NEET and Unknown figures for December 2008 for the South East have gone up compared to November 2007 whereas in Brighton & Hove we have made significant improvements.

Issues:

- Within the integrated area teams, staff employed by the council and those funded by the council i.e. employed by sub contractors are located together in the same buildings. These teams are working well and this approach can account for some of the improvements made. However the teams still need to integrate further to continue making improvements and to address this team building days were held in January.
- There are certain targeted groups, which continue to present significant challenges e.g. the 11% who are teenage parents and/or pregnant.

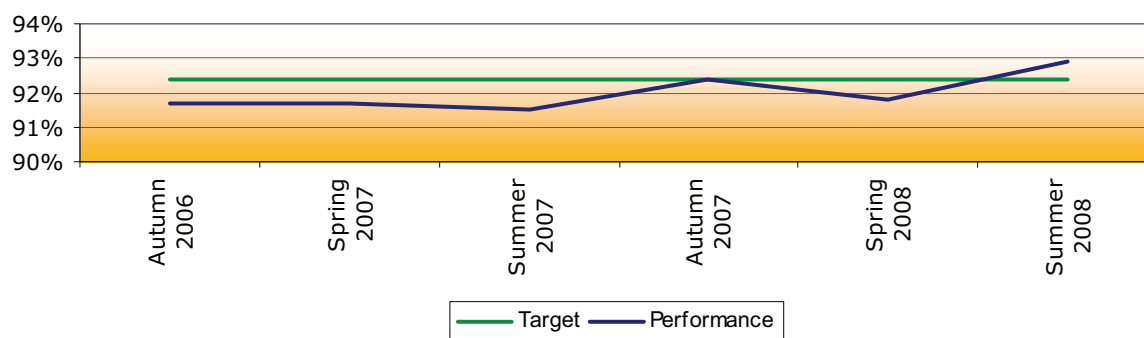
Performance Improvement Activity:

- We have started implementing a new process for front line staff to engage NEETs who are not actively seeking support from Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) staff. Currently 54% of NEETs are active and we are aiming to increase this figure to 75% by April 09.
- We are introducing a process for front line staff to work with teenage parents. This will include a 'pathway' document outlining all available EET options and other support/benefits for this group as well as an 'engagement script' which will help staff to take staff more proactive approach.
- An Outcome Based Accountability workshop took place in mid February with various partners including LSC to examine EET work with young offenders and how we can improve the numbers going into EET.

Performance Exception Reports

- A revised area based report will be introduced in April whereby area managers and the IYSS teams will closely analyse all areas of IYSS front line work including related management information to identify areas for improvement.

School Attendance: Secondary



Summary:

The graph shows that secondary school attendance has improved and for the first time we have reached our target for both primary and secondary schools.

The new national priority is to reduce the number of Persistent Absence (PA) pupils in secondary schools i.e. pupils who have recorded 20% or more absence during the autumn and spring terms. This will include Persistent Absence Schools i.e. secondary schools which have 70 or more Persistent Absence pupils who form 7% or more of the school population.

In 2005/06 Brighton & Hove had 8.6% persistent absent pupils. In 2006/07 this reduced to 7.1%. Whilst we are reducing the number of persistent absent pupils we will need to build on this to achieve the Governments target that no LA with have more than 5% of persistent absent pupils by 2011.

We are currently a 'targeted authority' because we have 5 PA schools: Longhill, Falmer, Portslade, Hove Park and Patcham. Reductions in PA pupils have already been made by each of the 5 schools with Falmer achieving a reduction of almost 50%.

Issues:

Persistent absentees are more likely to have poor educational outcomes and to disengage from learning altogether. The national Children Plan has set a target for 2011 by which time no Local Authority should have more than 5% of its secondary pupils as persistent absentees. A persistent absence indicator will be introduced in the School Achievement and Attainment Tables from 2008.

Although we are currently a targeted authority the DCSF has recognised the significant reductions that have already been made in the number of PA pupils and we have been asked to provide a case study to be used an example of good practice for the National Strategies Website.

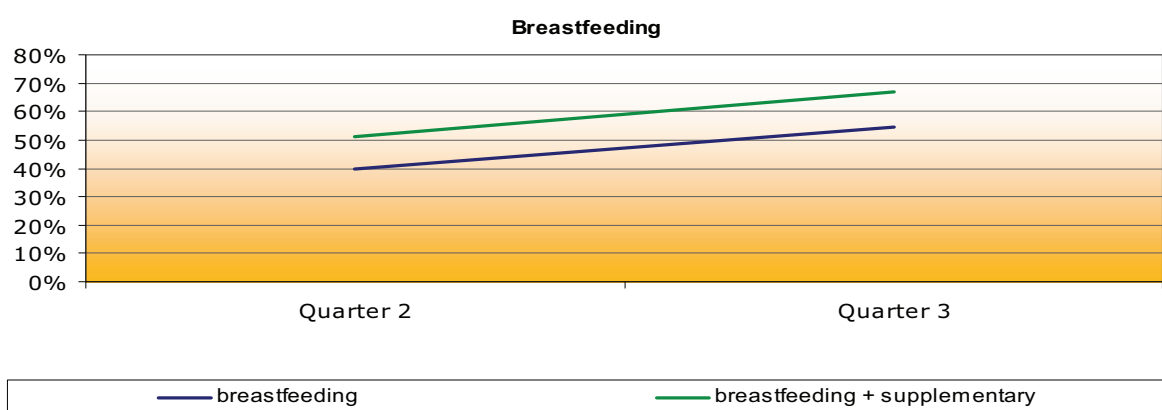
Performance Exception Reports

Performance Improvement Activity:

The focus on secondary school attendance reflects the CYPT's integrated approach to improving outcomes for children and young people and is closely connected to strategies to improve behaviour, support children with special educational needs and sustain the reduction in permanent and fixed term exclusions. Specifically we will:

- Target pupils at risk of becoming PAs and those schools experiencing particular problems with attendance
- Closely monitor new procedures are used consistently and are monitored and reviewed
- Benchmark with good practice in other authorities
- Implement revised Attendance Strategy consulted on during the Autumn Term
- Continue to work with Sussex Police to undertake regular 'truancy sweeps' across the city

Breastfeeding at 6 weeks



Summary:

The recorded breast-feeding rate at 6 weeks is as follows:

Quarter 2

39.5% breastfeeding

51.1% breastfeeding + supplementary

Quarter 3

54.4% breastfeeding

66.9% breastfeeding + supplementary

For Quarter 2 there were 25.9% unrecorded feeding contacts at 6 weeks but in Quarter 3 there were no unrecorded contacts. We have achieved 100% data collection and the Quarter 3 data is therefore a reliable and accurate indication of breast-feeding rates in the city.

Issues:

The improvement in data collection has been achieved through consistent monitoring and support of Health Visitors. Data collection for breast-feeding has been transferred from the mothers PIMS record to the child's record which makes

Performance Exception Reports

inputting more straightforward and enables managers to identify more easily those children who do not have a feeding status recorded.

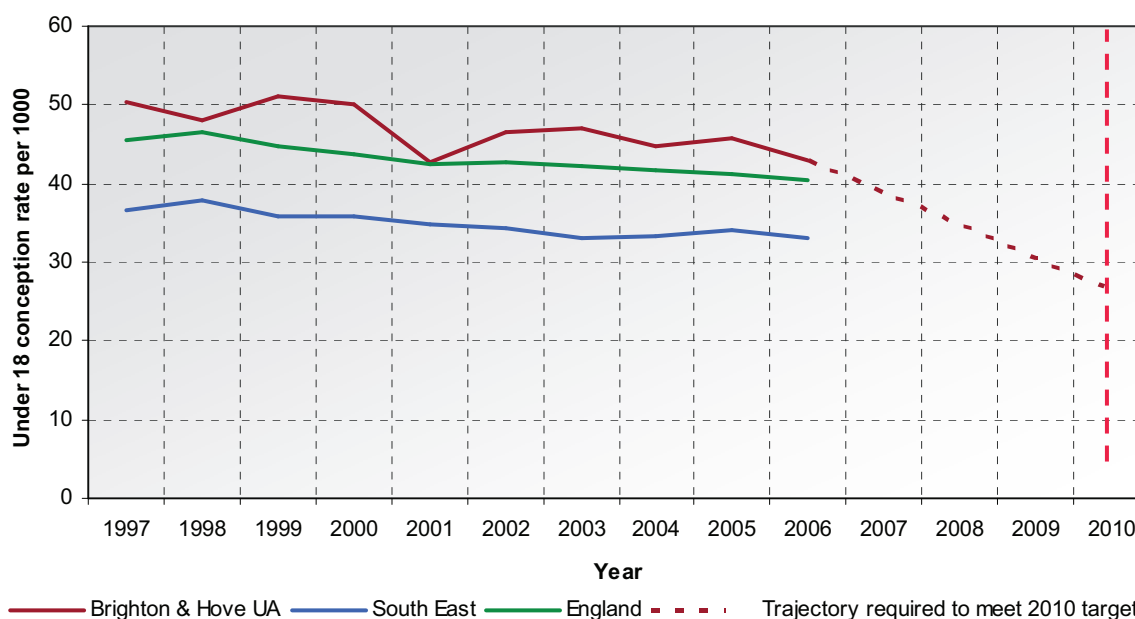
The improvement in data quality means that commissioners, managers and practitioners can work more effectively on improving breast feeding rates across the city and especially in those communities where rates are persistently low

Performance Improvement Activity:

Further work is being undertaken to complete a city wide breast feeding strategy. The draft action plan includes:

- Improving city-wide coordination by separating clinical and strategic functions
- Delivering a targeted support programme in those areas of the city where breast-feeding rates are low
- Strengthening breast feeding support across the city
- Capacity building for clinical skills and knowledge

Teenage Conception Rate



Summary:

There has been some improvement in performance measured against the headline indicators. However, the rate of progress has been slower than expected and meeting the 2010 target is now extremely challenging.

Issues:

During 2008 it became increasingly obvious that although the Action Plan 2007-09 was being implemented the significant reduction in the rate of under 18 conceptions that was expected was not happening. In order to find out why this was case work was carried out to better understand where the obstacles lay.

Performance Exception Reports

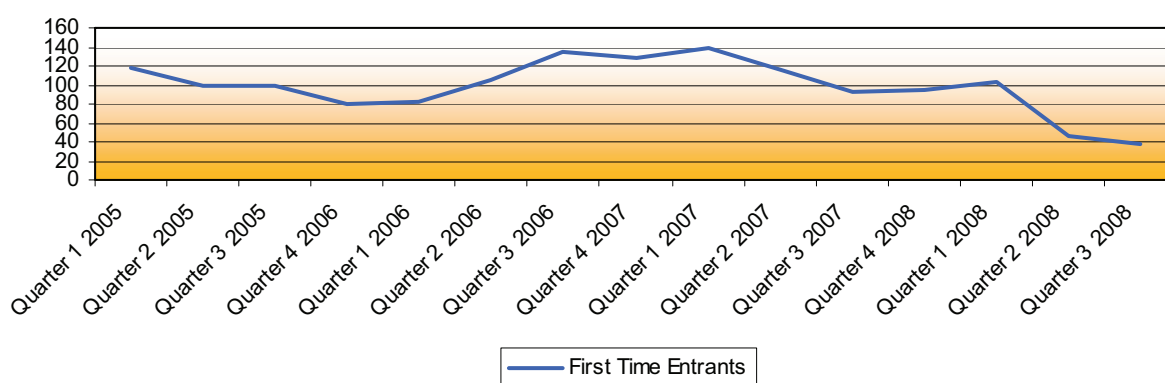
A hypothesis regarding staff attitudes was developed and tested through a series of focus groups. Other areas of performance were tested against other challenge processes. Local performance data and national research was also considered in order to come up with actions for improved performance against the under 18 conception rate target and other related performance targets.

Performance improvement activity:

A draft Action Plan for 2009/11, based on the case work and challenge process outlined above, and building on the approach developed over the past 2 years identifies 6 improvement objectives:

- Leadership and management
- Culture and behaviour
- Integrated planning and review
- Effective monitoring
- Workforce development
- Service provision

First time entrants into the Youth Justice System



Summary:

The table showing performance by quarter illustrates a significant reduction for the second and third quarter of the performance year. Figures for April to December 2008/9 show a 46% reduction when compared to the same period for the previous year. This means that the YOT is on track for a 5% reduction on first time entrants to the youth justice system.

Baseline data (now provided by the Police National Computer, not Youth Offending Information Systems) for 2007/8:

- Brighton & Hove had 2,430 First Time Entrants (FTE) per 100,000 of the 10-17 year old population
- The target range is 2,260 (462) to 2,200 per 100,000 10 to 17 year old population

The national 2020 goal is to reduce FTE by one fifth, as set out in the recently published Youth Crime Action Plan. The Youth Justice Strategy Group has agreed to propose a 5% reduction, although the LAA target is yet to be formally agreed.

Performance Exception Reports

It is likely that PNC data will not be made available quarterly and that 2008/9 performance data will be published in October 2009. For this reason it is recommended that YOT data continues to be used as an indicator of this performance measure.

Issues:

The first national Challenge and Support prevention data return shows that the West area is well underway but Central is still developing a referral pathway. A meeting was held with two representatives from the Challenge and Support project who were impressed with the work going on in Brighton & Hove.

Performance Improvement Activity

- A third Restorative Justice Training Course was held in October with 24 participants, which means that there are now nearly 60 trained facilitators in the city. A review meeting in December enabled all facilitators to get together to review progress.
- A significant number of the latest training group were from the CYPT's Targeted Youth Support Service and negotiations are underway to formalise referral procedures.
- Funding has been found to create a new post of Restorative Justice 'Champion' to lead this development in the city
- 7 young people were referred to the Restorative Justice Project during this period, with 3 accepted and 4 declined. Those who were accepted have completed the intervention and will be tracked to identify if they enter the youth justice system.

Geoff Williams has been appointed Head of Youth Strategy and Justice. Geoff comes with over 30 years experience in the police, capping his career as Deputy Chief Constable for Sussex

Service Management

Risk Management

Summary:

Data from the new Integrated Care Governance Committee will be provided for future Performance Improvement reports to the Board.

There were 181 health and safety incidents reported during this period with 89 incidents reported in quarter 2 and 92 reported in quarter 3. This compares to 103 incidents reported in the previous quarter (April – June 2008.) This is a reduction from the previous quarter, and the number of incidents is also lower than the same period of 2007.

The three highest 'causes of incidents' reported were:

- Challenging Behaviour 47, representing 27% of all incidents.
- Slips/trips/falls on the level at 36, representing 21% of all incidents.
- Hit by a moving/flying or falling object Recreation/sport 14, Representing 8% of all incidents

The number of days lost due to employee absence following a work-related incident was 273 days (120 in quarter 2 and 153 in quarter 3). There were 17 incidents reported to the Health and Safety Executive under RIDDOR for this period.

Issues:

A new Head of Nursing & Governance started in post on 1st December 2008 and is currently reviewing the CYPT risk management framework and systems.

Future arrangements for managing the Health and Safety Committee, and for Business Continuity Planning will be changed to reflect the CYPT's new senior management structure.

Challenging behaviour was the highest level of reported incidents during this period due to an increase in reporting from one Special School which began reporting all low level incidents which previously had only been recorded locally. These incidents were due to challenging behaviour of the pupils due to the nature of their condition as opposed to any failing or issue with the way the school was managing its pupils.

Performance Improvement Activity:

The Senior Management Team has finalised the CYPT's Risk Register so that risks are monitored across the management structure.

Clinical Governance arrangements have been reviewed, adjusted and endorsed by CYPT Senior Management Team. The Clinical Governance Board has been renamed the CYPT Integrated Care Governance Committee in order to emphasise the Trust's integrated approach to risk management and practice governance.

A Standards for Better Health (S4BH) gaps analysis has been undertaken, systems

Service Management

have been put in place to gather and collate all the required assurance evidence.

Slips, trips and falls continues to be one of the highest cause of incidents. Three Intervention Audits were carried out in the autumn term and learning from the audits will be shared with all schools to try to increase awareness and improve management of slip, trip and fall hazards.

Value for Money

Summary

During quarters 2 and 3 the Senior Management Team has continued to focus on the following areas of activity:

The costs of children's social care which are high compared to other similar authorities and in particular Looked After Children (LAC). Activity and spend on LAC has been reviewed and, as a result, numbers are reducing steadily. The use of Independent Foster Agency placements (IFAs) is now lower than the numbers budgeted for based on previous trend analysis. A joint, sub-regional tendering process has been completed with colleagues in West Sussex that will procure residential and IFA placements at a cost that will offer further budget savings. The recent and sustained national focus on safeguarding children may militate against further progress in this area of work.

Spending on Special Educational Needs (SEN) is also high compared to other similar authorities. The CYPT is actively engaged in reducing out of city placements for children with SEN and funding for local authority schools is under review. This should serve to ensure this area is managed within budget in 2009/10 and with appropriate redirection of resources for 2010/11. This work will build on the successful strategies for LAC.

In addition the Senior Management Team is responsible for the delivery of a VFM plan, which coordinates activity set out in the Service Business Plan held by each Assistant Director.

These activities have contributed to an overall improvement in the council's use of resources, which has been recognised by the Audit Commission.

Issues

2009/10 represents the first stage of a three-year budget strategy. The CYPT is two years old and the budget strategy will align the development of the Trust at the next stage and be reflected in the new Children and Young People's Plan. The main elements of the strategy are:

- An overall reduction in management costs to be achieved through a restructure of management, a review of the area model of service delivery and a review of city wide services
- Rationalisation of accommodation
- Increased contributions from the Sure Start grant to the early years visiting

Service Management

service which is of particular significance given the current national focus on safeguarding

Performance Improvement Activity

Value for Money is a continuing priority for the CYPT and will be addressed through:

- Key service strategies, including those for looked after children and children with special educational needs
- Management of Service Business Plans
- Coordination of the VFM plan
- Continuing improvement in the CYPT's commissioning and procurement arrangements

Workforce

Summary:

- The Core skills programme was published in August 2008. 30 courses, with 362 participants have run to the end of Quarter 3, and 654 licences have now been issued for safeguarding e-learning
- The 2008/09 schools training and development programme was published to all schools.
- The evaluation report of our Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) funded leadership and management pilot has been published and will inform both national and local leadership and management developments.
- The new core skills programme is implementing the LSCB Safeguarding Training Strategy. A Service Level Agreement has been agreed between the LSCB and the Workforce Development Team to ensure risks are eliminated in commissioning training and budgeting. Evaluation of impact of the safeguarding programme will start in Quarter 4.
- The CYPT has invested in the CWDC pilot Induction Year for Newly Qualified Social Workers (12 new staff have started since October 2008). This includes a more systematic approach to development and professional evaluation.
- Substantial changes have been made to the Post Qualifying Modules at Sussex University to improve access to Post Qualifying training for social workers.
- Successful CYPT staff conferences in November focused on the future vision for the CYPT and staff contributed to the next Children & Young People's Plan.

Issues:

Safer recruitment processes and associated training for head teachers and CYPT managers remains a priority.

The CYPT must engage managers in the evaluation of the core skills programme (including safeguarding) to ensure learning transfer is effective and that an integrated development programme is assisting integrated working practices.

DCSF 2020 Children's Workforce Strategy has now been published. Need to ensure this informs our refreshed workforce strategy which will be part of the CYPT's next

Service Management

Children & Young People's Plan.

Future Performance Improvement Reports will address professional development opportunities for other staff cohorts especially nurses and allied health professionals.

Performance Improvement Activity:

The following activities are scheduled for quarter 4:

- Beginning evaluation of the core skills integrated safeguarding programme.
- Ensuring all actions relating to CYPT/schools workforce identified in the LSCB action plan for the Serious Case Review on case G are implemented effectively.
- The CWDC's 'One Children's Workforce Evaluation Tool' will be embedded into our 2009/12 Workforce Development Strategy.

Equalities

Summary:

The CYPT has an Equalities group with Terms of Reference drafted, an Equalities Action Plan and an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) timetable in place. Membership of the group has been reviewed to widen service areas representation. The review of EIAs has started.

Assessments to be completed by April 2009 are:

- Integrated disability services (including PRESENS)
- School admissions
- Adult learning
- Extended services in and around schools
- Private fostering
- Early years services
- The Children and Young People's Plan

The CYPT is represented by the Head of Nursing & Governance at the city council's Equalities Steering Group. Which has in place:

- Equalities and inclusion Policy and Equalities Scheme Action Plan
- An EIA programme 2008-10
- An EIA Toolkit for managers
- A staff training programme

The Local Area Agreement includes Services for Disabled Children (National Indicator 53) as a local indicator.

Service Management

Summary of Brighton and Hove Racist incident data:

Racist Incidents	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
2006/2007	144	82	19	245
2007/2008	136	81	14	231

For the academic year 07/08 we received returns from 100% of B&H schools and levels of reported incidents have remained about the same as in 2006/2007. As a result of support, the number of schools reporting zero racist incidents has reduced, with all secondary schools now formally recording racist incidents. Due to the need to develop further the confidence of all school staff in reporting systems and to improve methods for students to report incidents, it is anticipated that the levels of racist incidents are still higher than has been recorded. This will continue to be a focus of support for schools.

Issues:

There is now dedicated management and leadership time to drive forward the equalities agenda for the CYPT.

Since the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, it has been a statutory requirement for the local authority to gather statistical data from schools outlining the pattern and frequency of any racist incidents. The Racist Incident Reporting data, collected termly from schools, records information relating to the nature and frequency of incidents. This includes location of any incidents, gender, age and ethnicity of perpetrators and victims, indication of any refugee status and whether the incident was religiously motivated.

Performance Improvement Activity:

The CYPT Equalities group will work with the council's Equalities Team to support managers in the CYPT to complete EIAs scheduled for 2008/9. Discussions will continue with the Community and Voluntary Sector Forum to engage key partners to undertake a joint EIA of the Children and Young People's Plan.

The electronic recording system currently used to collect racist incidents data is administratively complex for both school staff and the Schools Data Team. As a result the feasibility of a web based system, as used in a number of other Local Authorities, is being considered. If adopted, it would allow schools to record and track all incidents of bullying as well as racist incidents.

Training for school staff on what constitutes a racist incident and how to effectively respond and record such incidents continues to be provided by the Healthy Schools Team as part of inset training days and consultancy.

A Racist and Religiously Motivated Bullying Prevention Group has been recently established in partnership with the Racial Harassment Forum, the Partnership Community Safety Team and community sector organisations.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 60

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Exclusion from School
Date of Meeting: March 2009
Report of: Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Name: Janet Swingle Tel: 29-4206
E-mail: Janet.swingle@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To provide information on the number of permanent and fixed period exclusions in the year 2007/08 and Autumn 2008 with some additional information to provide context. (Where permanent exclusion is removal from the school roll and fixed period exclusion is removal from school for a specified number of days e.g. one day)
- 1.2 CYPOSC requested this report to understand and comment on the strategies being used to reduce the number of both permanent and fixed term exclusions across the city.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the committee receive the data provided and the strategies in place to reduce the number of exclusions from school across the city, consider and comment on the areas of improvement and areas that require development.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

3.1 Analysis of exclusion data

The data shows that the number of permanent exclusions in Brighton and Hove has significantly reduced over the last three years. They reduced from; 42 in 2005/6 to 9 in 2007/08. We have exceeded our target for reducing permanent exclusions. (There has been two permanent exclusion so far in 2008/9). This information is reported to the DCSF who have praised us for our progress. Fixed period incidents of exclusion reduced from 2580 to 2220 over the same period. There has also been a reduction in the proportion of incidents of exclusion. Whilst this is too many the reduction is in line with DCSF targets and exceeds that made by our closest statistical neighbours. This downward trend is seen when a formula is applied to show incidents as a percentage of the number of students on roll (NOR). Please see tables 1 to 4.

Table 1

2007/08	Permanent	Fixed period
Target/Performance indicator	34	2030
Result	9	2220

Table 2

2006/07	Permanent	Fixed period
Target/Performance indicator	35	2104
Result	18	2419

Table 3

Permanent exclusions	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Primary Actual	11	2	3
Primary as % NOR	0.06	0.01	0.02
Secondary Actual	29	15	5
Secondary as % NOR	0.24	0.12	0.04
Special Actual	2	1	1
Special as % NOR	0.36	0.18	0.20
Total Actual	42	18	9
Total as % NOR	0.14	0.06	0.03

Table 4

Fixed period exclusions	2005/06 Actual	2006/07 Actual	2007/08 Actual
Primary Actual	566	429	385
Primary as % NOR	3.31	2.52	2.35
Secondary Actual	1912	1858	1732
Secondary as % NOR	15.69	15.21	14.39
Special Actual	102	132	103
Special as % NOR	18.61	24.26	20.12
Total Actual	2580	2419	2220
Total as % NOR	8.65	8.11	7.68

3.2 **Additional analysis of data**

The appendix (pages 1 to 8) shows exclusion data by type and category of student. A large majority of schools did not use permanent exclusion. Over half of our primary schools did not exclude at all in 2007/8. The main causes for fixed period exclusion are persistent disruptive behaviour and verbal abuse against adults. (pages 1 to 4). The total number of sessions lost through fixed period exclusion for all primaries is 1088 which represents 544 days lost from a total population of 16376 children (pages 5 to 6). Boys are excluded more than girls from all school phases. There is also an over-representation of students with Special Educational Needs in particular those with Behavioural, Emotional, Social Difficulties (BESD). Both of these factors conform to national trends. Finally page 8 shows the number of children receiving more than one fixed period exclusion (444 of a total of 28922 numbers of Children and young people on a school roll)). Interventions are being targeted to address the needs of these young people

3.3 **Avoiding Permanent Exclusions**

In its guidance on exclusions the DCSF describes permanent exclusion as a 'last resort after a range of measures have been tried to improve pupils' behaviour' (*Improving Behaviour and Attendance: guidance on exclusion from schools and Pupil Referral Units; September 2008*). Every effort is being made to ensure that this is the case in Brighton and Hove. The reduction in permanent exclusions has been achieved through improved collaboration between schools, the Behaviour and Attendance Team, Schools and Community Teams and the Alternative Centre for Education (ACE) to ensure that additional support is put in place for those who need it. Schools are using Pastoral Support Programmes to help pupils better manage their behaviour.

3.4 For those children and young people at most risk of permanent exclusion Area panels can meet and consider short term funding that will enhance the additional support at a time of particular concern. To date approximate fifty students have been offered specific packages that avoid permanent exclusion, this includes a range of interventions including support from ACE through a managed move to an alternative school. Schools are also being given advice on the identification of those at risk and strategies and interventions that support inclusion and offer an alternative to exclusion, whether permanent or fixed period.

3.5 There are currently sixty-five mentors across the city whose role it is to work with individual children and young people and assist them in overcoming their barriers to learning. This work has been well received by our schools. In addition there are thirty trained Lead Behaviour Professionals in our schools whose role it is to take a more strategic look at policy to support positive behaviour management. These two groups have regular opportunities to share best practice and receive continuing professional development. Local guidance on reducing exclusions is in place and vulnerable pupil/student registers are becoming more widely used to assist with the monitoring of interventions.

3.6 In Brighton and Hove we have been keen to ensure that the length of fixed period exclusions is as short as possible. It should be noted that at the same time as reducing permanent exclusions the number of school sessions lost through fixed

period exclusion has reduced; from 16097 sessions lost in 05/06 to 9,409 sessions lost in 07/08 (0.14 as a percentage of possible sessions in 05/06 down to 0.09 as a percentage of possible sessions in 07/08). We take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously and are working to ensure that children and young people miss as small amount of a school as possible.

- 3.7 In order to further identify students at risk of exclusion lists of excluded pupils by school have been provided to the Schools and Communities managers for them to distribute to front line staff as appropriate. These have been sorted in order of sessions lost to enable easy identification of those most in need of intervention.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No consultation has been required; this report is for information only.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 The report updates on exclusions from school.

There are no additional funding implications for permanent exclusions within the City as the Age Weighted Pupil funding for schools would follow the child.

For any fixed term exclusions any additional costs would need to be met from the existing budget.

Finance Officer consulted: Paul Brinkhurst

Date: 25th Feb 2009

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report reflects the general thrust of DCSF policy that exclusions should be prevented as far as possible, and that Local Authorities should develop effective alternatives to exclusion. There are no other specific legal implications arising from the report.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston

Date: 11th March 2009

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Access to a full time appropriate education is important for all children and young people to achieve their potential.

Sustainability Implications

- 5.4 Support offered to schools is regularly updated in line with updated legislation and guidance.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There is a range of evidence that indicates that children whose education is not disrupted by periods out of school achieve better outcomes, economically and socially. Excluded young people are more likely to engage in anti-social behaviour.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 There are welfare implications for children and young people excluded from school.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Part of the set of performance indicators that describe the effectiveness of the Council.

This links to the corporate target ;to reduce inequality by increasing opportunity

CYPT priority 9; To ensure that children and young people enjoy school and show this through good attendance.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Additional data

Please find attached datasheets,

Validated data for Academic Year 2007/08

- Permanent exclusions by phase group
- Fixed period exclusion incidents by phase group
- Fixed period exclusion sessions lost by phase group
- Repeat excludees by phase group

Documents In Members' Rooms

None.

Background Documents

None.

APPENDIX 1

Table 1; 07/08 Permanent Exclusions by Phase group

	Primary				Secondary				Special		Brighton & Hove Total
	Somerhill Junior School	West Hove Junior School	Whitehawk Primary School	Primary Total	Cardinal Newman Catholic School	Falmer High School	Vardean School	Secondary Total	Cedar Centre	Special Total	
Main reason for Exclusion											
Drug and Alcohol related					1			1			1
Persistent disruptive behaviour					1	1	1	3			3
Physical assault against adult	1	1		2							2
Physical assault against pupil			1	1					1	1	2
Verbal abuse against adult					1			1			1
Grand Total	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	5	1	1	9
Maximum SEN Level											
School action					1	1	1	3			3
School action plus					2			2			2
Statemented	1	1	1	3					1	1	4
Grand Total	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	5	1	1	9
Child in Care											
No	1		1	2	3	1	1	5			7
Yes									1	1	1
Blank		1		1							1
Grand Total	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	5	1	1	9
Gender											
Female					2			2			2
Male	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	7
Grand Total	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	5	1	1	9
Pupils ethnicity as identified by parent											
Not returned									1	1	1
White British	1		1	2	2	1	1	4			6
White other background					1			1			1
Blank		1		1							1
Grand Total	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	5	1	1	9

Table 2; 07/08 Fixed Period Exclusion - Incidents by Phase group

	Primary														
	Aldington CE Primary School	Benfield Junior School	Carden Primary School	Carlton Hill Primary School	Coldean Primary School	Coombe Road Primary School	Downs Junior School	Elm Grove Primary School	Goldstone Primary School	Hangleton Junior School	Hertford Junior School	Middle Street Primary School	Moulsecoomb Primary School	Queens Park Primary School	Rudyard Kipling Primary School
Main reason for Exclusion															
Bullying	1														
Drug and Alcohol related															
Persistent disruptive behaviour			5	14	3	1				8		1	2		13
Damage			1												
Other									1				1		
Physical assault against adult			5	21	1		2	1	2	2	2	4	2		2
Physical assault against pupil		2	6	9	2		2			1			7	1	3
Racist Abuse		1								1					3
Sexual misconduct															
Theft															
Verbal abuse against adult	1	2	3	6	1		2			7			1		2
Verbal abuse against pupil			1				1								1
Grand Total	2	5	21	50	7	1	7	1	2	20	2	5	13	1	24
Maximum SEN Level															
No special provision	1		1	2			1								1
School action				4	2		1		1		1			1	9
School action plus	1	5	12	25	1	1	2			6			5		6
School action plus and stat assessment													3		
Statemented			8	5	4		3	1	1	14	1	5	5		8
Blank				14											
Grand Total	2	5	21	50	7	1	7	1	2	20	2	5	13	1	24
Child in Care															
No	2	5	21	45	6	1	5	1	2	20	2	5	13	1	24
Yes				2	1		2								
Blank				3											
Grand Total	2	5	21	50	7	1	7	1	2	20	2	5	13	1	24
Gender															
Female				12	1	1					1				
Male	2	5	21	38	6		7	1	2	20	1	5	13	1	24
Grand Total	2	5	21	50	7	1	7	1	2	20	2	5	13	1	24
Pupils ethnicity as identified by parent															
Bangladeshi															
Other Asian															
Other Asian background															
Black African other															
Black Carribean															
Other Black background															
African Sudanese															
Any other mixed background															1
Mixed White and Asian				2											
Mixed White and Black African															
Mixed White and Black Carribean				2			3								
Not returned															
Any other ethnic group															
Refused	1			1											
White British	1	5	21	42	7	1	4	1	2	20	2	5	13	1	23
White Eastern European															
White Irish															
White Irish Traveller heritage															
White other background				3											
Romany															
Blank															
Grand Total	2	5	21	50	7	1	7	1	2	20	2	5	13	1	24

Table 2; 07/08 Fixed Period Exclusion - Incidents by Phase group

	Primary											Primary Total		
	Saltdean Primary School	Somerhill Junior School	St Bartholomew's CE Primary School	St John The Baptist RC Primary School	St Lukes Junior School	St Mark's CE Primary School	St Mary Magdalen RC Primary School	Stanford Junior School	West Blatchington Junior School	West Hove Infant School	West Hove Junior School		Whitehawk Primary School	Woodingdean Primary School
Main reason for Exclusion														
Bullying														1
Drug and Alcohol related														
Persistent disruptive behaviour			3				1	1		2	88			142
Damage			1								3			5
Other											6			8
Physical assault against adult	1	1	21			3			1		18			89
Physical assault against pupil			2	1		1	1		10		3	14	2	67
Racist Abuse														5
Sexual misconduct														
Theft											2			2
Verbal abuse against adult			2		1	3			1		18			50
Verbal abuse against pupil						2	1				10			16
Grand Total	1	1	29	1	1	9	2	1	12	1	5	159	2	385
Maximum SEN Level														
No special provision				1	1				8			9	1	26
School action							2				1	25		47
School action plus			29					1	3	1	2	75		175
School action plus and stat assessment												17	1	21
Stated	1	1				9			1		2	31		100
Blank												2		16
Grand Total	1	1	29	1	1	9	2	1	12	1	5	159	2	385
Child in Care														
No		1	28	1		9	2	1	6	1	3	159	1	365
Yes									6					11
Blank	1		1	1							2		1	9
Grand Total	1	1	29	1	1	9	2	1	12	1	5	159	2	385
Gender														
Female					1		1					25	1	43
Male	1	1	29	1		9	1	1	12	1	5	134	1	342
Grand Total	1	1	29	1	1	9	2	1	12	1	5	159	2	385
Pupils ethnicity as identified by parent														
Bangladeshi														
Other Asian														
Other Asian background														
Black African other														
Black Caribbean														
Other Black background														
African Sudanese														
Any other mixed background														1
Mixed White and Asian														2
Mixed White and Black African														
Mixed White and Black Caribbean														5
Not returned														
Any other ethnic group									1					1
Refused														2
White British		1	29		1	9	2	1	11	1	3	154	2	362
White Eastern European														
White Irish														
White Irish Traveller heritage														
White other background				1								5		9
Romany														
Blank	1										2			3
Grand Total	1	1	29	1	1	9	2	1	12	1	5	159	2	385

Table 2; 07/08 Fixed Period Exclusion - Incidents by Phase group

	Secondary										Special						Brighton & Hove Total
	Blatchington Mill School	Cardinal Newman Catholic School	Dorothy Stringer School	Falmer High School	Hove Park School	Longhill School	Patcham High School	Portslade Community College	Varndean School	Secondary Total	Alternative Centre for Education (PRU)	Alternative Centre for Education (spec)	Cedar Centre	Downs Park School	Patcham House School	Special Total	
Main reason for Exclusion																	
Bullying		5		1	4	17			5	32					2	2	
Drug and Alcohol related	2	8		2	16	22	1	3	54		1					1	
Persistent disruptive behaviour	25	7	12	82	96	134	39	58	564		10			1	11	717	
Damage	3	12	5	2	7	9		1	55	1	9	1		1	12	72	
Other	6	52		12	2	20	3	11	109		4	2			6	123	
Physical assault against adult	5	2	4	11	7	12	4	4	51		15	1		1	17	157	
Physical assault against pupil	31	60	8	27	24	27	19	18	249		15	5	1		21	337	
Racist Abuse	5	6	1	3	3	2		1	21							26	
Sexual misconduct	1			6	5	4		1	17							17	
Theft	4	3	1	1	2	4		2	20							22	
Verbal abuse against adult	54	66	13	57	64	101	45	37	504	2	23	2		1	28	582	
Verbal abuse against pupil	10	3		6	10	8	1	2	56		5				5	77	
Grand Total	146	224	44	210	240	360	112	138	258	1732	3	82	11	1	6	103	2220
Maximum SEN Level																	
No special provision	65	69	21	35	33	123	12	38	77	473	3	1				4	503
School action	24	53	10	59	84	65	33	66	83	477							524
School action plus	43	72	10	64	73	111	23	29	78	503		1				1	679
School action plus and stat assessment	10			5				4		19							40
Statemeted	4	29	3	47	48	59	41	1	12	244		80	11	1	6	98	442
Blank		1			2	2	3		8	16							32
Grand Total	146	224	44	210	240	360	112	138	258	1732	3	82	11	1	6	103	2220
Child in Care																	
No	134	215	44	199	221	351	84	138	252	1638	3	79	7	1	5	95	2098
Yes	12	5		2	16	8	24		2	69		3	4			7	87
Blank		4		9	3	1	4		4	25					1	1	35
Grand Total	146	224	44	210	240	360	112	138	258	1732	3	82	11	1	6	103	2220
Gender																	
Female	22	52	4	58	83	99	30	39	45	432		10				10	485
Male	124	172	40	152	157	261	82	99	213	1300	3	72	11	1	6	93	1735
Grand Total	146	224	44	210	240	360	112	138	258	1732	3	82	11	1	6	103	2220
Pupils ethnicity as identified by parent																	
Bangladeshi	1									1							1
Other Asian									6	6							6
Other Asian background		2	1					1		4							4
Black African other				3	3				2	8							8
Black Carribean	1								1	2							2
Other Black background	1	11		1						13							13
African Sudanese		8			1					9							9
Any other mixed background	2	12		4	4			2	5	29							30
Mixed White and Asian			2							2							4
Mixed White and Black African	8	4			2	1				15							15
Mixed White and Black Caribbean	2	9		4			1	9	1	26							31
Not returned				4			2		8	14		4	6			10	24
Any other ethnic group	1	5			2			4	4	16							17
Refused		2			5					7							9
White British	130	154	37	175	219	359	104	118	221	1517		77	5	1	6	89	1968
White Eastern European									2	2							2
White Irish		1		6	1			3		11							11
White Irish Traveller heritage							2			2	3					3	5
White other background		15	4	13	1			1		34		1				1	44
Romany									4	4							4
Blank		1			2		3		4	10							13
Grand Total	146	224	44	210	240	360	112	138	258	1732	3	82	11	1	6	103	2220

Table 3; 07/08 Fixed Period Exclusion - Sessions by Phase group

	Primary														
	Aldington CE Primary School	Benfield Junior School	Carden Primary School	Carlton Hill Primary School	Coldean Primary School	Coombe Road Primary School	Downs Junior School	Elm Grove Primary School	Goldstone Primary School	Hangleton Junior School	Hertford Junior School	Middle Street Primary School	Moulseccomb Primary School	Queens Park Primary School	Rudyard Kipling Primary School
Main reason for Exclusion															
Bullying	10														
Drug and Alcohol related															
Persistent disruptive behaviour			10	29	12	2				10		3	24		24
Damage			3												
Other										43			6		
Physical assault against adult			9	42	4		14	2	5	5	5	13	22		6
Physical assault against pupil	6	9	12	14			6			4			58	4	9
Racist Abuse	4									4					6
Sexual misconduct															
Theft															
Verbal abuse against adult	2	4	7	23	4		4			33			4		4
Verbal abuse against pupil			3				6								3
Grand Total	12	14	41	106	34	2	30	2	5	99	5	16	114	4	52
Maximum SEN Level															
No special provision	10		2	3			2								1
School action				7	4		2		3		3			4	22
School action plus	2	14	25	61	5	2	12			22			32		10
School action plus and stat assessment													58		
Stated			14	6	25		14	2	2	77	2	16	24		19
Blank				29											
Grand Total	12	14	41	106	34	2	30	2	5	99	5	16	114	4	52
Child in Care															
No	12	14	41	99	30	2	18	2	5	99	5	16	114	4	52
Yes				3	4		12								
Blank				4											
Grand Total	12	14	41	106	34	2	30	2	5	99	5	16	114	4	52
Gender															
Female				23	4	2					2				
Male	12	14	41	83	30		30	2	5	99	3	16	114	4	52
Grand Total	12	14	41	106	34	2	30	2	5	99	5	16	114	4	52
Pupils ethnicity as identified by parent															
Bangladeshi															
Other Asian															
Other Asian background															
Black African other															
Black Carribean															
Other Black background															
African Sudanese															
Any other mixed background															1
Mixed White and Asian				3											
Mixed White and Black African															
Mixed White and Black Caribbean				16			14								
Not returned															
Any other ethnic group															
Refused	10			2											
White British	2	14	41	80	34	2	16	2	5	99	5	16	114	4	51
White Eastern European															
White Irish															
White Irish Traveller heritage															
White other background				5											
Romany															
Blank															
Grand Total	12	14	41	106	34	2	30	2	5	99	5	16	114	4	52

Table 3; 07/08 Fixed Period Exclusion - Sessions by Phase group

	Primary												Primary Total	
	Saltdean Primary School	Somerhill Junior School	St Bartholomew's CE Primary School	St John The Baptist RC Primary School	St Lukes Junior School	St Mark's CE Primary School	St Mary Magdalen RC Primary School	Stanford Junior School	West Blatlington Junior School	West Hove Infant School	West Hove Junior School	Whitehawk Primary School		Woodingdean Primary School
Main reason for Exclusion														
Bullying														10
Drug and Alcohol related														
Persistent disruptive behaviour			5				6	1		8	184			318
Damage			1								6			10
Other											14			63
Physical assault against adult	5	4	29			20				2	77			264
Physical assault against pupil			4	1		1	2		29	10	63	6		238
Racist Abuse														14
Sexual misconduct														
Theft											5			5
Verbal abuse against adult			12		2	7			1		29			136
Verbal abuse against pupil						3	2				13			30
Grand Total	5	4	51	1	2	31	4	6	31	2	18	391	6	1088
Maximum SEN Level														
No special provision				1	2				25			27	2	75
School action							4			2	41			92
School action plus			51					6	5	2	4	199		452
School action plus and stat assessment											30	4		92
Statemented	5	4				31			1	12	92			346
Blank											2			31
Grand Total	5	4	51	1	2	31	4	6	31	2	18	391	6	1088
Child in Care														
No		4	49	1		31	4	6	11	2	6	391	2	1020
Yes									20					39
Blank	5	4	2		2						12		4	29
Grand Total	5	4	51	1	2	31	4	6	31	2	18	391	6	1088
Gender														
Female					2		2					41	2	78
Male	5	4	51	1		31	2	6	31	2	18	350	4	1010
Grand Total	5	4	51	1	2	31	4	6	31	2	18	391	6	1088
Pupils ethnicity as identified by parent														
Bangladeshi														
Other Asian														
Other Asian background														
Black African other														
Black Carribean														
Other Black background														
African Sudanese														
Any other mixed background														1
Mixed White and Asian														3
Mixed White and Black African														
Mixed White and Black Carirbean														30
Not returned														
Any other ethnic group									1					1
Refused														12
White British		4	51		2	31	4	6	30	2	6	377	6	1004
White Eastern European														
White Irish														
White Irish Traveller heritage														
White other background				1								14		20
Romany														
Blank	5									12				17
Grand Total	5	4	51	1	2	31	4	6	31	2	18	391	6	1088

Table 3; 07/08 Fixed Period Exclusion - Sessions by Phase group

	Secondary										Special						Brighton & Hove Total
	Blatchington Mill School	Cardinal Newman Catholic School	Dorothy Stringer School	Falmer High School	Hove Park School	Loughill School	Patcham High School	Portslade Community College	Vamdean School	Secondary Total	Alternative Centre for Education (PRU)	Alternative Centre for Education (spec)	Cedar Centre	Downs Park School	Patcham House School	Special Total	
Main reason for Exclusion																	
Bullying		38		24	14	44			10	130					6	6	146
Drug and Alcohol related	3	52		7	74	137	4	16		293		4				4	297
Persistent disruptive behaviour	96	32	74	587	471	333	213	271	333	2410		24			2	26	2754
Damage	10	34	25	46	34	26		4	76	255	6	37	5		6	54	319
Other	18	162		66	8	58	26	48	11	397		14	4			18	478
Physical assault against adult	18	6	40	136	34	52	38	24	10	358		50	2		2	54	676
Physical assault against pupil	124	176	62	297	154	101	159	86	148	1307		42	22	2		66	1611
Racist Abuse	14	26	8	30	8	3		2		91							105
Sexual misconduct	8			62	53	24		4		151							151
Theft	16	26	4	2	14	17		8	8	95							100
Verbal abuse against adult	135	269	90	459	291.5	372	304	134	212	2266.5	4	75	6		3	88	2490.5
Verbal abuse against pupil	26	14		30	48	28	8	14	73	241		10				10	281
Grand Total	468	835	303	1746	1203.5	1195	752	611	881	7994.5	10	256	39	2	19	326	9408.5
Maximum SEN Level																	
No special provision	181	236	120	276	148	413	66	158	246	1844	10	6				16	1935
School action	74	196	75	475	391	174	225	301	284	2195							2287
School action plus	170	322	80	529	420	402	165	124	254	2466		6				6	2924
School action plus and stat assessment	34			54				26		114							206
Statemented	9	79	28	412	240.5	202	279	2	54	1305.5		244	39	2	19	304	1955.5
Blank		2			4	4	17			43							70
Grand Total	468	835	303	1746	1203.5	1195	752	611	881	7994.5	10	256	39	2	19	326	9408.5
Child in Care																	
No	428	801	303	1658	1131.5	1170	562	611	856	7520.5	10	245	26	2	17	300	8840.5
Yes	40	18		20	66	23	169		12	348		11	13			24	411
Blank		16		68	6	2	21		13	126					2	2	157
Grand Total	468	835	303	1746	1203.5	1195	752	611	881	7994.5	10	256	39	2	19	326	9408.5
Gender																	
Female	80	190	30	392	385.5	248	176	173	194	1868.5		30				30	1976.5
Male	388	645	273	1354	818	947	576	438	687	6126	10	226	39	2	19	296	7432
Grand Total	468	835	303	1746	1203.5	1195	752	611	881	7994.5	10	256	39	2	19	326	9408.5
Pupils ethnicity as identified by parent																	
Bangladeshi	4									4							4
Other Asian									24	24							24
Other Asian background		6	4					4		14							14
Black African other				24	14				8	46							46
Black Caribbean	2								4	6							6
Other Black background	2	78		22						102							102
African Sudanese		16			4					20							20
Any other mixed background	8	42		34	32			6	30	152							153
Mixed White and Asian			20							20							20
Mixed White and Black African	32	20			6	1				59							59
Mixed White and Black Caribbean	10	32		46			2	41	2	133							163
Not returned				62			16		27	105		10	17			27	132
Any other ethnic group	2	12			14			18	12	58							59
Refused		14			20					34							46
White British	408	541	263	1404	1083.5	1194	705	528	743	6869.5		244	22	2	19	287	8160.5
White Eastern European									4	4							4
White Irish		4		44	20			12		80							80
White Irish Traveller heritage							12			12	10					10	22
White other background		68	16	110	6			2		202		2				2	224
Romany									14	14							14
Blank		2			4	17		13		36							53
Grand Total	468	835	303	1746	1203.5	1195	752	611	881	7994.5	10	256	39	2	19	326	9408.5

Table 4; 07/08 Repeat Excludes by Phase

Phase	School	Total
Primary	Aldrington CE Primary School	0
	Benfield Junior School	1
	Carden Primary School	5
	Carlton Hill Primary School	12
	Coldean Primary School	2
	Coombe Road Primary School	0
	Downs Junior School	2
	Elm Grove Primary School	0
	Goldstone Primary School	0
	Hangleton Junior School	4
	Hertford Junior School	0
	Middle Street Primary School	1
	Moulsecomb Primary School	3
	Queens Park Primary School	0
	Rudyard Kipling Primary School	5
	Saltdean Primary School	0
	Somerhill Junior School	0
	St Bartholomew's CE Primary School	2
	St John The Baptist RC Primary School	0
	St Lukes Junior School	0
	St Mark's CE Primary School	2
	St Mary Magdalen RC Primary School	0
	Stanford Junior School	0
	West Blatchington Junior School	2
	West Hove Infant School	0
	West Hove Junior School	2
Whitehawk Primary School	19	
Woodingdean Primary School	0	
Primary Total		62
Secondary	Blatchington Mill School	25
	Cardinal Newman Catholic School	41
	Dorothy Stringer School	10
	Falmer High School	41
	Hove Park School	55
	Longhill School	76
	Patcham High School	24
	Portslade Community College	29
	Varndean School	52
Secondary Total		353
Special	Alternative Centre for Education (PRU)	1
	Alternative Centre for Education (spec)	26
	Cedar Centre	1
	Downs Park School	0
	Patcham House School	1
Special Total		29
Grand Total		444

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 61

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Summary of Ofsted Reports
Date of Meeting: 25th March 2009
Report of: Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Name: Hilary Ferries, Acting Senior Primary Adviser and Linda Ellis, Senior Secondary Adviser
Tel: 29-3738
29-3686
E-mail: Hilary.ferries@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Linda.ellis@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To consider the report on the outcome of the Ofsted inspections at the beginning of Autumn term 2008 and Spring Term 2009.
- 1.2 CYPOSC receives the Summary of Ofsted Reports 6 monthly.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Committee to consider the report and decide what action, if any they wish to take on a specific issue.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The former Education Overview and Scrutiny Panel agreed (June 2000) that they would receive copies of all Ofsted and denominational reports that had taken place in the preceding period.
- 3.2 In September 2005 a new framework for the inspection of schools was brought into force. This framework reflects the requirement in the Children Act 2004 for Ofsted to develop a framework for the integrated inspection of children's services. This means that schools with childcare provision on site which is overseen by the schools governors' will have both the childcare and educational provision inspected at the same time.

3.3 All schools and early years settings are inspected at least once every three years, usually giving about two days' notice. However, if Her Majesty's Chief Inspector (HMCI) is concerned about the safety or well-being of pupils in a school, HMCI will exercise the right to inspect a school without notice.

- Schools are required to notify parents of the inspection, and to include details of how they can pass their views to inspectors. Parents can ask to speak to inspectors during the inspection and these requests will be accommodated as far as practical.
- The inspections last no longer than two days, and the team consists of from one to five inspectors depending on the size of the school. They look at the school's self-evaluation, consider the school's performance results, and examine the previous inspection report to prepare before the visit. The self-evaluation form is used as the basis for discussion between the lead inspector, the senior team of the school and, where possible, the governors.
- Once they are in the school, the inspectors sit in on lessons and examine the way lessons are planned, among other things. At the end of the inspection they report the school's overall effectiveness, taking into account the **outcomes**;
 - progress pupils make whilst they are in the school
 - attainment of pupils (usually decided by tests or exams)
 - personal development of the pupils

and the quality of **provision**:

- teaching and learning
- delivery of the curriculum and other activities
- care, guidance, and support given
- leadership and management
- the extent to which it enables learners to be healthy
- the extent to which it ensures that learners stay safe
- how well learners enjoy their education
- the extent to which learners make a positive contribution to the school
- how well learners develop workplace and other skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being

These inspections will also evaluate the 'Every Child Matters' five outcomes for children:

- Being Healthy
- Staying Safe
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Making a Positive Contribution
- Achieving Economic Well-Being

- Each aspect above is judged on a four point scale. Outstanding (well above average or much better than usually seen); Good (above average and better than usually seen); satisfactory or adequate (average); Unsatisfactory or inadequate.
 - Under the new framework, the reporting process also includes a letter to pupils at the school which gives them information about the results of the inspection.
- 3.4 If several aspects of the school are inadequate, the inspectors can say that the school requires some intervention from the Local Authority. There are two categories of schools causing concern, those deemed to require special measures and those requiring a notice to improve.
- 3.5 In its January Ofsted inspection Portslade Community College was given a 'notice to improve'. Following support from the advisory service as it has been identified as causing concern over the last few years. A Statement of Action detailing support from the Local Authority, and actions the school will take has been submitted to Ofsted and the school will be visited after 6 months to check that it is making appropriate progress. If it does not show improvement then it will be deemed to require special measures.
- 3.6 Hamilton School for the Deaf, Hertford Infants, Patcham Infants, Patcham Juniors, Royal Spa Nursery and St Martins Primary inspections took place in the Autumn term 2008. Carden Primary, Portslade Community College and West Hove Junior inspections took place in the Spring term 2009. The reports for these schools are attached.
- 3.7 We are also for sending you summaries of Ofsted Inspection reports for Early Years Provision. The judgements in these reports are made in relation to the outcomes for children set out in the Children Act 2004; the National Standards for the Under 8's Day Care and Childminding and the Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage.
- 3.8 Kingfisher Christian Playgroup, Nurserytyme – The Secret Garden, Robins Nursery School and The Wishing Tree Children's Nursery inspections took place in the Autumn term 2008. The reports for these early years settings are attached.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Hertford Infant and Nursery School

Hertford Road, Brighton, BN1 7GF

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 190

The inspection took place on 1-2 October 2008 and was carried out by two Additional Inspectors.

The overall judgement was the Hertford Infant and Nursery School is a good school. The headteacher's strong leadership qualities and the supportive teamwork of the staff have raised the school's reputation locally over the last few years and it is enjoying a resurgence of popularity. Provision in the EYFS is outstanding and the children make exceptional progress. The Curriculum and Care, Guidance and Support are also outstanding.

Positive aspects identified:

- Priorities for improvement are clear and based very well on identified weaknesses
- Teaching is good overall and outstanding in the EYFS
- Pupils achieve well because of their very positive attitude to learning
- Pupils with learning difficulties make exceptional progress
- All areas of the curriculum have an appropriate balance between those chosen by children and those directed by the teacher
- Pupils have an outstanding enjoyment of school and relish opportunities to take responsibility
- Behaviour is always good
- Curriculum planning links first-hand practical or investigative work to the development of pupils' personal and academic skills
- There are extremely strong support systems to ensure pupils progress well both academically and personally
- The highly experienced headteacher provides a clear direction to all the school's work
- Good leadership is ensuring challenging targets are met

What the school should do to improve further:

- Use the good assessment information more effectively to provide the highest level of challenge for all pupils in Years 1 and 2
- Build on the work done to make parents aware of the importance of attending school so that pupils' rates of attendance at least consistently reach the national average.

4.2 Patcham Infant School

Highview Avenue South, Brighton, BN1 8WW

Geographical Area: East

Number of Pupils: 319

The inspection took place on 10 December 2008 and was carried by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors and an Additional Inspector.

The overall judgement was that Patcham Infant is an outstanding school. The school achieved the category of outstanding in all aspects of the inspection. As a result of the excellent quality of education and care provided, all the children develop a great enjoyment of learning and they become well-balanced young people. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is highly effective and excellent progress is sustained throughout the school.

Positive aspects identified:

- The very positive picture from the last inspection has been sustained and built upon
- The EYFS is well led and it meets the needs of all the children
- In EYFS there is a good balance between both adult and child initiated activity and indoor and outdoor activities
- Learning activities are very well planned
- Progress is monitored very closely and appropriate support provided promptly
- All the teachers are highly skilled at engaging the children in learning
- The children understand the purpose of what they are asked to do
- Leadership and management is highly effective
- Excellent professional development is at the heart of the school's success

What the school should do to improve further:

- Ensure the work to develop pupils' creativity in years 1 and 2 is clearly defined and structured, so that it can be promoted effectively and the impact on pupils' work can be monitored

4.3 Patcham Junior School

Ladies Mile Road, Brighton, BN1 8TA

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 381

The inspection took place on the 1-2 October and was carried out by one of her Majesty's Inspectors and two Additional Inspectors.

The overall judgement was that Patcham Junior School is a good school with several outstanding areas of work, most notably supporting the pupil's personal development through the high quality of care provided.

The leaders and managers have made a good impact since the last inspection and there is good capacity for further improvement. The

monitoring of progress is good overall and the outstanding curriculum is a major factor in pupil's enjoyment of their time at the school and in their personal development.

Positive aspects identified:

- The headteacher provides a clear direction but encourages others to contribute their ideas
- The standards reached by the time the pupils leave have risen and are above average
- Teachers and learning support assistants have high expectations of the pupils
- Parents and carers are highly appreciative of the school's work
- Teaching is good with examples of outstanding practice
- The enrichment of the curriculum through clubs and activities is excellent
- Pupils' attitudes and behaviour are outstanding
- Excellent spiritual growth is evident in their thoughtful reflection in assemblies and in discussions of complex issues
- The school has worked hard to give pupils opportunities for creative development and has taken a lead role in the local authority
- The pupils are challenged very well to innovate, to work in teams and to solve problems
- Current priorities for improvement are well linked to areas of need

What the school should do to improve:

- Ensure lessons consistently include activities which challenge all pupils and support them in taking more responsibility for improving their work
- Ensure the monitoring of teaching and learning by all leaders focuses more sharply on outcomes for pupils

4.4 West Hove Junior School

Portland Road, Hove BN3 5JA

Geographical Area: West

Number of Pupils: 490

The inspection took place on the 28-29 January 2009 and was carried out by two of her Majesty's Inspectors and one Additional Inspector.

The overall judgement was that West Hove Junior School is a satisfactory and improving school, where pupils' personal development is now a particular strength. Much significant improvement has been achieved since the arrival of the new Headteacher a year ago. The

'root causes' for standards not being as high as they should be were identified quickly and appropriate action has been taken.

Positive aspects identified:

- A more ambitious vision for the future has been developed which sets challenging goals for pupils' academic and personal development
- The Headteacher has provided good leadership in raising expectations of staff and pupils alike
- Using her wide experience of leadership, the headteacher has worked well with the governors to put together an effective senior leadership team
- Lessons have improved and as a result, standards achieved have begun to rise and pupils are making satisfactory progress
- Pupils are polite and welcoming and attitudes to learning are positive
- Planning has improved so that lessons now provide activities which match pupils' differing needs and sustain their concentration
- Pupils are responding well to the new curriculum
- Extra-curricular provision is good
- Professional development is being well used to improve teaching and the school is gaining considerable expertise from working with the Headteacher and from external sources of training

What the school should do to improve:

- Improve the proportion of teaching which is good or better by ensuring work is always exciting and matched to pupils' needs
- Improve the pupils more thoroughly in deciding how to improve their work so they become more independent as learners
- Ensure all those with leadership responsibilities, including governors, actively monitor the quality of provision and use the outcomes to bring about improvement

4.5 Carden Primary School

County Oak Avenue, Brighton, BN1 8LU

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 420

The Section 5 Inspection took place on 14-15 January 2009 and it was carried out by three Additional Inspectors

The overall judgement was that Carden Primary School is satisfactory with a number of good features. There has been 'remarkable improvements in pupils' behaviour and attitudes' which has had a positive effect on the raising of achievement and standards. Personal development and well-being; care, guidance and support and; spiritual, moral, social and cultural development were all judged to be good. Pupils' achievement and progress is satisfactory.

Positive aspects identified:

- Improvements in behaviour, attendance and mathematics indicate capacity for further improvement
- Strong progress with writing in Years 3 to 6
- Year 6 are on track to achieve their challenging pupil progress targets
- Good induction in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)
- Good range of enrichment activities
- The majority of teaching was at least good
- Teaching is energetic and well-paced so that children are fully attentive and engaged
- The Leadership Team has a clear direction for school improvement
- Strong teamwork is a feature of the school
- School self-evaluation processes are effective
- The school makes good use of strong support from the CYPT

What the school should do to improve further:

- Raise standards in the core subjects, especially in writing, by setting more challenging work in lessons for the more able
- Help all pupils to know how well they are doing and how to improve their work by ensuring consistency in teachers' marking and by setting individual learning targets
- Develop the monitoring and strategic role of governors in helping the school to raise standards

4.6 St Martin's C of E Primary School

Hartington Road, Brighton, BN2 3LJ

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 174

The inspection took place on 12-23 November 2008 and was carried out by two Additional Inspectors.

The overall judgement was that St Martin's C o E Primary School is satisfactory with a number of strengths. Considerable changes and

uncertainties within the leadership team have understandably interrupted the school's development. Personal development and well-being was judged to be good. Pupils' achievement and progress are satisfactory.

Positive aspects identified:

- The new and very experienced acting headteacher and the new deputy headteacher have re-established a sense of clarity of direction
- The school is already improving and is securely placed to improve further
- Standards are improving after a previous decline
- The pupils respond very positively to practical activities and enriching events
- The children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) are well cared for
- The children make good progress in personal and social skills and physical development
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good
- There are examples of good teaching and learning
- The curriculum is broad with planning covering the required range of subjects and there are good enrichment activities
- The care and support for all pupils is good and is frequently exemplary for specific pupils who experience particular problems and those who are more vulnerable
- The governors fulfil their roles well and they have worked with commitment and determination to maintain stability

What the school should do to improve further:

- Improve teaching by ensuring teachers demonstrate consistently high expectations of pupils and match work carefully to the needs of different pupils in order to accelerate progress, especially in writing and mathematics
- Clarify and develop the roles of the extended leadership team with training to enable leaders to carry out rigorous and systematic checks on the school's performance
- Make better use of the improved assessment information when guiding pupils about their next steps in learning and when arranging or reviewing additional support for specific groups of pupils

- Strengthen the curriculum by making more links between subjects, increasing the opportunities for investigative and collaborative work and adapting it to reflect the needs of the more able

4.7 Royal Spa Nursery School

Park Hill, Brighton, BN2 0BT

Geographical Area: East

Number of Pupils: 63

The Inspection took place on 1st October 2008 and was carried out under section 5 of the Education Act 2005.

The overall judgement was that Royal Spa Nursery School is an outstanding school.

Positive aspects identified:

- Highly skilled teachers and nursery nurses have an excellent understanding of how young children learn
- Excellent strategies have been put in place to further encourage children's acquisition of early reading and writing skills
- Staff and governors pay excellent attention to children's welfare and the nursery is a safe and happy place
- The inclusion of children who have special learning, behavioural, language or cultural needs is excellent
- Outstanding leadership provided by the headteacher

What the school should do to improve further:

- Build on and extend the contribution made by staff and governors to determine the future direction of the school

4.8 Portslade Community College

Chalky Road, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 2WS

Geographical Area: West

Number of Pupils: 978

Portslade Community College was inspected 21st and 22nd January 2009. The school has been given a notice to improve as the school's overall effectiveness is judged inadequate. The inspector's opinion is that this school requires significant improvement, because it is performing significantly less well than in all the circumstances it could reasonably be expected to perform. Significant improvement is required in the achievement and standards of students in Years 7 to 11, in the quality of teaching and learning, and the use of assessment information.

Leadership and management are satisfactory and improving. The new executive headteacher is building a strong team and has a realistic view of the college's strengths and weaknesses.

Standards across the range of subjects, and the proportion of students gaining five or more A* to C grades including English and mathematics, remain well below average.

Students' personal development and well being are satisfactory and most pupils behave appropriately in lessons. Attendance is satisfactory.

The quality of teaching and learning is satisfactory overall but inconsistent. The range of courses suits most pupils but there is a need to offer a greater range to meet the needs of all.

The care guidance and support provided for students are satisfactory.

The sixth form is providing a satisfactory standard of education with students making satisfactory progress. There is a need to provide a wider range of courses.

The early years and foundation stage provision is outstanding with a highly committed supervisor leading a strong team of skilled staff. Parents are delighted with the high quality of care and children thrive and develop rapidly in all areas of learning.

The school will receive a review visit in 6-9 months. By which time it needs to show that there is improvement in:

- the quality of teaching so that more lessons are good or better in order to accelerate students' progress in all subjects and raise standards substantially
- the use of assessment so that tasks and activities are carefully tailored to the needs of different groups; provide students with good quality guidance on how they can improve or develop their work
- the capacity of leaders at all levels so that monitoring and evaluation lead to accurate self-evaluation which results in effective actions to secure improvement
- the planned range of the curriculum so that it meets the needs and aspirations of all students

4.9 Hamilton Lodge

Walpole Road, Brighton, BN2 0LS
Geographical Area: East

Number of Pupils: 70

Hamilton Lodge School for Deaf Children is a non-maintained special school. It provides a good quality education that is supported by outstanding residential provision. The school's outstanding promotion of equal opportunity reflects leaders' excellent approach towards establishing community cohesion.

Pupils love going to school and attend as often as they can. They behave extremely well in lessons and around the building. They are very enthusiastic learners and are taught well as staff are skilled communicators. Therefore, pupils are in a good position to benefit from the activities with which they are provided and so learning proceeds at a good rate. Pupils' delayed language and communication skills mean that standards of work are extremely low, but despite this pupils achieve well from their starting points. The curriculum is good, with a well-balanced enrichment programme. The school provides residential provision of the highest quality. It is a safe, caring and stimulating environment in which young people develop as individuals and fulfill their potential as deaf young people living within the wider community.

What the school should do to improve further

- Streamline school improvement planning by prioritising the few initiatives that will have the most impact on the school's development, and involve governors more in the process
- Implement more rigorous and consistent assessment procedures to determine pupils' attainments so that their progress can be determined more accurately
- Share National Curriculum level targets with pupils and make more frequent use of the level descriptors to show them what they need to do to make progress

4.10 Nurserytyme – The Secret Garden

49a Goldstone Villas, Hove

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 61 children on roll. 39 children attend at one time.

Type of care: Childcare on non-domestic premises [privately owned playgroup]

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement : Satisfactory

Positive aspects identified:

- Children are safe and secure at all times and enjoy their time in the setting
- Children are keen to learn and explore the learning environment
- The positive relationships with parents and other agencies contributes to ensuring that the needs of all children are met and they get the additional support they need

What the setting should do to improve further:

- Develop observations on children's progress to ensure their next steps in their learning are identified and used in planning to promote learning
- Further encourage children to link sounds to letters in their daily activities
- Improve hygiene practices in relation to the cleanliness of the children's bathrooms and the adult toilet

4.11 Robins Nursery School

The Pavilion, 25-27 Leicester Villas, Hove

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils : 42 aged 2-5 years (a maximum of 24 children may attend at any one time)

Type of care: Childcare on non-domestic premises [privately owned playgroup]

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement was: Outstanding

Positive aspects identified:

- Excellent ethos enables all children to achieve exceptionally well
- Excellent quality of provision is underpinned by the clear vision of the manager and the drive for continuous improvement which is shared by all staff
- Excellent systems are in place to track children's progress
- Excellent and very effective partnership working with parents

What the setting should do to improve further:

- Review the systems for recording any child protection concerns in line with the Local Children Board local guidance and procedures

4.12 The Wishing Tree Children's Nursery

14 Carden Avenue, Brighton

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 120 - 78 attending at one time

Type of care: Childcare on non-domestic premises [privately owned playgroup]

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement : Outstanding

Positive aspects identified:

- A highly organised and effectively managed staff team ensures children enjoy learning and their individual welfare needs are comprehensively supported
- The planning, presentation and delivery of the early learning programme is highly effective and children make excellent progress
- The links with parents are highly organised

What the setting should do to improve further:

- Develop the range of learning opportunities for children in the outdoor environment

4.13 Kingfisher's Christian Playgroup

200, Nevill Avenue, Hove

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 25

Type of care: Childcare on non-domestic premises [privately owned playgroup]

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement was: Satisfactory

Positive aspects identified:

- Children play happily whilst being cared for by a friendly, caring staff team that is well deployed
- The playgroup offers an inclusive early years provision, where each child is valued and respected
- Partnership with parents works well and information is freely exchanged
- Children benefit from the staff's sound knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage
- Children form trusting relationships with staff and behave well

What the setting should do to improve further:

- Plan a wider range of outdoor physical challenges using a range of equipment and resources
- Extend opportunities for children to explore, practise and build up ideas, concepts, skills and problem solve through child initiated activities
- Improve children's assessments and profiles to ensure that they show a clear picture of their development and progress, and that the learning intentions, next steps and teaching practices have been effective in supporting their needs
- Ensure rooms are maintained at a temperature which ensures the comfort of children and staff

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 Schools are funded via a formula and any resource implications from the Ofsted inspections would have to be met from their formula allocation.

We are working with schools in producing three year budget plans, to ensure they can live within their budget in the long term. Some of the schools will have to make difficult decisions in the short to medium term in order to achieve their educational targets as well as living within their budgets.

Support may be available from LA funds to aid the action plan of any school, however any support given will be from within existing budgets.

For those Early Years settings any implications would have to be met from their own resources, although they may well take advice from the council's Early Years team.

Finance Officer Consulted: Andy Moore, Schools Principal Accountant, CYPT Finance

Date: 26th February 2009

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynasten, Lawyer, CYPT

Date: 9th March 2009

Equalities Implications:

5.3 Support to ensure all schools are good will produce equality for all young people.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 Sustaining school improvement requires continued employment of appropriate advisers to support and challenge schools.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 Effective schools engage young people in their communities and provide a moral framework.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 No formal risk assessment has been made.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 The quality of education provision is a major indicator in the overall assessment of corporate performance.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

None

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. *Full inspection reports available from Overview and Scrutiny Support Officers*

CHILDRENS AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 62

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC) Work Plan for 2009/10

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 25 March 2009

Report of: Director of Strategy & Governance

Contact Officer: Name: Sharmini Williams Tel: 29-0451
E-mail: sharmini.williams@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 CYPOSC need to develop a Work Programme that should include a mixture of forward looking policy development issues, performance monitoring and post decision and implementation scrutiny.
- 1.2 Any work programme needs to be developed taking into account the full range of issues under the Terms of Reference (TOR). There also needs to be coordination with partner agencies and the Local Area Agreement (LAA) priorities.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To consider and make suggestions for a CYPOSC 2009/10 Work Programme and discuss ideas at the next Pre-meeting.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 CYPOSC is presented with the 2008/9 Work Programme with a summary of what recommendations the Committee made to each of the reports and the TOR for comment.

- 3.2 A list of broad strategic issues have been identified as priorities from Children's Services have been put forward for the 2009/10 work programme, that the Committee may want to consider.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 No formal consultation was undertaken.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 No financial implications have been identified.

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 No legal implications are anticipated and no legal advice has been sought.

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Some of the items listed in the work programme have significant equalities implications and members should bear this in mind when considering the work programme.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 Some of the items listed in the work programme have some sustainability implications and members should bear this in mind when considering the work programme.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 No crime and disorder implications have been identified.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 No risk and opportunity management implications have been identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 In determining the work programme for CYPOSC, members should be aware of the Council's corporate priorities, particularly the priority to "reduce inequality by increasing opportunity".

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. **Appendix 1** - Work programme for 2008/9 and what action was taken
2. **Appendix 2** - Terms of Reference
3. **Appendix 3 – DRAFT Work Programme for 2009/10**

Documents in Members' Rooms:

Not applicable.

Background Documents:

None

**Children and Young people's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC)
Work Programme for 2008/9 and action taken**

Date report went to CYPOSC	Report title	What action taken
25 June 2008	Committee Terms of Reference Report	Report was noted
	Scrutiny and the Council's Forward Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report was noted 2. Cabinet Member and Director of Children's Services be invited to the next meeting
	Towards a Work Programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set up a working group and develop a draft work programme 2. Receive an update on the Falmer Academy at each meeting 3. Receive a report on the Food for Life standard following a referral from the Sustainability Commission.
	Co-opted members to CYPOSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children's Social Care and Health Matters be asked to continue their membership on 2. Closer working with the Youth Council who can refer issues to the committee but that no youth representative is necessarily required on the committee 3. Inclusion within it's co-opted membership a representative from the community and voluntary sector forum.
24 September 2008	Director of Public Health's Annual Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report was noted 2. establish a working group to examine the report and add relevant items to the work programme 3. Membership of the working group to comprise of Cllrs. Older, McCaffrey, Wakefield-Jarrett & Dr. Britton

	Food for Life `	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report was noted 2. After the Brighton & Hove School food Audit is completed the results from the audit be reported back 3. The report be referred to the 9 October 2008 Council meeting for information
	Falmer Academy Update	The presentation was noted
	Summary of Ofsted Reports and Diocesan Inspections of Voluntary Aided Schools	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report was noted 2. Chairman write to schools with outstanding reports
	Work Programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft work programme be adopted 2. An Ad-hoc panel be established to investigate issues relating to the problematic use of alcohol by under 18's
19 November 2008	Presentation from Vanessa Brown & Di Smith	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Presentation was noted 2. Information on the ratio of Children to Social Workers and Health Visitors was requested
	Support for pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL)	Report was noted
	1 st Quarter Performance and Improvement report 2008/9	Report was noted and it was agreed to the action being taken
	Draft priorities for the Children and Young People's Plan	Needs to encapsulate the complexities of children's lives, rather than being based upon discrete "single issues"
	Falmer Academy Update	Report was noted
	Work Programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise Work Programme layout as agreed 2. Primary Schools Admissions Forum is moved to 28 March 2009, instead of 28 January 2009 3. Update on the Children with complex needs would be received at the 28 January 2009 4. No further information was required on Merging of infant and junior schools 5. Agreed to accept the Summary of Ofsted reports 6 monthly

28 January 2009	Falmer Academy Update	Report was noted
	Traveller Education Team Annual Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approved the report 2. The annual report and any major issues which have risen be brought to CYPOSC
	An Update on Children with additional needs (presented by Carrie Britton)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report was noted 2. Thanked Dr. Britton and Parent Carers Council 3. To receive a more in depth report from the CYPT and it's Partnership Boards at the 25 March 2009 before addressing the recommendations in this report
	An Update on Children with additional needs (presented by Liz Rugg)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members requested a detailed response to the recommendations made in Agenda Item 46 "Children with additional needs" : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually review delivery of protocols/charters that BHCC has signed up to • Encourage better joint intelligence • Widen evidence heard at CYPOSC • Work with partners to consider reform and reconfiguration of services across hospital/community boundary for children with ongoing and complex health needs • Seek and support representation from the Parents Carers' Council • Smarter use of consultation information from service user groups • Look at further funding for the Parent Carer Council 2. Additionally, a response is requested to include a view as to how CYPOSC can best engage with service users in the future.

	Children's Centres	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report was noted 2. To include children with additional needs in the equalities implications within any future reports
	Standards in Early Years Foundation Stage and key Stages 1-5, 2007-8	Report was noted
	Work Programme	The work programme to reflect and link closely with the Children's Trust Board and bring relevant items from the Governance Committee

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYPOSC)

Terms of Reference

“To perform the Overview and Scrutiny function in relation to all matters, Executive decisions and service provision connecting to the Children and Young People Cabinet function and in particular:-

- the provision, planning and management of children's social services in Brighton & Hove;
- the provision, planning and management of education in Brighton & Hove;
- the health of the authority's children and young people, including contribution to the development of policy and service to improve health and reduce health inequalities, all in accordance with the principles of section 7 of the Health & Social Care Act 2001, but provided that matters relating to general health strategies and services not specifically for children and young people shall be the function of the Council's Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee;
- the development of integrated children's services under the Children and Young People's Trust;
- all of the functions of the Council as an education authority under the Education Acts, School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and all other relevant legislation in force from time to time;
- the development of the Council's Children and Young People's Plan. “

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Issue	Date	Reason coming to CYPOSC
Sure Start Children’s Centre Self Evaluation City Wide Summary	Weds. 17 June	Requested by CYPOSC; will explain the locating of Children’s Centre’s
Ad-hoc panel report- reducing alcohol related harm to children & young people	Weds. 17 June	To be approved and agree where the recommendations needs to go to
4 th Quarter Performance & Improvement report	Weds. 17 June	CYPOSC to comment
Draft Work Programme	Weds. 17 June	CYPOSC to add ideas and approve

Suggested items as these priorities:

1. Special Educational Needs (SEN)/ Special Schools – sharing outcomes/ recommendations of the reports
2. Building Schools for the Future - is potentially the largest capital programme that the City will have in the near Future. Two bids totalling £200 million have been submitted to the DCSF/PfS (Partnership for Schools) which will transform the Secondary School Estate within the City and create learning opportunities for all young people for the 21st century
3. Obesity – (1 of the 10 PCT priorities)
4. Teenage pregnancy– (1 of the 10 PCT priorities)
5. Health Inequalities – (1 of the 10 PCT priorities)
6. Child Poverty- new strategy and involvement from the LAA is required
7. Equalities – Charter on the Rights of Child
8. Update on the work of the Traveller Education Service in B&H with reference to the Achievement Programme Model.

In addition the regular Committee items:

Summary of Ofsted Reports- receive 6 monthly

Standards report – annual test/results report

Performance Improvement Reports

Children & Young People’s Plan (CYPP) updates

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Items from 2008-9 work programme:

Children and Young People's Voice and Participation– Mark Price's paper (sent out with Agenda and Memo 11 November 2008)
Energy costs for schools – receive any report the Overview and Scrutiny Commission receive