



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	Children & Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date:	16 September 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, Drake, Hyde, Smart and Wakefield-Jarrett

Statutory Co-optee with Voting Rights

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

Non-Statutory Co-optees without Voting Rights

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

AGENDA

Part One	Page
11. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS (Copy attached).	1 - 2
12. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 17 June 2009. (Copy attached).	3 - 8
13. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS	
14. PUBLIC QUESTIONS The closing date for receipt of public questions was 12 noon on the 8 September 2009. No public questions have been received.	
15. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS Letter from Councillor Kevin Allen.	9 - 10
16. BARRIERS TO THE TAKE UP OF SCHOOL MEALS Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Steve Healey Tel: 29-3444</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	11 - 28
17. THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL CLOSURES ON CITY SCHOOLS Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Steve Healey Tel: 29-3444</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	29 - 34
18. OFSTED INSPECTION REPORTS Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Linda Ellis Tel: 29-3686</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	35 - 60
19. CORPORATE PARENTING Report of the Director of Children's Services. <i>Contact Officer: Liz Rugg Tel: 295388</i> <i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	61 - 74

20. UPDATE ON SAFEGUARDING

75 - 84

Report of the Director of Children's Services.

Contact Officer: Steve Barton

Tel: 29-6105

Ward Affected: All Wards;

21. 4TH QUARTER OF THE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT REPORT (PIR)

85 - 120

Report of the Director of Children's Services.

Contact Officer: Steve Barton

Tel: 29-6105

Ward Affected: All Wards;

22. WORK PROGRAMME

**121 -
122**

Copy attached.

Contact Officer: Sharmini Williams

Tel: 29-0451

Ward Affected: All Wards;

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

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

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

Date of Publication - Tuesday, 8 September 2009

Agenda Item 11

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 17 JUNE 2009

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

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

Statutory Co-optees: with voting rights:: Nigel Sarjudeen (Diocese of Chichester) and David Sanders (Diocese of Arundel & Brighton)

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

Apologies: Councillor Lynda Hyde and Councillor Mrs Pat Drake

PART ONE

1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

1.1 Declaration of Substitutes

Councillor Dawn Barnett was substituting for Councillor Lynda Hyde. Councillor Pat Drake sent her apologies.

1.2 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Ben Duncan declared a personal but non-prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 5a, on the grounds that he has a son who is currently required to pay for school meals.

1.3 Declaration of Party Whip

There were none.

1.4 Exclusion of the Press and Public

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

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

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 The Committee approved the Minutes of the meeting on the 25 March 2009.

3. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 The Chairman welcomed David Sanders from the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, Statutory Co-optee, from the Catholic Diocese.

3.2 The Chairman welcomed 2 further Youth Council representatives - Sarah Khaddar and Azdean Boulaich and further representatives who were in the public gallery Kenya Simpson- Martin, Rohan Lowe and Alex Qiu.

3.3 The Chairman informed the Committee that Rachel Travers had replaced Jonathan Stearn as the Community Voluntary Sector Forum (CVSF) representative.

3.4 At the Chairman's discretion the Agenda items were altered with items being tabled in the following order:

5,8,6,7,9 and 10.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

4.1 There were none.

5. QUESTIONS AND LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS

5.1 Members discussed 3 scrutiny proposals which were:

- Universal Free Schools Meal – Councillor Rachel Fryer
- St. Mary's Hall School – Councillor Ben Duncan
- School Exclusions – Councillor Bob Carden

5.2 RESOLVED –

(1) Members agreed to receive a detailed report on the Universal Free School Meals at the next CYPOSC meeting, to decide whether any future action needs to be taken.

(2) Members agreed to receive a detailed report on the questions asked about the closure of St. Mary's School at the next CYPOSC meeting.

(3) Members agreed that School Exclusions was an important issue and to set up an Ad-hoc Panel. Rachel Travers (Co-optee) put herself forward to sit on the Panel.

6. UPDATE ON THE FALMER ACADEMY

6.1 This item was taken after Agenda Item 8.

- 6.2 Rod Derbyshire the new Project Manager for the Falmer Academy updated the Committee on the progress of the Academy which included the:
- Project Procurement Status Report
 - Appointment of the new Principal
 - Planning Submission
 - Project timeline and progress status report
 - Consultation activities

6.3 In response to a question on staff morale and how many staff vacancies there were, the Project Manager advised from his experience to date, that the Staff appeared to be very supportive and enthused by the project and he understood that there are no abnormal issues regarding staffing for the coming academic year.

6.4 In answer to a question on examination performance, this information required further clarification and Officers would e-mail Members with the information.

6.5 The Chairman asked Members to contact the Project Manager directly with any further queries that they may have.

6.6 **RESOLVED-**

(1) Further clarification to be provided on the targets for examination results.

(2) It was agreed to have an update on the Falmer Academy at the 18 November 2009 meeting.

7. SURE START CHILDREN'S SELF EVALUATION CITY WIDE SUMMARY

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

7.2 In answer to a question on the lack of background evidence for the grading of the Sure Start Children's Centres performance, Members were informed that the gradings were based on an assessment of performance against the national Children's Centres Standards matrix which includes grade descriptors for each outcome. Each of the eight full Self Evaluation Framework (SEF) reports contained a more detailed analysis with the reasons for the grades. CYPOSC had received a précis of these reports.

7.3 In answer to a question on whether further information on disabled children was available, Members were told that there were issues regarding IT systems and therefore it was difficult to provide monitoring information on the take up of services by particular groups. This was recognised as a weakness and a priority for future action in the report. Members commented that specialised needs were being unsupported and requested that further information on these IT issues be e-mailed to them.

7.4 In response to a question on high levels of obesity and low levels of breastfeeding in Hangleton, Members were told that there is a link between the two and the Children's Centre team were working with families in the area to promote breast-feeding and reduce obesity.

- 7.5 Azdean Boulaich (Youth Council Representative) questioned why the performance for the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile in the Roundabout Children's Centre area had reduced between 2007 and 2008. Members were informed that improving performance here was a key priority for the children's centre working together with Whitehawk Primary School. Action includes additional support for Whitehawk Primary School from the Early Years Consultants, additional support for children attending Roundabout Nursery and support for families in their own homes.
- 7.6 Further information on Breastfeeding was requested by Councillor Juliet McCaffrey.

RESOLVED-

- (1) Members noted the report and requested further information on :
- (i) Data collection IT issues.
 - (ii) Councillor Juliet McCaffrey is to receive further information on Breastfeeding.

8. AD-HOC PANEL DRAFT REPORT: REDUCING ALCOHOL RELATED HARM TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- 8.1 This item was taken after Agenda Item 5c.
- 8.2 Councillor Ann Norman, Chairman of the Children and Alcohol Ad-hoc Panel presented the report and answered questions with the other two Panel Members Councillors Ben Duncan and Juliet McCaffrey.
- 8.3 Councillor Ann Norman congratulated Overview and Scrutiny Officers on the report and thanked Sussex Police, partners within the NHS, alcohol retailers, school head teacher, and the Council's Licensing, Trading Standards, Public Health, Children's Alcohol Services and School Services for their assistance in under taking the study.
- 8.4 The Youth Council were also thanked for their input and a Youth Council representative, Kenya Simpson-Martin for meeting up separately and providing valuable evidence which was used in the report.
- 8.5 Azdean Boulaich (Youth Council representative) questioned whether the council did have more powers and whether a reduction in the number of outlets that young people could buy cheap alcohol from, wouldn't that might create a black market type environment which could be more dangerous for young people. The Panel Members responded that there was no evidence to back this and that parents have a responsibility to prevent their children getting alcohol from other means.
- 8.6 Sarah Khaddar (Youth Council representative), asked what types of alternative activities the Panel had in mind and whether there was funding available. The Panel Members responded that it could be somewhere that young people could go to arrange other activities for example like team sports, youth clubs and that this recommendations needed to be supported within the Youth Alcohol Strategy.

A further question was asked by Sarah, as to whether private funding would be accepted and Panel Members agreed that this could be potentially a good idea.

A further comment from Sarah was that the dangers of making alcohol harder to obtain, may just make it more attractive for young people.

8.7 It was commented that Youth Outreach Workers were already engaging with young people in parks and this was a valuable service that the Children's Trust provided.

8.8 Sarah commented that there was lack of education in schools on the health issues relating to drinking alcohol at a young age as necessary.

8.9 **RESOLVED-** The Committee endorsed the report Reducing Alcohol related harm to Children and Young People report and agreed to refer the report to the Council's Executive, Licensing Committee, partner organisations and the Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) Board as necessary.

9. CONSULTATION ON THE CYPP - PROPOSED WORKSHOP

9.1 Steve Barton, Assistant Director- Strategic Commissioning and Governance told the committee that this pre-decision scrutiny workshop would be their opportunity to consider and comment of the draft Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).

9.2 RESOLVED-

(1) Members agreed to the one off workshop.

(2) The potential date and time is to be arranged via e-mail.

10. DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2009-10

10.1 It was noted that a Work Planning meeting took place on the 1 June 2009 with Councillors Averil Older, Juliet McCaffrey and Vicky Wakefield-Jarrett.

10.2 It was also noted that the work programme was a live document and would change accordingly.

10.3 For the 16 September, 2009 Committee, the Exclusions report is to be taken off; the Committee have agreed to have an Ad-hoc Panel instead.

Universal Free School Meals and the Closure of St. Mary's School are two additional reports that would be received at the next meeting.

10.4 A Member requested to receive a report on the Chailey Heritage for 20 January, 2010.

10.5 It was commented on the important work that CYPOSC were doing and that limited resources and the number of meetings resulted in full Agenda's.

10.6 RESOLVED –

(1) The Work Programme was agreed.

(2) Universal Free School Meals and the Closure of St. Mary's School to be heard at the next CYPOSC meeting.

(3) A report on the Chailey Heritage to be received at the 20 January, 2010 meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.00pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 15

Brighton & Hove City Council

Letter to Cllr Averil Older

Dear Averil

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

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

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

Regards

Kevin

Cllr Kevin Allen

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 16

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Barriers to the take up of school meals
Date of Meeting: 16th September 2009
Report of: Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Name: **Steve Healey** Tel: **293444**
E-mail: steve.healey@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The provision of school meals is a valuable means of promoting healthy eating habits and forms part of a wider process in our schools of supporting a healthy lifestyle for all pupils. Increasing the take up of school meals, whether paid meals or pupils entitled to free school meals, will contribute towards improving the life chances of pupils and to the Council's childhood obesity targets. The availability of a nutritious midday meal also helps pupils make the most of their school day, aids concentration and helps their full participation in school activities.
- 1.2 A packed lunch provided by a parent or carer can also meet high nutritional standards and provide the benefits described above. However, in some cases pupils with a packed lunch will not be provided with the nutritionally balanced midday meal they need. It is also more difficult for schools to monitor whether the lunch provided will sustain the pupil through the school day. The Council seeks to increase the number of school meals taken by paying customers and to ensure that those entitled to a free school meal take it.
- 1.3 Appendix 1 is the response provided by Public Health to the two remaining Councillor questions on health inequalities and possible sources on funding trail free-school meal pilot projects.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the factors influencing the level of take up for school meals, including the information supplied in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 That the Committee notes the measures being taken to increase the level of take up for paid and free meals.

- 2.3 That the Committee determines whether it should take any further action with regard to the take up of school meals.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 School meals take up within the Brighton & Hove primary schools is currently 33.7%. Secondary numbers are at 21%. However, these are taken for NI (National Indicator) 52 for 2008 -2009 published 9 July 2009 which does not take into account pupil absences, examination leave, snow closures or other factors affecting the possible take up of school meals. Nonetheless there is clearly room to build meals numbers. The primary figure is above average for the South East (27.9%), our neighbouring authorities reported the following primary school uptake figures – East Sussex (32%), Kent (31.4%) and West Sussex (10.8%) but below the 43% National uptake figure. The take up at secondary is significantly below the SE average which is 30.4%. E. Sussex (28.6%), Kent (30.6%), West Sussex (26.3%), National figure 38%. However, a significant proportion of secondary children eat at morning break time, and this is not taken into account in NI52 which only records lunch time service. On the basis of the same indicator the proportion of entitled pupils taking free meals in Brighton & Hove is 73% in primary and 71% in secondary. Again, these figures do not take into account pupil absence or other reasons they might not be in school to take a meal.
- 3.2 Meals numbers locally have not fully recovered from the fall that took place in 2005 following Jamie Oliver's television series and the subsequent national media attention. Since that time the Government has introduced prescribed nutritional standards for school meals, and locally the cost of producing school meals has increased through the introduction of more fresh ingredients and a reduction in the use of processed foods. This together with above inflation food costs has increased school meal costs considerably. The current selling price per meal to parents for a primary school meal (£1.90, increased to £2 in September) does not cover the full cost of providing a meal; the difference is currently met using the School Lunch Grant. The grant is confirmed for the next two academic years, beyond that its future is not yet known. If it was withdrawn by the Government then the Council would need either to increase the price of a school meal to parents or find alternative funding to maintain the subsidy. Such an increase would also impact on the free school meals budget which the Council must provide to cover the costs of free school meals.
- 3.3 At present all primary and special schools meals are provided as part of a contract with Chartwells, part of the Compass Group. The recently extended contract is due to finish 31 July 2011. Schools may choose to buy into the contract or make their own school meals arrangements. From September 2009 six secondary schools will provide meals, including free meals to entitled pupils, through their own individually negotiated contracts. The three schools within the PFI contract have their meals supplied as part of the PFI contractual arrangements.

3.4 Experience shows that pupils choose whether or not to have lunch based on a number of different reasons. The key determinants are identified below:

- a) Do they like the meal which is on offer? Evidence from the Hull free meals experiment showed even when all meals are provided free of charge children will not eat what they do not like.
- b) Do customers recognise the food on offer? The School Food Trust nutrient based standards require more traditional style meals to meet the nutrient target. There is a lack of confidence/knowledge of some food items by pupils.
- c) Price of the meal. High prices and large increases will deter pupils and their parents especially larger families.
- d) Methods of payment. Ease and speed of payment may encourage take up as the child's lunch time is not then all taken up over the meal. An online cashless pre-payment system is likely to improve take up by making the system more convenient for parents and carers. Potentially it can also provide detailed information on the pattern of meals take up and even pupil level data.
- e) The layout and seating of the dining room. Can children sit with their friends? Are pupils segregated by lunch choice e.g. packed lunches on one table and school meals on others?
- f) The dining room environment and the length of the lunch break. Are children expected to rush through a meal? Do they spend a long time queuing?
- g) Support and encouragement from lunch time supervisory staff. Do they assist children in taking their meal or is their time taken up dealing with administrative tasks or other duties?
- h) Are packed lunchers allowed to eat outside in the summer months?
- i) The levels of noise in the dining room.

3.5 The Council's responses to these issues are:

- a) Extensive work is taking place in partnership with the contractor for primary schools in order to deliver a popular menu which nonetheless delivers on prescribed nutritional standards. This is made harder by the inevitability that some children have a preference for food which less healthy. Schools, the Healthy Schools Team and the School Meals Team are working together with schools to promote healthy menus and have recently launched an incentive scheme which encourage children to eat fruit and vegetables.
- b) Schools, the Healthy Schools Team and the School Meals Team are also working with pupils to develop their knowledge of food items and their

willingness to try them. In many schools this includes taking part in growing and preparing fruit and vegetables, the identification of foods to pupils verbally and encouragement from cooks to try new things

- c) The actual cost of supplying a school meal is already subsidised by 13-23p per meal or approximately £150 - £200k annually (this is income collected over payment made and does not include any other costs). If the School Lunch Grant does not continue beyond 2011 the cost of supplying a meal will rise. If the full cost is passed on to parents this could reduce the take up of meals. The Council will need to identify this as a budget pressure if the grant is discontinued and it wishes to maintain an element of subsidy.
- d) The Council has assessed a number of cashless systems which allow online payment or payment via Pay Point. It has looked at the back office systems and at the need for tills which can capture data at point of sale. A pilot of around six schools is scheduled for November 2009. If successful this would be rolled out, subject to funding, to all primary schools. A cashless system would also ensure that free meals pupils would not be identifiable to others through payment systems.
- e) The School Meals Manager has already visited a number of schools and worked in partnership with schools and the contractor with the overall aim of improving children's dining experience. This process also includes;
 - Assessing the length of the lunch break, is sufficient time allowed for pupils to queue and eat; recommendations have included the provision of new servery equipment, a move from flight trays to proper trays, china plates and bowls, a change in queuing arrangements to remove identification of free school meal pupils, and changes in the way that tables and chairs are laid out and ensuring that they are not put away whilst pupils are eating.
 - Visits have also resulted in; analysis of how the time of midday supervisory staff can best be used, moving where possible away from administrative tasks and towards helping children in the dining room.
 - Whilst allowing children with packed lunches to eat outside is a decision for individual schools they must be aware of the potential impact on meals take up. The decision may be affected by space constraints.
 - Noise levels are affected by the building in which meals are served, pupil numbers and the expectations and pupil management of individual schools. A calm dining room environment should be encouraged and can be supported by the availability of midday supervisory staff, effective room layout and clear behavioural expectations.
- f) The School Meals Manager is undertaking a review of the Free School Meal claims process to identify ways to ensure that those entitled to claim free meals register their eligibility and also once received, claims are dealt with efficiently and entitlement confirmed to schools within 5 days.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Primary and special schools are consulted during the contract lifecycle as to whether they wish to be part of the corporate school meals contract, and if they choose not to participate they would need to make their own arrangements.

- 4.2 A Best Value school meals forum acts as a consultative group on primary school meals related issues. Its membership includes school headteachers, the School Meals Manager and a Healthy Schools Team representative.
- 4.3 The School Meals manager is carrying out a rolling programme of school visits to assess both meal and service quality in primary schools. This programme and the regular monitoring visits include discussion with pupils to identify their views on how meals are served, food likes and dislikes and any other comments.
- 4.4 Product taster session will be introduced during the next academic year to enable pupils to sample new foods prior to their inclusion on the menu cycle; we will also work with schools to trial – “Invite an adult to lunch” days to enable parents to taste meals provided, change perception and to help support pupils in knife and fork skills
- 4.5 The School Meals Team has updated the school meals pages on the Brighton & Hove website (www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/schoolmeals) and set up an open e-mail address for enquiries and comments relating to school meals, schoolmeals@brighton-hove.gov.uk which is available to pupils, parents and others wishing to comment.
- 4.6 Information relating to Free School Meals is now clearly linked on the web pages and a freeschoolmeals@brighton-hove.gov.uk email address has been set up to enable schools, parents or carers to contact us with regards free school meals

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 It is not possible to quantify the financial impact of any change in the level of take up in meals at this stage, which could in fact result in an increase in costs to the Council if the number of free meals increases or indeed a reduction in costs if the number of paid-for meals increases. It will be necessary to continue to monitor the number of meals being taken with a view to identifying a trend that can then be costed. However, any net increase in costs to the Council will be offset by the use of the School Lunch Grant, which for 2009/10 is £310,000 with £120,000 already allocated to secondary schools leaving £190,000 as yet uncommitted. This grant is only confirmed until 2010/11 and it is not yet known if there will be any ongoing funding. If the funding ends the City Council will need to make provision through its own resources to cover the increased cost of free meals. It may also wish to consider supporting the cost of paid meals so that meals take up is maintained at a sustainable level should the grant be withdrawn in 2011.

The cost of the pilot test of the cashless tills is estimated to be £25,000 and can be funded by existing budgets and/or use of the School Lunch Grant. Should this be successful it would be necessary to identify the costs and funding of introducing the system to all primary schools “

Finance Officer Consulted: Michelle Herington Date: 29th July 2009

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Council has the power to provide paid school meals by virtue of the Education Act 1996, as amended. The Council also has a duty to provide free meals to those who qualify on low income grounds. The Council must also ensure that school meals meet the Government's prescribed nutritional standards.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston

Date: 28th July 2009

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The provision of a free healthy lunchtime meal for those pupils who are entitled through low family income will have a direct and positive impact on their performance in school. In providing school meals the Council must be mindful of the dietary implications arising from religious affiliation and philosophical convictions such as vegetarianism.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 The Council is committed to improving the sustainability of the school meals service through encouraging the use wherever possible of local suppliers and sustainable sourcing including food miles, food provenance and the use of seasonal ingredients. Alongside this the school meals team are assessing energy efficiency when procuring replacement equipment and plan to work with the Carbon Officer, where possible, to reduce energy usage within kitchens

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no direct implications for crime and disorder.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The role of school food in promoting children's nutrition, growth and development and health is clear. The provision of good quality food and drink within schools will contribute to the Council's targets on healthy lifestyles and tackling childhood obesity. This positive impact will be spread through increased take up of school meals.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Increased take up of school meals together with improved nutritional standards in school meals and the partnership working with the Healthy Schools team will positively contribute to the current and future well being of children attending the City's schools.
- 5.8 Increased take up of school meals improves the city's economic well-being through employment opportunity in schools and also local supply companies.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Response from the NHS Brighton and Hove and Brighton and Hove City Council Public Health Directorate.

Documents in Members' Rooms: None

Background Documents: None

APPENDIX 1

Response from NHS Brighton and Hove and Brighton and Hove City Council Public Health Directorate.

Officer: Lydie Lawrence – Public Health Development Manager

Response to question a): Action being taken to reduce child inequalities in the city:

The following is an overview of how child health inequalities in Brighton and Hove are being addressed and covers a broad range of determinants and wider determinants of health. Information for this report is collected from the 2008 Annual Report from the Director of Public Health, Brighton and Hove. This report is also a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) on Children and Young People in the City for NHS Brighton and Hove and the Children and Young People's Trust.

The findings and recommendations from the JSNA are informing the development of the Children and Young People Plan.

The Determinants of Health:

Breastfeeding

A multi-agency group was established in 2006 to guide breastfeeding work across the city. A number of initiatives are being implemented to increase levels of individual support to new mothers, changing community norms and creating a supportive environment for breastfeeding throughout the city. For example, midwifery-led antenatal classes including breastfeeding workshops delivered within children centres, peer-support coordinators to develop peer-support networks in line with National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidance and a city-wide public debate (Best for Babies) to make Brighton and Hove a more breastfeeding friendly city.

Immunisation

The national programme of childhood immunisations begins at two months old. Further doses of these immunisations are provided when infants are three months old and four months old. Other immunisations are given at around 12 and 13 months old, then between three and five years old (before child starts school), and in their teenage years.

There has been a recent small increase in the percentage of children in Brighton and Hove immunised by their first birthday, this is against a trend of a slight decrease in 05/6 and 06/7 for England as a whole. Even allowing for the slight national decrease however, immunisation rates in Brighton and Hove are below those for the South East Coast and England. Local targets Vital Signs have been set for immunisation (DoH, 2008b). The target for 2010/11 for children aged 1 year the immunisation rate for diphtheria, tetanus, polio, pertussis, haemophilus influenza type b (Hib) - (DTaP/IPV/Hib) should be 92%. For children aged 5 years Vital Signs (DoH, 2008b) target coverage

rates have been set: diphtheria, tetanus, polio and pertussis (DTaP/IPV) should be 80% and the MMR vaccine coverage rate should be 70%. In addition, there are some other new immunisation targets under Vital Signs.

- the immunisation rate for human papilloma virus vaccine for girls aged around 12-15 years should be 90%.

- the immunisation rate for children aged 13-18 who have been immunised with a booster dose of tetanus, diphtheria and polio should be 70%.

Causes of Morbidity

Diabetes - A Local Implementation Group (LIG) for diabetes has long been established as the means of improving the treatment of diabetes in Brighton and Hove although the focus has been to date largely on moving the treatment of less complicated diabetes from secondary to primary care.

Accidents in the home - The PCT undertook to fund practical measures and equipment in the home with the aim of preventing accidents. Health promotion campaigns are also in place to reduce the incidents of home accidents. To date however there has been little formal evaluation of these initiatives.

Epilepsy - In some parts of the South East Coast (SEC) area there are dedicated epilepsy services for children and young people but in other parts of the area the services are not separately commissioned or provided. There is no dedicated service in Brighton and Hove although there are consultants who specialise in childhood epilepsy. Community paediatricians are developing a database for patients with epilepsy who have other complex needs so that the needs of this particular target group can be monitored. A review of the care of patients against the NICE guidelines is being undertaken by local community paediatricians.

Disability and Special Educational Needs

In response to both the national and local context, The Sussex Children's and Young People's Strategic Clinical Group (SCYPSCG) was established in January 2006. The overall purpose of SCYPSCG is to develop an approach to delivering sustainable children's NHS services across Sussex. Additionally, the group is tasked with working with local partners including Local authorities, voluntary sector and other key stakeholders. An emerging priority for this group is health inequalities, ensuring equitable access for disadvantaged groups of children. The Clinical Reference Groups (CRG) were set up to advise SCYPSCG of the appropriate model of care for children within specific specialities.

For disabled children, a new fully-integrated child development centre, the Seaside View Centre, opened at Brighton General Hospital in Elm Grove, Brighton, in August 2007. It provides a multidisciplinary team including child mental health workers, physiotherapists, family support workers and psychologists. Other support services available for disabled children include occupational therapy, outreach direct payments, Cherish youth club and holiday schemes and transition planning. Other services include a short term care unit at Drove Road, and a longer-term residential unit at Tudor House.

The residential units provide support to children who are unable to access family based care.

Chailey Heritage Clinical Services is a specialist non-acute community service that provides advice, assessment and treatment for children and young adults with multiple and complex disabilities. The service is part of Southdowns Health NHS Trust (SDH) and aims to keep children out of hospital or facilitate early discharge as far as possible by providing support in clinics or in the home.

The CYPT commissions AMAZE as the local support and parent partnership service. AMAZE runs a specific DLA project, which has considerably improved DLA take-up. The *Compass* is the AMAZE database of Children with Special Needs. This self-reported dataset is nearly five years old and holds information on local children and young people with special needs and disabilities up until their 20th birthday. In October 2007 there were over 1,000 children and young people on *The Compass* database.

Locally there is a strong emphasis on parent and carer consultation, participation and engagement in local service delivery. The PCT and the CYPT have funded a parent carer forum which specifically addresses the needs of disabled children and those with complex medical needs.

In Brighton and Hove there is an established Autistic Spectrum Disorder Care Pathway that aims to provide a fully coordinated multidisciplinary approach to diagnosis, assessment and ongoing management. The Disabled Children's strategic partnership board is co chaired by the Director of the local parent support charity AMAZE.

Aiming High and the Short Breaks programme are being rolled out in Brighton and Hove with increased funding for short break services to support disabled children and their families.

The CYPT recently undertook a full scale service redesign and review of all its services for disabled children. This included all health, social care and early years' educational services.

The CYPT has developed a continuum of provision for children and young people with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC), with specialised provision being made for ASC children and young people with a wide range of learning difficulties. This has led to higher demand for specialised places. The CYPT has a service level agreement with the Sussex Partnership Trust to provide a dedicated service for children who are learning disabled and have mental health needs.

The Wider Determinants of Health

Parenting Support

The PCT and the CYPT jointly fund holistic family support services in targeted service and geographical areas, and Triple P – a positive parenting

programme is in place to support the development of parenting skills. Through local teenage pregnancy initiatives there is support for young parents and carers. Parenting support is also available as part of the extended school services 'core offer'. In September 2007, 36 schools in Brighton & Hove were delivering the extended school services 'core offer'. The target for September 2008 is to increase this to 45 schools. In line with government's guidance all schools in the city will be delivering the core offer of extended services by 2010. The four elements of the 'core offer' are: a varied menu of activities and childcare; parenting support; swift and easy access to specialist services and community access. As part of the core offer, primary schools provide access to childcare from 8am-6pm, 48 weeks a year, secondary schools need to provide a 'safe place to be' and access to a varied menu of activities from 8-6pm. In Brighton and Hove Extended Services are being developed through clusters of schools and partner agencies and provision is planned at cluster level.

Education

The Alternative Centre for Education (ACE) provides education for children with behavioural difficulties and support for schools working with these children. There are 25 school nurses in the city, 8 in the east, 9 in the central area and 8 in the west. There are 2 school nurse assistants in the west and one shared across the central and east localities. At the time of writing school nursing services have not been mapped against need.

Through the Healthy Schools and Extended Services section of the CYPT, the 'Healthy Schools' initiative promotes health through the school curriculum and complementary school-based activities. Healthy Schools promotes positive behaviour in relation to diet and exercise, substance use, sexual health, emotional well being and more.

The Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Specialist Placement Team are responsible for managing the statutory 'statementing' process for children with special educational needs. Staff members liaise with schools within the city to support them in teaching children who present additional challenges. In addition, the team source and manage admission to non-maintained schools external to Brighton and Hove and identify residential social care placements in children's homes outside the city.

Support is available for students from the Student Support Team at the City Council. The Community University Participation project at Brighton University has fostered good links between the university and voluntary sector identifying for example the needs of specific groups such as children and young people with disabilities and young LGBT people.

Crime

The Brighton and Hove Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership has undertaken regular strategic assessments. The Strategic Assessment for 2007 (all data in the following section taken from Brighton and Hove Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, 2007 unless otherwise stated) emphasises that children are more likely to be victims than offenders. A high

proportion of young people who do get into trouble suffer a number of complex family, health, educational and community problems. The need for activities for teenagers is consistently prioritised by the community as important and in a 2006 city-wide survey it also ranked highly as one of the things that were most in need of improvement in the city.

Domestic violence makes up about 18% of all recorded violent crime. In 2006/7 the Women's Refuge Project received 2,244 referrals of women and children experiencing domestic violence. It represents an underlying cause in a high percentage of registrations on the child protection register. Teenagers are the age group most likely to be a victim of sexual offences. Some of the resources for of initiatives to tackle domestic violence has come from short term funding.

The Youth Offending Team works with over 350 young people and their families each year, taking referrals from the Police and the Courts. An Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) team works within city neighbourhoods; over half of its interventions are with young people. The Brighton and Hove Youth Offending Team (YOT) works with young offenders and young people at risk of offending. 'Asset data' are collected by the YOT (Information analysed and supplied by Brighton and Hove Youth Offending Team). Asset scores range from a score of 0 where the category is not associated with the individual's offending behaviour, to 4 where the category is very strongly associated with offending. A total of 1,243 Assets were completed in the year 2006/7. Of these 59% of Asset scores involved moderate to strong links with emotional and mental health issues, 46% involved moderate to strong links with substance misuse, including alcohol. Only 13% involved moderate to strong links with physical health problems. A total of 77% of scores were from male offenders and 23% were female and 95% related to white offenders, and 4.5% related to BME or other (non-white).

Diet

The PCT allocated considerable additional funds (£800,000 in 2007/8 and £1M in 2008/9) to improve health and address health inequalities. The largest part of this has been targeted at initiatives to address overweight and obesity in line with NICE guidance. In addition, in partnership with the Healthy Schools Team (City Council), the PCT support local schools to develop whole school policies to tackle obesity. A large number of projects are in place and by 2009 every school should have achieved Healthy School Status. The MEND programme discussed in last year's report is now successfully operating across the city.

Exercise

Physical activity time allocation within the school curriculum is already nearly meeting the national target for 2011 of two hours per week across all year groups. Current PESSCL data (BHCC Schools Sport Partnership, 2008) suggest that children in Brighton and Hove are taking part in sport and PE more often than their national counterparts. HRBS data show that walking to school is increasing although still less than half of all pupils report walking

even part way to school. Local activity levels for boys are better than they are for girls.

Smoking

South Downs Health NHS Trust Stop Smoking service has a part-time (0.6wte) Smoking Cessation Nurse Specialist supporting young people and carrying out preventative work in schools, colleges, youth centres, community services (including Neighbourhood Renewal Areas) and some of the university campuses. In 2007/8 1425 children and young people aged 9 to 18 years were reached through this work. As well as working with young people, the Nurse Specialist works closely with parents, siblings, teachers, youth workers and any other professionals working with young people. The '*Give it a Break Challenge*' launched in 2006 is an on-going initiative specially developed to engage young people which awards points for the number of days spent not smoking and the opportunity to enter a large prize draw. In 2007/8, 72 young people were referred to the services and agreed a 'quit date', of which 32 were still not smoking at the 4 week follow-up.

Substance Misuse

RU-OK? is the specialist Tier 3 substance misuse service for young people with complex and/or chronic substance misuse that works in conjunction with CAMHS. Data from the Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment (Clarke K et al, 2008) shows that in 2006/07 161 young people were treated of which 65 entered at Tier 3. Of those young people who entered treatment, 30 were successfully discharged. The needs assessment identified a number of problems with referrals and use of services including low levels of referral from A&E, hostels, youth and Connexions services, schools, the police and the Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Team.

Targeted support is also offered to children and young people who are caring for family members with substance misuse problems through Brighton Oasis Project. This project currently offers one-to-one therapy and a weekly after-school group.

Alcohol

A Young People Substance Misuse (Drug and Alcohol) Needs Assessment has been produced (2009).

Mental health

The CYPT has a ten year commissioning strategy to tackle mental health issues in children and adolescents. Priorities include improving service accessibility and transition to adult services, in particular for vulnerable and marginalised groups.

The Sussex Partnership Trust provides specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) complemented by lower tier provision in the voluntary sector, provides services for children and young people with mental health problems. CAMHS has 4 levels of services: the lowest (Tier 1) comprises those in universal services working with children and young people. They

identify emotional, behavioural or mental health issues early, and provide low level support and signposting in to higher level services if needed. Locally services are provided at tier 1 within the CYPT and primary care. Tier 2 services are often targeted towards children and young people already identified as having, or at risk of having, emotional, behavioural or mental health problems. Tier 2 CAMHS services are provided by area-based schools and community teams. These area teams comprise a range of professional disciplines including educational psychologists, school nurses and education and welfare officers. There are sub-teams delivering community mental health services including primary mental health workers, clinical psychologists and CAMHS family support workers. Tier 2 services are for children with less severe but still significant needs. Tier 2 services include a schools counselling service delivered by the voluntary sector to 52 primary schools in Brighton and Hove.

Tier 3 services comprise a multidisciplinary team providing services for children with severe and enduring mental health needs, but who do not need inpatient care or intensive daily support. Services in Brighton and Hove are delivered in a range of locations through the Sussex Partnership Trust (SPT). Tier 4 services are for those with greatest need and include residential care. The SPT deliver Tier 4 services as inpatient and intensive outreach services from the Sussex Centre for Children and Young People, soon to be replaced by a purpose built unit – Chalkhill. There are also occasional admissions to specialist centres out of area for those young people with extremely serious mental health needs who cannot be treated locally.

The current Fostering, Adoption and Asylum Seeking Team (FAAST) CAMHS specialist team for children in care has an average caseload of 65–70.

Brighton and Hove has been selected as a pilot area for the 'Targeted Mental Health in Schools Project' which will deliver better support for children who are at risk or who are already experiencing mental health problems. This pilot began in 2008.

Housing and Homelessness

There were 509 referrals to the Rough Sleepers and Street Services Team (RSSST) in 2005/6 of whom 75 (15%) were people less than 25 years. The emerging Homeless Strategy 2008-2013 (BHCC, To be published a), part of the forthcoming Housing Strategy 2008-2013 (BHCC, To be published b) 'Healthy homes, healthy lives, healthy city' has priorities specifically aimed at families and young people. It also outlines an integrated care pathway for meeting accommodation needs including vulnerable groups. In addition the Common Assessment Framework was launched in January 2008 with an implementation plan for the whole CYPT partnership. This should reinforce multi-agency understanding and the delivery of support.

Pregnancy

The Teenage Pregnancy Team works with local agencies to reduce the risk of unintentional pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (STI's). The team also supports young people who have become teenage parents. The

team offers specialist advice and support to other services to promote good practice. A new model is currently in development through which the Teenage Pregnancy Team will act as specialists within the wider Targeted Youth Support team. These specialists will assist the work of the wider team to deliver interventions to support and maintain behaviour change in the most vulnerable ages and groups.

Of the 9 secondary schools in the city, one currently provides contraceptive services. Two of the 6th forms, and also City College, are about to provide sexual health and contraceptive services. Following last year's Annual Report of the Director of Public Health a number of initiatives were funded to address the high rates of teenage conceptions including a Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Project in East Brighton, four part-time Specialist School Nurses in Sexual Health, a Targeted Youth Support project and funding for greater availability of long acting reversible contraceptives at British Pregnancy Advice Centre. The Report also announced the reconvening of the Sexual Health Strategy Group.

Sexual health

Chlamydia screening has been introduced across the city. Condom distribution has been another key focus and the C Card has been introduced in selected distribution points across the city. Young people who participated as stakeholders to this joint strategic needs assessment strongly supported this initiative. A Sexual Health Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is currently underway, a large proportion of which is focused on young people.

Caring Responsibilities

Brighton & Hove City Council currently commissions the Carers Centre to pilot a project to assess and review young carers (aged 8-17 years) of adults. The Carers Centre also provides a Transitions Service for 16-25 year olds. This is one of a few projects nationally to look into the needs of this client group and is contributing to national research by the University of Nottingham.

Response to Question c): Possible source of funding from Public Health to trial free school meal pilot

Possible sources of Public Health funding for a pilot project around free-school meals or uptake of school meals would likely be identified from the PCT Healthy City budget or Choosing Health budget. The Public Health Directorate and CYPT are working together to explore a number of options based on local evidence of needs.

Data analysis relating to children Body Mass Index (BMI) and uptake of school meals.

The data for children BMI in Reception Year and Year 6 have just been received by the Directorate of Public health following the completion of the National Child Measurement programme for the academic year 2008/09. These figures are being analysed by the Public Health Directorate. As part of this analysis, we will produce a ranking of schools by Index of Deprivation matched with the percentage of uptake of free school meals and the percentage of uptake of paid school meals. In addition we are examining any association with the average BMI by schools for example how BMI relates to deprivation and to school meal uptake. We will be happy to provide this data.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 17

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	The Potential Impact of Independent School Closures on City Schools		
Date of Meeting:	16th September 2009		
Report of:	The Director of Children's Services		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Steve Healey	Tel: 293444
	E-mail:	steve.healey@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 At its meeting on 16th June the Committee asked for a report outlining the potential effect of independent school closures on City schools and on the demand for school places. It also asked for information on the Council's ability to acquire redundant independent school premises, and the need for an additional secondary school.
- 1.2 The Council has a responsibility to provide school places and to plan for future demand for both primary and secondary schools. It must also maintain premises to acceptable standards and develop them to meet the needs of education in the 21st century. The Council has secured funding from the national Primary Capital Programme (PCP) initiative up to 2011 and is seeking to secure funding over a 14 year period totalling £40 million. It is also seeking to bring forward its participation in the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) initiative for secondary schools. If successful the latter could provide capital of around £150 million over two phases of secondary school development.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes that the Council does not have the legal powers to take over redundant independent school premises.
- 2.2 That the Committee notes that current planning for secondary school places through Building Schools for the Future (BSF) does not include a requirement for a new secondary school.
- 2.3 That the Committee determines whether it should take any further action with regard to possible independent school closures.

- 2.4 That the Committee notes that currently there is no evidence of demand for school places arising from independent school closures.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 To date the School Admissions Team has not identified any measurable increase in the number of school applications received from the parents of pupils leaving independent schools which have closed, or because they can no longer afford the fees. At the Reception admission exercise the proportion of children seeking a maintained school place for September 2009 is at the expected level for the size of the GP registered cohort (see Appendix 1) at 88.2%. The total allocated a secondary school place at the time of writing is 2,346 which compares with a Year 6 census figure of 2345. Allowing for a number of pupils attending Brighton & Hove Schools from outside the City boundary (90) and Brighton & Hove children moving to maintained secondary schools outside the City (30) this represents an overall reduction of Brighton & Hove children between year 6 and year 7 of 59. This will include some pupils moving from the area and some moving into the independent sector.
- 3.2 In the course of the recent acquisition of St. Mary's Hall School by Roedean School the School Admissions Team received 6 enquiries from St Mary's Hall parents about places in maintained schools. As the team has not in previous years maintained records on enquiries from parents with children in independent schools it is not clear as to whether this is more or less than usual. However, the team is not of the view that overall such enquiries have increased. Every year a proportion of children leave the independent sector for a maintained school place, and there is also some movement in the other direction. The School Admissions Team will monitor applications at the main admissions exercises and for established year groups for any change in the numbers of applications from the independent sector.
- 3.3 The CYPT has not been in direct discussions with independent schools in the City about changes which have taken place to date. However the CYPT does have a good relationship with independent schools in the City and would expect to be informed of any future difficulties. With regard to the factoring in of a need for additional places based on a reduction in independent school places and pupil numbers, there is no evidence to date of such a need. It is not possible to quantify *possible* pressures arising from children moving from the independent sector as there are too many variables, such as which schools, which age group, and whether parents would actually seek alternative independent places. If a measurable and significant increase in demand for places for pupils from the independent sector arose then the CYPT would draw up plans on how to manage that demand. However, until such a need can be identified then the CYPT will continue with its current planning for primary and secondary places. A paper will go to the Cabinet Member Meeting in October outlining options for increasing primary school places, whilst secondary school development options will be determined through the BSF process following a paper to Cabinet on the Council's readiness to deliver a BSF project.

- 3.4 The Council's legal services team has advised the CYPT that the Council has no powers to compel independent schools to bring unused school buildings back into use. Nor does it have powers to bring failed or failing independent schools within Council control or acquire their premises. The Council is not able to bring about any legal changes or challenges to allow such action, which would require changes to primary legislation. The LEA only has a general duty to secure that there are sufficient schools for primary and secondary education in its area (section 14 of the Education Act 1996), and has the power to establish new schools to enable them to fulfil this duty.
- 3.5 Independent schools could of their own volition seek to acquire maintained school status. If the CYPT were to consider such a request it would need to ensure that it was not exposing itself to financial or other risk. Such risk could arise from the condition of the premises or their suitability for providing the national curriculum for maintained school class sizes. The CYPT would also need to be satisfied that taking on such a school was necessary in the context of school places needed, their location, the ethos of the school and the accessibility of places to the wider community. At the same time the impact on applications for existing maintained schools would need to be quantified.
- 3.6 More significantly changes in capital strategy could have a detrimental effect on the CYPT's BSF and PCP bids (see 1.2 above). The Building Schools for the Future programme is a Government programme designed to rebuild, remodel or refurbish all secondary schools in England in due course. The BSF strategy, which is at an advanced stage, is predicated on the improvement and in some cases enlargement of existing secondary schools, not the building of a new school. This is in line with school population forecasts developed for the BSF proposals. Whilst some growth in the number of places required is forecast, particularly in Hove, there is no indication that a new secondary school is needed to meet the demand for places.
- 3.7 The BSF strategy has been developed through close working over a long period between officers and secondary school headteachers. Whilst the number of school places it provides is a key outcome, the planning has been much wider, incorporating linkages with primary, special and FE provision. It has been used as an opportunity to develop a vision which is not based simply on the need to provide new or upgraded buildings, but to re-thinking what education should look like in Brighton & Hove in the 21st century. Through its revised bid the Council is seeking to be brought forward in the BSF programme. Any changes at this late stage would affect its readiness to deliver on its proposals, a key factor in the DCSF's evaluation of the bid.
- 3.8 In Brighton a planned increase in capacity at Longhill School from 1200 to 1350 will take effect from 2010 and provide 30 additional places for each admission year for East Brighton, increasing capacity by 150. This project is outside the BSF plan and is scheduled to start in 2009.
- 3.9 Planning for BSF anticipates secondary school 11-16 roll numbers in the city increasing from a total of 11,270 in 2008/9 to 12,075 by 2018/19. The expected

capacity for this age range by 2018/19 arising from planned BSF build is 12,850. This allows spare capacity of just over 6%.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The BSF and PCP initiatives have included extensive and continuing consultation with a range of stakeholders including headteachers, governors, Colleges, and City Council Departments with an interest in the legal, planning and design implications. Initial parental consultation on BSF is planned for early autumn 2009, and will be followed by wider parental and public consultation on specific school proposals.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The Council is at an advanced stage in re-submitting its bid to the DCSF for earlier access to Building Schools for the Future funding. The bid is based upon developing a model for secondary education that the City wishes to adopt to provide high quality education geared towards 21st Century needs. This includes analysis of increasing pupil numbers and where the demand for places is likely to be. It does not include a new school in the East Brighton area, nor does it anticipate a sufficient growth in demand in that area to require one. To change the bid at this stage to include an East Brighton secondary school would mean setting aside the evidence prepared to support the bid. It would also set the bid back to the point where access to capital funding potentially in the region of £150 million could be severely jeopardised.

In terms of revenue funding the local authority receives a Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) on an annual basis from central government. The DSG is based on the number of pupils in mainstream schools within the local authority and consequently, if the closure of independent schools led to a rise in the pupil population in the maintained sector there would be an increase in DSG funding.

Finance Officer Consulted: Paul Brinkhurst

Date: 12th August 2009

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Council does not have the power to bring failed or failing privately run schools under Council control. The Council has a general duty to secure that there are sufficient schools for primary and secondary education in its area (section 14 of the Education Act 1996), and the power to establish new schools to enable them to fulfil this duty. In order to take forward its BSF proposals the Council will need to operate within DCSF guidance in the way it operates its building and development programme.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston

Date: 6th August 2009

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Planning and provision of school places must be conducted in such a way as to avoid potentially discriminatory admissions priorities or planning processes. The city council and voluntary aided school governing bodies must be mindful of bad practice as described in the Admission Code of Practice.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 BSF and PCP funding would give the authority the opportunity to make a considerable element of school stock more environmentally sustainable. All new extensions to Brighton and Hove Schools utilise, where ever possible, environmental and sustainable principles such as higher than minimum insulation levels, the use of efficient gas condensing boilers, under floor heating, solar shading and natural ventilation. Materials are sourced from sustainable sources where ever possible.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 It is anticipated that by including the community in the consultation process on the development and use of the facilities at schools that crime and disorder in the local area will be reduced. This will be further improved by offering extended use of the facilities to the community outside of the school day

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The BSF and PCP programmes provide the Council with the opportunity to make a step change in the provision of education and the condition of its school stock. In order to minimise risk arising from unpredicted increases in pupil numbers the Council should maintain regular communication with local independent schools. If the Council was to consider a local independent school taking on maintained status it would need to be satisfied that it was not exposing itself to financial or other risk by comparison with other options to increase school places.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The combined funding available under BSF and PCP programmes will enable the authority to make significant improvements to the standard of education within the city, to contribute to the local economy by improving skill levels for school leavers, to reduce the number of young people who become NEET, and to further enhance integration of services to support children, young people, families and the wider community.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices: Appendix 1 - Proportions of GP registered pupils in mainstream schools.

Documents in Members' Rooms: None

Background Documents: None

Appendix 1 – Proportions of GP registered pupils in mainstream schools

Birth Year	GP Data Total for B&H	Jan 09 School Census Total (or forecast from 09/05- 08/06)	% in school (or forecast from 09/05- 08/06)	Current School Year
09/99 – 08/00	2543	2244	88.2	5
09/00 – 08/01	2660	2351	88.4	4
09/01 – 08/02	2607	2327	89.2	3
09/02 – 08/03	2734	2394	87.5	2
09/03 – 08/04	2828	2450	86.6	1
09/04 – 08/05	2858	2521*	88.2*	R
09/05 – 08/06	2905	2556	88	-
09/06 – 08/07	3163	2783	88	-
09/07 – 08/08	3181	2799	88	-

* Not census but number allocated a school Reception place by July 2009.

CYPT planning for school places is based on data from a variety of sources including GP registration data as an indication of potential pupil numbers. It also uses current school census data and birth data. Any increase in demand for places is analysed through looking by potential academic year groups at the proportion of the GP registered cohort likely to attend a maintained school. The proportion of GP registered pupils seeking a mainstream maintained school is in the region of 88% of the total GP registered child population. Appendix 1 illustrates by this showing comparisons between GP registration data and school census data for recent intakes. There is a range of 2.6% although the average over the birth period 09/99 to 08/05 is 88.02%.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 18

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Summary of Ofsted Reports		
Date of Meeting:	16th September 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
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Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To note the report on the outcome of the Ofsted inspections at the beginning of Spring term 2009 and Summer term 2009.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To note the report on the outcome of the school Ofsted inspections.

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 the current 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 school's 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 This report includes an update on progress at Portslade Community College together with reports from the inspection of Downs View and Downs Park Special Schools who were inspected in the Summer term. In March 2009 Ofsted carried out a one day 'themed' inspection at Cardinal Newman and Blatchington Mill. A further 'themed' inspection took at Longhill in July 2009. *[A 'themed' inspection is the inspection of a single subject or aspect of a school. The information gained informs Her Majesty's Chief Inspectors annual report and are seen to be helpful by the schools as they contain detailed analysis of an area not available in full inspections]*
- 3.6 Stanford Junior was inspected in the Spring term 2009 and St Mary Magdalen RC Primary, Bevendean Primary, Hertford Junior and Whitehawk Primary were inspected in the Summer Term 2009. The reports for these schools are attached.
- 3.7 We are also 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 Coral Pre-school, Pepperpot Nursery, Brighton Day Nursery, Pumpkin Patch Nursery, The Ark Pre-school, Daisy Chain, Hopscotch, Early Years Childcare, Torah Academy Nursery, St. Georges Neighbourhood Nursery, Jump Start Nursery, Sussex University Creche, Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project Playroom, Butterfly Nursery and Brighton Day Nursery inspections took place in the Spring and Summer terms 2009. The reports for these Early Years settings are attached.
- 3.9 From September 2009, Ofsted inspections of all schools in the maintained sector will be conducted under the new Framework for inspection launched in June 2009.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Coral Pre-school

Orchard Road, Hove

Geographical area: West

Number of Pupils: 40

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 26th January 2009 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:

- The setting encourages positive relationships with parents, and organised key person working promotes inclusive practice within the setting
- The staff plan and prepare an organised range of activities to ensure children have positive learning experiences and enjoy their time at the setting
- The observation and assessment of children's learning progress is appropriately organised and staff key persons are able to plan the next steps for individual children
- The setting's provision to support children's welfare is appropriately organised and children have a safe and suitably prepared learning environment

What the setting should do to improve further:

- To further improve the Early Years provision the registered person should:
 - Improve staff knowledge of the six learning goals
 - Improve the organisation of the written complaints procedure and written record of complaints
 - Develop self-evaluation to support reflective practice and continuous improvement
- To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:
 - Ensure risk assessment includes all aspects of the play and learning environment and is reviewed regularly (welfare requirement, suitable premises, environment and equipment)

4.2 Pepperpot Nursery Ltd

St. Wilfrid's Church Hall, Whippingham Road, BN2 3PF

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 90

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 4th February 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- Children enjoy a wide range of challenging activities within a well-prepared environment, and staff ensure children's care and welfare needs are effectively supported
- The setting works consistently to build positive partnerships with parents and the effective use of key person working demonstrates good inclusive practice
- The setting's early learning programme is well planned and guided by trained teachers, who work closely with the staff to continually evaluate and develop the effectiveness of the setting's childcare provision

What the setting should do to improve further:

- Develop staff confidence in the use and application of the six learning goals
- Improve the assessment arrangements to ensure individual children's next steps in children's learning are known and developed

4.3 Brighton Day Nursery

C/o David Lloyd Leisure Club, Brighton Marina Village, BN2 5UF

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 52

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 9th February 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- The nursery places a strong focus on supporting individual children's welfare and learning, and an experienced and effectively managed staff

team ensures children's healthy growth and development is successfully promoted

- The nursery staff work in close partnership with parents and carers, and a well-established key person system ensures the nursery's inclusive practice is effectively organised
- The presentation and delivery of the nursery's early learning programme is a strong feature of the organisation, and children make good learning progress

What the setting should do to improve further:

- Widen the range of outdoor learning opportunities for children, by providing more creative and problem solving activities
- Develop the presentation of books and visual story material within the learning environment, to encourage children's creative development and literacy

4.4 Butterfly Nursery

Hove Polyclinic Site, Nevill Avenue, BN3 7HY

Geographical Area: West

Number of Pupils: 78

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 24th February 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered Early Years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- All children are valued as individuals and the setting's positive attitude to inclusion means that children are developing a strong sense of personal identity
- Children make good progress towards in their learning as they engage enthusiastically in well planned activities that reflect all areas of the curriculum
- The partnership with parents, carers and other agencies is highly effective and results in children's needs being very well met
- Management and staff are committed to maintaining continuous improvement

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the Early Years provision the registered person should:

- Explore ways to promote children's choice and independence at meal and snack time

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- Seek written permission from parents to the seeking of any necessary medical advice or treatment in the future (Safeguarding and Welfare)

4.5 Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project Playroom

Prior House, 6, Tilbury Place, BN2 0GY

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 130

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 25th February 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- Staff have created a safe and welcoming environment for children and their families
- Promotion of equality and inclusion is a key strength within the crèche and underlies everything they do
- Children's physical and emotional security is well catered for allowing them to play and learn in a relaxed environment
- The setting has a high capacity to maintain continuous improvement as they regularly evaluate and make positive improvements to the care that children receive

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- Continue to develop the observational skills of staff and volunteers to ensure planning is as responsive to children's needs as possible

4.6 Sussex University Creche

University of Sussex, Norwich House, Falmer

Geographical Area: East

Number of Pupils: 62

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 2nd March 2009 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:

- Children enjoy an excellent and varied range of play and learning activities, and their welfare needs are successfully supported, within the well organised and highly motivating play areas provided
- The staff team take much good care to build close partnerships with parents and other carers, with a highly effective key persons system in place, and detailed information on children's progress shared and successfully used to support inclusive practice
- The planning and presentation of the setting's early learning programme is exemplary, with all children's achievements well observed and their next steps successfully promoted

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the high quality Early Years provision the registered person should consider:

- Developing the organisation of the daily care and learning information provided for parents of the younger children attending.

4.17 Jump Start Nursery

Moulsecomb CC, Hodshrove Lane, BN2 4SE

Geographical Area: East

Number of Pupils: 29

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 23rd April 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- The nursery is a well organised and well-managed child care provision
- The nursery has a well organised learning and development programme
- The observation and assessment of children is also effectively organised
- The nursery provides much good quality support for children's welfare
- Staff successfully promote children's healthy growth and development
- The nursery maintains good and effective links with parents and carers

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to develop self evaluation systems and reflective practice within the setting

4.8 St. George's Neighbourhood Nursery

Kemp Town, Crypt Community Centre, St. Georges Church, BN2 1ED

Geographical Area: East

Number of Pupils: 45

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 10 March 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered Early Years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- The nursery is well organised and staff use their knowledge and understanding of individual children effectively, to promote children's welfare and learning
- Well organised safety procedures and staff supervision, ensures children are kept from harm and are able to enjoy a wide range of play activities to support their healthy development
- Close links with parents are made
- Children are successfully encouraged to learn and make progress, and staff work consistently to evaluate the activities and develop the effectiveness of the play programme

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the Early Years provision the registered person should:

- Develop more regular and detailed assessments of children's learning progress
- Improve the range of learning opportunities in the outdoor play areas

4.9 Torah Academy Nursery

31, New Church Road, Hove, BN3 4AD

Geographical Area: East

Type of care: Childcare on non-domestic premises [independent nursery school]

Number of Pupils: 26

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 7th May 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered Early Years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- The nursery provides a very happy, welcoming and inclusive environment where children are extremely well cared for and motivated
- A good range of stimulating activities are provided, based on children's interests and individual levels of attainment
- Individual needs are successfully met as staff work with parents and other professionals to support children with any additional requirements
- Systems to assess children's progress are extremely effective and emphasis is on sharing these regularly with parents, positively impacting on children's care, welfare, development and learning

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the Early Years provision the registered person should:

- link the indoor and outdoor environments, where possible, so that children can move freely between them.

4.10 Early Years Childcare

44-46 Harrington Road, BN1 6RF

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 125

Type of care: Childcare on non-domestic premises (privately owned playgroup)

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 25th May 2009 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:

- The setting provides highly organised welfare and learning for children, and staff fully recognise the importance of promoting children's interests
- Children enjoy an excellent and varied range of activities, and all their care and development needs are effectively supported, within a well-organised and highly motivating play environment
- The staff establish close partnerships with parents and other carers, and a highly effective key person system is in place, that supports inclusive practice
- The planning and presentation of the setting's early learning programme is excellent and highly organised, with children's next learning steps successfully assessed and promoted

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to widen the range of learning opportunities in the outdoor play area

4.11 Hopscotch

9, Nizells avenue, Hove, BN3 1PL

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 118

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

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 1st June 2009 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:

- Staff are extremely effective in raising children's self esteem and igniting their enthusiasm for learning
- They have established exceptional working relationships with parents, as staff take time to work with parents to find out about the particular needs of their child, to give them the appropriate care
- The staff work extremely well to foster positive relationships with children and ensure that they are valued as unique individuals, promoting inclusion
- There is an excellent balance of adult led and child – initiated opportunities to keep children fully stimulated
- The setting uses very effective planning to ensure that children develop in all areas of learning and their progress is tracked as they progress towards the early learning goals
- Children's health and well-being is promoted exceptionally well

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- Continuing to develop outside activities to fully promote all areas of learning

4.12 Daisy Chain

Falmer School, Lewes, Brighton, BN1 9PW

Geographical area: East

No. of children on roll: 33

Date of inspection: 21/04/2009

Type of setting : Childcare on non-domestic premises

This setting is not in receipt of the free entitlement.

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 are cared for by an established team of staff who are deployed well to ensure that the needs of the children are met
- Staff ensure that children and their families are made to feel welcome and included in the safe environment
- There are clear systems in place for parents and carers to be enabled to take an active part in their child's development and become equal partners in their learning
- Children are supported in their learning through the provision of a range of interesting resources and planned activities
- Through their observations of the children and liaison with parents and outside agencies, staff know the children well

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- Continue to develop the outdoor area and book corner to include all areas of learning
- Ensure that the incident records are fully completed
- Ensure that young children wash their hands before meals and do not use communal bowls
- Ensure that explanations are given to children as to why their behaviour is unacceptable

4.13 The Ark Pre-school

c/o Citycoast Church, North Street, Portslade, Brighton, BN411DG

Geographical area: West

No. of children on roll: 54

Date of inspection: 22/04/2009

Type of setting: Childcare on non-domestic premises

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: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- Children make good progress in their learning
- Partnership with parents, carers and other professionals is an established part of the setting. This ensures that children's welfare and learning needs are well met
- Extensive evaluation systems are in place, and as a consequence, the children make good progress in their learning and development
- Staff have a good understanding of the Early Years foundation stage learning and development requirements in relation to the early learning goals

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- Revise the systems in place regarding recording any child protection concerns and ensure these are only accessible to those who have a right or a professional need to see them, to maintain confidentiality
- Ensure the staff are consistent in promoting writing for a purpose and the use of worksheets in children's learning environment

To fully meet the specific requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), the registered person must:

- Ensure risk assessments are fully completed in relation to any potential hazards and set time scales for their review (by 6/5/2009)

4.14 Pumpkin Patch Nursery

37, Preston Drove, BN1 6LA

Geographical Area: Central

Number of Pupils: 125

Type of care: Childcare on non-domestic premises

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted on 14th May 2009 under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision.

Overall judgement was: Good

Positive aspects identified:

- The nursery successfully supports children's welfare and learning and is safely organised to provide childcare over a range of ages
- Staff key persons have an effective knowledge of individual children's learning stages, and maintain a sound approach to inclusive practice

- A good range of activities are provided to effectively support children's learning, and the nursery staff and management have a positive approach to improvement
- A strong aspect of the nursery's care provision is the successful delivery of a stimulating learning programme, with the observation and assessment of children's learning progress particularly well organised and established

What the setting should do to improve further:

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- Develop the planning of the educational programme to include more of the children's interests and opportunities for child-initiated learning

4.15 Bevendean Primary School

Heath Hill Avenue, Brighton, BN2 4JP

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 358

The inspection took place on 11th – 12th May 2009 and was carried out by 3 additional inspectors.

The overall judgement: Satisfactory

Signs of improvement, especially in academic performance and these developments are welcomed by both pupils and their parents.

Standards are now improving and the increases in progress mean that from previously low levels, standards are now broadly average at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2.

Positive aspects identified:

- Attainment on entry is well below average and progress in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is satisfactory because leadership and management are both satisfactory
- The focus on improving reading throughout the school is having a positive impact
- Progress in Year 6 was judged to be good
- Children's personal development and well-being was judged to be good
- The work of the learning mentors is highly valued by pupils and parents
- The quality of teaching is satisfactory and challenging activities in maths and science were praised
- The children's attitude to learning is good
- The children make good use of the wide range of enrichment activities
- The ways in which the children from the hearing unit are included in all aspects of school life is exemplary

What the school should do to improve:

- Accelerate pupils' progress so that it is consistently good in all subjects and all classes, including the provision of appropriate guidance to pupils on how to improve
- Ensure pupils are always challenged to do their best, are given greater opportunities to work independently and that activities are consistently matched to meet the needs of those with different capabilities
- Ensure governors play their requires role in challenging school leaders to raise standards and achievement and the quality of provision

4.16 Hertford Junior School

Lychet Close, Brighton, BN1 7FP

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 128

The inspection took place on 14th May 2009 and was carried out by 2 Additional Inspectors.

The overall judgement: Good with some outstanding features such as behaviour and the extent to which the children feel safe in school due to excellent pastoral care.

There has been an acting headteacher since January 2009 who quickly grasped the issues of the school and has led in an appropriate way to gain the support of the staff and governors to continue to raise standards in the school.

Positive aspects identified:

- Good quality of teaching throughout the school
- Achievement is good overall, particularly when looking at the trends over the last three years
- Behaviour and pastoral care were judged to be outstanding
- Good broad and balanced linked curriculum
- 'Wonderful outdoor environment'
- Varied and plentiful range of after-school activities
- Children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are particularly well supported by teachers, assistants and outside agencies
- Personal development and well-being has a strong focus and the children 'love' coming to school
- Parents are very supportive of the school
- Parents appreciate the strong community spirit and this has enhanced the school's reputation

What the school should do to improve:

- Raise standards and pupils' achievement in mathematics across the school
- Make more rigorous use of the information about what pupils know to identify areas of underachievement

4.17 St Mary Magdalene RC Primary School

Spring Street, Brighton, BN1 3EF

Geographical area: Central

Number of Pupils: 213

The inspection took place on 28th – 29th April 2009 and was carried out by 2 Additional Inspectors.

The overall judgement: Good where there are tremendous achievements in very challenging circumstances.

The children achieve standards that are broadly in line with national averages because the school works very hard to provide a stimulating environment and an engaging curriculum that truly reflects the cultural diversity of the community.

Positive aspects identified:

- The high quality leadership and management of the headteacher and her senior team are central to the school's success
- There is a dedicated and committed staff that enables the children to thrive in an environment that is very conducive to learning
- Behaviour and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development were judged to be **outstanding**
- The nurturing Catholic environment means that the children have a very good attitude to learning and they make good progress personally and academically
- Excellent relationships between all those involved with the school form a strong backbone for all that is good about the school
- Speech and language difficulties are overcome with well-targeted interventions which ensure the children make accelerated progress
- The rapid progress made by the increasing number of recent arrivals was acknowledged as particularly impressive
- There is very good capacity to improve the school still further and make excellent use of the exciting new outdoor area

What the school should do to improve:

- Use assessment information more effectively to set targets for all pupils, particularly the most able, and to involve the children in establishing what they need to do to improve

- Develop the strategic role of the subject leaders, particularly in the analysis of pupil progress data, in order to improve the effectiveness of action planning and evaluation

4.18 Stanford Junior School

Stanford Road, BN1 5PR
Geographical Area: Central
Number of Pupils: 364

The inspection took place on the 26th February 2009 and was carried out by one of her Majesty's Inspectors.

The overall judgement: Good

The school which has improved well since the last inspection. 10 out of 27 sections were judged to be outstanding, including all four sections of the Achievement and Standards element.

Positive aspects identified:

- The pupils now make excellent academic progress because of the highly effective teaching they receive
- The progress made by pupils in English, mathematics and science has accelerated consistently over the last three years and is now outstanding
- There is a notable improvement in the performance of more able pupils
- The school is highly effective in supporting pupils' social and moral development
- Pupils make a good contribution to the life of the school
- The curriculum places a strong focus on basic skills in English, mathematics and science, with dividends in pupils' achievement
- Good steps have been taken to make links between subjects and tailor the themes covered so as to engage pupils' interest
- The pupils' spiritual and cultural development is good
- The school promotes community cohesion well
- The older pupils are thoroughly involved in deciding how to improve their work
- Good leadership and management are built on a foundation of high expectations and challenge provided by the headteacher

What the school should do to improve:

- Ensure the curriculum gives increased emphasis to areas other than the core subjects and that links between subjects in all years are systematically planned to develop pupils' learning in the subjects involved
- Ensure that agreed approaches to the care of pupils are consistently applied throughout the school so that all pupils feel well-supported in meeting challenging academic goals

4.19 Whitehawk Primary School

Whitehawk Road, Whitehawk, Brighton, BN2 5FL

Geographical area: East

Number of Pupils: 309

The Ofsted Monitoring Inspection took place on 19th May 2009 and was carried out by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors. This inspection judges whether the school is making improvements since last full inspection which judged the school to be satisfactory.

The overall judgement: Satisfactory progress

Since the last inspection the school has experienced some staff changes and following the retirement of the headteacher, Daniel Weiner (formally headteacher at Hertford Junior School) is headteacher designate.

Positive aspects identified:

- Teaching has improved recently and more lessons are meeting the needs of the children
- There is improved use of questioning, interactive whiteboards, working outside and the modified curriculum in Year 6
- Behaviour was judged to be good because of improvements in the children's attitude and motivation
- The vast range of robust strategies is having a positive impact on attendance and lateness because of the improvements in communications with the pupils and their parents
- Leadership and management have improved because there is now a stronger emphasis on strategic planning which has a narrower focus on the school's priorities for improvement
- Improved capacity for improvement

What the school should do to improve:

- Continue to raise standards of attainment in all the core subjects
- Accelerate the progress of the children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- Improve the use of the outdoor learning environment
- Use more child-initiated activities in Reception classes

4.20 Cardinal Newman

The Upper Drive, Hove, BN3 6ND

Geographical Area: West

Number of Pupils: 2061

Themed OfSTED inspection outcome

In March 2009 Ofsted carried out a themed one-day inspection of the school's promoting of equalities

The overall judgement was outstanding.

In its last full inspection of the school in October 2007, Ofsted judged Cardinal Newman "outstanding". This visit provided Ofsted with information which will contribute to their national evaluation and reporting on equalities.

Positive aspects identified in the report included:

- The school's mission statement of 'Caritas' and caring for each other is clearly evident in the visual displays and mottos around the school, is modeled by staff in their work with students, is evident in the procedures and practices of the school, and this is recognised by pupils and parents
- The systems and procedures underpinning the area of equalities and the support of vulnerable pupils are exemplary
- Data is very effectively analysed and used to inform and evaluate the impact and efficacy of support and intervention programmes
- Early identification of needs, close liaison with the EMAS service and use of multilingual teaching staff leads to speedy development of English language skills for students with English as an Additional Language (EAL) which facilitates access to the broader curriculum
- The range of group pastoral programmes is excellent. They motivate pupils and re-engage them in learning and developing their social and emotional skills
- The school works very appropriately with external agencies to meet the needs of the most severely vulnerable pupils.

Priorities recommended for further improvement were:

- Continue to develop attendance and work with vulnerable pupils as identified in the School Improvement Plan

4.21 Blatchington Mill

Nevill Avenue, Hove, BN3 6ND

Geographical Area: West

Number of Pupils: 1691

Themed OfSTED inspection outcome

In March 2009 Ofsted carried out a themed one-day inspection of the provision for History education. In its last full inspection of the school in May 2007, Ofsted judged Blatchington Mill to be a good school.

The overall judgement of the effectiveness of history was satisfactory.

The visit had a particular focus on information and communication technology (ICT) in history and provision for gifted history pupils.

The inspectors found:

- Achievement in Key Stages 3 and 4 to be satisfactory with standards above average but in the sixth form whilst achievement was satisfactory standards are below average
- Quality of teaching and learning is good
- The curriculum provision for history is good
- Leadership and management of history are satisfactory
- The use of ICT in history is good and the provision for gifted history students is satisfactory

Priorities recommended for further improvement were:

- Raising standards and using performance data more effectively

4.22 Longhill

Falmer Road, Rottingdean, BN2 7FR

Geographical Area: East

Number of Pupils: 1178

Themed OfSTED inspection outcome

In its last full inspection of the school in October 2007, Ofsted judged Longhill to be a satisfactory school. In July 2009 Ofsted carried out a themed one-day inspection of the quality of e-safety with a specific focus on the extent to which the school teaches learners to adopt safe and responsible practices in using new technologies and e-safety training for staff.

The overall judgement of this aspect was good.

Positive aspects identified in the report included:

- Outcomes for students are good, for example students feel safe and well-protected and display responsible attitudes and user policy sets out explicit expectations regarding acceptable practice

- The quality of provision is satisfactory. Examples are the high quality personal, social and health education programme which enables students to develop their personal safety and stay safe, and the the inclusion of e-safety in information and technology
- Leadership and management of e-safety is good and the quality of training for staff is satisfactory

Priorities recommended for further improvement were:

- Develop an age-related and progressive e-safety curriculum to ensure consistency
- Enhance links with parents and other stakeholders to improve their understanding and contribution to e-safety
- Ensure e-safety permeates all staff training

4.23 Downs View Special School

Warren Road, Brighton, BN2 6BB

Geographical area: East

No. of children on roll: 87

Date of inspection: 18th & 19th May 2009

Overall judgement was: Outstanding

Downs View is very effective in meeting the complex and diverse needs of its pupils. Parents are overwhelmingly positive in their views of the school. Pupils progress extremely well at the school, demonstrating considerable improvements in their communication skills, improving their mobility and, for those for whom it is appropriate, showing considerable improvement in their challenging behavior. Children in the Reception Year get off to an excellent start and make similarly outstanding progress. Similarly pupils in the 6th Form receive an outstanding education.

Relationships between adults and pupils are excellent and reflect staff sensitivity to the dignity of the pupils. Where pupils require specific medical support, this is provided for extremely well.

The outstanding curriculum supports pupils in continuing to develop their life skills, partly as a result of the extensive range of opportunities provided through off-site visits and visitors to the school.

As a result of this outstanding provision, students' personal development and well-being are exemplary.

What the school should do to improve further

- Further develop the use of a range of assessment procedures so that the full extent of pupils' progress across a variety of complex needs is made more explicit.
-

4.23 Downs Park Special School

Foredown Road, Portslade, Brighton, BN41 2FU

Geographical area: West

No. of children on roll: 114

Date of inspection: 28th April 2009

Overall judgement was: Satisfactory

Many parents appreciate what the school offers, although nearly a quarter of respondents to the Ofsted questionnaire expressed negative views. Downs Park School maintains an effective partnership with other schools and services, including providing a successful 'outreach' service to other schools.

Although in its previous inspection, all aspects were good, by 2007 to 2008 - during long-term staff absences including some senior staff - the school's development slowed and pupils' progress was inadequate. Since September 2008, the situation has improved.

The leadership and management of the school are satisfactory. Leaders and managers are committed to maintaining stability and making further progress. Governors provide satisfactory support and challenge but the school has previously not always provided them with entirely reliable data on pupils' progress. This too is improving. Staff continue to work as a team and are committed to doing better.

Overall, effective steps have been taken to bring about improvements and the school has a satisfactory capacity to make the further improvements now necessary. The school recognises the importance of ensuring the robustness of plans to minimise the negative impact of any further staff absences on pupils' progress.

What the school should do to improve further:

- Improve teaching and learning, especially in English and mathematics, ensuring work is more challenging and that assessment information is used to the full to improve progress.
- Develop activities in the curriculum which are more practical and related to real life.
- Work with the local authority to implement robust plans to minimise the impact of any staff absences

4.24 Update on progress at Portslade Community College

Portslade Community College was given a Notice to Improve by Ofsted in January 2009. The achievement and progress of students was found to be inadequate. However, the capacity to improve was judged satisfactory. The school has had an Executive headteacher since 1st January supported by an acting head of school. The school has had much support from CYPT consultants and from a National Challenge Adviser. The Executive headteacher and chair of governors have attended six weekly meetings with Assistant Director Learning, Schools and Skills branch, with managers from Human Resources, Finance, and Area Team Manager.

The school has identified the following priorities:

Including English and Maths – Enhance student level interventions to ensure that at least 70%, or 61 of the 87 learners predicted to gain 5+ A*-C in 2009, also gain an A*-C pass in English and Maths.

At Least One Qualification – Improve the quality of student support to guarantee that at least 99%, or 178 of the 180 learners completing year 11 in 2009, achieve at least 1 entry level qualification.

Assessment For Learning – Establish consistent teaching and assessment arrangements in all departments, capable of providing expert guidance to individual learners alongside the regular production of reliable whole school attainment data.

Leadership For Learning – Develop leadership capacity across the College that supports robust and informed accountability at all levels, in conjunction with the implementation of a range of targeted improvement strategies.

Culture For Learning – Formulate a clear set of values and beliefs to ensure that the College's curriculum reflects a commitment to students' social, emotional and spiritual growth, supports their emerging independence and contributes to a deeper and more profound educational experience.

Performance Management – Embed a culture of performance review and continuous professional development for all staff that links personal objectives directly to school improvement (Raising Attainment Plan) priorities and activities.

There are clear action plans for each of these priorities and the senior team good focus on pupil attainment.

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: 9th August 2009

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Lawyer consulted: Serena Kynasten, Lawyer, CYPT

Date: 9th August 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*

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 19

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Corporate Parenting
Date of Meeting: 16th September 2009
Report of: Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Name: **Name:** Liz Rugg **Tel:** 29-5388
E-mail: liz.rugg@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The Children Act 2004 and subsequent Care Matters framework has placed increased duties upon councils in respect of responsibilities to children in the public care system. Children enter the care system in a variety of ways: on remand to the care of the Local Authority from a juvenile Court as a result of criminal behaviour, as Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, parents can request that their children be accommodated either full time or for short breaks/respite as a family support service (for example with a severely disabled child) or as a result of family breakdown or trauma. However by far the largest proportion of children in care (CiC) both nationally and locally are placed in the care system as a result of an order from a Family Court because they are cannot be cared for safely within their family system, either temporarily or on a permanent basis.
- 1.2 Outcomes for CiC are poorer than those of the general population of children. For example in 2008 in Brighton and Hove just 7% achieved 5 A*-C grades at GCSE compared to 57% in the general population. CiC are more likely to commit their first offence at an early age with 42% having committed an offence by age 14 compared to 25% of young people who live with their parents and CiC in Brighton and Hove are almost twice as likely to receive a final warning reprimand or caution compared to all children. Not surprisingly poor educational outcomes and higher rates of offending can lead to lifelong difficulties and to an overrepresentation of care leavers in the adult prison population, amongst those who are street homeless or being treated for adult mental health difficulties etc.
- 1.3 The responsibility to care for children who are legally CiC falls upon the whole Council rather than simply upon statutory children's services and legislation stipulates that "all departments and services must treat these

children as if they were their own.” There is now a statutory requirement to have both a lead member for children’s services and a Director of Children’s Services. BHCC must also establish a Children in Care Council which allows CiC to express their views and give feedback on the services they receive. In Brighton and Hove this was launched in March 2009 and is called the Listen Up Care Council or LUCC. In addition the City must develop a Pledge or set of undertakings that outline the commitments that it will make to its CiC (see Appendix One for the draft Pledge).

- 1.4 The Cabinet Member for Children’s Services and the Chief Executive and TMT have received reports and endorsed the intention to launch a Corporate Parenting Forum that will include both elected members and representatives from LUCC. This forum will consider an annual report card on outcomes for CiC, ratify and update the Pledge, ensure that ongoing Council business reflects the needs and aspirations of CiC etc.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That CYPOSC should support the formation of a Corporate Parenting Forum and act as ambassadors for CiC to their respective political groups to ensure that all groups are actively represented and involved both in the forum and at training and briefings.
- 2.2 That Councillors should require any committees or boards that they are members of to carry out a stock take of responsibility in relation to CiC and ensure that this is reflected in future work plans etc.
- 2.3 That CYPOSC should agree to receive and consider the annual ‘report card’ on outcomes for CiC to reassure itself that continued progress is being made for this group of children.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 As of the end of July 2009 in BHCC there are 444 full time CiC and 508 children if those supported by short breaks/respice are included. The City has a higher proportion of CiC than the national average, 79 per 10,000 compared with 64 per 10,000 in benchmark authorities.
- 3.2 Outcomes data:
 - 3.2.1 What is going well?

There is strong progress on many of the outcome measures for CiC in the City. Some examples would be:

 - In 2008 the percentage of care leavers aged 19 who were engaged in education, employment or training was 63.9% compared to the average amongst statistical neighbours of 62.19%

- In 2008 the percentage of care leavers living in suitable accommodation was 94.4% compared to the average amongst statistical neighbours of 82.3%
- The percentage of children having dental and health checks has increased from nearly 72% in 2004 to 94% in 2008, which is above the statistical neighbour average of 85%.
- In 2008 the percentage of children aged 10+ who received a final warning/reprimand or conviction was 1.8% as a proportion of all 10-17 year olds compared to a statistical neighbour average of 2.3%.
- In 2008 10% of CiC missed 25 or more days of schooling during the previous year compared with 13.6% for statistical neighbours with fixed term exclusions falling from 142 in the 2005/6 academic year to 87 in the year 2007/8.

3.2.2 What are the ongoing challenges?

Despite the progress in many areas there are ongoing challenges, for example:

- In 2008 10.7% of LAC were identified as having a substance misuse problem which is more than twice the national average of 4.9% and the regional average of 4.3%.
- In 2008 the percentage of CiC who achieved 5 GCSEs at A*- C grades was 7% compared to an average amongst statistical neighbours of 12.3%.

4. **CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The Listen up Care Council will provide a positive channel of communication between CiC, elected members and officers. Development of the Pledge has involved extensive consultation with CiC and a Corporate Parenting Forum, once established, will support ongoing dialogue and feedback.

5. **FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The rise in the council's duties in relation to CiC in recent years has put increasing demands on the children's budget. In 2008/09 the spending on CiC was £19.8m compared with a total spend on children's social care of £40.2m (49%). The total 2009/10 budget for children looked after is £21.4m. Early indications are that this budget is under significant pressure and the current level of activity is not sustainable within existing funding levels.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 7.9.09

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The report sets out some of the statutory and regulatory framework for children in care. Where children are suffering or are at significant risk of suffering significant harm (physical, emotional or in terms of their development) as a result of an unreasonable standard of parenting, the local authority are under a statutory duty to assess their circumstances and if necessary accommodate them, either with their parent's consent or by way of court order within care proceedings. Additionally teenagers can request accommodation and if it is clear to the authority that they are unable to live at home, then following recent case law they must be treated in law as children in care. Post the death of Baby Peter there has been a significant increase in the numbers of care proceedings nationally.

If it is assessed that children cannot be safely returned to their parents, and no safe family option can be found the authority have to consider whether the child should remain in foster care or following further assessment whether they should be approved for adoption. Adoptions can only be done with the express approval of the court. The authority has a duty to assess the needs of the children in their care. By their nature many of the children who remain in care in the longer term have a range of special needs and challenges which have arisen before their entry into care. As the report indicates the authority as a whole has a duty to ensure that wherever possible those special needs are identified and the resources of the authority used to address them. For example the admissions policies of schools must give priority to looked after children. In addition the Children Act 2004 places a duty on a range of other public bodies such as the health service to prioritise outcomes for children in their service.

Lawyer Consulted : Natasha Watson Date: 07.09.09

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Most children who are in the care system come from backgrounds within socially excluded sections of the population. This, coupled with the poor outcomes that can be the result of being a child in care, can lead to long term and serious disadvantage for this group of children.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no sustainability implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no implications for crime and disorder

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 BHCC has an opportunity to improve Corporate Parenting and hence outcomes for CiC and to counter and ameliorate the disadvantage that these children can experience. The risk if this does not happen is that more young people will leave care and enter highly marginalised and challenging sections of the community.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 Poor outcomes for CiC will reflect on key performance frameworks for BHCC and may impact negatively on overall gradings and judgements for the authority.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Draft Pledge for Children in Care

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None



We need
your views!!!

IMPORTANT:

Simply **TELL US WHAT YOU THINK** by either completing and sending back the questionnaire on the back page or by going to www.bhyap.org.uk and follow the link to our online survey.

Each person that responds either online or on paper will be entered into a prize draw, to win either:

- An iPod Shuffle
- £10 music voucher (x2)
- £10 book voucher (x2)
- £10 Pizza Express voucher (x2)

The prize draw will be made on Monday 11th May.

Brighton and Hove
Children and Young People's

TRUST

The Brighton & Hove Pledge

The Government has recently put together a list of proposals to make the care system better for young people, in a document called *Care Matters: Time For Change*. One of these proposals is that each local council should put together a Pledge (a set of promises) about what children and young people in care can expect from the council.

Brighton and Hove City Council has put together their list of promises, **and they want to know what you think about their suggestions**. At the back of this booklet is a questionnaire, which you can complete and send back. Or you can go online to www.bhyap.org.uk to have your say. In return, **there are a number of great prizes up for grabs!**

This is really important because by having your say now, you can make a real difference to what you and others can expect from the care system.

1. We will recognise your potential

By:

- Tracking your progress
- Knowing what's going well
- Looking at your options
- Providing you with role models
- Recognising your cultural needs
- Supporting you to do the things you enjoy in your free time



2. We will have high expectations



By:

- Knowing your strengths and interests
- Knowing what you need to improve upon
- Helping you meet your targets
- Being involved in planning your education

3. We will support you to succeed

By having access to:

- good childcare when you are little
- help at home and school
- extra tuition
- ICT
- good quality resources



4. We will recognise your achievements



By:

- Being positive and consistent
- Providing an incentive
- Helping you build on your success
- Holding an awards ceremony

5. We will make sure you can say what you want to say



Everyone can
state their
views

By:

- Listening carefully to your opinions, wishes and feelings
- Seriously considering your ideas
- Explaining our decisions

6. We will make sure you are able to take part in meetings

By:

- Helping you manage meetings about you
- Asking you what you want to say and how you want to say it.
- Making sure that an Independent Reviewing Officer works with you to plan your Reviews so that you feel as comfortable and involved as possible.



It's your
life - it's your
Review

7. We will make sure you have help if you want to make a formal suggestion or complaint



Complaints
procedures
should sort it
out!

By:

- Making it easy to tell the council what you think and to make suggestions and complaints
- Making it easy to ask for an Advocate to help you
- Taking your suggestions and complaints seriously and thoroughly investigating them
- Tell you what we are going to do about them

8. We will make sure you can tell senior officers and elected members what you think about the services you receive

By:

- Inviting you to take part in the Brighton & Hove "Listen Up Care Council"
- Giving you the chance to put your ideas and opinions directly to the Big Bosses (the Director and Lead Member for Children's Services)




Help the bosses
understand

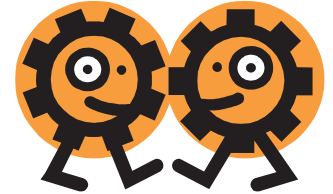
9. We promise to keep you safe

By:

- Making sure you have a social worker and that you know how to contact him or her
- Making sure that your social worker visits you regularly and has time to listen to any worries that you might have
- Making sure you have an up to date Care Plan that spells out what you need
- Finding carers for you who will look after you if you can't live with your family
- Keeping you in touch with people who are important to you




Everyone needs to feel secure



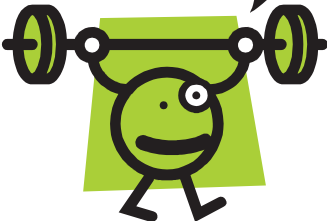
10. We will support you to be physically fit and well

By:

- Listening to your concerns and working with you
- Knowing what you need and making plans for improvements
- Offering advice and support
- Offering appointments when you need them
- Tracking your progress
- Supporting you to take part in sport, activities and outings that you enjoy




Everyone can feel healthy



11. We will support your emotional health and well being

By:

- Helping you to understand your own life story
- Listening to your worries
- Working with you so that you have the support you need
- Supporting you to take part in sport, activities and outings that you enjoy



Everyone needs support at times



And when you are older.....

12. We will support you into independence

By:

- Ensuring you have high quality 16+ information, advice and guidance
- Helping you consider job, apprenticeships, college or university options
- Giving you financial assistance with training and further education
- Making sure you have an allocated Personal Adviser



13. We will help you to live independently

Your place
or mine?



By:

- Making sure you are ready
- Helping you find a good place to live
- Offering you a place of your own
- Supporting you with rent and deposits

14. We promise to help you be healthy as you become older and more independent

By:

- Helping you to use health services
- Providing you with information and practical help on how to keep yourself well
- Supporting you with sexual health needs
- Helping you - if you smoke - to give up when you are ready to
- Work with you if you use alcohol and /or drugs to find the help that you need

Everyone can
make good
choices



15. We will continue to watch out for you

By:

- Making sure you have a Pathway Plan that sets out what help and support you will get as you become an adult and move out of Care
- Making sure you have a named worker who will stay in touch with you until you are at least 21
- Not moving you out of your care placement until you are ready for that

Give us a
wave!



Tell us what you think...

...we want to know what you think about these promises. For each promise we would like you to answer three questions on a scale between 1 and 5 by simply selecting the star [with a tick] that shows what you think:

1 = NO/Strongly disagree 5 = YES/Strongly agree

Remember you can complete this survey online by going to www.bhyap.org.uk or simply complete this paper copy and return it in the envelope provided.

1. We will recognise your potential

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

2. We will have high expectations

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

3. We will support you to succeed

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

4. We will recognise your achievements

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

5. We will make sure you can say what you want to say

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

6. We will make sure you are able to take part in meetings

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

7. We will make sure you have help if you want to make a formal suggestion or complaint

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

8. We will make sure you can tell senior officers and elected members what you think about the services you receive

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

If yes, what?

For each promise we would like you to answer three questions on a scale between 1 and 5 by simply selecting the star [with a tick] that shows what you think:

1 = NO/Strongly disagree 5 = YES/Strongly agree

9. We promise to keep you safe

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If yes, what?

12. We will support you into independence

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If yes, what?

10. We will support you to be physically fit and well

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If yes, what?

13. We will help you to live independently

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If yes, what?

11. We will support your emotional health and well being

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If yes, what?

14. We promise to help you be healthy as you become older and more independent

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If yes, what?

15. We will continue to watch out for you

Do you understand the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Do you agree with the promise? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Is there anything missing? ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

If yes, what?

Don't forget, by returning this questionnaire in the envelope provided to "YAP", you could win:

An iPod Shuffle

£10 Music voucher x 2

£10 book voucher x 2

£10 Pizza Express voucher x 2

All names will be entered into a prize draw, which will be drawn **on Monday 11th May**.

For more information or if you have any questions please contact Tony or Claire on 295510 or tony@bhyap.org.uk or claireb@bhyap.org.uk

Name:

Age:

Email Address:

Contact Number:

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 20

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Safeguarding practice - update
Date of Meeting: September 16th 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

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This is the fifth in a series of reports and presentations that have been made to the Children & Young People's Trust (CYPT) Board following events in the London Borough of Haringey (the Baby P. case). Those events precipitated a fundamental review of national safeguarding policy and an acceptance by Government that there needs to be "a *step change in the arrangements to protect children from harm*".
- 1.2 Regular internal and external scrutiny has confirmed that arrangements in Brighton and Hove are secure, but areas for development arising as a result of the Laming report have been identified and are covered later in the report.
- 1.3 The purpose of this report is to summarise for the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee the implications for safeguarding practice in Brighton and Hove of the government's response to Lord Laming's report 'The Protection of children in England' and to provide the Board with a progress report on action taken by the CYPT and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To note the implications outlined in this report of government's response to Lord Laming's report 'The Protection of children in England' and the action taken in response by the CYPT and the LSCB.
- 2.2 To consider whether the CYPOSC should take any further action in respect of the 2009/10 work programme.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

CYPT Board:

- 3.1 The CYPT Board has taken the follow action in response to events in the London Borough of Haringey:
- Received two reports at the 19th January 2009 meeting: one setting out the government's requirement for all local authorities and health organisations to undertake a stock take of the effectiveness of their safeguarding arrangements: and one summarising safeguarding arrangements in Brighton and Hove including evidence of assurance previously provided by external inspections and recommendations for further assessment and improvement work to be undertaken.
 - At the March 2nd meeting the Board heard a presentation about front line child protection services and participated in discussion groups with second and third tier managers from the CYPT.
 - At the April 20th meeting the Director of Children's Services set out the implications of Lord Laming's report 'The Protection of children in England' and drew particular attention to the recommendations which addressed the future relationship between Children's Trust Boards and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

Reports addressing local safeguarding arrangements have also been taken to the Integrated Governance Committee at NHS Brighton and Hove and to the LSCB.

Government Response to Lord Laming:

- 3.2 The Government's response to Lord Laming's recommendations has significant implications for the CYPT Board. The response is divided into 6 sections: national leadership and accountability; a more rigorous inspection framework; local leadership and accountability; supporting the front line; reducing delay in care proceedings; and court fees.
- 3.3 National leadership and accountability includes new initiatives designed to drive continuous improvement of safeguarding and child protection arrangements across England including:
- A commitment by December 2009 to revise Working Together 2006, the fundamental statutory guidance that underpins all interagency safeguarding practice. Separate consultation on proposals to clarify arrangements in respect of Serious Case Reviews will be published in July 2009.
 - The appointment of Sir Roger Singleton as the Chief Advisor on the Safety of Children responsible for a new National Safeguarding Delivery Unit to 'challenge and support every Children's Trust' in the country to deliver the best possible arrangements for keeping children safe

- 3.4 Ofsted is the lead inspector for children's services within the Audit Commissions new Comprehensive Area Assessment Regime. Publication of Ofsted's new inspection framework was delayed to take full account of the government's response to Lord Laming's report. The CYPT's senior management team is considering the implications of the new framework including preparation for the unannounced inspection of our contact, referral and assessment arrangements expected before the autumn.

The Government's response also recognises the key role of the Care Quality Commission (CQC), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. Of particular importance to the CYPT is the new regulatory framework established by the Health and Social Care Act 2008, which takes effect from 2010, and which will now include a major new thrust on safety and safeguarding to accommodate Lord Laming's recommendations. We are awaiting the outcome of the twin surveys of safeguarding arrangements in the local health economy undertaken earlier this year for the CQC and Strategic Health Authority.

- 3.6 Clarification of arrangements to strengthen local leadership and accountability are complex and, in part depend on the passage of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill. Currently before parliament the Bill sets out proposals to strengthen Children's Trusts which will impact on local safeguarding arrangements i.e.

- The CYPT Board is likely to be given a statutory responsibility to produce and implement a Children and Young People's Plan which must prioritise the improvement of safeguarding arrangements
- Current statutory targets, which apply only to early years and school attainment, will be extended to include safeguarding
- The revision of Working Together 2006 will include proposals to clarify the 'important but distinctive roles' that the CYPT and LSCB have to keep children safe
- Revised statutory guidance will be published in June 2009 to clarify the roles of DCS and Lead Members. This will include the requirement for every Children's Trust to produce an annual report part of which must include an assessment by the council's Chief Executive and Leader of the Council into the effectiveness of local governance and partnership arrangements for improving outcomes for children and supporting the best possible standards for safeguarding children.

- 3.7 Supporting the front line: the government believes that while strong leadership and effective governance are essential what matters most to children and families is the support they receive day to day from front line services. Their response to Lord Laming identifies key areas for action: Early Intervention – schools and children's centres; Information Sharing and Assessment; the Police; the Health Service; and Social Work Reform including the Integrated Children's System (ICS) and the Social Work Transformation Fund. This section highlights the issues in the Government's response to Lord Laming which are most relevant to the Board and outlines action which has already been taken locally.

- 3.7.1 Early Intervention: schools and children's centres: the Government's response is relatively light in this area, apart from announcing a forthcoming 21st Century Schools White Paper which will set out a national framework for early intervention to meet children's additional needs specifying the roles and responsibilities of schools and other services.
- 3.7.2 Information Sharing and Assessment: Lord Laming recommended that all Children's Trusts should ensure the consistent application of the Government's Information Sharing Guidance. A report setting out the necessary local policy and protocols will come to the Board for approval. In addition Brighton and Hove continues to be compliant with the national Contact Point implementation plan. Progress on the introduction of a Common Assessment Framework is included in the Board's quarterly Performance Improvement Report.
- 3.7.3 The Police: The Government have announced the development of a new Strategic Framework for Delivering Protective Services which will prioritise child protection. By December 2009 the National Policy Improvement Agency's Specialist Child Abuse Investigators Development Programme will be updated to reflect the findings of the Laming report. Working relationships between Sussex police and the CYPT Partnership, including the LSCB are well established and strong although representation at CYPT Board level needs to be addressed.
- 3.7.4 The Health Service: Lord Laming challenged the Department of Health to prioritise the commitment to promote the recruitment and professional development of Health Visitors made in 'Healthy Lives, Brighter Futures' the joint strategy with the DCSF for children and young people's health. In response the Government outlined a new Action on Health Visiting Programme and work by the National Clinical Director for Children to improve training, development and support for staff across health services involved in safeguarding. In Brighton and Hove we are finalising proposals to comply with the requirement to separate the Designated and Named Nurse (Safeguarding) functions across the local health economy, which will improve support and multi-agency training provision to front line practitioners including Health Visitors. In addition, NHS Brighton and Hove and the CYPT are reviewing the recommendations in 'Healthy Lives, Brighter Futures' as part of developing options to address the implications of the Action on Health Visiting Programme.
- 3.7.5 Social Work: In its response to Lord Laming the government makes clear the pivotal role social workers have in protecting children. The Social Work Task Force will report in October 2009 with proposals to implement recommendations in the Laming report. The Government has committed to bringing forward a comprehensive programme of reform for the profession at that stage. In the meantime urgent action is being taken in respect of:

The Integrated Children's System (the electronic business and data collection system used by front line social workers to record their work): the Government will act on early recommendations from the Social Work Task

Force to enhance the positive elements of the system by making it more flexible and by supporting its record keeping capacity, while stripping out other, unnecessary features.

Brighton and Hove has been consistently compliant with the national ICS programme and has, as result, often experienced problems earlier than other authorities.

The Social Work Transformation Fund: the Government has announced a number of measures to improve capacity in the workforce including:

- measures to increase the supply of social workers including a Return to Social Work Scheme and a Graduate Recruitment Scheme
- rolling out the Newly Qualified Social Worker pilot scheme
- introduction of the Advanced Social Work Professional Status

The CYPT has already put in place arrangements to address the recruitment and retention of social workers, as part of its wider Children's Workforce development Strategy. These arrangements have been discussed at the Board and will be included in the quarterly Performance Improvement Report.

- 3.7.6 Reducing the delay in care proceedings and Court Fees: The Ministry of Justice and the DCSF are working together to address both of these issues and will bring forward proposals.

The CYPT: safeguarding arrangements

- 3.8 The Government's response to Lord Laming's report raises key issues for the CYPT as the major provider of children's social work services in the city. The Director of Children's Services has completed a phased review of management and leadership arrangements. A new second tier structure has been in place since April 1st 2009. Phase two of the restructuring will be completed by October 1st 2009. Key principles underpinning the review are directly relevant to the safeguarding agenda i.e.

- There is a need to ensure safeguarding arrangements meet Laming recommendations and emerging government guidance.
- The development of effective, integrated Area/Locality working is central to the work of the CYPT.
- Strengthening and clarifying linkages/pathways between universal, targeted and specialist services.
- Ensuring safe services and protecting front-line delivery.

Two central proposals focus on improving safeguarding and child protection arrangements:

Development of area/locality working: these proposals will be completed as part of stage 3 of the review of management and leadership arrangements. They will take forward Brighton and Hove's innovative model of integrated local provision to improve the support to front line safeguarding and child protection services. Specifically the proposals will address issues raised by

Lord Laming in respect of contact, referral and information services which will also be the focus of Ofsted's new unannounced annual inspections.

Secondly the CYPT has established a new Head of Safeguarding post and has transferred all strategic responsibility for safeguarding to the Strategic Commissioning and Governance Branch. The Head of Safeguarding will:

- lead the Safeguarding Unit, providing clear and coordinated governance for safeguarding and child protection activity across the CYPT partnership including an integrated response to developments in national policy
- manage the work of the Safeguarding Unit: working closely with the Clinical Director and Head of Governance to line manage the Nurse Consultant/Designated Nurse; manage the Senior Independent Reviewing Officer, the Service Manager for the Clermont Child Protection Unit and the LSCB Development Officer
- fulfil statutory and senior management functions on behalf of the CYPT relating to safeguarding and social care functions

3.9 The Government's response to Lord Laming's report also raises key issues for the CYPT and NHS Brighton and Hove which, together commission children's social work services in the city. Safeguarding has been identified as one of the 5 priorities for our work programme with the national Commissioning Support Programme (funded by the DCSF and Department of Health to improve commissioning practice across Children's Trusts nationally). Events in Haringey, and the subsequent raft of policy initiatives clustered around Lord Laming's Report, have irrevocably changed the nature of safeguarding and child protection practice. In this context the CYPT Board, in partnership with the LSCB, may wish to review how safeguarding and child protection services are commissioned, including whether a local Section 10 Agreement between partner agencies to create a pooled budget would be of benefit.

CYPT – Safeguarding Stock take:

3.10 There is a firm connection between the priorities in the Government's response to Lord Laming's report and the issues identified in the report to the Board on 19th January 2009 as requiring further attention:

3.10.2 Compliance with the recommendations of the Climbié Inquiry (2005): A review has been completed and necessary adjustments made by the CYPT.

3.10.3 Structure and content of the CYPT's Monthly Monitoring Reports of social care and safeguarding data: a comprehensive review has been completed and new arrangements are in place

3.10.4 Operation of the CYPT Area Panels for complex, high risk cases: This work has been completed and found that risk and safeguarding issues are being well managed by the panels. A draft report and recommendations will be considered by Senior Managers as part of finalising the CYPT's phase 3 restructuring proposals.

- 3.10.5 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: and the effectiveness of CYPT safeguarding and child protection audit programmes: an external consultant was commissioned to review these 3 issues and her final report has been received. The Head of Nursing and Head of Workforce development are, as a result of the report and recommendations within the Laming Report, rewriting the current Supervision Policy for the CYPT. The CYPT has also engaged external consultants to undertake a dry run unannounced inspection of the CYPT's contact, referral and assessment systems and this will include updating of our current internal audit process.
- 3.10.6 Standards of record keeping on case files: it was agreed to defer this work until the outcomes of the other issues were fully evaluated

CYPT Partnership – safeguarding activity levels:

- 3.11 The CYPT Board's quarterly Performance Improvement Report has tracked the steady increase in safeguarding activity since quarter two 2008, specifically the steady increase in the number of children requiring a child protection plan. The CYPT's annual return to the DCSF for Child Protection and Referrals (CPR3) records the 2008/9 end of year figure as 291 children compared to 184 for 2007/8. Despite this increase the CPR3 return, and the companion 903 return (which records a range of other social care indicators) shows overall performance to be good and, for a significant number of indicators to be very good.
- 3.12 The CYPT Senior Management Team is currently assessing the likely resource implications for the CYPT of the government's response to Lord Laming, some of which have already been noted in this report including the additional support for newly qualified staff. Other recommendations and statements by Lord Laming have significant operational implications e.g.
- The DCSF should revise *Working Together to Safeguard Children* to set out clear expectations at all points where concerns about a child's safety are received, ensuring intake/duty teams have sufficient training and expertise to take referrals and that staff have immediate, on site support available from an experienced social worker. Local authorities should take appropriate action to implement these changes.
 - Children's Trusts must ensure that all assessments of need for children and their families include evidence from all the professionals involved in their lives, take account of case histories and significant events (including previous assessments) and above all must include direct contact with the child.
 - In recent years the term 'threshold' has been increasingly used amongst professionals in children's services and their partner agencies. Thresholds are an attempt to limit access to services either because of finance or staffing constraints. Thresholds have no statutory basis and are not part of the *Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families*.

3.13 Placed alongside the increase in safeguarding activity in Brighton and Hove, (which predates events in Haringey) these statements make it clear that the CYPT partnership faces significant resource implications in respect of safeguarding and child protection services. Lord Laming recommended that the Government ‘must ensure children’s services, police and health services have protected budgets for the staffing and training for child protection services’. In response the Government states:

“Children’s Trusts will prepare their annual assessments of need on which the financial contributions made by local partners to jointly-funded safeguarding initiatives will be based, taking account of other local priorities. These will be set out each year in the Children and Young People’s Plan”.

The Local Children’s Safeguarding Board:

3.14 The LSCB has already taken steps to address issues raised by Lord Laming by identifying additional partnership funding to:

- appoint an Independent Chair for the LSCB
- engage independent chairs and independent overview report authors for future Serious Case Reviews
- to appoint a new LSCB Manager/Development Officer post (hosted by the CYPT and reporting to the new Head of Safeguarding) to support the work of the LSCB, and undertake audit and practice development functions; and has
- held an LSCB conference in early June to review our local response to the Laming Report and specifically to focus on key recommendations which address front line referral, assessment and thresholds (see recommendations 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21) and to continue to meet the priorities in the Children and Young People’s Plan

3.15 The response to Lord Laming’s recommendations provides some interim guidance as to the relationship between the CYPT Board and the LSCB:

‘The Children’s Trust is accountable for ensuring that services deliver better outcomes, with the Children’s Trust Board being specifically accountable for overseeing the delivery of the Children and Young Peoples Plan. The LSCB should be responsible for challenging every member of the Children’s Trust, through the Children’s Trust Board, on their success in ensuring that children and young people are kept safe. The LSCB should publish an annual report on the effectiveness of arrangements locally, and the contribution and activities of each local partner, for keeping children safe, as recommended in Lord Laming’s report. The complementary roles of the two bodies – and the challenge of the LSCB to the Children’s Trust – will only work effectively if the two bodies are chaired by different people. There will now be a presumption that the LSCB is chaired by someone independent of the local agencies so that the LSCB can exercise its local challenge function effectively’. (Paragraph 47).

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 This report has been jointly developed by senior managers in the CYPT.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are potentially significant financial implications arising from this report. At this stage it is not possible to fully quantify them. They will need to be properly costed and reported to the Board.

Finance Officer Consulted: Jeff Coates

Date: 27/05/2009

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, and identifies the areas where further action will be needed in the light of anticipated statutory and regulatory developments. The framework of the Brighton and Hove CYPT and LSCB is designed to ensure that the safeguarding agenda is delivered as required.

The challenge for both Boards will be in ensuring confidence in the front line services to meet the increased expectations in safeguarding children, and that the budgets are available to meet the challenges and expectations described in the report. There has already been a significant increase in the number of care proceedings issued both nationally and locally. The availability of specialist, expert and experienced legal advice to those front line services is likely to be of vital in supporting those services in meeting and delivering the increased demands of the safeguarding agenda.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 27/05/09

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.

6. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Documents in Members' Rooms:

Background Documents:

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 21

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Performance Improvement Report
Date of Meeting: 20th July 2009
Report of: Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Name: *Paul Brewer* Tel: 29-4223
E-mail: Paul.brewer@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Key Decision: Yes/No Forward Plan No. (7 Digit Ref):
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report presents Performance Improvement Report (PIR) for the final quarter 2008/9.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Committee:

- 2.1 Receives the performance data, consider and comment on the areas of improvement and pursue such areas where performance improvement is deliverable.
- 2.2 Notes an additional indicator in future reports, 'The number of children with a child protection plan', in order to monitor the sharp increase in child protection activity.
- 2.3 Notes the indicator First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System be removed as and exception report as performance was well above target during 2008/9.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The CYPOSC 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 Local Area Agreement, the council's Corporate Plan, the Strategic Commissioning Plan for NHS Brighton and Hove and the Children and Young People's 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:

- 5.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

Finance Officer Consulted: Jeff Coates

Date:07.07.09

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The report summarises performance improvement activity over the last financial year and asks the Committee to note areas of concern. The proposed actions will enable the Trust to more effectively meet its statutory duties to children and young people.

Layer Consulted:

Natasha Watson

Date: 07.07.09

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 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.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 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.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 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

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 This report directly addresses issues of risk management.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 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. Performance Improvement Report 2008/9

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None

Performance Improvement Report: Quarter 4 2008/9

Contents

Introduction

Achievements in 2008/9
Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2012
Comprehensive Area Assessment and judgement of children's services

Early Intervention and Prevention

Referrals of children per 10,000 population aged under 18
Common Assessment Framework
Parenting Programme

Performance Exception Reports

Obesity
Number of looked after children
Young people not in education, employment or training
Persistent Absence in Secondary School
Breastfeeding
Teenage Conceptions
First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

Service Management

Risk Management
Value for Money
Workforce
Equalities
Health and Safety

Introduction

This report provides Members with key information to review performance and management in the Children and Young People's Trust. During the year CYPOSC received the following performance reports

This section of the Performance Improvement Report provides a brief summary of achievements in the year:

- Performance Improvement Report – 2007/8
- Standards in early years foundation stage and key stages 1-5
- Annual Performance Assessment
- Performance Improvement Report – Quarters 2 and 3

The report also provides a briefing on new arrangements for the inspection of children's services under Comprehensive Area Assessment from April 2009.

Achievements in 2008/9

The Annual Performance Assessment of services for children and young people was published in December 2008 and the *overall effectiveness of children's services* was found to be **good**. Each of the following judgement areas received a grade of 3 (good): being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution, achieving economic well-being and capacity to improve (including the management of services).

The summary below draws on this assessment as well as local and more recent information to highlight the progress made during the year in key priority areas.

We achieved:

- improved support for young people to be healthy, with the remaining 15 schools achieving Healthy Schools Status in the year, reaching 100%
- an increase in pupils getting a good level at foundation stage (reception year), above south east and England averages
- good primary school achievement with 74% of pupils achieving Level 4+ at key stage 2 compared with 73% in England in 2008
- Significant improvement in the recording of breastfeeding status at 6 weeks during the year, confirming that city rates are the third highest in England.
- good progress in tackling persistent absence in schools, at a faster rate than the south east and England
- good levels of achievement (Levels 2 and 3) at age 19
- all child protection plans reviewed on time despite a very significant increase in numbers
- improvement in the number of looked after children reviews done on time, again despite a significant increase in numbers

Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2012

The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) will come before the CYPT Board for approval on 7th September 2009. It is the defining statement of strategic planning and priorities for children, young people and families and sets the strategic commissioning framework through which we will improve outcomes for children and young people and families in Brighton and Hove. Strategic commissioning plans, such as for obesity and teenage pregnancy, along with detailed service business plans are the means by which we will plan, deliver and monitor service delivery.

The CYPP is positioned within the overall vision for the *area*, provided in the Sustainable Community Strategy, and is part of the wider strategic planning framework overseen by the Local Strategic Partnership. The CYPP will deliver against the priorities identified in the Local Area Agreement 2008-11, which is the delivery plan for the Sustainable Community Strategy. It will also support delivery of the priorities identified in NHS Brighton and Hove's Strategic Commissioning Plan.

The CYPP will have a focus on tackling inequalities and narrowing gaps in outcomes between vulnerable or deprived groups and the rest.

Comprehensive Area Assessment and judgement of children's services

The new Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) framework came into effect in April 2009, replacing Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA). CAA represents a fundamental change in the way the local authority and its partners are assessed, moving away from solely focusing on the past performance of the council towards a forward looking assessment of prospects for future success against objectives. It comprises of two main elements; the Area Assessment and the Organisational Assessment.

- *area assessment*: looking at how well local public services are delivering better outcomes for local people and how likely they are to improve in the future
- *Organisational assessment*: looking at the overall effectiveness of individual public bodies, such as councils, in managing performance and using resources.

Children's services commissioned or provided by the CYPT will be assessed by Ofsted as part of the organisational assessment of the council. Ofsted will use a new inspection framework developed to be an integral part of the CAA process and also designed to meet the requirements of the Government's response to Lord Laming's Report Protecting Children (2009).

A key aspect of the new inspection framework is the new Performance Profile. Updated on a quarterly basis the profile will compare local performance to statistical neighbours and national trends. Evidence in the profile is arranged into three main blocks:

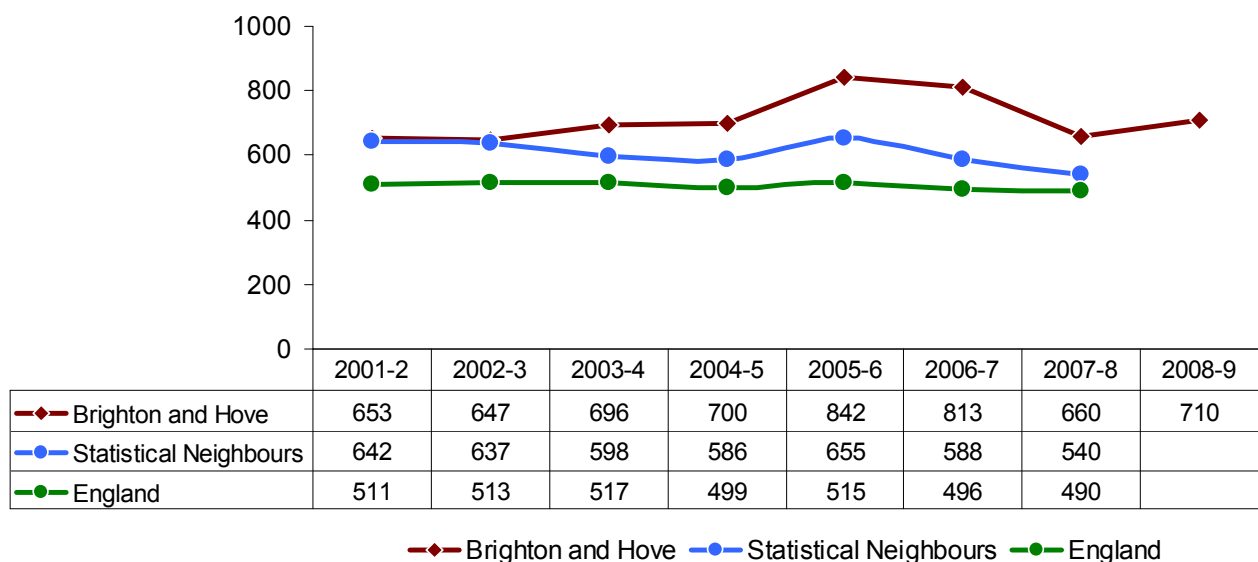
- the findings from regular and ongoing inspection and regulation of services, settings and institutions (the proportion of institutions judged good or better)

- findings from safeguarding and looked after children inspections; unannounced inspections of contact, assessment and referral arrangements for children in need and children who may be in need of protection; evaluations of serious case reviews; safeguarding and looked after children findings from recent joint area review inspections; and findings from triggered inspections
- performance against Every Child Matters indicators from the National Indicator Set, including those prioritised in the Local Area Agreement plus additional indicators drawn from other statutory returns

The CYPT is also working closely with the local health economy to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Care Quality Commission inspection regime for children's health services.

Early Intervention and Prevention

Referrals of children per 10,000 population aged under 18



Data source: CPR3 return May 2009 and Annual Performance Assessment Dec 2008

Summary:

The number of referrals to the CYPT's safeguarding teams has been used as one of three proxy measures to assess the impact of service integration on early identification and support for children in need. In November 2006 it was anticipated that the number of referrals would stabilise or reduce as services worked together more effectively and the Common Assessment Framework and Team Around the Child arrangements were introduced.

The initial downward trend in referrals reported since June 2006 has reversed with a total of 3,301 referrals between April 1st 2008 and March 31st 2009 compared to 3,051 for the previous year - an overall increase of 250.

At the same time there has been a dramatic increase in the level of serious child protection activity in respect of those referrals with, for example, the number of children and young people subject to a child protection plan increasing from 184 for the period April 1st 2007 to March 31st 2008 to 291 for the period April 1st 2008 to March 31st 2009.

Comparative data just published in Ofsted's new Performance Profile indicates a comparatively higher increase in child protection activity in Brighton and Hove:

Children subject of a child protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18:			
	2006	2007	2008
Brighton and Hove:	26.6	31.8	39.8
Statistical Neighbours:	26.7	30.1	31.8
England	25.4	26.7	28.5
Children who became the subject of a child protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18:			
	2006	2007	2008
Brighton and Hove:	29.6	37.7	46.9
Statistical Neighbours:	31.4	36.1	38.4
England	30.1	31.8	33.5

Issues

The CYPT Board is very aware of the shift in national policy since events in the London Borough of Haringey. That includes a rigorous re-appraisal of the relationship between the wider safeguarding agenda and child protection services.

In respect of early intervention and prevention an analysis of referral data collected during the 4th quarter 2008/9 noted the comments of one manager that: 'the referral rate may not vary too much if systems are working well and the lack of a steep rise may be a reflection on the well developed understanding referring agencies have about what is 'social care business'.

Performance improvement activity

- The CYPT has commissioned external consultants 'Outcomes UK' to undertake a comprehensive inspection of the Trust's safeguarding and child protection referral and duty system which will have implications for early intervention and prevention as well as the management of child protection services
- The CYPT's Senior Management Team is reviewing area based integrated services as part of the restructuring of leadership and management arrangements.
- The CYPT Board has been asked to agree to the inclusion of an additional exception report in respect of the number of children subject

to a child protection in order to monitor the sharp increase in child protection activity.

- Further improvement activity is reported in respect of the Common Assessment Framework and the Parenting Strategy

Early Intervention and Prevention

Common Assessment Framework (CAF)

	Up to Dec 08		Jan-Mar 09	
	Number/ total	%	Number/ total	%
CAFs initiated that were completed on time	128/202	63%	22/29	76%
CAFs initiated that were completed late	7/202	4%	1/29	3%
CAFs initiated and not yet completed	67/202	33%	6/29	21%
Completed CAFs with an action plan	To date:		103/158	65%
Of those with an action plan, % with a review date	To date:		72/103	70%
Review date has passed (1/5/09) and no review received	To date:		57/72	80%

Summary:

The data shows a reduction in activity from around 18 CAFs initiated per month during 2008 to around 10 per month so far in 2009. We are developing further improvements to monitoring to show how CAF is being implemented in different types of setting.

School specific guidance was launched on April 20th 2009 and there has been an increase in emails and telephone calls from school staff requesting help and guidance with CAF. Five CAFs were completed by schools between April 20th to June 9th.

Issues:

There have been issues with implementing CAF for some time, an experience mirrored in other local authorities. At present there is less use of the framework than in 2008.

Completion of CAF action plans is happening at a relatively low rate and there is a lack of evidence that reviews are taking place when scheduled.

Performance Improvement Activity:

In response to the difficulties in implementing the CAF we have:

- as part of the phase two organisational restructure, proposed that responsibility for CAF is integrated within the integrated/area teams rather than the responsibility being held centrally
- improved performance management through the provision of team level data to enable managers to track activity and chase completions, action plans and reviews
- made CAF a mandatory requirement for entry to the CAMHS service for non-emergency referrals from Sept 1st 2009
- held a dedicated session at the third tier managers meeting, led by the Director, to underline commitment to the process
- created bespoke guidance for schools with the support of the Head teacher's Steering Group, followed by a letter and set of FAQs from the Director of Children's Services
- produced clear guidance on information sharing to promote and support good practice in information sharing, essential to building confidence around the use of the common assessment framework

National developments, flagged in the Government's response to Lord Laming's report includes the phased implementation of Contact Point in 2009 which will help practitioners identify who else is working with the child and make those contacts more easily. Also, the Children's Workforce Development Council will shortly be issuing updated guidance on CAF and have developed web-based material to support implementation in local authorities.

Early Intervention and Prevention

Parenting Programme

Summary:

The Parent Support Strategy is a three year strategy lasting from 2008-11. Outcomes and outputs from the strategy are very good. A total of 544 parents received a Triple P intervention in 2008-9, double the number targeted. 452 parents (83%) made improvement as a result of the intervention, meeting the challenging target of 82% for the year. Parental satisfaction with the service is high.

There is good evidence that the open access Triple P service offered through schools and children's centres is working with considerable numbers of families in the targeted range. For example about 50% of parents accessing open access groups score in the clinical range in the assessment questionnaires and 88% of parents in the clinical range make an improvement following the intervention.

Performance improvement activity:

- A series of additional specialist targeted groups have been commissioned from voluntary and community organisations to work with traveller families, substance misusing parents, parents of young people at risk of homelessness, young fathers.
- Work with families of prisoners has begun with provision of both 'family days' and parenting work
- There is now a rolling programme of targeted groups running at the Alternative Centre for Education (ACE) for parents and carers with high need
- The Supporting Father's Network has been launched and a co-ordinator of Fathers Work appointed. There is also now a rolling programme of 'Triple P for Dads' and a father's fun day 'Men Behaving Dadly' was held in June, and provided family activities such as circus skills, creative writing, drumming and story-time
- Development work includes: targeting Triple P for families where there are children in need or at risk; supporting trained staff to work within the Integrated Youth Support Service; increasing the capacity of the Teenage Pregnancy team to deliver Triple P. prevention modules; joint work with the Think Family Project Group to increase provision by Adult Services; and building links with the Community Safety and Anti Social Behaviour teams

Performance Exception Reports

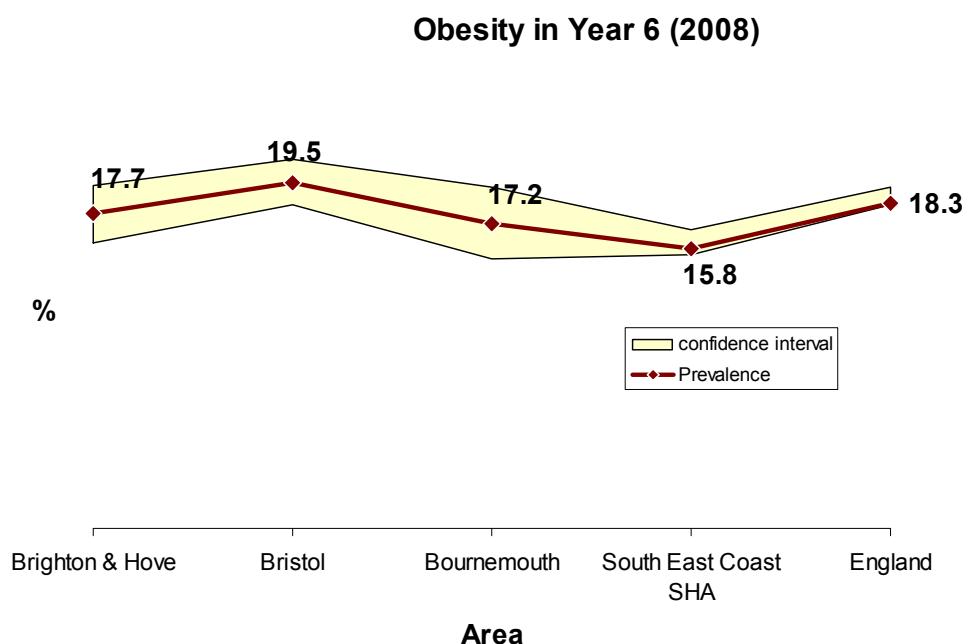
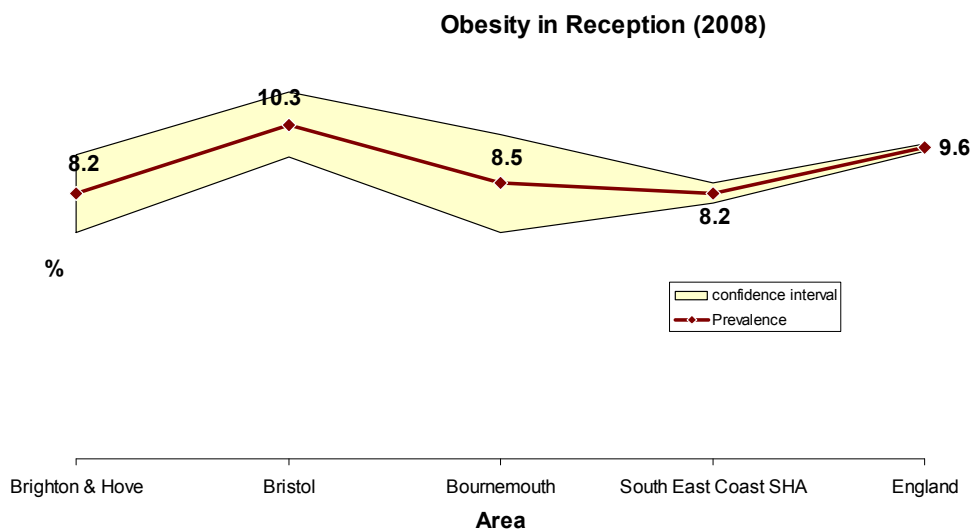
Obesity

NI 55 Obesity among primary school age children in Reception Year

NI 56 Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 (LAA indicator)

The charts below show obesity rates for several areas; Brighton and Hove, Bristol and Bournemouth (closest statistical neighbours), the South East Coast and England.

What is the shaded area? Using Brighton and Hove as an example, the reported result is 8.2%. However, this result should be seen as uncertain, principally because not all children were measured. The yellow band illustrates the range the actual value could be. For example our rates could be the same or even higher than Bristol's, even though the reported results are very different.



Summary:

Established in 2005, the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) weighs and measures children in Reception (4 -5 years) and Year 6 (aged 10 – 11 years) to assess overweight and obese levels.

The NCMP participation rate in Brighton and Hove was 92%, significantly better than the national average of 88%. This is important as analysis shows that lower participation rates can lead to an under-estimation of obesity prevalence, particularly at Year 6.

Because some children are not measured, confidence intervals are used to show the expected range containing the result if the whole population *were* measured. For example, although the Brighton and Hove calculated result was 8.2% at Reception, with a confidence interval of $\pm 1.2\%$, the actual result could be anywhere between 7.0% and 9.4%.

National data indicates that black and minority ethnic children are more likely to be obese, excluding Chinese children, who are the least likely to be obese of all groups. Black or black British children have the highest rates of obesity, with around a quarter of all Black or black British 11 year olds being obese.

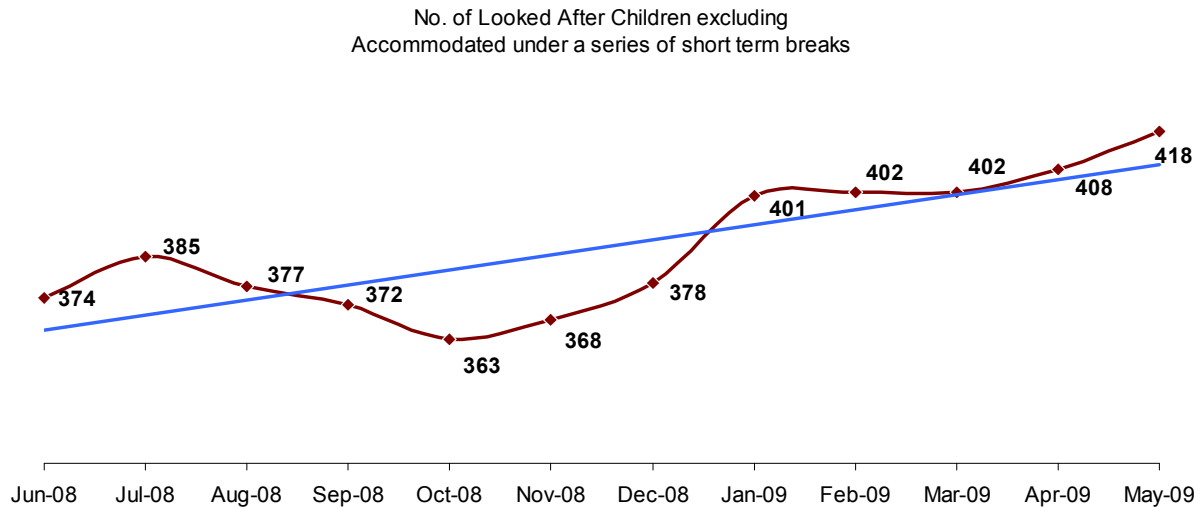
Performance Improvement Activity:

The *Promoting healthy weight and healthy lives* strategy (2008-2011) is delivered jointly by NHS Brighton and Hove and the Children and Young People Trust (CYPT) through the Childhood Obesity Action Plan. The Action Plan outlines a combination of healthy food and physical activity initiatives delivered in a range of settings.

Initiatives include:

- Free swimming for all children and young people under 16, for which uptake has been very good, with 2768 sessions taken by registered users in April alone
- The Healthy Choice Award scheme, recognising food outlets which provide healthy food options, with 20 outlets achieving the status by the end of the year, including several childcare nurseries
- Healthy eating programmes at children's centres, for example Mini-Mend at Roundabout (Whitehawk), a ten week programme for 2-4 year olds and their families providing advice on diet and exercise, cookery classes and opportunities for physical activity. This complements the already established Mend programme for the 7-13 age group.
- A healthy weight evaluation tool is being piloted in two provider organisations which allows for better monitoring of impact including assessing sustained behaviour change and value for money. If effective, application of this tool will be required of all commissioned providers

Number of Looked After Children



Summary:

Although the steep increase in the number of looked after children (LAC) in Quarter 3 levelled out during the first part of Quarter 4 March saw a further increase which has continued throughout the first Quarter of 2009/10.

In addition the CYPT issued a significant number of Care Proceedings during the 4th Quarter 2008/9 – and that has also continued into 2009/10. There are currently more cases in the pipeline expected to go to care proceedings. This will, inevitably increase the number of LAC in the care system.

Issues

The causes of the substantial increase in the numbers of LAC, after a period of reduction and stability, have been rehearsed in reports to the CYPT Board summarising the CYPT's stock take of safeguarding activity following events in the London Borough of Haringey and include the impact of the new Public Law Outline on the process and pattern of issuing care proceedings by local authorities and the impact of the Baby P case on public and professional perceptions of risk and thresholds for intervention.

The increase in the number of looked after children has significant implications for the CYPT's budget strategy, workforce development plans – especially the recruitment and retention of social care staff – and on the management of risk with safeguarding now included on the Trust's risk register.

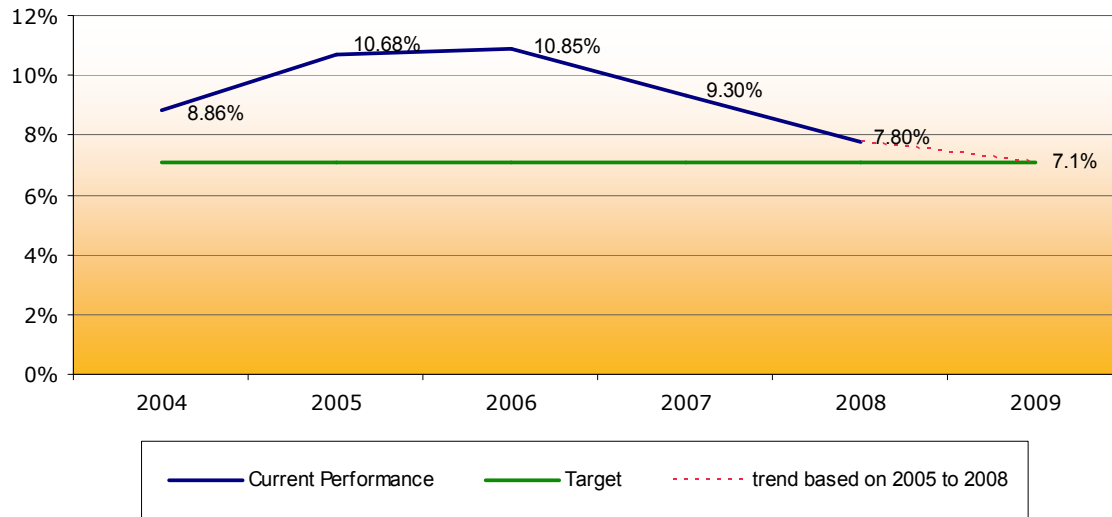
Performance Improvement Activity

Managing the level of safeguarding and child protection activity is a critical priority for the CYPT's Senior Management Team. Actions include:

- increasing capacity in front line social care services and quality assurance processes
- establishing a new Area and City Wide Social Care Managers Group to ensure coordination of activity across the safeguarding and child protection pathway
- acting on the recommendations of the review of Area Panels (responsible for oversight of care planning for high risk cases, especially where children are on the cusp of coming into care) instigated as part of the CYPT's Stock take of safeguarding services

Young people not in education, employment or training

NI 117 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) (LAA indicator)



Summary:

Progress against the NEET target is measured annually as an average for November, December and January. Compared to the 2007 figure of 9.3%, there was a significant change in 2008 with the figure reduced to 7.8%, against a target of 7.6%.

More recent data shows that there has been a reduction in the NEET cohort with the rate down to 7.0% in March 09 (the 09/10 target is 7.1%). Analysis shows that more young people are entering education than employment in the current recession conditions. Data quality is very good with just 4.5% of young people 16-18 with unknown status. This is a further example of good information management in the city.

Issues:

- There were approx 200 fewer young people in employment and 200 more in education comparing Nov 2007 to Nov 2008. The 14-19 Board have applied for funding for an additional 100 places but it is expected there will be very significant pressure on places in September.
- Within the NEET cohort, there are certain targeted groups which continue to present significant challenges e.g. 47% are recorded as having learning difficulty or disability (LDD) and 11.7% are teenage parents or are pregnant.
- Department of Work and Pensions data shows that the jobseekers allowance claimant count for 18-24 year olds rose by 69% between April 08 and April 09, from 1085 to 1835. The March 09 figure was 1915 so it is possible that this

figure has peaked.

- Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) area teams are now in place. The new casework process to engage young people is not yet fully established and further change management support is being provided to teams.

Performance Improvement Activity:

- Production of a 'pathway' document outlining education, employment and training options and available support and benefits along with an 'engagement script' for improved targeted support work with teenage parents
- Following a multi-agency Outcome Based Accountability workshop. new actions to tackle the numbers of young offenders who are NEET have been added to the Reduction Action Plan,
- Enhanced area based reporting will enable close analysis of all areas of IYSS front line work and related management information to identify improvement actions.
- The September Guarantee initiative has been extended to 17 year olds in 2009 which means all 2008 and 2009 cohort will be entitled for an offer of learning by the end of September 09.

Persistent Absence in Secondary School

NI 87 Secondary school persistent absence rate

Summary:

The most recent data for the persistent absence rate in secondary schools is 6% (2008) which is line with local targets i.e.

2008/9	6%
2009/10	5.5%
2010/11	5%

Although verified data for persistent absence 2008/9 will not be available until August, early indicators suggest a continued downward trend.

Secondary persistent absence (PA) in Brighton and Hove schools improved at the fastest rate in the South East between 2006/7 and 2007/8, falling from 8.3% to 6%. This drop of 2.3% compares with 0.8% in the South East and 1.1% in England. A review of national data shows there were only 10 local authorities (of 152) in England that improved at a faster rate.

The overall secondary attendance rate in Brighton and Hove 2007/8 was 92.4%, lower than England (92.7%) and the South East (92.6%). However, when compared with statistical neighbours, Brighton and Hove's rate is better than Bristol (91.3%),

Bournemouth (91.5%), Portsmouth (91.0%) and Southampton (90.8%), with Reading being the only authority of Brighton and Hove's nearest 6 neighbours with better performance (93.6%).

Issues:

Brighton and Hove is currently an authority targeted by the DCSF as the persistence absence rate was 0.1% above the 7% threshold at the last assessment point. There are currently five targeted secondary schools; Longhill, Falmer, Patcham High School, Portslade Community College and Hove Park. All have made significant reductions and the forecast is for Longhill, Falmer and Portslade to fall below the expected 6% threshold to be set for this year. In particular, Falmer has reduced its number of pupils recorded as persistently absent by almost 50% since 2006/7.

Our reduction in persistent absences across the whole academic year in 2007/08 was highlighted in a letter from the DCSF to the Director of Children's Services in April 2009, and the National Strategies have drawn attention to the progress in Brighton and Hove.

Performance Improvement Activity

A new CYPT Attendance Strategy, developed in close partnership with Head Teachers sets 5 key priorities:

- To build on the improvement in reducing the number of absences in all schools across the city
- To develop strategies to reduce the number of Persistent Absences across the city
- To implement, where necessary, a range of legislative sanctions to enforce regular school attendance and to offer rewards to children who improve attendance
- To monitor all children are receiving their educational entitlement
- To work in collaboration and partnership to achieve our vision of improving attendance across the city

Breastfeeding

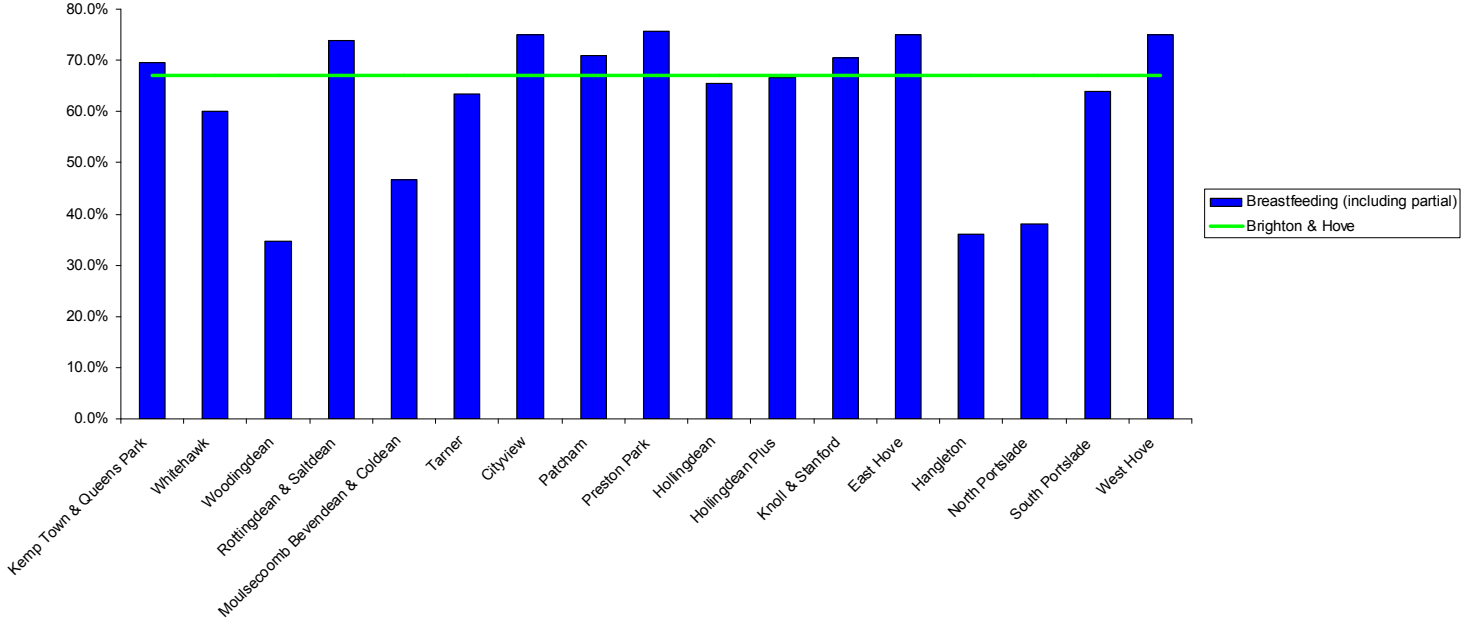
NI 53 The percentage of infants who are recorded as being breastfed at their 6-8 week health check

Summary:

The recording of infant feeding status at 6-8 weeks is a national priority but many PCT areas struggle to capture accurate information with only a third of PCTs currently achieving the 85% coverage required for statistical validity. The Brighton and Hove CYP (2006-9) required performance management against this coverage target and as a result the coverage rate is now above 95% which puts the city in the top 10% in the country and allows the production of robust results.

The data shows that Brighton and Hove has the third highest rate of breastfeeding amongst the 52 PCTs meeting the 85% coverage requirement, behind Kensington & Chelsea and Kingston. This applies to both total and partial breastfeeding. No regional or national data is currently available because of the coverage problem.

Brighton and Hove has two "very close" statistical neighbours for children's services, Bristol and Bournemouth. Bristol does not meet the coverage target but Bournemouth has a confirmed breastfeeding rate of 47% (total and partial) compared to the Brighton Hove figure of 67%.



Issues:

As with many indicators, there is a gap between rates in deprived parts of the city and the rest. The chart above shows the variation in rates in the children's centre areas.

Performance Improvement activity:

Additional funding from NHS Brighton and Hove is being used to enhance our breastfeeding support team. Additional support will be targeted on areas where breastfeeding rates are low and includes:

- A Community Team Service Manager Lead for breastfeeding
- Recruiting a job share partner for existing breastfeeding co-ordinator post
- Recruiting two specialists Early Years Visitors to provide direct support to pregnant and postnatal women.
- Additional training on breastfeeding for Children Centre staff across the city
- Specialist training for lactation consultants in areas of highest need.

Teenage Conception Rate

NI 112 The change in the rate of under-18 conceptions per 1000 girls aged 15-17 compared with the 1998 baseline rate (LAA indicator)



Summary:

The target for Brighton & Hove's under 18 conceptions is to achieve a 45% reduction from the 1998 baseline rate by 2010 (this equates to a target of 26.4 per 1000 women aged 15-17). The graph shows that by 2007, rates had reduced by 10.1% in Brighton & Hove, 13.3% in the South East and 10.7% in England. In Brighton & Hove the 2007 conception rate was 43.2 per 1000 which was a slight increase from the 2006 rate of 43.1 per 1000. This change can be attributed to the increase in the proportion of conceptions leading to terminations which was 58% in 2006 and 63% in 2007; locally, the birth rate has reduced by 29.2% since 1998. Overall, the slow progress means we are off trajectory and meeting the 2010 target is extremely challenging.

Issues:

- Young people exhibiting risky behaviour which may lead to unplanned pregnancy need to be identified early and their views and behaviour challenged more effectively
- Working practices need improvement through integrated planning and review; effective case management monitoring and more training, tools and guidance for staff
- Engagement with the most at risk groups can prove very difficult. Barriers to engagement can come from parents and family as well as from the individual

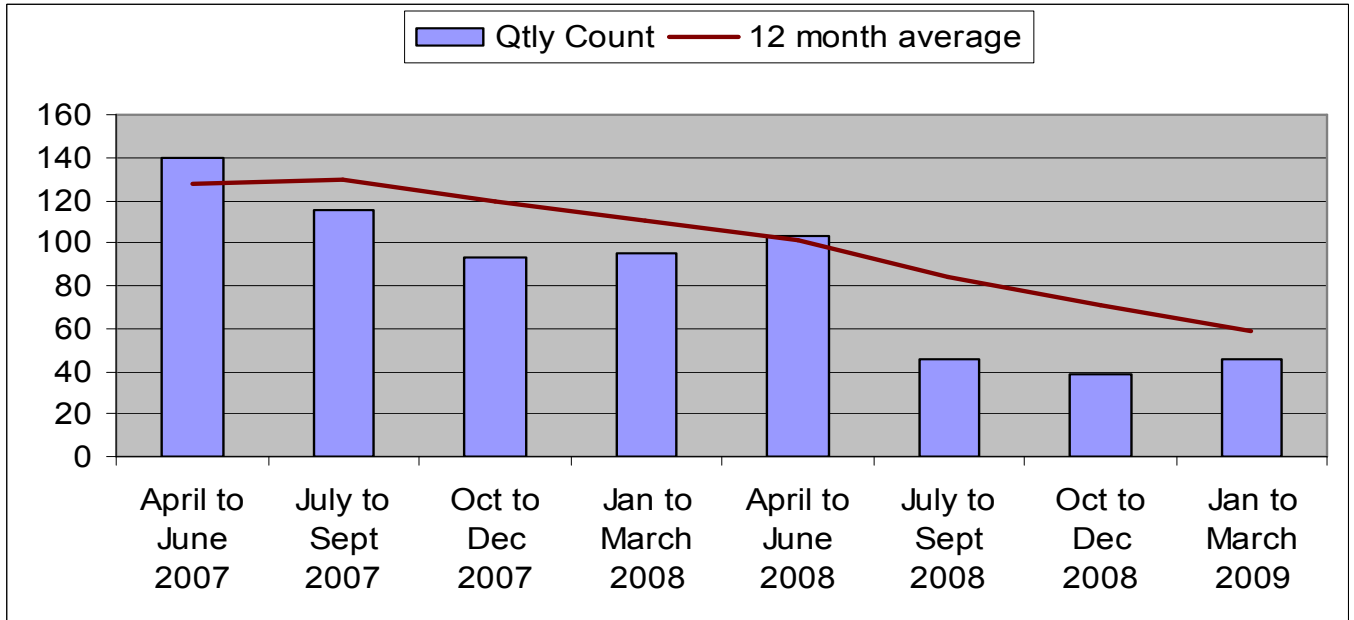
- Issues around recruitment of staff and cover for leave has caused periods of reduced Contraception and Sexual Health (CASH) services
- Numbers of young people accessing outreach CASH services declined while numbers accessing in-house services increased
- Official statistics on teenage conception rates are not timely; they will always be delayed by around two years.

Performance improvement activity:

- Two local conferences were held in July , one for elected Members, non-Executive members and senior managers and one for operational managers and staff to demonstrating the priority given by all partners to the teenage pregnancy agenda.
- Training for frontline staff to promote proactive early identification and the use of targeted interventions to achieve behaviour change.
- Development of a screening tool to work alongside the CAF to ensure that staff assess the sexual health and relationship issues of all young people who have multiple risk factors.
- Production of a menu of behaviour change initiatives, based on sound evidence of what works, for staff to use as part of their targeted interventions.
- Improved quality assurance work through systematic review of case records on the Aspire database
- Commissioning a social marketing project to improve health behaviour so that young people will see alternatives to early conception.
- Addressing second conceptions by increasing the delivery of the Health Visiting service for young parents and improving post-termination support.
- Conducting a review of young people's use of CASH services and producing an options papers

First time entrants into the Youth Justice System

NI 111 The number of young people (aged 10-17) who receive their first substantive outcome from the youth justice system (relating to a reprimand, a final warning, or a court disposal for those who go directly to court) (LAA indicator)



Summary:

The table showing performance by quarter illustrates a significant reduction for the performance year. Figures for April to March 2008/9 show a 47% reduction when compared to the previous year. The Local Area Agreement target is for a 10% reduction in the period 2008/11 based on the 2006 baseline and a 6% reduction in 2008/9 and a 2% reduction for the following two years.

Issues:

- The recently appointed Youth Strategy and Justice Manager resigned after 3 months in post. The AD for specialist services will assume responsibility for the YOT.
- The YOT will be moving to new premises (West St) in August 2009 with the official opening on 11th September 2009
- November 2009 will see a significant change in the delivery of youth justice with the introduction of the new Youth Rehabilitation Order (replacing the majority of current Youth Orders) and the Scaled Approach, a case management system based on the assessment of risk. This will have a significant effect on the way young people are managed on Court Orders.

Performance Improvement Activity:

- An early intervention programme is now being delivered to young people receiving reprimands who are assessed as being in need
- A Restorative Justice co-ordinator has been appointed and more young people are receiving restorative justice interventions
- YOT practitioners are to be based in the Hollingbury Custody Suite
- Reparation activities are being provided on Friday and Saturday evenings

Service Management

Risk Management

Summary:

The CYPT Assurance Map and Risk Register are in place. Risks are held at 4 levels in the organisation:

i. Risks held on the city council Corporate Risk Register:

- Long Term Funding for Educational Premises

ii. Risks held by DMT on the CYPT assurance map:

- Effective governance
- Commissioning strategies
- Providing integrated services
- Partnership working
- Workforce development
- Capital strategy
- Financial balance
- Achieve all NHS targets

Risks held on the CYPT Risk Register

- BHCC IT virus
- NHS TPP One System to replace PiMS
- Safeguarding Children (response to Lord Laming's Report)
- CYPT Re-structuring
- Emergency Planning and Business Continuity

iii. Risks held by Assistant Directors at Branch level as part of their new Service Business Plans.

iv. Risks held by the Clinical Governance Board: including regular reports

- Inadequate storage space and transfer systems for health records
- Regular reports from the council's Standards and Complaints Manager.

Issues:

The CYPT Assurance Framework, assurance map and risk management systems have been reviewed and updated. The CYPT's senior management team review the assurance map and risk register every 6 weeks. Work is underway to strengthen service level reporting in both operational and governance systems.

Performance Improvement Activity:

The Senior Management Team has ratified the CYPT's Assurance Framework.

A Standards for Better Health (S4BH) report for CYPT was provided to CYPT DMT at the end of March 2009. An assurance day to review CYPT evidence included the Clinical Director and representation from SDHT

Value for Money

Summary

Achieving value for money (VFM) continues to be a central driver in the CYPT's budget strategy and for each of the Branch Service Business Plans overseen by the Senior Management Team.

The strategic focus for VFM activity remains on two of the CYPT's 'hot spots' – child agency placements for looked after children and out of authority placements for children and young people with special educational needs. The positive impact of this work is recorded in the 2008/9 Budget Outturn Report.

The recent announcement that Brighton and Hove has been awarded a substantial capital grant by the DCSF to co-locate children's services in Whitehawk has been a very positive outcome for the third strand of the CYPT's VFM programme which is to maximise the return from council buildings and the NHS estate.

Issues

The significant increase in the numbers of children and young people being looked after by authorities in the South East is having a significant impact on our joint work with West Sussex to manage and develop the agency placement market through a preferred providers list.

The development of a comprehensive accommodation strategy for children's services, to reinforce service integration and strengthen locality working as well as improving VFM, takes time especially where that involves engagement with national programmes such as Building Schools for the Future.

Performance Improvement Activity

- the CYPT is part of the council's Value for Money Programme Phase II (2009/10 to 2011/12) where the CYPT will focus on co-location of services
- as part of strengthening local arrangements for commissioning children's services the CYPT is drafting a local Commissioning Framework which will include VFM as one of the key principles set out in World Class Commissioning
- funding from the Care Matters Grant is being used to increase capacity in the CYPT's Agency Placement Team

Workforce

Summary:

Our Integrated Core Skills programme (based on the *Children's Workforce Development Council* common core of skills and knowledge for the children's workforce - the first we are aware of in the country) has been revised following managers/participants feedback. Delivery of this programme from September 09 is currently being commissioned.

The impact of the CYPT/LSCB safeguarding training programme is currently being evaluated with participants and their managers to inform improvements to the 09/10 programme. This work will also be informed by the Lord Laming report and direction from the LSCB safeguarding training for school head teachers, governors and designated persons has been reviewed and expectations clarified. Attendance is now monitored and followed up if required.

The CYPT Workforce Development Partnership group has been refreshed and is leading the CYPT's 2009/11 workforce development strategy.

The CYPT is acting as a pilot site for the NQSW pilot with the CWDC. Coupled with a range of activities such as a final year bursary scheme for students or local social worker courses recruitment activity for qualified social worker staff remains a key priority.

Issues:

- Recruitment and retention of social workers remains a priority
- Effective integrated working across children's services in the city – especially working to bring schools to the centre of the CYPT remains a focus of our work

Equalities

Equality Impact Assessments

The CYPT Equalities group meets regularly and contributes to the city council equalities agenda. Membership of the group has increased and will continue to be reviewed on a regular basis.

Equality Impact Assessments completed by April 2009 include:

- Integrated disability services
- School admissions
- Private fostering
- Early Years Services
- Healthy Schools Team

- Extended Services
- Youth Offending Team

Some adjustments have been made to the CYPT Equalities Impact Assessment timetable due to organizational changes. The Children and Young People’s Plan EIA has been delayed in line with the plan now being produced in the autumn

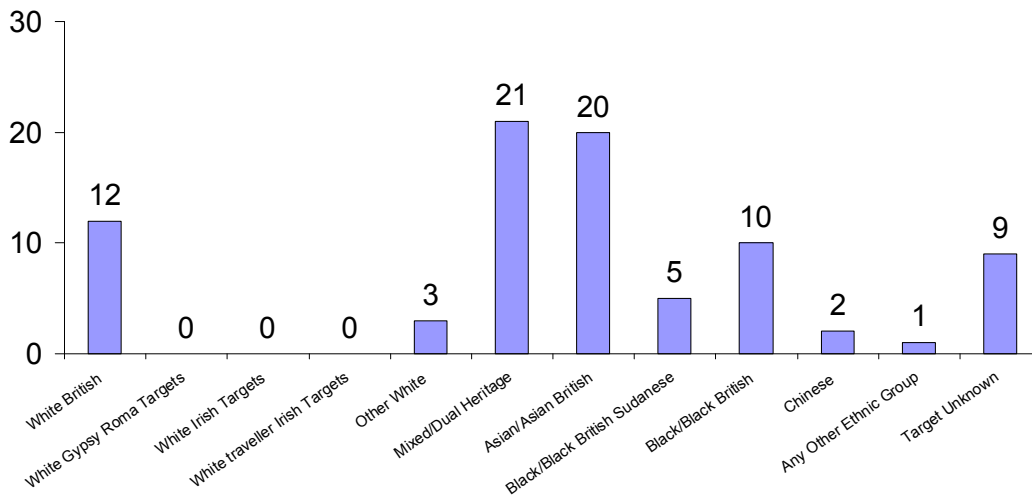
Staffing

The Children and Young People’s Trust has 6.4% of staff from black and ethnic minority groups which exceeds the local authority target of 5%. The proportion of staff who are disabled is 3.7% against a target of 5%. Further analysis is being undertaken to examine disability in the workforce and this will be addressed in the next performance improvement report.

Racist Incidents in School

The chart below, from the autumn term collection of racist incident data from schools, illustrates the ethnic group of the target

Autumn 2008 Ethnic Group of Target



The local authority has a statutory duty under the Race Relations Act 2000 to gather statistical data from schools outlining the pattern and frequency of any racist incidents.

To further improve the capturing of racist (and bullying) incidents a project is currently under-way to integrate reporting into the Schools Information Management System (SIMS) and move away from the need to record incidents using a separate process.

Inset training days and consultancy are provided to schools by the Healthy Schools Team and a Racist and Religiously Motivated Bullying Prevention Group has been established in partnership with the Racial Harassment Forum, the Partnership Community Safety Team and community sector organisations. Further performance Improvement Activity is presented after the ‘Bullying in School’ section below.

Bullying in School

Summary:

The Safe at School Survey (SAS) is a survey of pupils aged between 8 and 16 focused on their feelings of safety, their views on anti-bullying measures in their school and experiences of bullying. It has been carried out by schools in the city for the past 6 years and collated by the Healthy Schools Team, and provides a rich source of trend information about the impact of anti-bullying practice in the city’s schools.

More children and young people took part than ever before: a total sample of 9,873 from 50 schools. Bullying is an issue that all school communities feel strongly about and take measures to prevent if possible and address if bullying is reported. Brighton & Hove is still one of only a few local authorities in the country that has the agreement of its schools to organise such an effective survey and no direct comparison with other parts of England is possible. The survey provides school leaders with information to highlight successes and continuing challenges and will be valuable to inform self-evaluation on well-being in the new OFSTED framework from September 2009.

Research recognises that the amount of self-reported bullying reflects the level of conflict in relationships among the school community. It is therefore encouraging to find that an increasing number of pupils enjoy going to school and are confident in their school’s response to bullying:

Secondary:

I enjoy going to school			My school is good at dealing with bullying		
2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
71%	74%	79%	55%	63%	67%

Primary:

I enjoy going to school			My school is good at dealing with bullying		
2006	2007	2008	2006	2007	2008
85%	87%	88%	79%	84%	86%

The level of bullying reported by pupils continues to decrease in primary schools, and there has been a marked reduction in the numbers experiencing bullying at secondary schools. It is anticipated that the implementation of the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) programme by secondary schools across the city will continue to reduce levels of bullying:

Secondary - been bullied this term:

2005	2006	2007	2008
26%	25%	26%	22%

Primary - been bullied this term:

2005	2006	2007	2008
33%	28%	27%	22%

Performance Improvement Activity:

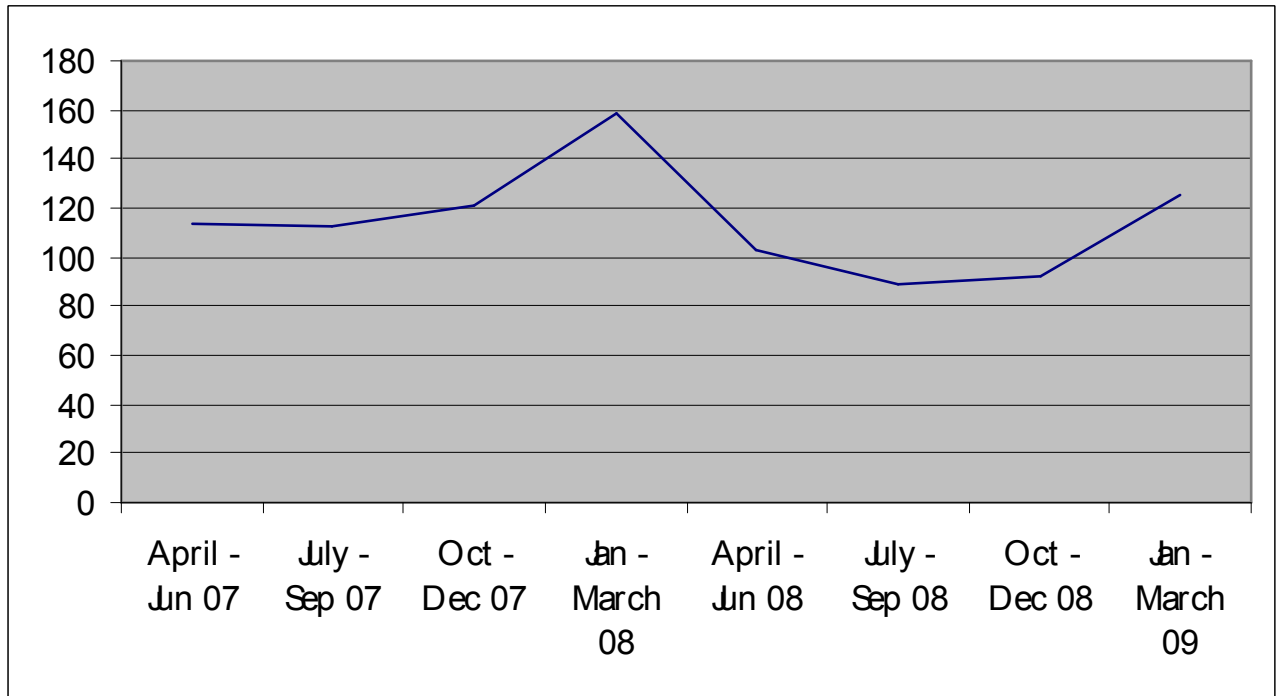
The 2008 results are very encouraging and show that focussed anti-bullying work and schools' broader implementation of the SEAL programme are having a continued positive impact on experiences of bullying. Measures to continue to prevent and address bullying over 2009-10 include:

- support for primary schools with PSHE/SEAL
- the active support for initial implementation of SEAL by secondary and special schools
- the provision and development of peer support in secondary schools
- working with communities of interest to address homophobic and racist bullying
- development with Sussex Police of restorative justice approaches to resolving entrenched conflicts
- continued support from the CYPT for schools to update e-safety policies and practice to prevent cyberbullying

Health and Safety

Summary:

The total number of incidents reported for the CYPT for each quarter for the last 2 years is shown below



There was a gradual decline in the number of incidents reported until the fourth quarter where there was an increase of 36%. There was an 18% reduction in the total number of incidents reported compared to the previous financial year (2007-2008.)

Category	2007/8	2008/9
Total Incidents	506	413
RIDDOR Reported Incidents:	48	49
Total Incidents to Staff:	223	230
Near Misses:	11	14
Total Incidents to non Staff:	283	166
Total Days Lost:	472	503
Total Incidents to Buildings:	5	3

The two highest 'causes of incidents' reported through the year were:

- Slips/trips/falls on the level at **87**, representing **21%** of all incidents.
- Challenging Behaviour **83**, representing **20%** of all incidents.

Issues:

Slips, trips and falls were the highest level of reported incidents during this financial year. This reflects the Whole Council's levels of incident reporting where Slip/trip and falls incidents accounted for 18% of all incidents reported. Challenging Behaviour was the second highest level of reporting and these incidents can be attributed to the nature of the Service Users and services provided by CYPT. All incident reports are assessed by the Health, Safety & Wellbeing Team to ensure appropriate follow up action is taken, including support to those affected.

Performance Improvement Activity:

- As Slips, trips and falls continues to be one of the highest cause of incidents, an intervention audit tool was developed and piloted during the 3rd quarter, in CYPT. Common management issues, local initiatives and good practice were identified and shared within the CYPT. Findings from the pilot have been used to inform a new Workplace Inspection Checklist that is being developed for use across the Council.
- To address issues relating to the reporting of Challenging Behaviour, a tiered approach to reporting was trialled at a Special school with all incidents reported locally and only 'high level' incidents reported through to the HSW team. This approach will be assessed in the new financial year and shared across the Council if deemed successful.
- The support provided to CYPT through the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Team was expanded during the financial year with the addition of a Health and Safety Business Partner - CYPT Fire; CYPT Health and Safety Advisor and Health and Safety Business Partner – Asbestos.

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny (CYPOSC) Work Programme 2009-2010

Issue	Date	Reason for agenda item	Outcome and Monitoring/Dates
Update on the Falmer Academy	17 June	Opportunity to receive an update and identify whether future issues need to come to CYPOSC	To come back to CYPOSC 18 November 2009
Sure Start Children's Centre's Self Evaluation City Wide Summary	17 June	Information on early years equalities	Noted and further information requested on breastfeeding and IT issues
Ad-hoc Panel report- reducing alcohol related harm to children & young people	17 June	Feedback to CYPOSC and the Committee to endorse the report	Report endorsed to go to CYPT Board, Cabinet, Council & Licensing Committee
Consultation on the CYPP proposed workshop	17 June	The Committee to submit its comments to the Plan (1 of the 10 budget and policy framework items)	Workshop to be arranged
Draft Work Programme	17 June	To be agreed by the Committee	Work Programme agreed
4 th Quarter PIR	16 September	Standing item- CYPOSC to review underperforming items	
Ofsted Inspection reports	16 September	Standing item – Portslade CC to be reviewed	
Safeguarding	16 September	Updating CYPOSC on the national and local changes	
Corporate Parenting	16 September	Information requested on Councillors responsibilities	
Universal Free School Meals	16 September	Report requested – 17/6/09, from Cllr. question	
St. Mary's School Closure	16 September	Report requested – 17/6/09, from Cllr. question	
Work Programme	16 September	The Committee to review the updated work programme	

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny (CYPOSC) Work Programme 2009-2010

Issue	Date	Reason for agenda item	Outcome and Monitoring/Dates
Teenage pregnancy including teenage conception action plans	18 November	Directorate (1 of 10 PCT priorities)	
Childhood Obesity	18 November	Directorate (1 of 10 PCT priorities)	
Building schools for the future	18 November	Directorate	
Update on the Falmer Academy	18 November	Committee asked for this item to return to CYPOSC (17/6/2009)	
Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)	18 November	For information (it is one of the Council's Policy Strategy Framework documents)	
Changes & improvements of the Child Development & Disability service	20 January	Committee asked for this item to return to CYPOSC (25/3/2009)	
1 st and 2 nd Quarter PIR	20 January	Standing item- to review underperforming areas	
School Examination and Test Results report	20 January	Standing item- to review underperforming areas	
Equalities- charter on the Rights of the Child	20 January	CYPOSC agreed (25/3/2009)	
Child Poverty	20 January	CYPOSC agreed (25/3/2009)	
Ofsted Inspection reports	24 March	Standing item- to review underperforming schools	
Update on Traveller Education Service (TES) in B&H with reference to the Achievement Programme Model	24 March	Committee asked for this item to return to CYPOSC (25/1/2009)	