



SCRUTINY BOARD (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds on
Thursday, 10th December, 2009 at 9.45 am

(A pre-meeting will take place for ALL Members of the Board at 9.15 a.m.)

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

- B Cleasby - Horsforth;
- D Coupar - Middleton Park;
- G Driver - Middleton Park;
- R D Feldman - Alwoodley;
- B Gettings - Morley North;
- W Hyde (Chair) - Temple Newsam;
- G Kirkland - Otley and Yeadon;
- B Lancaster - Moortown;
- K Renshaw - Ardsley and Robin Hood;
- B Selby - Killingbeck and Seacroft;
- E Taylor - Chapel Allerton;

Co-opted Members (Voting)

- Mr E A Britten - Church Representative (Catholic)
- Prof P H J H Gosden - Church Representative (Church of England)
- Mr B Wanyonyi - Parent Governor Representative (Secondary)
- Vacancy - Parent Governor Representative (Special)
- Mrs S Knights - Parent Governor Representative (Primary)

Co-opted Members (Non-Voting)

- Ms C Johnson - Teacher Representative
- Ms C Foote - Teacher Representative
- Mrs S Hutchinson - Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership
- Ms J Morris-Boam - Leeds VOICE Children and Young People Services Forum Representative
- Ms T Kayani - Leeds Youth Work Partnership Representative

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Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded).</p> <p>(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 25, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Chief Democratic Services Officer at least 24 hours before the meeting.)</p>	
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <p>1 To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.</p> <p>2 To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.</p> <p>3 If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-</p> <p>RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-</p> <p>No exempt items or information have been identified on this agenda.</p>	

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstance shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</p> <p>To declare any personal/prejudicial interests for the purpose of Section 81(3) of the Local Government Act 2000 and paragraphs 8 to 12 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence.</p>	
6			<p>MINUTES - 12TH NOVEMBER 2009</p> <p>To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2009.</p>	1 - 6
7			<p>PERFORMANCE REPORT 2009/10 QUARTER 2</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Head of Policy and Performance presenting an overview of performance against the priority outcomes relevant to the Children's Services Scrutiny Board, including an analysis of performance indicator results at the end of Quarter 2.</p>	7 - 74
8			<p>CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN UPDATE (DECEMBER 2009)</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Director of Children's Services updating the Board on key developments across Children's Services and outlining progress against specific priorities contained within the Children and Young People's Plan.</p>	75 - 114

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
9			<p>RECOMMENDATION TRACKING</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development requesting Members to confirm the status of recommendations from previous inquiries.</p>	115 - 132
10			<p>SCRUTINY BOARD INQUIRY - THE IMPACT OF POPULATION GROWTH FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN LEEDS</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development requesting the Board to hold a further session of the inquiry in February 2010.</p>	133 - 138
11			<p>WORK PROGRAMME</p> <p>To receive and consider a report from the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development outlining the Scrutiny Board's work programme for the remainder of the current municipal year.</p>	139 - 162
12			<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>To note that the next meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday 28th January 2009 at 9.45 am with a pre meeting for Board Members at 9.15 am.</p>	

Agenda Item 6

SCRUTINY BOARD (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

THURSDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor W Hyde in the Chair

Councillors B Cleasby, D Coupar, G Driver,
R D Feldman, B Gettings, G Kirkland, K Renshaw,
B Selby and E Taylor

CO-OPTED MEMBERS (VOTING):

Mr E A Britten	- Church Representative (Catholic)
Prof P H J H Gosden	- Church Representative (Church of England)
Mrs S Knights	- Parent Governor Representative
Mr B Wanyonyi	- Parent Governor Representative (Secondary)

CO-OPTED MEMBERS (NON-VOTING):

Ms C Foote	- Teacher Representative
Ms C Johnson	- Teacher Representative
Ms J Morris-Boam	- Leeds Voice Children and Young People Services Forum Representative

55 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the November meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services).

56 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following part of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-

Agenda Item 10 – 'Connexions Intensive Support Wedge Based Contract' – The Joint Preventative Commissioning Panel (JPCP) report and addendum, the contract award report and appendices 1 to 8 under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3). Minute No. 63 refers.

57 Declaration of Interests

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Thursday, 10th December, 2009

The following personal interests were declared in relation to Agenda Item 7, Scrutiny Inquiry - The Implications of Population Growth for Children's Services in Leeds. Minute No. 60 refers.

Councillor Renshaw as she is a governor at East Ardsley Primary, Seven Hills Primary and Rodillian High Schools. Also due to her Membership of the Rothwell and Ardsley & Tingley Extended Services Clusters.

Councillor Driver as he is a governor at Middleton Primary and Windmill Primary Schools.

Councillor Selby as he is a Governor at Cross Gates Primary and Grange Farm Primary Schools.

Councillor Cleasby as a governor of Westbrook Lane and Benton Park Schools.

Mr Britten as a governor of Mount St Mary's Catholic High School

(n.b. The Clerk to the meeting advised that it was not necessary to declare interests as the report concerned did not refer to specific schools).

58 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Lancaster, Mrs S Hutchinson and Ms T Kayani.

59 Minutes - 12th October 2009 and 15th October 2009

The minutes of the meetings held on 12 October and 15 October 2009 were confirmed as correct records.

60 Scrutiny Inquiry - The Implications of Population Growth for Children's Services in Leeds

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which presented evidence in line with the second session of the Board's Inquiry into the Impact of Population Growth on Children's Services in Leeds.

Appended to the report was the following information:

- The impact of population growth on children's services in Leeds – agreed terms of reference
- Report produced by Education Leeds on behalf of Children's Services summarising the evidence requested in the terms of reference.

- The following officers attended the meeting and gave a powerpoint presentation – ‘
-
- Jackie Green, Education Leeds

- Jackie Wilson, Chief Officer, Children and Young People's Social Care
- Julia Manning, Extended Services Development Manager, Early Years, Children's Services
- Jane Mischenko, Head of Maternity and Children's Services, LTHT
- George Turnbull, Head of Service, School Organisation, Education Leeds.

In brief summary, the main areas of discussion were:

- Identified rises in birth rates.
- Teenage conception.
- Migration into the City.
- Childcare planning.
- Higher population growth in areas of deprivation.
- Partnership working between Health and Education providers.
- Children's and Young People's Social Care.
- Responses and Actions.

In response to Members' comments and questions, the following issues were discussed:

- Birth rate statistics were provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and data received was two years behind. There had been an unexpected rise in birth rates and migration to the City.
- Development of new housing and links with planners and developers.
- Potential impact on SILCS and associated school transport issues due to population growth.
- The second wave of Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and how this could provide opportunity to re-scale provision in schools to address population growth.
- There was still a current surplus in some Primary Schools across the City.
- Sharing of information between services and organisations to assist the planning process, including the Joint Information Group.
- Recruitment issues for service providers.
- Parental choice and demand for places in popular schools.

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance. Members discussed whether they had sufficient evidence to conclude this Inquiry, and decided the required a range of additional information.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the issues raised at the second session of the Inquiry, be noted.
- (b) That the Principal Scrutiny Adviser prepare a report for the Board setting out additional information required to complete the inquiry.

61 Connexions Intensive Support Wedge Based Contract

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which presented the revised delegated decision, confirming the original decision to award the contract to igen, published on 23rd October 2009.

The following information was appended to the report for Members' information:

- Report outlining the specific areas for reconsideration at the Call-In meeting on 12th October 2009
- Revised Delegated Decision Notification form – D36073
- Report of the Youth Strategy Implementation Manager to the Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Services – 22nd October 2009 – Connexions Phase Two Tender Evaluation Outcome Recommendations.

The following information was confirmed as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3):

- Report of the Youth Strategy Implementation Manager to the Joint Preventative Commissioning Panel 27th August 2009 – Recommendation relating to the IYSS Wedge Tender Evaluation Outcome – Report and appendices, including the main reasons for the confirmed decision, set against the areas for reconsideration identified by the Scrutiny Board at the Call-In meeting on 12th October 2009.

The following representatives from Children's Services attended the meeting:

- Sally Threlfall, Chief Officer for Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Services
- John Paxton, Head of Integrated Youth Support Services.

Members briefly discussed the need to give this matter any further consideration and it was proposed that the item be withdrawn.

Following a vote of Members, it was:

RESOLVED – That the item be withdrawn.

62 Young People's Scrutiny Forum - Protecting our Environment - Responses to Recommendations

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which presented Leeds Youth Council's response to recommendations arising from the Young People's Scrutiny Forum report on 'Protecting our Environment'.

RESOLVED – That the Board endorses the views of the Youth Council as a starting point for the joint scrutiny and Youth Council working group.

63 Work Programme

A report was submitted by the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development which detailed the Scrutiny Board's work programme for the remainder of the current municipal year.

Appended to the report for Members' information was the current version of the Board's work programme, an update on working group activity, an extract from the Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1st November 2009 to 28th February 2010, which related to the Board's remit, together with the minutes from the Executive Board meeting held on 14th October 2009.

Further issues discussed included the following:

- That the 21st Century Schools Inquiry should be deferred
- Noting of Working Group Activity – Members were thanked for their input.
- Consultation on the expansion of primary provision in Leeds.

RESOLVED – That subject to comments raised at the meeting, the work programme be approved.

64 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday 10th December 2009 at 9.45 am with a pre-meeting for Board Members at 9.15 am.

(The meeting concluded at 12:05 p.m.)

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Report of the Head of Policy and Performance

Meeting: Children's Services Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th December 2009

Subject: Performance Report 2009/10 Quarter 2

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report presents the Quarter 2 action trackers summarising our progress against the Leeds Strategic Plan improvement priorities relevant to the Children's Services Scrutiny Board for the first six months of 2009/10. The action tracker templates have been revised based on feedback received at quarter 4 to provide a more succinct and focused update but they still provide both a contextual update of achievements and results for aligned performance indicators. Furthermore the trackers are provided by exception only ie only those with an overall progress rating of red or amber are supplied with this report. A complete set of action trackers is provided on the intranet for information. In addition a full set of performance indicator results is also provided at in appendix 3. Appendix 1 provides an overall summary of performance against all the relevant Leeds Strategic Plan improvement priorities and shows that 43% (6 out of 14) of these are currently assessed as green.

2 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to present an overview of performance against the priority outcomes relevant to the Children's Services Scrutiny Board including an analysis of performance indicator results at the end of Quarter 2 so that the Board may understand and challenge current performance.

3 Background Information

- 3.1 The format of the action trackers has been amended following on from feedback received from the 2008/09 Quarter 4 reports where it was highlighted that too much information was provided. Accountable Officers were asked where possible to limit their action trackers to one A4 page (2 sides), however, some Chief Officers felt this was not possible without cutting out essential information, therefore, the limit was not rigidly applied so that the trackers provided a complete picture of performance.

3.2 A number of appendices of information is provided with this report and these are summarised below:

- **Appendix 1** – summary sheet showing the overall progress rating against the improvement priorities relevant to the Children’s Services Scrutiny Board.
- **Appendix 2** – Amber and red rated action trackers. These trackers include a contextual update as well as key performance indicator results.
- **Appendix 3** – Performance Indicator report containing quarter 2 results for all performance indicators which can be reported in year from the National Indicator set and any key local indicators which are relevant.

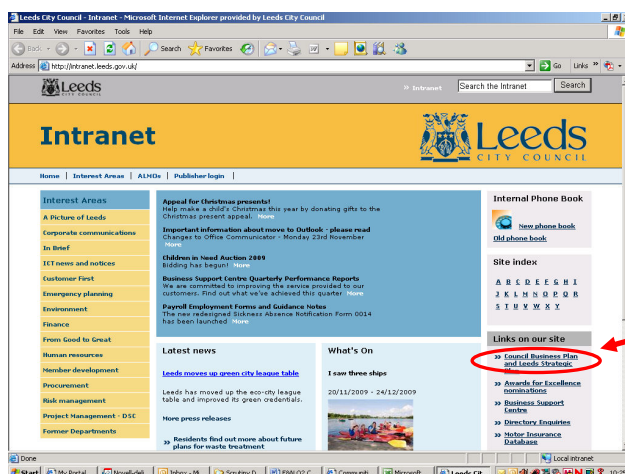
This information is supported by two guidance documents to aid the reader in interpreting the actions trackers and the performance indicator reports.

4 Main Issues

4.1 As part of the performance management process each strategic improvement priority is given a overall traffic light or RAG (Red/Amber/Green) rating which denotes the progress based on all the information provided in the Action Tracker including progress against targets for all aligned performance indicators, progress in the delivery of key actions/activities and taking into account all relevant challenges and risks. This traffic light rating is assigned by the Accountable Officer and agreed with the Accountable Director. The action trackers provided in this report (see appendix 2) are those where overall progress has been assessed as red or amber ie:

- **Amber** defined as minor delays/issues are having an impact on delivery but remedial action is underway/planned and the key performance indicator(s) results are likely to be on, or close to, target.
- **Red** defined as significant delays or issues to address and unlikely to meet targets for key performance indicators

4.2 This exception reporting is to enable the Board to focus their attention on those areas where progress is not on track. However, all action trackers for Quarter 2 have been published on the intranet so that all the green action trackers are also available for members to examine and challenge. These can be found on the intranet by following the link to the Council Business Plan / Leeds Strategic Plan from the front page (see diagram below).



Follow the link from the intranet home page here

4.3 The action trackers provide a high level summary of performance against each of our strategic improvement priority areas and as such include relevant aligned performance indicator results. However there are also a number of other national and local indicators for which quarter 2 results are available and many of these do indeed support the delivery of our priorities. Therefore, a full performance indicator report is also included at appendix 3 (this has also been published on the intranet) and again these results are traffic lighted based on the predicted year

end performance. However, the commentary provided on this report is limited to key issues about the data itself rather than providing an explanation of key performance issues.

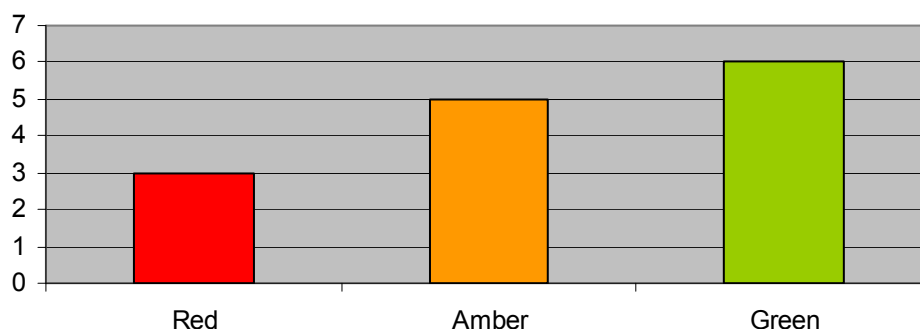
- 4.4 Since quarter 4, a new Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) has been approved. A number of priorities within the new CYPP map directly across to priorities in the LSP and for these the corporate action tracker process is being used to monitor progress. However, members will note that a number of additional action trackers have also been included to reflect priorities from the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) which were not specifically included in the Leeds Strategic Plan. As the CYPP is the Statutory Plan for Children's Services, through the inclusion of these additional action trackers we are ensuring that all the key issues are being reported to members through our performance management processes.

Summary of Overall LSP Performance at Quarter 2

Improvement Priorities

- 4.5 There are 14 improvement priorities from the Leeds Strategic Plan which are relevant to the Children's Services Board, however, for quarter 2 reporting two improvement priorities have been combined into one tracker. Of these 14 improvement priorities 3 are assessed as red, 5 as amber and 6 are assessed as green. Full details are provided in appendix 1.

RAG rating of Children's Services Improvement Priorities

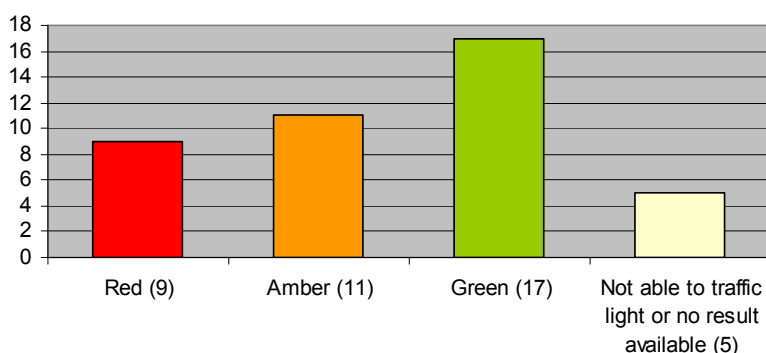


- 4.6 For comparison at Q4 of 2008/9 10 were assessed as amber, 4 green and none were red.

Performance Indicators

- 4.7 In a similar way to the Leeds Strategic Plan Improvement Priorities the Children's Services performance indicators are given a traffic light based on the predicted year end performance and at Q2 the proportion in each category are shown in the chart below. Full details are provided in appendix 3.

RAG rating of Children's Services Performance Indicators



- 4.8 Members should note that there are a number of annual indicators which cannot be reported in year and these have been removed from this calculation.

Data Quality

- 4.9 The Corporate Policy and Performance Team has undertaken a review of the criteria used to inform the data quality judgements that are included in Accountability reports for each performance indicator. Our objective is to work closely with directorates and partners in order to adopt a more robust, consistent and over-arching approach that provides a wider based data quality judgement. A revised data quality checklist, with a built in scoring mechanism to determine the traffic light rating, has been produced. This is currently being piloted in Children's Services and Environment and Neighbourhoods in order to ensure that it is fit for purpose and that the scoring criteria are effective. Once agreed the new approach will be rolled out prioritising the Leeds Strategic Plan / Council Business Plan indicators first followed by national and local indicators. This does mean that the data quality traffic lights during 2009/10 may change as this more rigorous approach starts to be used.

5 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 5.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan and Council Business Plan is part of the council's Budget and Policy Framework. Effective performance management enables senior officers and Elected Members to be assured that the council is making adequate progress and provides a mechanism for them to challenge performance where appropriate. Effective performance management is a key element of the organisational assessment under the Comprehensive Area Assessment. The CAA examines and challenges the robustness and effectiveness of both our corporate performance management arrangements and those across the partnership.

6 Legal and Resource Implications

- 6.1 The Leeds Strategic Plan fulfils the Council's statutory requirement to prepare a Local Area Agreement for its area. These slightly revised performance reporting arrangements are achievable within current resources across the organisations as they essentially replace an existing similar process.

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 This report provides the Board with a high level overview of the city's performance against the key priorities relevant to the Board from the Leeds Strategic Plan as at the 30th September 2009. This report highlights those areas where progress is not on track and Members need to satisfy themselves that these areas are being addressed appropriately and where necessary involve partners in any improvement activity.

8 Recommendation

- 8.1 Members are asked to consider the overall performance against the strategic priorities and where appropriate, recommend action to address the specific performance concerns raised.

Background Papers

Leeds Strategic Plan 2008-11
Children and Young People's Plan 2009-14










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Action Tracker Guidance

Introduction

The 'Action Trackers' are prepared on a half yearly basis and are intended to give an organisational 'snapshot' view of the progress against the city's top level priorities as set out in the Leeds Strategic Plan and Council Business Plan. They provide a broader range of information and progress than is provided in the performance indicator results alone. Each improvement priority within the Leeds Strategic Plan and Council Business Plan has been allocated to an **Accountable Officer** whose role is to provide leadership, co-ordinate the activities of contributing officers/partners and evaluate the performance information to ensure the delivery of the improvement priority. An action tracker has been completed for every improvement priority by the Accountable Officer who has provided an overall evaluation of progress to date and an assessment of the direction of travel. Please see below a brief summary of the information that has been provided in each of the sections of the action tracker template.

Overall Progress Traffic Light and Direction of Travel Ratings Explained

	<p>Progressing as expected – on schedule to complete key actions and meet the targets for key performance indicators.</p> <p>Overall the direction of travel is improving.</p>		<p>Minor delays/issues are having an impact on delivery but remedial action is underway/planned and the key performance indicators results are likely to be on, or close to, target.</p> <p>Overall the direction of travel is improving.</p>		<p>Significant delays or issues to address and unlikely to meet targets for key performance indicators.</p> <p>Overall the direction of travel is improving.</p>
	<p>Progressing as expected – on schedule to complete key actions and meet the targets for key performance indicators.</p> <p>Overall the direction of travel is static.</p>		<p>Minor delays/issues are having an impact on delivery but remedial action is underway/planned and the key performance indicators results are likely to be on, or close to, target.</p> <p>Overall the direction of travel is static.</p>		<p>Significant delays or issues to address and unlikely to meet targets for key performance indicators.</p> <p>Overall the direction of travel is static.</p>
	<p>Progressing as expected – on schedule to complete key actions and meet the targets for key performance indicators.</p> <p>Overall the performance is deteriorating.</p>		<p>Minor delays/issues are having an impact on delivery but remedial action is underway/planned and the key performance indicators results are likely to be on, or close to, target.</p> <p>Overall the performance is deteriorating.</p>		<p>Significant delays or issues to address and unlikely to meet targets for key performance indicators.</p> <p>Overall the performance is deteriorating.</p>

Why is this a Priority?	This section provides a brief comment on why this improvement area is a priority. For example it may be to address poor performance particularly in comparison to other similar cities, be a Government priority or it may address a specific local need / inequality etc.
Graphs	This section presents one or two of the aligned performance indicators as a graph. The graph will include information such as past and present performance and future targets
Overall Summary	This section provides an overall summary analysis of the progress to date - taking a view based on all the information provided in the action tracker including the results for the aligned performance indicators. This section should provide a clear explanation for the overall traffic light and direction of travel ratings.
Achievements since the last report	This section provides details of the key achievements/outcomes delivered in the last 6 months. For many improvement priorities there will be a large number of actions and activities but this section will only include the most important high level achievements.
Challenges/Risks	This section sets out any key risks or challenges that may prevent the delivery of the improvement priority.
Council/Partnership Groups	This outlines at which key council or partnership group the Action Tracker has been discussed and/or approved.
Key Actions for the next 6 months	This section provides a summary of next steps/key actions which are due to be carried out over the coming 6 months. Again these are limited to the most important and high level activities and where possible focus on what the impact/outcome will be. For each action/activity the contributory officer/partner responsible for leading this work, any milestones and timescales are included.
Performance Indicator Information	In this section the results for the aligned performance indicators for this improvement priority are presented including the target and are traffic lighted both for the result itself and for data quality. NB Additional performance information is presented in appendix 4.

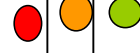
Accountability Reporting Guidance

Column Title	Description
PI Type	<p>The PI Type column describes which basket each indicator belongs to. A basket is a set of indicators which we use to report on progress relating to different plans or frameworks, such as the Leeds Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Leeds Strategic Plan Government Agreed - These indicators show progress against the Leeds Strategic Plan and also form our Local Area Agreement.</p> <p>Leeds Strategic Plan Partnership Agreed - These indicators are the locally agreed priorities included in the Leeds Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Business Plan - These are indicators that form part of the Council Business Plan.</p> <p>National Indicator - These indicators are part of the set that are used to measure local government performance.</p> <p>Local Indicator - These are local key indicators for Leeds set by specific service areas.</p>
Reference	Each indicator has a unique reference number.
Title	This is the title given to the indicator.
Service	The service column identifies which team within the Council is responsible for service delivery, monitoring the performance and data quality of each indicator.
Frequency & Measure	<p>The top line in this column identifies how often we collect this information. This may be every month, every three months (quarterly) or once a year (annually). We only report annual indicators at the end of quarter 4 (after the end of March).</p> <p>The second line in this column identifies what measure we use to check on progress. For example, we might measure this result in the number of days or weeks we should take to finish something, such as a planning application. In another case, we might measure the percentage, such as the percentage of enquiries we respond to within five minutes.</p>
Rise or Fall	The good performance column identifies if the results should go up or down to show whether we are doing well. For example, if this is set to rise, you would expect the figures to increase.
Baseline	The baseline column provides a base result for the indicator against which progress can be measured. This is usually based on performance at a specific time in the past. E.g. a previous year.
Last Year Result	This column displays the result at the end of the previous financial year (31 March 2009).
Target	This column shows the target we have agreed for this financial year.
Quarter	This column identifies the result at the end of the quarter.

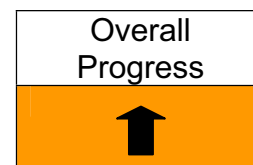
Predicted Full Year Result	Directorates use this column to show how well they expect to do at the end of the year. They forecast this position depending on the current performance of each indicator. This figure may change each quarter depending on the performance over time of the indicator. We use this figure as one method to inform whether an indicator is red, amber or green.	
	The green light shows that the Directorate predicts this indicator WILL meet its target. The Directorate uses current performance information to make this forecast.	
	An amber traffic light shows that the Directorate predicts this indicator will not meet its target. However, the performance for this indicator is still acceptable and will not result in significant problems. The Directorate uses current performance information to make this forecast.	
	The red lights shows that the Directorate predicts this indicator WILL NOT meet its target at the end of the year. The Directorate uses current performance information to make this forecast.	
Data Quality	To know we can rely on the information in these reports, it has to be of good quality. Directorates use this column to identify indicators where they have concerns about the quality of the information or data in the report. If a Directorate has Some or Significant concerns regarding Data Quality there will be an explanation in the comments field.	
	No Concerns indicates that the Directorate has signed off the data as accurate.	No Concerns
	If Some Concerns has been chosen, the Directorate has concerns about the data and are working to ensure it is accurate and reliable.	Some Concerns
	If Significant Concerns has been chosen, the Directorate thinks that the quality of the data may not be good or that maybe they have not got the correct data.	Significant Concerns
Comments	The comments for each indicator should explain why performance varies. They should also highlight if there are any problems with the quality of the data and what steps the Directorate is taking to improve it. This section will also focus on what will be done to improve the actions and state what outcomes they have achieved.	

Thriving Places				Learning			
Code	Improvement Priority	Accountable Director		Code	Improvement Priority	Accountable Director	
TP-2b	Reducing and managing offending behaviour	Neil Evans		LN-1b	Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.	Rosemary Archer	
TP-2e	Reduce bullying and harassment	Neil Evans		LN-1c	Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 19 year olds.	Rosemary Archer	
TP-3b	Reduce the number of children in poverty	Neil Evans		LN-1d	Increase the proportion of vulnerable groups engaged in education, training or employment	Rosemary Archer	
TP-3c	Develop extended services, using sites across the city, to improve support to children, families and communities	Neil Evans		LN-1e	Improve participation and early learning outcomes for all children, with a focus on families in deprived areas.	Rosemary Archer	
Health and Well Being							
Code	Improvement Priority	Accountable Director		Code	Improvement Priority	Accountable Director	
HW-1c	Reduce rate of increase in obesity and raise physical activity for all.	Sandie Keene		HM-1a	An increased number of local people engaged in activities to meet community needs and improve the quality of life for local residents	Neil Evans	
HW-1d	Reduce teenage conception and improve sexual health	Sandie Keene / Rosemary Archer					
HW-1e/ HW-3a HW-7	Improve the assessment and care management of children, families and vulnerable adults Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk	Sandie Keene / Rosemary Archer					
HW-1f	Improved psychological, mental health and learning disability services for those who need it.	Sandie Keene / Rosemary Archer					
Children and Young People's Plan							
Code	Improvement Priority	Accountable Director		Code	Improvement Priority	Accountable Director	
CYPP-1	Improving outcomes for Looked After Children	Rosemary Archer			Significant delays or issues to address		
CYPP-8	Reducing the need for children to be in care	Rosemary Archer			Minor delays or issues to address		
					Progressing as expected – on schedule to complete actions & targets		

Key



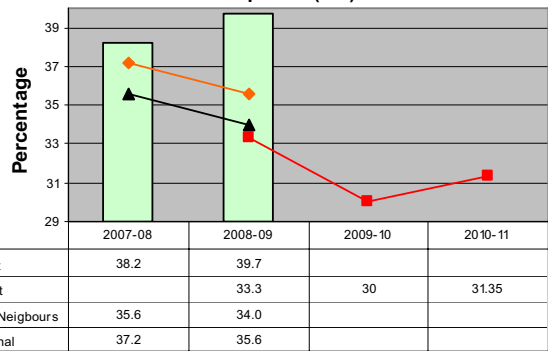
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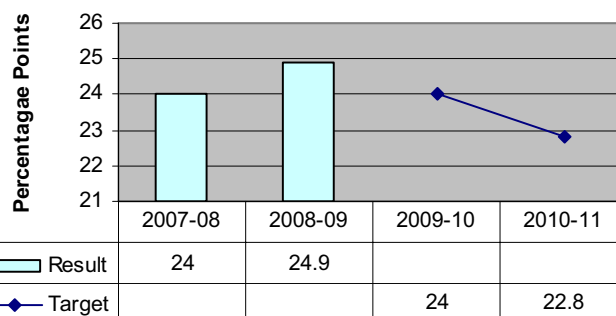
Why is this a priority

Reducing the number of children in poverty is a strategic outcome in Leeds Strategic Plan. We know that poverty is the root of most poor outcomes for children and blights the lives of too many children in Leeds. Poverty lies behind the common factors for poor outcomes and must be addressed if we are to narrow the gap between the most and least advantaged children, young people and families.

NI 92 - The gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and their peers (fall)



NI 102A - Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2 (fall)



Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved

Overall Summary

Whilst reducing Child Poverty is a stand alone improvement priority within the Leeds Strategic Plan it should be recognised that significant work is happening across the narrowing the gap agenda that is having an impact on reducing child poverty. The Child Poverty Outcomes (CPO) group has developed its role and approach over the last 6 months in order to better understand some of the work that is already happening, to identify where and how it can add value by bringing a more co-ordinated approach and to ensure the right people are represented on the group.

Given the current economic circumstances and the fact that only partial data is available, progress is marked as Amber with an upward direction of travel.

Achievements since the last report

- The Common Assessment Framework is the primary assessment process used by all agencies for entry into, and exit from, multi-agency working where appropriate, by looking holistically at the needs of each child, young person and family. A new system has been established in the council's contact centre to help identify and appropriately redirect referrals made into the contact centre which are not for action by CYPSC. The result is that no caller receives 'no further action' and where social care thresholds are not met, callers are directed to support from another service e.g. offering family support services or suggesting the use of a Common Assessment to effectively assess needs.
- The Chief Officer Early Years and IYSS has met with the Director Of Environment and Neighbourhoods and has agreed a number of projects for the next 2 quarters which will focus on four key areas concerned with tackling the entrenched causes of poverty;
 - The co-ordination of all financial inclusion work across Departments.
 - Review the potential for connectivity of outreach and case work.
 - Raise the profile of well being and aspiration, establishing linkages between Early Years, Education, the Learning Skills Council, IYSS and Targeted Youth Support.
 - Establish a *think family* approach to services, especially for those with high levels of need. A preliminary meeting between the new Parenting Commissioner, the Commissioner for Adult Social Care and the Head of Jobs and Skills and the Chief Officer Early Years and IYSS has taken place

Challenges/Risks

- The ability to identify project management support to drive this priority forward

Council / Partnership Groups | Child Poverty Strategic Outcome Group (30/10/09)

Approved by (Accountable Officer) | Sally Threlfall | **Date** | 30/10/09

Approved by (Accountable Director) | Neil Evans | **Date** | 9/11/09

Improvement Priority – TP-3b. Reduce the number of children in poverty
Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall

Key actions for the next 6 months			
	Action (Desired Achievements)	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions
1.	Identify Project Management Support to help drive this priority	Heather Pinches	Determine whether a project manager can be allocated from the corporate performance team
2.	To consider the impact of the Child Poverty Bill on the local authority and report to be taken to CLT on the policy implications.	Sally Threlfall (ST)/ Martyn Long (ML)	Report to CLT
3.	The coordination of all financial inclusion work across Partners.	Dave Roberts	ST or LM to attend Financial inclusion steering group to identify how the work of the 2 groups can be linked to ensure better co-ordination and to ensure data / intelligence is shared and acted on.
4.	Review the potential for connectivity of outreach and case work.	Lisa Martin (LM)/ Martyn Long	Members of the CPO Group to identify where the generic outreach or case work has been commissioned by their service (LM to send out amended template).
5.	Establish a think family approach to services, especially for those with high levels of need. (A preliminary meeting between the new Parenting Commissioner, the Commissioner for Adult Social Care and the Head of Jobs and Skills and the Chief Officer Early Years and IYSS has taken place).	Sally Threlfall	ST to meet James Rogers to identify where this work needs to fit in corporately prior to the development of a work plan.
6.	Raise the profile of well being and aspiration, establishing linkages between Early Years, Education, the Learning Skills Council, IYSS and Targeted Youth Support.	John Freeman	JF to bring a model to the next meeting into which the various work of departments and partners can be captured.

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority										
Ref	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty	Children's Services	Annually %	Fall	Baseline and targets to be provided by April 2010					N/A
NI 158	Percentage of non-decent council homes	Strategic Landlord	Monthly %	fall	18.5% (2008/09)	18.5%	10.0%	15.6%	10.0%	No concerns


Improvement Priority – TP-3b. Reduce the number of children in poverty
Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority

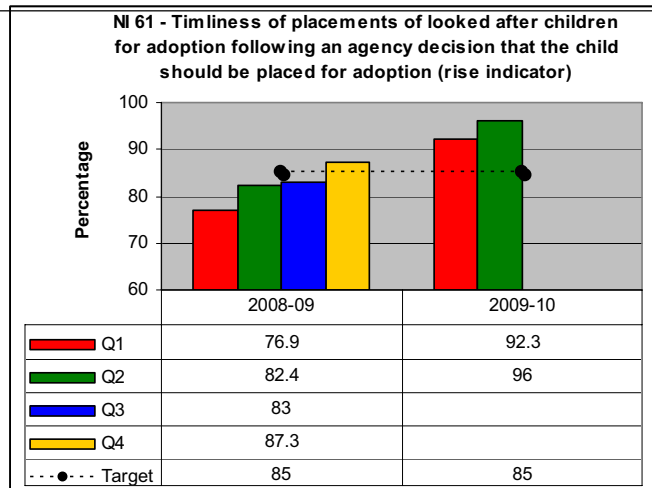
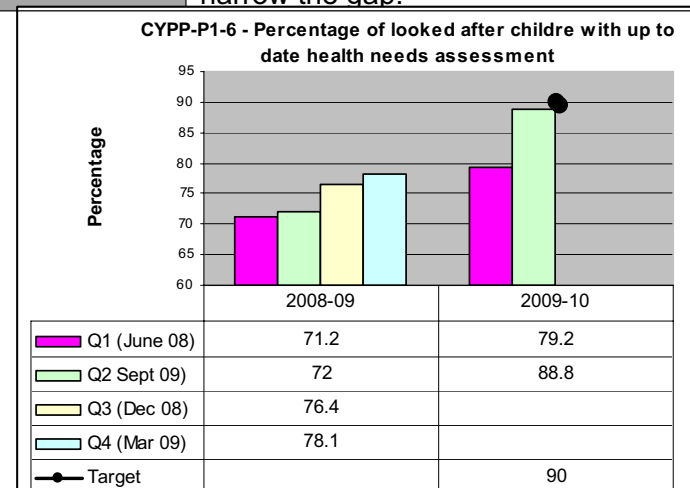
Ref	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 187a	Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits in homes with a low energy efficiency rating (SAP < 35)	Fuel Savers	Annually %	Fall	7.90% (2007/08)	6.63%	5.85%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 187b	Tackling fuel poverty, % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a high energy efficiency rating (SAP >= 65)	Fuel Savers	Annually %	Rise	34.59% (2007/08)	35.75%	38.12%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	Regeneration	Quarterly %	Fall	28.7% (2007)	27.3%	27.7%		29.8%	No concerns
TP-3b-TP1e	Increase the number of new customers on low incomes accessing credit union services (savings, loans and current accounts).	Strategy and Policy	Quarterly Number	Rise	6,700 (2007)	5,971	3,500 new members	696 new members	3,500 new members	No concerns
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	School Improvement	Annually %	Fall	38.2% (2006/07 academic year)	39.7%	30.0%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 102A	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2	Education Leads	Annually %	Fall	25.6% (2006/07 academic year)	24.9% points	24% points	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 102B	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stage 4	Education Leads	Annually %	Fall	32.0% (2006/07 academic year)	32.7% points	28% points	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 118	Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families	Childcare and Early Years	Annually %	Rise	19.0% (2005/06)	20.70% (07/08)	N.A.	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 117	16 - 18 year olds who are not in education training or employment (NEET)	Youth Services	Annually %	Fall	9.1% (An average of Nov, Dec 2006 and Jan 2007)	9.5%	7.8%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns

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Overall Progress


Why is this a priority

Improving the outcomes for looked after children has been highlighted as a key issue in recent evaluations and through the Joint Area Review. Looked after children in Leeds are more likely to be: underachievers in school, absent or excluded from school, not in education post 16, offenders and/or exhibit other risk taking behaviour. They are also more likely to have a higher rate of teenage conceptions and are more likely to experience mental health difficulties. Therefore a strong, sustained focus on these children is needed to narrow the gap.



Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved 1st April – 30th September 2009

Overall Summary

There has been significant additional investment in improving outcomes for looked after children, including through the Primary Care Trust, and the Children Leeds Innovations Fund. The secondment of an Education Leeds head teacher to the Leeds virtual school has added significant leadership and management capacity, and has also provided a champion for improvements in care, well-being and educational progress. There have also been improvements in the rigour of information and data. The virtual school has raised expectations and developed a more strategic approach to improving outcomes, prioritising continued improvements in achievement, attendance and behaviour. Whilst the overall rating remains red because some key indicators are underperforming, there are clear signs that current strategies for improvement are having an impact on the every child matters outcomes for looked after children and care leavers, hence the positive direction of travel assessment.

Achievements since the last report

- The fostering inspection found good ratings across 4 of the 5 ECM outcomes and noted 'significant progress made to improving service delivery and the capacity within the senior management team to bring about change within the fostering service is having an impact'. The key improvement was the reduction in large foster care households.
- The Leeds Extended School (LEXS) and Stepping Stones provide specific out of hours educational programmes to meet the needs of looked after children including: 1-to-1 tuition; Saturday activities for carers and looked after children at Leeds University and Leeds Met; Homework Clubs/Study Support supervised by undergraduates which are well attended; Mentoring by undergraduates which has a measurable impact on outcomes; Dowry funding is available to schools to support primary age pupils at risk of exclusion; Targeted financial support for Y11 pupils; Individual education support for young people who are disengaged from education.
- Staffing for the Leeds Extended School is being remodelled to allow for termly monitoring of all LAC in schools and outcomes are now analysed by demography and other factors to identify needs across the cohort
- Extended Services clusters are piloting access grants to lower barriers to participation in out of hours activities
- Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC) receive tailored support for education and youth service
- Outcomes of looked after children are improving (provisional outcomes Oct. 2009):
 - Percentage achieving a good level of achievement Early Years Foundation Stage rose from 11% to 21% between 2008 and 2009;

Improvement Priority – CYPP 1 Improving outcomes for Looked After Children

Accountable Officer – Jackie Wilson/Chris Edwards

- Percentage achieving level 2 or above in Key Stage 1 Reading and Writing has risen by 2% and 9%, respectively since 2008. Though the percentage achieving level 2 in Maths has fallen by 5% since 2008 there is an upward trend that has seen Maths rise from 49% in 2007 to 61% in 2009;
- Percentage achieving level 4 or above in Key Stage 2 English and Maths has risen by 16% and 14%, respectively since 2008 with the percentage achieving Level 4+ in both subjects rising by 13%;
- Percentage sitting for one or more qualifications in Year 11 has risen to 92%, the percentage gaining 5+A*-G (or equivalent) has risen to 62%, the percentage achieving 5A*-C or equivalent is stable at 16% (and when English and Maths are included the percentage has risen to 5%). Only 11% of this year group of looked after children were not on the special needs register.
- Primary school attendance by looked after children remains 1.2% higher than that of non-looked after children at 95.3%. Persistent Absence in primary school is 1.3% compared to 3.1% among non-looked after children (data currently available for terms 1 – 4 of the 2008-2009 academic year only).
- Secondary school attendance remains lower than that of non-looked after children but has improved by 0.9% against a 0.2% fall among non-looked after children since 2008. Persistent absence among looked after children in secondary school remains higher but has decreased from 16.2 to 13.6% (data currently available for terms 1 – 4 of the 2008-2009 academic year only).
- The number of days that looked after children lost to exclusion continued to fall, from 1064 in 2006-2007 to 665.5 in 2008-2009.
- Those young people doing well in Key Stage 4 continue to progress successfully to further and higher education.
- Timeliness of placement for adoptions continues to perform well and the most recent results of an Internal Audit review have indicated that we have previously taken too conservative a view
- A significant improvement took place in terms of the percentage of looked after children with up to date health needs assessment in the last quarter as a result of work undertaken by the PCT. These changes should deliver a continued trajectory of improvement to the year end and achievement of the annual target.

Challenges/Risks

- There is a strong correlation between stable long term foster care and positive outcomes in education and a major challenge is to improve the outcomes of those older children who come into care after they leave primary school and those whose needs foster care does not meet. Schools and support services must continue to work hard to improve the consistency of outcomes irrespective of the age a child enters care or the nature and location of their care placement.
- The quality of Personal Education Planning remains inconsistent but the new regulations on the role the statutory Designated Teacher for looked after children in school will provide an opportunity to improve those plans.
- The ability of the Leeds Extended School to provide 1-to1 tuition outside the school day to support the learning of looked after children is secure through the current financial year but the pressure on social care budgets may put it at risk in 2009-2010.
- The quality of the support available to looked after children placed outside Leeds is good if they have a statement of special educational needs but, for the majority who do not, support is less consistent.
- Recent investigations into business processes have indicated that the current functioning of Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) needs to be reviewed in order to facilitate a more streamlined system which ensures that they are undertaking their arms length responsibilities appropriately.
- Commissioned Children's Rights Service to develop a more young person centred approach to involving them in their reviews.
- Although provision of dental services for looked after children has increased significantly the percentage of children with an up to date dental check is still below target. Improved capacity to monitor compliance will be used to identify hot spots at an area level and support targeted improvement work.

Council / Partnership Groups

Approved by (*Accountable Officer*)

Jackie Wilson

Date

11/11/09

Approved by (*Accountable Director*)

Rosemary Archer

Date

11/11/09

**Improvement Priority – CYPP 1 Improving outcomes for Looked After Children
Accountable Officer – Jackie Wilson/Chris Edwards**

Key actions for the next 6 months						
	Action (Desired Achievements)	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions	Timescale		
1	Develop an integrated Looked After Children's Service by bringing together all the social care functions for looked after children and care leavers along with those from Health and Education	Jackie Wilson	Create the Head of Service post and agree the job description Commence the recruitment process			
2	Complete the agreed implementation of the re-modelled virtual school staffing to allow for further and deeper engagement with schools.. This will continue to improve personal education planning and the personalisation of educational support to looked after children.	Alun Rees	Regular meetings with school designated teachers in both primary and secondary phases to monitor.	Meetings through the Autumn terms		
3	Secure the virtual school budget to ensure looked after children have access to the personal education allowances funded through Care Matter which allow 1-to-1 tuition, and other interventions to support looked after children's attainment and progress, to continue.	Jackie Wilson	Needs assessment based on the current education outcomes for looked after children is fed into the budget cycle	November 2009 onwards		
4	Implementation of the outcomes of the business process review as they apply to the Independent Reviewing service including revision of the Care Planning arrangements and the provision of more consistent monitoring and feedback on the quality of all aspects of care planning.	Joanne Hopkins (Keith Watson)	Regular and appropriate feedback on the quality of care, and related education and health, planning that will lead to improvement	December 2009		
5	Work with young people and the Children's Rights service on developing more creative means through which children and young people can become more involved in decisions about their care.	Joanne Hopkins	Project plan from Children's Rights with subsequent implementation	December – May 2009		
6	Utilise the increasing capacity of the CYPSC Performance Team to investigate whether there are patterns that link those children and young people failing to take up appointments for dental checks.	Joanne Hopkins (Siobhan Brady)	Having identified any common factors plan to address the key cohorts of children and young people	January 2010		
7	Implementation of the specialist Connexions service commissioned by IYSS	Gerry Hudson (IYSS)	The commissioning process is nearing its end point with the new specialist Connexions service being implemented	Spring/Summer 2010		

Improvement Priority – CYPP 1 Improving outcomes for Looked After Children
Accountable Officer – Jackie Wilson/Chris Edwards

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority										
Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
CYPP-P1-1	Increase Key Stage 2 to 4 Contextual Value Added scores for looked after children (percentage point difference between estimated and actual performance for five A*-C)	Ed Leeds	Annual Percentage Point (pp)	Fall	-9.1% pp 07/08 ac yr	-9.1% pp 07/08 ac yr	- 6.8 pp 08/09 ac yr	Annual PI reported at Q4		No concerns
CYPP-P1-2	Reduce the persistent absence rate for looked after children in secondary schools	Ed Leeds	Annual Percentage	Fall	16.2% 07/08 ac yr	16.2% 07/08 ac yr	15.8% 08/09 ac yr	Annual PI reported at Q4		No concerns
CYPP-P1-3	Reduce fixed term exclusions from school for looked after children	Ed Leeds	Annual rate per 1,000	Fall	429.1 per 1,000 pupils 07/08 ac yr	429.1 per 1,000 pupils 07/08 ac yr	310 per 1,000 pupils 08/09 ac yr	Annual PI reported at Q4		No concerns
CYPP-P1-4	Reduce permanent exclusions from school for looked after children	Ed Leeds	Annual Number	Fall	1 exclusion 07/08 ac yr	1 exclusion 07/08 ac yr	0 exclusions 08/09 ac yr	Annual PI reported at Q4		No concerns
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	Ed Leeds	Annual Percentage	Rise	40% 06/07 ac yr	43% 07/08 ac yr	56% 08/09 ac yr	Annual PI reported at Q4		No concerns
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2	Ed Leeds	Annual Percentage	Rise	30% 06/07 ac yr	41% 07/08 ac yr	56% 08/09 yr	Annual PI reported at Q4		No concerns
NI 101	Looked after children achieving five A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including maths and English)	Ed Leeds	Annual Percentage	Rise	5% 06/07 ac yr	4% 07/08 ac yr	17% ¹ 08/09 ac yr	Annual PI reported at Q4		No concerns
NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	C&YPSC	Quarterly Percentage	Rise	81.4%	87.3%	85.0%	96.0%	96.0%	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	C&YPSC	Quarterly Percentage	Rise	70.5% (Dec 07)	71.3%	75%	72.5%	72.5%	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescale	C&YPSC	Quarterly Percentage	Rise	66.3%	78.3%	90%	84.6%	84.6%	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4

¹ Targets for 2009/10 are based on value added predictions of pupils

**Improvement Priority – CYPP 1 Improving outcomes for Looked After Children
Accountable Officer – Jackie Wilson/Chris Edwards**

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority

Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
CYPP-P1-5	Percentage of looked after children who participated in their review	C&YPSC	Quarterly Percentage	Rise	81.1%	New PI 09/10	95%	88.3%	88.3%	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
CYPP-P1-6	Percentage of looked after children with up to date health needs assessment	C&YPSC	Quarterly Percentage	Rise	72% 07/08	84.1%	90%	88.8%	90%	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
CYPP-P1-7	Percentage of looked after children with up to date dental check	C&YPSC	Quarterly Percentage	Rise	78%	78.3%	90%	67.4%	68%	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
NI 58	NI 58 - Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children	PCT	Annual Number	Fall	New PI for 08-09	15	TBD ²	Annual PI reported at Q4	PI reported at Q4	To be reviewed at Q4

² The first period of collection for this indicator is 08-09. Questionnaires were only available for half the cohort. The intention is to get a more complete picture in 09/10 and use that as the baseline. Targets cannot be set until baseline properly established.

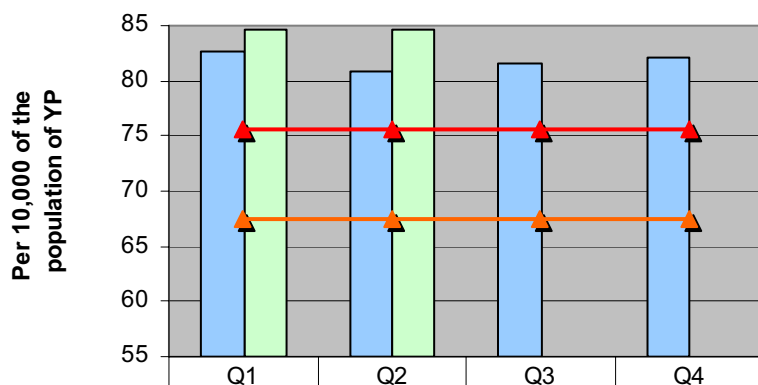
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Overall Progress

Why is this a priority

High quality universal services, integrated at the frontline, represent the best preventative strategy. We know that prevention is cost effective and provides the best outcome for children, young people and families. Our priority actions aim to increase resilience and reduce risks for everyone. Our frontline services will place the child, young person and family at the centre, personalise services and provide rapid and proportional responses where there is escalating risk.

LSP-HWb (i) - Number of LAC per 10,000 population of children & young people (excluding unaccompanied asylum seekers) (fall)



The number of looked after children has increased compared to last year and remains high in Leeds when compared to statistical neighbours and the national average. However, the increase in the numbers of looked after children in Leeds reflects a national trend. Since the last quarter the overall number has remained stable.

	2008-09 Results	82.6	80.8	81.6	82.1
	2009-10 Result	84.6	84.6		
	2008-09 Target	75.6	75.6	75.6	75.6
	2009-10 Target	67.5	67.5	67.5	67.5

Overall progress to date and outcomes achieved 1st April - 30th September 2009

Overall Summary

Inspections and research conducted internally and by Leeds Metropolitan University confirm that the thresholds for admission to care are appropriate and are being consistently applied. However, there has been a lack of clarity across agencies in understanding and owning common thresholds for action, leading to a fragmentation in service delivery to families. Whilst there have been pockets of excellent inter-agency work at a local level across the city, this has not been consistently applied. The Common Assessment Framework is the primary assessment process used by all agencies for entry into, and exit from, multi-agency working where appropriate, by looking holistically at the needs of each child, young person and family. Through the CAF, a single multi-agency plan is agreed with the child, family and all partners and by focusing on rolling out and improving the use of CAF we are seeking to deliver more consistency and better joining up with partners. In addition, work to reduce the Looked After Children population has focused on reducing drift for those already in care through robust care planning and innovative approaches such as the joint arrangement with CAF/CASS to fast track S39 applications to discharge Care Orders where appropriate. The effect of this work is that the overall population is being held at a consistent level, in spite of a significant increase in admissions which mirror the national trend – for example, in May alone, there were 50 admissions to care. The overall population is 1364, and 66 of these are unaccompanied asylum seeking children which compares with 1359 in March 2007, 1364 in March 08 and 1338 in March 09.

Due to the continuing high number of looked after children in Leeds the overall rating remains red. The direction of travel assessment reflects the fact that the numbers remained stable in the last quarter.

Achievements since the last quarter

- A suite of clear and succinct ‘threshold’ guidance documents have been developed across the partnership. These documents have been included in multi-agency training programmes and are referenced in the Leeds City Council corporate induction to children’s services.
- A new system was established in the council’s contact centre to help identify and appropriately redirect referrals made into the contact centre which are not for action by CYPSC. This includes the stationing of a senior social care manager within the Contact Centre, helping to advise and direct callers.
- The result is that no caller receives ‘no further action’, and where social care thresholds are not met,

Improvement Priority – CYPP 8 Reducing the need for children to be in care

Lead Officer – Jackie Wilson/Sally Threlfall

callers are directed to support from another service e.g. offering family support services or suggesting the use of a Common Assessment to effectively assess needs

- Local multi-agency triage teams have been established in the three social care delivery areas to ensure referrals deemed as 'not for action' by social care at a local level are redirected appropriately. Separate audit activity is tracking rerouted cases to ensure that effective services are delivered.
- Improvements in CAF provision include.
 - Increased the size of the CAF Team with a member of staff from Children & Young People Social Care, YOS and Early Years.
 - 500 CAF training places have been allocated between September and December 2009. A further 500 places will be available between Jan and March 2010.
 - Published the Referrals Pathway which identifies CAF as a first point of contact of assessment of need.
 - The Workforce Development Team has been supplemented by 12 trainers who are able to provide up to 20 days CAF training each, significantly increasing training capacity.
 - Budget holding is now available through CAF process
 - Continued rolled out across the city, with nearly 1350 completed by the end of October 2009
- The new Parenting Commissioner is in place and the Parenting Unit is up and running. The first two pieces of work undertaken included plotting Family Support Services and parenting courses against levels of need across the city.
- Adolescent Cases Panel was established in North West as a pilot
- Developed a staff learning package to assist improvements in care planning, initially focusing on permanency planning .
- Family Hub is now 'Parent Know How' compliant.
- Directory of Family Support Services has been launched and is currently being populated with information from various services.
- The C&YPSC commissioning framework was formally reviewed by Leeds Met at a family group conference. The framework will be used for the future commissioning bids.

Challenges/Risks

- Risk - The national trend of looked after children: greater awareness around abused and neglected children results in increases in referrals. Q1 & 2 08/09 = 7475 referrals; Q1 & Q2 09/10 = 8770 referrals, 17% rise.
- Risk - reluctance to use CAF as a first assessment
- Risk - capacity of CAF team to deal with the increase in the number CAFs generated by the new pathways document
- Challenge - degrees of vulnerability are impacted by economic recession. Poverty exacerbates the likelihood of children experiencing or being exposed to abuse and neglect.
- Challenge – increase monitoring and assessment for vulnerable children

Council / Partnership Groups			
Approved by (<i>Accountable Officer</i>)	Sally Threlfall / Jackie Wilson	Date	05/11/09
Approved by (<i>Accountable Director</i>)	Rosemary Archer	Date	11/11/09

Improvement Priority – CYPP 8 Reducing the need for children to be in care

Lead Officer – Jackie Wilson/Sally Threlfall

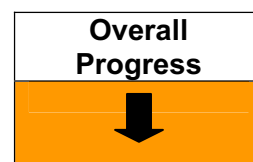
Key actions for the next 6 months						
Action	Lead Officer	Milestone	Timescale	Date Action Last Reviewed		
1	Sally Threlfall	1) Directory fully populated 2) Staff able to easily access latest version of directory on line	Dec 09 Ongoing	New action		
2	Sally Threlfall	Staff in all clusters, Schools, Children's Centres and health service are trained and confident	Ongoing	New action		
3	Sally Threlfall	Integrated Service Leaders in post	Ongoing	New action		
4	Sally Threlfall	1) Increase in Number of CAFs : Develop indicators to monitor numbers 2)Decrease in referrals to CYPSC through monitoring performance of NI 68.	By Quarter 3 Ongoing with quarterly reviews	New action		
5	Sally Threlfall	First ten panels in place	April 2010	New action		
6	Sally Threlfall	Panels in place	April 2010	New action		

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the LSP Improvement Priority

Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
LSP-HW2b(i) a	Number of looked after children excluding unaccompanied asylum seekers (Numerical)	Children and Young People's Social Care (C&YPSC)	Quarterly Numerical	Fall	1281 (2007/08)	1255	1031	1293	1293	No concerns
LSP-HW2b(i) b	Number of children looked after (expressed as a rate per 10,000) excluding unaccompanied asylum seekers	(C&YPSC)	Quarterly Rate per 10,000	Fall	83.8 (2007/08)	82.1	67.5	84.6	84.6	No concerns

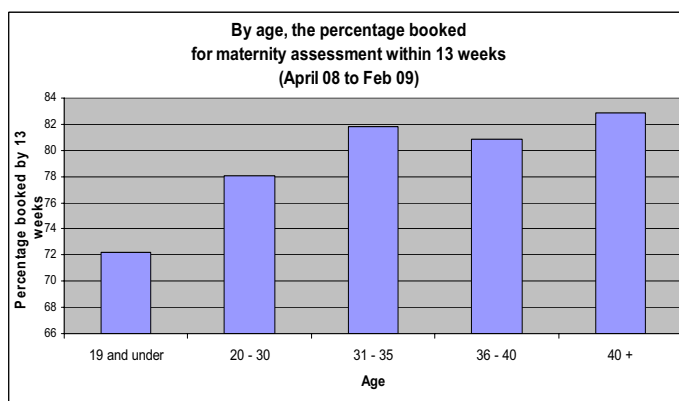
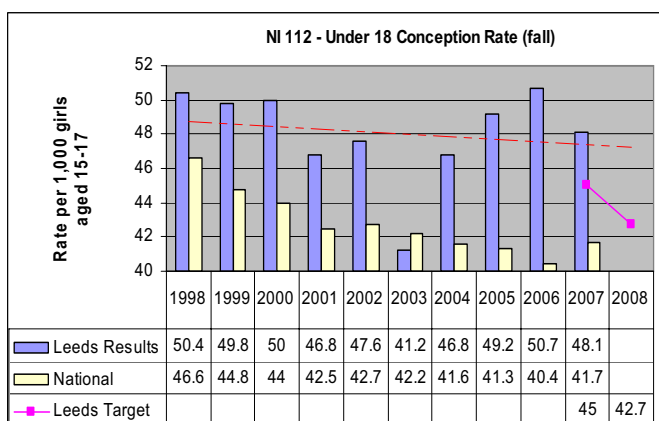
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Why is this a priority

Evidence shows that having children at a young age can damage young women’s health and wellbeing and severely limit their education and career prospects. Long term studies show that children born to teenagers are more likely to experience a range of negative outcomes in later life and are up to 3 times more likely to become teenage parents themselves.

Priority actions will focus on recognising the interdependencies between teenage pregnancy and improving other outcomes for children and young people; providing young people with the means to avoid early pregnancy; tackling the underlying circumstances that motivate young people to want to, or lead them passively to become parents at a young age; working in effective partnerships to ensure universal provision for all young people with strengthened delivery and services to those most at risk; and acknowledging that effective interventions require significant time to deliver sustainable change.



Overall progress to date and outcomes achieved

Overall Summary

The significant increase in activity to reduce the levels of teenage parents in Leeds in the last 12 months has started to show real service changes across the city. Increased momentum has been aided through our much better identification and sharing of the pattern of teenage conceptions across the city. Progress on our internal measures of action and process are good for most areas.

Our indicator data for teenage conceptions, based on the national ONS data set, lags significantly behind any activity to reduce it. The 2007 rate for Leeds is 48.1, a reduction from the 2006 figure of 50.9 (conceptions per 1000 female population aged 15-17), the national rate for comparison is 41.7. The next nationally produced city wide data will be available in February 2010, this will be the data relating to 2008. However, the first and second quarter data for 2008 is currently showing a provisional rise to 51.7 in Q1 and 54.1 in Q2; a rolling quarterly average of 50.3. It is useful to note Leeds’ recent performance is within a context of a national rise in teenage conceptions for 2008. Comparing to other Core Cities Leeds’ is midway between the highest and lowest performing cities on this indicator. No Core City or significantly sized local authority shows a consistent teenage conception reduction likely to enable it to reach the 50% reduction by 2010 target for the UK.

Levels of teenage pregnancy vary significantly between localities. Better quality data providing more timely information at the local level is supporting the development and coordination of services which are starting to have a positive impact on reducing the level of teenage pregnancy across the city.

The overall assessment of amber reflects the considerable level of targeted activity in this area and the fact that national data will not be available until February, when progress will be reassessed (during Q3). However in view of the fact that quarterly data is showing an increase in the rate of teenage pregnancy per 1000, the direction of travel has been assessed as downward.

HW-1d/CYPP 7 - Reducing teenage conception

Lead Officer – Sarah Sinclair

Activity Achievements since the last quarter

- The Contraception and Sexual Health (CaSH) service from September 2009 will be offering an after school contraception outreach clinic in the six priority wards.
- From September 2009 on-site contraception clinics will be running in the three main FE providers in the city providing 18 hours per week on site contraception and sexual health service provision.
- Mapping to identify contraception and termination hotspots within priority wards and mapped against service provision is now available.
- The multi agency SRE Training Team have delivered 'Using the Contraceptive Kit Confidently' training to the secondary PSHE coordinators in the hot spot areas and in individual school settings.
- A 'whole school approach' package for primary schools has been designed for heads, teachers, governors, parents and children.
- Work in the priority hot spot area using the Leadership Challenge approach has resulted in pulling together a wide range of stake holders from all sectors with active support from local Councillors.
- Safeguarding partnership work with the Child Protection Team and Primary SRE Advisor is linking the Primary SRE curriculum with child protection issues.
- The NHS have mainstreamed the formerly TPPP funded Sexual Health Nurse for looked after children. This role continues to have a significant impact on access to CaSH Services and there has been a reduction in reported conceptions in the same period last year.
- The new Relationships Policy for looked after children was published in September which will be a useful resource in delivering on 'The Promise', as referenced in the Leeds CYPP, made to young people in care.
- The Family Nurse Partnership is operational and is working with young pregnant women and mothers and their families to improve early parenting, antenatal health, enhance child development and school readiness and link the family to wider social networks and employment.
- The pre and post 16 care pathways and the maternity care pathway have been integrated into a comprehensive working document for professionals and young people.
- The improved local data collection and analysis has identified significant hot pockets of teenage conceptions in west Leeds, which will enable targeted response.

We are responding to the challenge of the lack of change in teenage parenting rates by supporting the above with a commissioning plan which allocates £147K of Area Based Grant to the above priorities focussing on the 6 wards with the highest rates of conception.

Challenges/Risks

- The Deputy Director (Commissioning) and Acting Head of Joint Commissioning are current seconded posts from NHS Leeds. The Director also chairs the teenage parent partnership board. The end of her secondment and the relocation of the Head of Joint Commissioning may result in a loss of strategic drive. Children Leeds has recruited a Priority Outcomes Commissioner to support the teenage conception and parenting agenda and its links to wider commissioning for vulnerable children.
- There are real risks that not all relevant services and strategies perceive that teenage pregnancy and parenthood is a priority for them, and that many services can have a positive effect. For example, we will be ensuring housing services are fully engaged as unstable and inappropriate housing for teenage parents and their children is key.
- Services will need to be further challenged to be young people friendly to ensure that young people will access them, and especially those young people who do not readily access mainstream services.
- There is no central point which professionals can refer to in order to ensure young parents to be and teenage parents are accessing the relevant services as early as possible, such as antenatal services.
- There is support for school age young fathers to continue their education. However, there is little specific support available for young fathers post 16, both in terms of preparing for parenthood and seeking education, training and employment.

Council / Partnership Groups			
Approved by (Accountable Officer)	Sarah Sinclair	Date	11/11/09
Approved by (Accountable Director)	Rosemary Archer	Date	11/11/09

HW-1d/CYPP 7 - Reducing teenage conception

Lead Officer – Sarah Sinclair

Key actions for the next 6 months

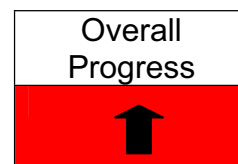
Action	Lead Officer	Milestone	Timescale	Date Action Last Reviewed
1	Sarah Sinclair	Complete		
2	Paul Bollom	Plans completed		
		Commissioning in place by April 1 st 2010	April 2010	
3	Paul Bollom	To be agreed by TPPP Board	November 2009	
4	Sarah Sinclair	Cllr seminar w/c 19 Oct		
5	Vicky Womack	Progress monitoring meetings	March 2010	
6	Dorothy Smith	Sample CD of the Toolkit has been created and to be disseminated to all secondary schools by Nov 2009	April 2010	
7	Paul Bollom	Plan to be completed and agreed by the TPPP Board	March 2010	

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority

Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 2	Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate	PCT	Annual	Fall	50.4	48.1	42.7	Annual PI	Annual PI	No concerns

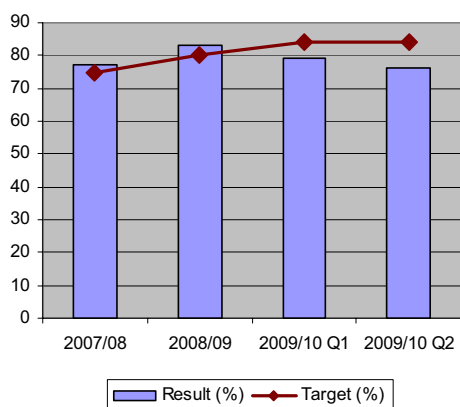
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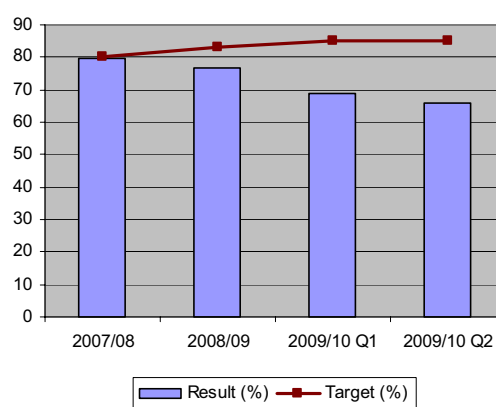
Lead Officer – Jackie Wilson

Why is this a priority

If children and young people are to achieve positive outcomes, they need to be safe and secure. With our partners it is important that we can identify when a child or young person is vulnerable, take decisive and timely action to make sure children are safe and to plan with them for a more secure future. If this 'preventative approach' doesn't work there are concerns that children or young people may be at risk of, or suffering, significant harm.



NI 60 % Core Assessment completed in 35 days



NI 59 % Initial Assessment Completed in 7 days

Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved 1st April – 30th September 2009

Overall Summary

The unannounced inspection highlighted key concerns about the clarity of existing procedural guidance and inconsistent application of these. Case files examined in the inspection and in our own audit work showed a significant variation in quality, and in compliance with recording requirements. There was limited evidence of robust quality assurance frameworks to test compliance with requirements and to assure the safety and quality of work undertaken. To address these issues a new Chief Officer and an interim management team have been brought in. However, there is still much more to do to drive further change and improvement, to embed new procedures and work practices and ensure consistency and high quality. The overall assessment is red due to the fact that key indicators (see graphs above) are underperforming. Some of this underperformance is due to the need to reassess 400 cases following analysis undertaken after the unannounced inspection. This will not need to be repeated. Clearer threshold guidance and a quality framework are now being embedded and SDMs are auditing all referral decisions. Given this activity the quality and timeliness of assessment should improve over time, hence the upward direction of travel.

Achievements since the last report

- Immediate follow up on cases of concern identified by Ofsted inspectors and a full review of all referrals since 1/4/09 where no further action was taken to ensure children were not left at risk.
- Implemented revised section 47 Child Protection Enquiry process supplemented by a quality assurance process for all new referrals to ensure the right decision are being made.
- Established Children's Services Corporate Improvement Board (5 meetings held) to support improvement, provide constructive challenge and oversee preparations for an Announced inspection.
- Development of a clear plan with prioritised actions to address areas of weaknesses from unannounced inspection. Longer term actions have also been identified to improve services in the mid to long term.
- Revised guidance on decision-making during referral process along with a suite of clear and succinct 'threshold' guidance documents have been developed and are now in use across CYPSC meaning that there is now:
 - An effective process for routing cases which are not appropriate for social care into other agencies for action
 - An appropriate increase in conversion to initial assessment in referrals which do come into social care
 - An appropriate reduction in the rate of 'no further action' decisions and
 - An increase in the numbers of initial child protection conferences being convened.

HW-3a - Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk

HW-1e - Improve assessment and care management of children

CYPP 9 – Strengthening safeguarding

Lead Officer – Jackie Wilson

- A major programme of further audit and QA activity has taken place. The key points are:
 - A retrospective audit of decisions on 1600 cases took place between 22 July and 19 August
 - every '24 hour decision' at the point of referral since 22 July is now subject to a QA review by a service manager
 - compliance checks on over 400 files have been undertaken by internal audit staff and correction sheets issued
 - the new QA framework sets out clear expectations of managers at every level in the service to undertake quality audits of files using the new audit tools and
 - the quality of assessments has improved, with now 4% of decisions requiring urgent action following the senior manager review.
- Programme of managers seminars established (6 delivered and 5 more planned) these have been used to keep managers updated with the rapid changes underway post-inspection and to get their input into the new guidance and procedures.
- Self evaluation for announced inspection completed with an action plan for key improvement areas.
- Implementation of a triage system for referrals received at the contact centre where to ensure appropriate onward referrals are made to services other than social care – this has resulted in a 20% reduction in referrals.
- Electronic Social Care Record (ESCR) system review has been completed and a business case being prepared to transfer to an market leading off the shelf system.
- Implementation and ensuring compliance with HR procedures to ensure CRB checks are refreshed 3-yearly.
- There have been significant changes to the leadership of the service with additional senior posts identified to lead the fieldwork services and changes in personnel in the senior team. The new Chief Officer is supported by an interim team which in addition to experienced social care professionals now includes senior staff with backgrounds in Business Process Re-engineering, Programme Management, ICT and Quality Assurance.
- Significant additional funding has been identified for 12 new Advanced Practitioner posts for this financial year.

Challenges/Risks

- Continuing the fast pace of change particularly the impact this has on front line staff in terms of capacity and morale.
- Identification of additional capacity to support the service to deliver the improvement plans.
- Recruitment and retention of Social Workers in an issue in Leeds as well as nationally.
- Lead time for the project to transfer to a new ESCR IT system will be 18-24 months and therefore the service will have to continue to use an unsuitable system which will have an impact on the pace of improvement.
- High likelihood of an announced inspection by Ofsted in the short term.

<u>Council / Partnership Groups</u>	Children Leeds		
<u>Approved by</u> <i>(Accountable Officer)</i>	Jackie Wilson	<u>Date</u>	11/11/09
<u>Approved by</u> <i>(Accountable Director)</i>	Rosemary Archer	<u>Date</u>	11/11/09

HW-3a - Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk
 HW-1e - Improve assessment and care management of children
 CYPP 9 – Strengthening safeguarding

Lead Officer – Jackie Wilson

Key actions for the next 6 months			
	Action (Desired Achievements)	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions
1	Delivery of Unannounced Inspection Action Plan NB the list of key actions/milestones is only a selection of the activities on-going	Jackie Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of QA and Performance team in CYPSC Continue manager seminar programme Review access and pathways project Roll out revised guidance and thresholds across partner agencies Develop alternative referral process for contact centre Recruitment to advanced practitioner social work posts
2	Children's Services Corporate Improvement Board – continues to meet to support the improvement/challenge process	Board Members	On-going
3	Review of the operation of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and implement the recommendations of the review to ensure it's effective operation.	Nick Garrett	Review report completed. Next step is to implement the recommendations made.

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the LSP Improvement Priority

Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
LSP-HW2b(i) a	Number of looked after children (Numerical)	Children and Young People's Social Care (C&YPSC)	Quarterly Numerical	Fall	1281 (2007/08)	1255	1031	1293	1293	No concerns
LSP-HW2b(i) b	Number of children looked after (expressed as a rate per 10,000) excluding unaccompanied asylum seekers	(C&YPSC)	Quarterly Number	Fall	83.8 (2007/08)	82.1	67.5	84.6	84.6	No concerns

HW-3a - Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk
HW-1e - Improve assessment and care management of children
CYPP 9 – Strengthening safeguarding

Lead Officer – Jackie Wilson

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the LSP Improvement Priority										
Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 59	The proportion of Initial Assessments undertaken within 7 days	C&YPSC	Quarterly %	Rise	79.9% (08-09)	76.5%	80%	65.9%	65.9%	No concerns
NI 60	The percentage of core assessments that were completed within 35 working days	C&YPSC	Quarterly %	Rise	77.4% (08-09)	83.3%	84%	76.2%	76.2%	No concerns
CYPP P9-1	Ofsted judgement on the quality of Leeds Fostering Service	C&YPSC	Result updated when inspections happen and a judgement is received	N/A	Inadequate (July 2008 visit)	Inadequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	No concerns
CYPP P9-2	Ofsted judgement on the quality of Leeds Private Fostering	C&YPSC	inspections happen and a judgement is received	N/A	Inadequate (July 2008 visit)	Inadequate	Satisfactory	Result updated when inspections happen	Result updated when inspections happen	No concerns
CYPP P9-3	The proportion of residential homes judged by Ofsted to be good or better	C&YPSC	?	Rise	69% (9 out of 13 homes (08/09))	New PI for 09-10	100% (13 homes)	69% (9 out of 13 homes)	Unable to predict	No concerns
NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	C&YPSC	Quarterly %	Rise	81.4% (07/08)	87.30%	85%	96.0%	96.0%	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	C&YPSC	Quarterly %	Rise	70.5% (Dec 07)	71.3%	75%	72.5%	72.5%	No concerns
NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescale	C&YPSC	Quarterly %	Rise	66.3%	78.2%	89%	84.6%	84.6%	No concerns
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves	C&YPSC	Annual %	Fall	9.5% (07/08)	9.2%	9.5%	Annual PI reported at Q4	Annual PI reported at Q4	No concerns
NI 64	Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	C&YPSC	Annual %	Fall	7.8% (07/08)	7.6%	7.6%	Annual PI reported at Q4	Annual PI reported at Q4	No concerns
NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	C&YPSC	Annual %	Bell Shaped	17.5% (07/08)	8.9%	12.5%	Annual PI reported at Q4	Annual PI reported at Q4	No concerns
NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	C&YPSC	Annual %	Rise	98.4% (07/08)	99%	100%	Annual PI reported at Q4	Annual PI reported at Q4	No concerns

**HW-3a - Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk
 HW-1e - Improve assessment and care management of children
 CYPP 9 – Strengthening safeguarding**

Lead Officer – Jackie Wilson

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the LSP Improvement Priority										
Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	C&YPSC	Annual %	Bell Shaped	56.8%	54.6%	60%	Annual PI reported at Q4	Score of 5	No concerns
NI 71	Children who have run away from home/care	Children's Services	Quarterly Number	Rise	Score of 5	New PI for 09/10	Score of 8	Score of 5	Score of 5	No checklist

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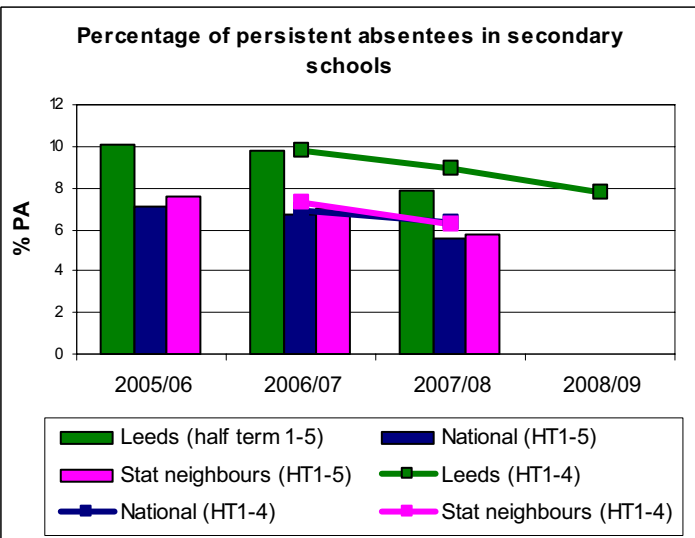
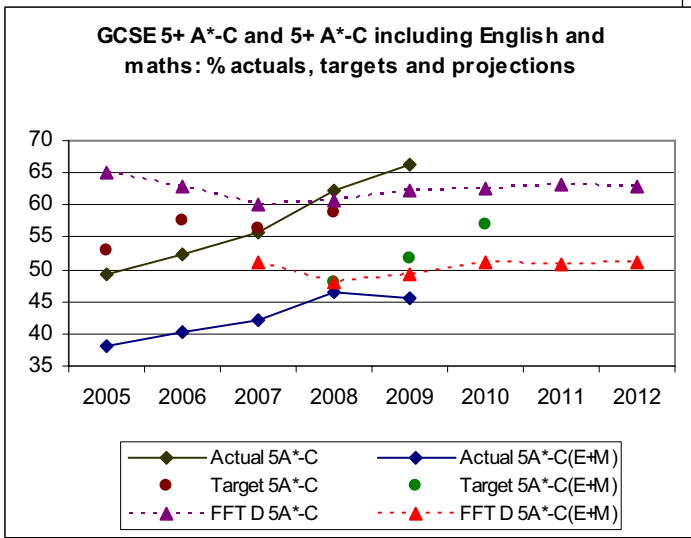
Improvement Priority – LN-1b. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.

Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

Overall
Progress

Why is this a priority

Learning outcomes at 16 highlight young people’s success through primary and secondary education and offer a basis for ongoing formal learning that will support both learning into adulthood and entry into the workforce. Through our collective efforts in recent years we have made significant progress in raising attainment at the end of Key Stage 4. This priority acknowledges the need for ongoing improvement, and to address those areas where our impact has been less. In secondary schools, we will keep increasing the number of outstanding schools, meet the National Challenge, continue to close the gaps with national Key Stage 4 averages, and through a clear focus on each young person ensure good progress for all and a sustained improvement in value added scores, which remain too low for too many secondary schools.



Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved

Overall Summary

All results are provisional at this point. The rate of increase in Key Stage 4 measures that was achieved in 2008 has not been replicated in 2009, with smaller improvements against most indicators. An exception was the headline measure of 5+ A*-C GCSEs including English and maths where performance fell by 0.8 % points from 2008. As the graph above shows this represents a return to a more moderate longer term improvement trend; from 2005-2009 Leeds results have improved by 7.1 % points compared to 4.8 % points for all schools in England and 7.8 % points for maintained schools nationally. The performance of individual schools was inconsistent but did include some very good improvements. Where this improvement wasn’t evident, school improvement partners (SIPs) complemented by subject advisers will raise questions about the effectiveness of teaching in core subjects and the accuracy of assessment, especially in maths where schools reported a particular concern over outcomes not matching predictions. More positive is the ongoing improvements in Level 2 achievement (5+ A*-C GCSEs or equivalent) with two thirds of young people now achieving this level. Leeds is within 2.2% points of the national average having closed the gap by 2.8% points since 2005. Measures of low and no achievement are showing small improvements building upon the stronger improvements made in previous years, accepting that comparative performance remains weak. Pleasingly there were no secondary schools in Ofsted categories at the start of the 2009-10 academic year, however the new Ofsted framework operating from September presents a renewed level of challenge; our school improvement support will be focused on reducing areas of risk for schools. Six schools remained below the National Challenge floor target at the end of 2008/09 academic year; although only 3 open schools are now below this benchmark. Revised National Challenge improvement plans are now being agreed with the Secretary of State. The establishment of two new academies and the opening of Swallow Hill at the beginning of September represent the structural changes being undertaken; agreeing the future of provision in the inner north east is now the priority for the next 6 months. Some key partnerships have been negotiated to support schools with the leadership capacity to drive improvement. While there have been reductions in persistent absence in secondary schools and some targeted successes, secondary attendance remains a priority area.

A rating of amber has been given, reflecting progress made with Level 2 achievement, but also the scale of

Improvement Priority – LN-1b. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.

Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

the challenges described below. Please note that more comprehensive analysis work is currently ongoing. This includes priority groups, progress measures and value added measures and will be contained in Executive Board reports in coming months. Key points will be contained in the Quarter 4 action tracker.

Achievements since the last report

- Provisional data is available on outcomes in 2009 at Key Stage 4. Confirmed results will not be available until January 2010, but initial indications are that there has been a strong improvement on the Level 2 measure, with 66.3% of young people achieving five A*-C GCSEs or equivalent. Performance on this indicator has outstripped value added estimates, of the progress required to be in the top quartile of local authorities for pupil progress, by four percentage points.
- Excellent improvement in the proportion of young people achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs including English and maths were made in a number of schools including Parklands, Bruntcliffe, John Smeaton, Cockburn, Intake (now Leeds West Academy) Crawshaw, Allerton Grange, and Pudsey Grangefield.
- During the 2008/09 academic year, 9 secondary schools, two SILCs and one PRU were inspected. Highlights of this period include the judgements of 'outstanding' at Morley High and the East SILC. Both are proving to be strong partners in Leeds, contributing to other schools and to city-wide improvement. Other highlights were the recognition of the pace of improvement at Parklands and at Rodillian, and the continued progress at the BESD SILC. All these schools were judged satisfactory and removed from Ofsted categories. Leeds began the new term in September without any secondary schools in an Ofsted category, although this progress needs to be set against the significantly harder challenge of the revised Ofsted inspection framework it is a substantial achievement that demonstrate the effectiveness of school improvement activity in Leeds.
- Based on data from half-terms 1 to 4, overall attendance levels have declined slightly in Leeds secondary schools, but there has been a reduction in levels of authorised absence. In particular there has been a reduction in levels of absence due to agreed family holidays, as schools have adopted a more consistent and stricter policy about leave during term-time. A consequence has been an increase in unauthorised absence (see below).
- A clear strategy for narrowing the gap which engages priority schools has been drawn up. This includes the targeted groups of BME, SEN/LDD pupils and looked after children. School Improvement Partners will review evaluation and target setting procedures with schools in the autumn term visit.

Challenges/Risks

Risks which relate to outcomes at 16 and that have already been identified and are monitored on a quarterly basis in the Education Leeds risk register include:

- The BSF project does not deliver outcomes required. (LCC corporate risk)
- A risk that schools named as not achieving floor targets fail to sufficiently improve. . (LCC corporate risk)
- Failure to identify potential problems and react appropriately to a serious failure in the effectiveness of a Leeds school.
- New schools fail to become established as good and improving schools that are sustainable in the long term.
- Failure to maximise IT investment in schools to improve outcomes for pupils.

A range of other challenges include:

- The indicator on the percentage of pupils achieving five A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths has declined by 0.8% points from the large increase seen in 2008, this represents a return to a more moderate longer term improvement trend; from 2005-2009 Leeds results have improved by 7.1% points. School Improvement Partners and subject consultants will continue to ensure appropriate challenge and support to schools where there are apparent issues with the effectiveness of teaching in core subjects, and the accuracy of assessment and predictions.
- Good outcomes for pupils are delivered through good and improving schools. The new Ofsted framework is based on a significant increase in expectations, and schools will need to improve in order to retain or improve their current Ofsted judgment. Whereas the previous challenge was around getting

Improvement Priority – LN-1b. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.

Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

schools out of Ofsted categories to be rated 'Satisfactory' or better, the focus now is on supporting schools to achieve 'Good' judgements. Increased expectations for the attainment and attendance of all students will require greater effort to achieve this judgement.

- The 21st century schools White Paper sets out a new relationship with schools where there is now greater delegation to schools, with the School Improvement Partner acting as the main contact for school improvement activity. This will require revisions to existing models of engaging and managing support for schools causing concern from 2011. Work on scoping some of these changes begins this term.
- Although there were six schools below the 2011 floor target in summer 2009, three of these schools have now closed. West Leeds and Wortley have merged to become the new Swallow Hill Community College and South Leeds High school has closed and become an academy. Schools below the floor target have to be on a trajectory to be above as soon as possible but up to 2011. The Secretary of State has asked for a plan showing actions required for those schools still below the floor target. Partnerships with strong schools have been negotiated to support schools in the short term and Leeds has a strong record of implementing the changes necessary to reach these targets.
- Significant improvements have been seen in persistent absence in Leeds with the number of PA students in half-terms 1-4 falling by 28% from 4625 in 2005/06 to 3322 in 2008/09. In 2008/09 the percentage of pupils that were PA fell by 0.5%, the same fall achieved in statistical neighbour, but the national level of PA fell by 0.8%, the gap to national is now 2.8%. Leeds is classified by the DCSF as an intensive support authority for persistent absence (PA). Provisional data based on half-terms 1 to 4 from 2008/09 indicates that there are 22 targeted local authority secondary schools. In addition the three academies, the BESD SILC and the secondary PRUs all meet the target school criteria. Targeted support has been effective in reducing levels of persistent absence in target schools, with the drop in PA in target schools being twice the drop for all schools. We have received positive external feedback on our attendance practice, including National Strategies evaluations. Overall attendance in Leeds secondary schools decreased slightly in 2008/09, mainly due to an increase in unauthorised absence. With unauthorised absence and persistent absence we will further develop cross service approaches that both respond to the absence and address the underlying causes recognising the non-attendance as a symptom of a range of needs. A Children's Service's Attendance Strategy with accompanying programme group will help drive a multi-agency response to these needs. This includes continuing to ensure attendance is a central school improvement issue, embedded in our school improvement policy and in the work of School Improvement Partners. Improving attendance must continue to be a leadership issue within all schools with improvements increasingly driven through partnerships of schools at cluster level and through area inclusion partnerships. (Note national indicator performance is based on half terms 1-5, this information is not yet available).

Council / Partnership Groups	14-19 Strategy Group		
Approved by (Accountable Officer)	Chris Edwards	Date	4 November 2009
Approved by (Accountable Director)	Rosemary Archer	Date	11/11/09

**Improvement Priority – LN-1b. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.
Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards**

Key actions for the next 6 months

	Action (Desired Achievements)	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions	Timescale
1	School Improvement Partners and School Improvement Advisors challenge schools to improve KS4 standards and progress. Including: improved CVA; support for schools facing the greatest challenges; schools in the Gaining Ground Initiative; strategies to track achievement and progress; improved use of data; English, maths and science initiatives; leadership programmes; post-16 provision; 14 to 19 curriculum.	Head of Secondary School Improvement	Support to schools and settings takes place on an ongoing basis throughout the academic year. Key milestones in the school improvement cycle include: reviewing the previous academic year's performance, identifying improvement actions, statutory target-setting for the 2010/11 academic year and formative and summative assessment.	2009/10 academic year
2	Use the National Challenge programme to ensure all schools are above the floor target of 30% 5 A*-C including English and maths by 2011, including updating the school Raising Attainment Plans and supporting schools with the impact of structural change.	Head of Secondary School Improvement,	All schools meet floor target by 2011; those above maintain standards and improve further	2009/10 academic year
3	Agree solutions for secondary provision in terms of the three National Challenge schools in the inner North East area of Leeds	Education Leeds Deputy Chief Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement strategy agreed with the DCSF November 2009 Basis for consultation agreed December 2009 Consultation early 2010 Executive Board approval for recommendations April 2010 for implementation by September 2011 	April 2010
4	Secure commitment and engagement of services in implementation of a citywide Children's Services Attendance Strategy and develop related action plans.	Head of Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership commitment is reflected in action plans A project board operating with a strong representation of partners. 	April 2010
5	Provide support and challenge to targeted schools with high levels of persistent absence. Target support, monitoring, challenge and intervention to groups of vulnerable pupils who are over-represented in the persistent absence cohorts or at risk of becoming Children Missing Education (CME).	Head of Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual target school action plans produced and operational Evaluation of impact by use of pupil-level data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2009/10 academic year, with half-termly reviews ongoing 2009/10 academic year, with pupils monitored on 3 monthly reviews
6	Develop a robust quality assurance process; including policies and procedures for the assessment and standardisation of the Diplomas.	Diploma Lead Assessor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diploma Lead Assessor in place as of 2 November 2009 Strategies developed and in place (linking with existing quality assurance systems) 	

Improvement Priority – LN-1b. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.
Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

				for supporting Diploma delivery by September 2010
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing developments of systems for data analysis, tracking learner progress, mapping the success rate and progression of Diploma learners. A Domain Assessor (DA) network will be established whereby all DAs will have completed the Domain Assessor CEIA training to support high quality Diploma delivery.

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority

Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	42.1% (2006/07 academic year)	46.4% (2007/08 academic year)	51.6%	45.6% (2008/09 academic year PROVISIONAL)	Confirmed result due Jan 2010	No concerns
NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths	Children and Younger People	Annually Number	Fall	13 Schools (2006/07 academic year)	6 schools (2007/08 academic year)	2 schools	6 schools (2008/09 academic year PROVISIONAL)	Confirmed result due Jan 2010	No concerns
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Fall	9.8% (2006/07 academic year)	7.9% (2007/08 academic year)	7.7%	Indicator measures attendance from half-terms 1 to 5, only HT 1 to 4 data is currently available	Confirmed result due Feb 2010	No concerns
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths)	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	4.0% (2007/08 academic year)	4.0% (2007/08 academic year)	17.0%	Provisional data not yet available	Confirmed result due April 2010	No concerns

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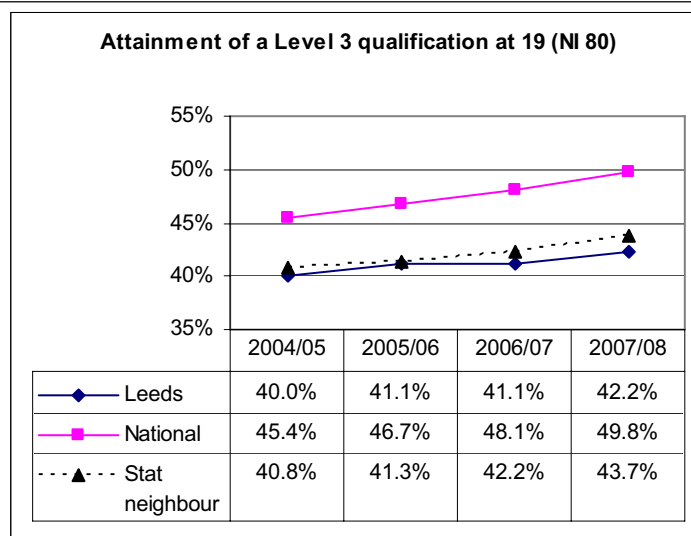
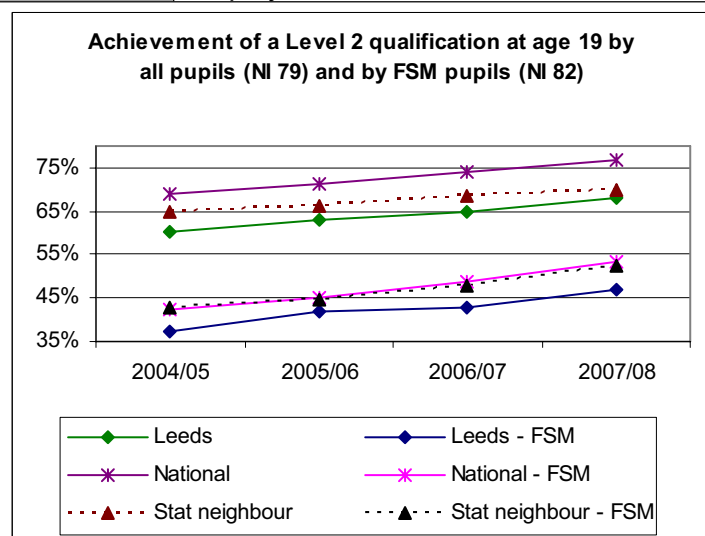
Improvement Priority – LN-1c. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 19 year olds.

Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

Overall Progress

Why is this a priority

Learning outcomes at 19 reflect the extent to which young people are making progress in formal learning and as a consequence their preparedness for the workforce and to a significant extent the likelihood of positive outcomes in adult life. While results at 16 have become closer to national averages, they have yet to do so at 19, especially around Level 3 qualifications. We must make sure aspirations are raised and that young people are aiming high, in terms of both higher education and career options, especially for young people where such references may not be so strongly evident in their lives. We must respond effectively as we move towards a rise in the age of compulsory participation in learning and the advice and guidance young people receive on their future learning and career choices must be accessible and the best possible. Young people must have ownership of their learning and of their learning choices, with understanding of how their learning can provide a pathway into employment.



Overall progress to date and outcomes achieved 1st April – 30th September

Overall summary

No new data is available since the 2007/08 academic year outcomes were reported in the quarter 4 action tracker, so we are not yet in a position to make a judgement about outcomes for the 2008/09 academic year. This data will be available in spring 2010. Our recent Government Office progress check for outcomes at 14-19 indicated that we were likely to be graded 'Amber/Red' on a range of qualitative and quantitative indicators, but this is provisional and subject to moderation. There have been steady improvements in the proportion of young people achieving level 2 qualifications by the age of 19. The percentage of 19 year olds achieving Level 3 is also increasing, but at a slower rate and the gap to national performance is widening. The recent increases in achievement of Level 2 at 16 should start to improve performance against this indicator, as fewer young people will need to follow a Level 2 curriculum post-16 and can instead aim towards Level 3 qualifications at 19. Progress to deliver key activities and ongoing changes in 14-19 provision are progressing well but are yet to result in a step change in terms of a sustained narrowing of the gap with national performance on both indicators, and for this reason the overall progress judgement is amber. Complex changes to the structure of 14-19 provision designed to transform outcomes are currently being implemented across the city, along with increased personalisation of learning pathways and new learning options such as Diplomas. Improvements in Level 2 at 16 including a closing of the gap with national performance provide confidence for future improvement in outcomes at 19. This is reinforced by additional programmes targeted to support young people to continue in learning for whom level 2 at 16 is or was not achievable.

Achievements since the last report

- In September 2009 five new diploma lines were launched: business administration and finance; engineering; hair and beauty; information technology; and society, health and development. A major strength of the programme has been the good employer engagement. Participation in Diplomas has grown from 127 in two curriculum areas in 2008/09 to 448 in seven curriculum areas in 2009/10 and is forecast to be around 900 in 13 curriculum areas 2010/11.
- A recent Ofsted inspection that covered employability and preparation for work graded all 14-19 aspects as 'Good.' Feedback from the inspectors was extremely positive on the Key Stage 4 engagement

Improvement Priority – LN-1c. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 19 year olds.

Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

programme, young parents programme and European Social Fund NEET programme.

- Provisional outcomes for Key Stage 4 from 2009 indicate that 66.3% of young people achieved Level 2 at 16. This means that current provisional rate at 16 is only two percentage points below last year's rate for Level 2 at 19, with the implications that the proportion with Level 2 at 19 should continue to rise and that more young people now stand a better chance of being able to achieve Level 3 qualifications by 19.
- Partnership working has been significantly strengthened during the past year through the development of the five area-based confederations. Confederations are groups of partners – schools, colleges, SILCs, employers, training providers, the voluntary and higher education sectors – who agree to work together in a formal way to plan and deliver aspects of 14+ provision within clear city-wide strategic protocols across the city. Confederations have already undertaken audits of provision for 14 to 16 year old learners, including off-site provision. They will ensure that post-16 provision that is delivered is viable and will develop a collaborative approach to curriculum planning.
- A 14-19 curriculum co-ordinator took up post in the summer term with specific responsibility for supporting the development and implementation of Foundation Learning (FL) across Leeds. FL is the development of programmes that meet the needs of individual young people who are aged 14-19 and who are currently operating at Level 1 (5 A*-G GCSEs or equivalent) or below. Funding has been secured from the Learning and Skills Council to support development activity for FL across Leeds and projects will engage a wide range of cross-sector partners,
- A Diploma Lead Assessor took up post in November with responsibility for developing a quality assurance process, including policies and procedures for the assessment and standardisation of the Diplomas. Strategies will be developed and in place for supporting Diploma delivery by September 2010. These will be developed collaboratively and in line with existing quality assurance systems in place across Leeds.

Challenges/Risks

The following risk which relates to outcomes at 19 has already been identified and is monitored on a quarterly basis in the Education Leeds risk register:

- Inadequate capital secured through BSF, 14-19 capital funding and basic need to deliver outcomes specified in the Leeds Inclusive Learning Strategy (LILS), 14+ review, National Challenge programme and wider secondary / further education estate.

Other challenges include:

- Level 2 and 3 achievement at age 19 for learners who were eligible for free school meals at academic age 15 is lower in Leeds than equivalent performance nationally. Some of these learners will have been pupils who became disengaged from learning at or before 16, and the provision of a broader curriculum, more diplomas and apprenticeships, addressing NEET and persistent absence and Foundation Learning opportunities are all designed to maximise participation in learning for all young people post-16.
- There are a range of issues affecting successful and viable post-16 provision.
 - Post 16 provision should be financially self-supporting without significant cross-subsidy from Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. In Leeds 21 out of the 33 schools with sixth forms are currently funded above the national rate.
 - There are issues around the viability of post-16 groups sizes in some schools, although a positive development is that the number of schools with sixth forms of fewer than 150 learners has decreased from 13 to 9 between 2007/08 and 2008/09.
 - Post-16 success rates (percentage successfully completing learning programmes) are also an issue in a number of schools. For example, eight schools had a success rate of less than 75% in 2008 (2009 data for this measure not yet available), as are post-16 retention rates.

The work of confederations will help to address these issues by working collaboratively to quality assure partnership provision and to ensure procedures are in place to report on student attendance, performance and achievement, as well as adherence to impartial information advice and guidance (IAG) standards at key transition points.

- A longer-term challenge over the coming years will be the change in the 14-19 cohort size; falling by 9.9% between 2009 and 2013.

Council / Partnership Groups	14-19 Strategy Group		
Approved by (Accountable Officer)	Chris Edwards	Date	4 November 2009
Approved by (Accountable Director)	Rosemary Archer	Date	11/11/09

**Improvement Priority – LN-1c. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 19 year olds.
Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards**

Key actions for the next 6 months			
Action (Desired Achievements)	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions	Timescale
1 Support the development of 14-19 confederations to deliver the 14-19 reform programme.	Consultant Headteacher	Structure of support established with key confederation partners and agreement reached on confederations priorities.	Ongoing through the 2009/10 academic year
2 Co-ordinate the implementation of the 14-19 curriculum, e.g., diplomas, apprenticeships, Foundation Learning.	Head of 14 – 19 Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coherent plan for the phased implementation of new diploma lines/ functional skills/ foundation learning tier produced. Successful implementation of 5 new Diploma lines in September 09. 500 learners starting Diplomas in September 2009. Four gateway 4 diploma applications developed and submitted by Nov 09. Training/awareness raising programme for FL providers and other partners developed. Develop Apprenticeships within schools as employment routes. 	As above
3 Contribute to the development of a 14-19 strategy for Information, Advice and Guidance. Improve access to IAG and progression routes for learners completing L2 courses post 16.	Head of 14 – 19 Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships developed with YSS, Connexions delivery organisations and Education Leeds' school improvement services. Models of IAG delivery developed and support offered to consortia 	As above
4 Secure greater employer engagement in the delivery of 14-19 curriculum resources.	Head of 14 – 19 Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employer ambassadors gained for the 5 new Diploma lines. 120 new employers signed up to support the Diploma across 5 new Diploma lines. Employer Engagement Event delivered to enable education to work closely with employers to influence and shape the Diploma curriculum. Five employers participating in continuing professional development (CPD) for teachers. Employer ambassadors attend all parents evenings. 	As above

**Improvement Priority – LN-1c. Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 19 year olds.
Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards**

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority										
Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 79	Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	School Improvement	Annually %	Rise	64.8% (2006/07 academic year)	68.3% (2007/08 academic year)	71.8% (2008/09 academic year)	Data available spring 2010	Data available spring 2010	No concerns
NI 80	Achievement of Level 3 qualifications by the age of 19	School Improvement	Annually %	Rise	41.0% (2006/07 academic year)	42.2% (2007/08 academic year)	47.0% (2008/09 academic year)	Data available spring 2010	Data available spring 2010	No concerns

LN-1d - Increase the proportion of vulnerable groups engaged in education, training or employment
CYP Priority 5 – Raising the proportion of young people in education or work

Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall

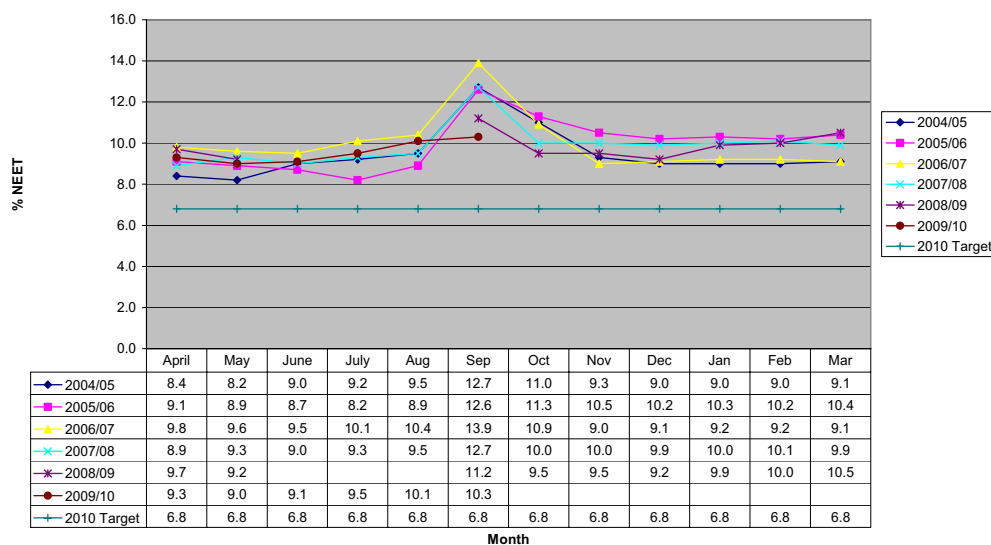


Why is this a priority

The number of young people who are NEET in Leeds remains high despite changes and actions implemented since the localisation of Connexions in April 2008. The January 2011 target of 6.8% presents a significant challenge for the Local Authority and its partners. The September NEET level is 10.3% and the Not Knowns level is a concern at 36.6%. October data is expected to show a significant improvement for the level of Not Knowns.

Leeds adjusted NEET (monthly %) 2004-05 - 2009-10

Leeds Adjusted NEET (monthly %)

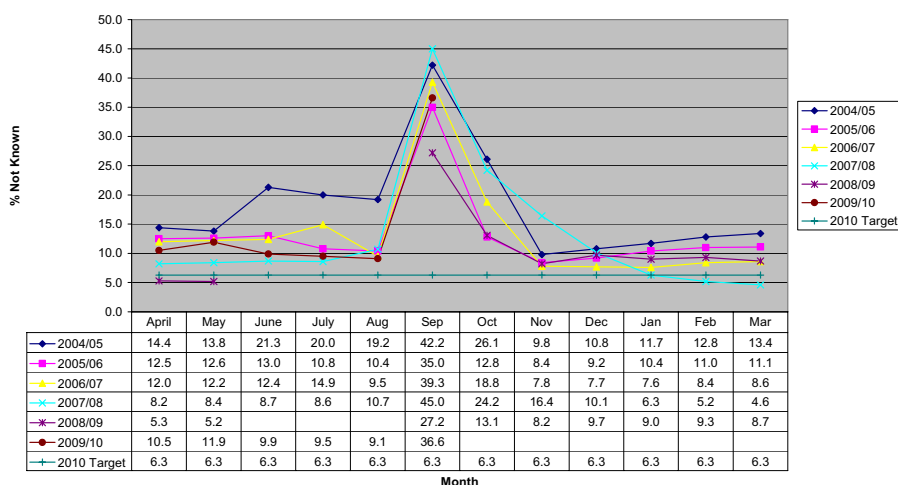


Overall progress to date and outcomes achieved

Overall summary
 At 10.3% the adjusted NEET figure for September 2009 was the lowest for any September since 2004. The general trend, though, is that monthly results are broadly similar to the Leeds figures recorded for previous years and this means that the required reductions, to meet the 2010 target, are not happening. The economic downturn is causing increased unemployment and other hurdles which impact on NEET nationally. A significant number of statistical and regional neighbours are experiencing increases in NEET and this means that the static Leeds position places the authority in the mid range of comparison tables whereas previously Leeds has been one of the lowest performing.

Leeds not known (monthly %) 2004-05 - 2009-10

Leeds Not Known Trend (monthly %)



NB Please note the gaps in data are due to transition between Connexions databases in 2008

This provides some evidence that recent measures in Leeds are having a positive effect despite the overall continuation of difficulty in reaching the 2010 target. Mobilisation of contracts from the second phase of commissioning is an important next step in early 2010. The accuracy of data continues to present challenges in terms of delivering improvements against this priority. The number of young people in the Not Known category remains unacceptable, as evidenced by the September figure of 9,596 (36.6%). Urgent plans to redress this position include additional tracking, increased pressure on providers, and increased ability and requirement for Personal Advisers to enter the results of work carried out.

LN-1d - Increase the proportion of vulnerable groups engaged in education, training or employment
CYPP Priority 5 – Raising the proportion of young people in education or work

Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall

The overall rating is red because, as indicated above, performance is not improving in line with the targets which have been set. However levels of NEET are currently remaining steady hence the static direction of travel.

Achievements since the last report

- Prospects have restructured their management and delivery teams to ensure an effective delivery of their services across the city.
- The NEET action plan has been reformatted around a series of task and finish groups to deliver key outcomes (see action plan)
- Commissioning for city centre and college contracts have been completed
- Work has taken place to develop new intensive support services which will be in place from January
- Good outcome to the Ofsted inspection of programmes including the targeted NEET activity fund which identified positive outcomes
- Member of staff based in 14 – 19 team to ensure that school and other learning providers meet national IAG standards
- 91.9% of Year 11 offered a place under the guarantee (7924 young people)
- 83.3% of Year 12 offered a place under the guarantee (7674 young people)
- Transition plan has been implemented for longer term work for younger people in jobs without training

Challenges/Risks

- Unacceptable levels of ‘not knowns’ continue
- Potential further rounds of ESF funding from LSC not yet secured
- Data collection – quality of information on Insight remains an issue and work is rapidly required to ensure accurate information is being reported
- Long term options of carrying forward the work currently funded through the Activity Agreement with specific categories of NEET young people need to be considered
- Future of City Centre Connexions Centre still be to agreed

Council / Partnership Groups

<u>Approved by</u> (<i>Accountable Officer</i>)	Sally Threlfall	<u>Date</u>	11/11/09
<u>Approved by</u> (<i>Accountable Director</i>)	Rosemary Archer	<u>Date</u>	11/11/09

**LN-1d - Increase the proportion of vulnerable groups engaged in education, training or employment
 CYP Priority 5 – Raising the proportion of young people in education or work**

Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall

Key actions for the next 6 months				
	Action (Desired Achievements)	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions	Timescale
1	Establish a strategic priority outcome group for NEET	John Paxton	Draft Terms of Reference and membership to be determined by December	January 2010
2	Firm up what will be the Connexions city centre delivery point from January 2010	John Paxton		January 10
3	Mobilise phase 2 of the contract to deliver wedge based services	Gerry Hudson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise and mobilise contract for phase 2 Set up mobilisation group 	End Nov End Nov
4	Establish a series of task and finish groups:	John Paxton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions and negotiations between Prospects and igen. Decision by November. Implementation of decision. December/January Task and finish groups to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible start provision in colleges Clear progression routes from personal development opportunities Improved tracking to reduce Not known Analysis of provision for young mothers to reengage in learning Monthly analysis of NEET data Development of Leeds Pathways to capture opportunities for young people NEET Analysis of retention and progression from L1 and L2 courses Review of us of CAF for young people NEET 	October November Dec/Jan Jan 2010 April 2010 April 2010 June 2010 Jan 2010 Jan 2010 April 2010 Nov 2010
5	IT – To reach a clear position at the MI Project Board on the future hosting arrangements for Insight/Outreach so that performance of the system improves and this results in improved performance by providers	Gerry Hudson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to next MI Board by Information Team then Recommendation to LT/CSLT. 	Nov 09 Dec 09

**LN-1d - Increase the proportion of vulnerable groups engaged in education, training or employment
 CYP Priority 5 – Raising the proportion of young people in education or work
 Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall**

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority										
Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 117	16 - 18 year olds who are not in education training or employment (NEET)	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Fall	9.1% (An average of Nov, Dec 2006 and Jan 2007)	9.5%	7.8%	Annual PI	Annual PI	No concerns
NI 148	Care leavers in education, employment or training	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	70.8% (2006/07)	68.9%	81.7%	Annual PI	Annual PI	No concerns
NI 45	Young offender engagement in suitable education, employment or training	Youth Offending Service	Quarterly %	Rise	68.2% (1209 young people)	76.24%	77.0%	77.0%	77.0%	No concerns

Improvement Priority – LN-1e. Improve participation and early learning outcomes for all children, with a focus on families in deprived areas.

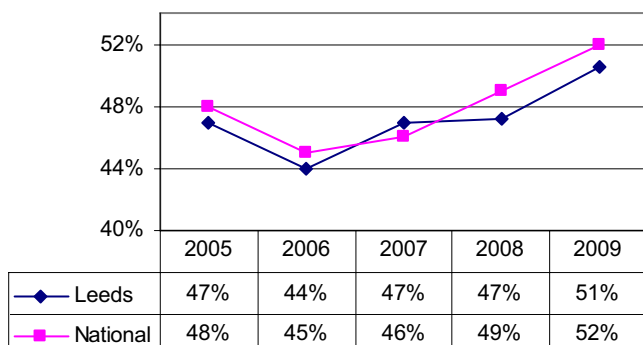
Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

Overall Progress

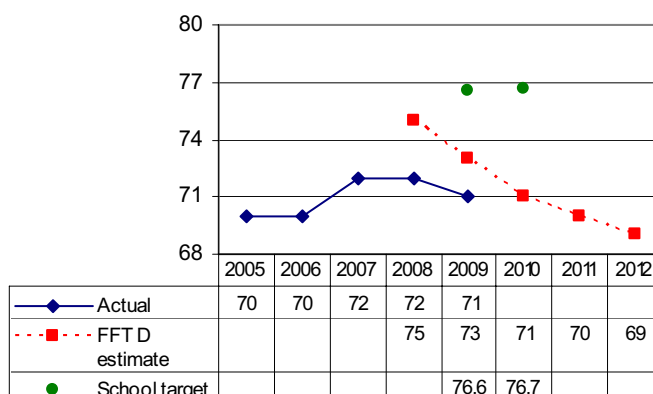
Why is this a priority

A good start in learning provides a necessary foundation for later success. This priority is about ensuring that investment in the foundation stage translates into improved early learning and that all children are making good progress. All children will be accessing learning that is appropriate, enriching and enjoyable; that builds their confidence, and imparts the learning skills that will lead to ongoing progress and later success. We will work to strengthen provision and to ensure that by the end of primary school Leeds children are prepared for the learning challenges ahead. This priority is about addressing the twin challenges of raising standards for all, while narrowing the gaps that exist for some groups of children, especially from deprived backgrounds.

Percentage of children with a good level of achievement in the Early Years Foundation Stage (NI 72)



Key Stage 2 Level 4+ English and maths: Results, projections and targets (NI 73)



Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved

Overall Summary

Provisional outcomes for 2008/09 academic year highlight improvement in both the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) and at Key Stage 1. Improvement in the EYFSP is evident in the two national indicators where the gap with national has narrowed and 2008 performance has been corrected. Key Stage 1 saw an improvement in average point scores, which demonstrates the previous decline in standards at this Key Stage is being addressed. Provisional results at Key Stage 2, shows that the percentage of pupils achieving a Level 4 in both English and maths while falling marginally remains only 1% point below national levels. Of more concern are the 2% point drops in English and maths as individual subjects and that the number of schools below the 2011 floor target (55% of pupils achieving a Level 4 in both English and maths) has risen. Mitigating these trends and reflective of the cohorts now coming through primary school are provisional increases in the percentage of pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, marginally in English and substantially in maths.

A judgement of amber is given for overall progress to take into account the variation in outcomes between these three stages. This update focuses on whole-cohort outcomes, rather than the latter element of the improvement priority about vulnerable groups. This will be covered in the quarter 4 update when validated pupil-level data is available.

Achievements since the last report

- There has been almost a 4 percentage point improvement in the percentage of children reaching a good level of achievement; 78 points overall and at least 6 points in the Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL) and Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) scales of learning. This rate of improvement is higher than the national one and the gap to national performance has closed to 1 percentage point, effectively in line. The gap between the achievement of the bottom 20% of children and the median for Leeds has closed by just over 4 percentage points to 35.6%, which is a rate of reduction more than twice as much as that seen nationally; bringing the Leeds result more in line with comparators. Actions which have contributed to this improvement include a robust moderation strategy which has meant more consistent assessment across schools and the support provided by an Early Years school improvement adviser who was in place for the first time this academic year. Schools and school improvement partners have given very positive feedback about this support.
- After four years of falling performance, standards are now improving at Key Stage 1. In 2009 there was an increase in the proportion of pupils reaching good levels of achievement and a significant rise in

Improvement Priority – LN-1e. Improve participation and early learning outcomes for all children, with a focus on families in deprived areas.

Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

performance across all subjects. The rate of improvement seen in Leeds is greater than that for statistical neighbours and that recorded nationally; narrowing the gaps that exist. Key Stage 1 is based on teacher assessment.

- A team of Early Years consultants is now in place, allocated to specific wedges, who are a point of contact for Early Years practitioners. The consultants offer a training programme for early years staff in primary schools, children’s centres and private and voluntary settings. Training programmes are informed by analysis of EYFSP data to ensure that they are targeted to need. Other successful strategies that will continue this year are: ongoing progress monitoring by the children’s centre review board; children’s centre self-evaluation audits; an increased focus on parents as learners; and specific programmes such as multi-sensory maths and focused support on PSED and CLL outcomes.

Challenges/Risks

Risks which relate to early learning outcomes and that have already been identified and are monitored on a quarterly basis in the Education Leeds risk register include:

- Failure to identify potential problems and react appropriately to a serious failure in the effectiveness of a Leeds school.
- New schools fail to become established as good and improving schools that are sustainable in the long term.
- Failure to maximise IT investment in schools to improve outcomes for pupils.

Other challenges include:

- Nationally at Key Stage 2 2009 English results fell by a percentage point from 2008 and maths results were static. The proportion of children reaching a good level in both English and maths combined also fell by 1 percentage point. While this national context does not prevent improvement in Leeds it does increase the challenge.
- The impact of previous falling standards at Key Stage 1 is now being felt at Key Stage 2, as the cohorts who entered Year 3 with lower prior attainment are now progressing through Key Stage 2, and will continue to reach the end of Key Stage 2 over the next three years. This has also led to an increase in the provisional number of schools who are below floor target. Value added measures are indicating some improvement in last year’s year 6 cohort performance between Key Stages 1 to 2.
- The 21st century schools White Paper sets out a new relationship with schools where there is now greater delegation to schools, with the School Improvement Partner acting as the main contact for school improvement activity. This will require revisions to existing models of engaging and managing support for schools causing concern from 2011. Work on scoping some of these changes begins this term.
- Improving rates of progression in coasting schools. Interventions in schools causing concern tend to be effective and there are a number of instances in the 2008/09 academic year where intervention pre-Ofsted resulted in a school not going into a category, but resources for intensive involvement are not in place to support schools who do not have the highest levels of need but nonetheless are at risk of making insufficient progress. This challenge is accentuated by the new Ofsted inspection framework, which places even higher expectations on schools around standards and progress.
- In 2008/09 there continued to be significant positive activity around attendance including initiatives like Attendance Champions and Reach for the Stars; and very positive external feedback on our attendance practice. However provisional data for 2008/09 based on half-terms 1 to 4 indicates that attendance in primary schools fell by over half a percent, to 94.1%. Two reasons for absence increased in 2008/09, other authorised and other unauthorised absence, these are most likely the codes schools used for absence on snow days for schools that stayed open. Provisional data also indicates that levels of persistent absence (PA) rose in the 2008/09 academic year. The criteria for target primary schools for the 2009/10 academic year is those schools that have 10 or more pupils PA, where this accounts for 2.5% or more of pupils in the school. Fifty schools in Leeds meet these criteria. An ongoing challenge in addressing primary attendance issues is the focus needed on the issue at secondary level.

Council / Partnership Groups	Early Years Outcomes Duty Board		
Approved by (Accountable Officer)	Chris Edwards	Date	4 November 2009
Approved by (Accountable Director)	Rosemary Archer	Date	11/11/09

**Improvement Priority – LN-1e. Improve participation and early learning outcomes for all children, with a focus on families in deprived areas.
Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards**

Key actions for the next 6 months

Action (Desired Achievements)		Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions	Timescale
1	Support EYFS schools and settings in developing their assessment of pupils to enhance learning and improve the rate of progress; including, the identification of underachieving pupils; the provision of appropriate support to schools; the completion and launch of primary pupil progress tracking application; and, project to develop good practice and strategies for measuring pupil progress in the EYFS.	Director – School Improvement, Interim Head of Early Years	Support to schools and settings takes place on an ongoing basis throughout the academic year. Key milestones in the school improvement cycle include: reviewing the previous academic year's performance, identifying improvement actions, statutory target-setting for the 2010/11 academic year and formative and summative assessment.	2009/10 academic year
2	Primary school improvement partners and advisors challenge schools to improve outcomes for vulnerable groups and children at risk of underachievement through enhanced target setting and systems for tracking and accelerating pupil progress.	Head of Primary School Improvement	As above	2009/10 academic year
3	Develop packages of personalised support for looked after children to improve attainment, engagement, attendance and progression.	Head of Virtual School for Looked After Children	As above	2009/10 academic year
4	Deliver targeted monitoring, support, challenge and intervention for primary pupils and schools with high levels of persistent absence. Reinforce good practice in early years settings, reflecting early intervention by age and stage.	Head of Attendance	Individual priority school action plans produced and operational	2009/10 academic year

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority

Reference	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	47.1% (2006/07 academic year)	47.2% (2007/08 academic year)	53.0%	51% (2008/09 academic year)	51% (2008/09 academic year)	No concerns

Improvement Priority – LN-1e. Improve participation and early learning outcomes for all children, with a focus on families in deprived areas.

Accountable Officer – Chris Edwards

	Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy																	
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	72.0% (2006/07 academic year)	32 schools (2006/07 academic year)	72.0% (2007/08 academic year)	28 schools (2007/08 academic year)	77.0%	71% (2008/09 academic year PROVISIONAL)	Confirmed result due March 2010	No concerns						
NI 76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 55% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2	Children and Younger People	Annually Number	Fall	38.2% (2006/07 academic year)	32 schools (2006/07 academic year)	39.7% (2007/08 academic year)	11 schools	38 schools (2008/09 academic year PROVISIONAL)	Confirmed result due March 2010	No concerns							
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	School Improvement	Annually %	Fall	38.2% (2006/07 academic year)	30.0%	39.7% (2007/08 academic year)	30.0%	35.6% (2008/09 academic year)	35.6% (2008/09 academic year)	No concerns							
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	84.0% (2006/07 academic year)	87.0%	83.6% (2007/08 academic year)	87.0%	83.8% (2008/09 academic year PROVISIONAL)	Confirmed result due March 2010	No concerns							
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	76.5% (2006/07 academic year)	85.0%	78.8% (2007/08 academic year)	85.0%	83.0% (2008/09 academic year PROVISIONAL)	Confirmed result due March 2010	No concerns							
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	40.0% (2006/07 academic year)	56.0%	43.0% (2007/08 academic year)	56.0%	Provisional data not yet available	Confirmed result due April 2010	No concerns							
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2	Children and Younger People	Annually %	Rise	30.0% (2006/07 academic year)	56.0%	41.0% (2007/08 academic year)	56.0%	Provisional data not yet available	Confirmed result due April 2010	No concerns							

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
CYP Priority - 1. Improving outcomes for LAC													
1	National Indicator	NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	81.4%	85.0%	92.3% (12/13)	96.0% (24/25)	96.0%	Yes	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
<p>This is a provisional result and data will be validated at quarter 4 for the year end result. Performance against this indicator remains strong and has improved substantially since last quarter and is well above the statistical neighbour average for 2007/08.</p> <p>A Statistical First Release published in October reported that the national average result for this PI for 08/09 was 75.8%.</p>													
2	Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	70.5%	71.3%	72.9% (390/535)	72.5% (392/541)	72.5%	Yes	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
<p>This is a provisional result and data will be validated at quarter 4 for the year end result. Performance has fallen slightly when compared to last quarter, but has improved on the 2008/09 result. The service has set a very challenging target which has not been met at this point in the year. However, Leeds continues to compare well against statistical neighbours (65.7%) and the national average (66.5%).</p> <p>A Statistical First Release published in October reported that the national average result for this PI for 08/09 was 67.0%.</p>													
3	Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	66.3%	78.3%	89.0% (1170/1314)	84.6% (1099/1299)	84.6%	Yes	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
<p>This is a provisional result and data will be validated at quarter 4 for the year end result. Performance has fallen when compared to last quarter, but has improved on the 2008/09 result. A piece of work will be undertaken during November and December to analyse why reviews are not happening within the required timescales.</p> <p>The Business Process Re-engineering team have identified some process issues in terms of the relative roles of Independent Reviewing Officers and Social Workers. Instructions have been issued to Social Working teams to clarify roles and should therefore lead to improvement in future performance.</p> <p>It should be noted that because this indicator is cumulative missed reviews cannot be recovered. Therefore it will now not be possible to meet the 2009/10 target. However, the service will still be striving to improve processes as indicated above throughout the rest of the year.</p> <p>A Statistical First Release published in October reported that the national average result for this PI for 08/09 was 90.9%.</p>													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
4	CYPP-P1-5	Percentage of looked after children who participate in their review.	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	81.1%	78.6%	95.0%	88.6% (487/550)	88.3% (887/1005)	88.3%	Yes	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
<p>This is a provisional result and data will be validated at quarter 4 for the year end result. Performance has fallen slightly when compared to last quarter. There is a recognition that the current method of participation does not offer sufficient choice particularly for older children. Work therefore has been commissioned by the Looked After Children's Rights Group to identify young people friendly methods of participation.</p>													
5	CYPP-P1-6	Percentage of looked after children with up to date health needs assessment	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	72.0%	84.1%	90.0%	79.2% (780/1035)	88.8% (910/1024)	90%	Yes	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
<p>This is a provisional result and data will be validated at quarter 4 for the year end result. Performance has improved significantly in quarter 2 raising the cumulative total by 9.8% and has made good progress towards achieving the year end target.</p> <p>This improvement is a result of work which has been undertaken by the PCT which includes increasing capacity in the Looked After Children Nurses team. Systems are also now in place for admin staff in the looked after children health team to input the date of completed HNA's directly onto ESCR. Now that the increase admin resources are in place, direct recording should begin in November 2009. It is anticipated these changes should deliver a continued trend of improvement.</p>													
6	CYPP-P1-7	Percentage of looked after children with an up to date dental check.	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	78.0%	78.3%	90.0%	67.1% (693/1032)	67.4% (690/1024)	68%	Yes	Some concerns in year but subject to data validation at Q4
<p>This is a provisional result and data will be validated at quarter 4 for the year end result. Performance has risen slightly by 0.3% when compared to quarter 1.</p> <p>Dental health registration and date last attended are assessed as part of the Health Needs Assessment (HNA). Further work is required to identify whether the greater number of HNA's is leading to a discovery that more children have not had dental health checks. As the C&YPSC Performance team structure is implemented it is becoming more possible to determine hotspots of poor performance in terms of teams or placement type and therefore undertake targeted activity to address them.</p>													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
CYPP Priority - 4. Places to go, things to do													
7	Local Indicator	LKI-IYSS6	Number of children and young people involved in positive activities through the Target Activity Programme (TAP)	Early Years and Youth Service	Quarterly Number	Rise	3,826	3,000	927	2,399	3,000	Yes	Checklist completed, no concerns
Performance this quarter has achieved 79.9% of the year end target, therefore it is very likely that the annual target will be achieved by the end of the year.													
8	Local Indicator	LKI-IYSS8	The number of positive activities in which Breeze card holders participate.	Early Years and Youth Service	Quarterly Number	Rise	423,174	500,000	119,143	338,468	500,000	Yes	No Concerns with data
The quarter 2 performance has made significant progress towards meeting the year end target. This is a result of the vast majority of Breeze events taking place over the 6 week summer holiday period. Data has been provided from Leisure Centre activities, libraries and the Breeze International Youth Festival.													
When setting the target for 2009/10 it was taken into account that from April 2009 leisure centres will be offering free casual swims to all young people with a Breeze card, therefore actively encouraging sign-up of Breeze card to everyone attending these sessions.													
9	Local Indicator	LKI-IYSS9	Number of Breeze Card holders	Early Years and Youth Service	Quarterly Number	Rise	104,000	116,000	112,307	121,650	141,000	Yes	No Concerns with data
This is the first year this indicator is being reported corporately. The service has used data from 2008/09 to inform the baseline. When setting the target for 2009/10 it was taken into account that from April 2009 leisure centres will be offering free casual swims to all young people with a Breeze card (in order to access these swims, children and young people need to have a Breeze card).													
The quarter 2 performance has exceeded the year end target by 5650. This good performance is a result of four key factors: 1) the impact of the government's free swims initiative; 2) promotional work with the Youth Service; 3) the need to have a Breeze card to gain access to summer Breeze activities and events and to receive discounts at leisure centres and other venues; 4) the fact that take up is always higher in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 in preparation for the school holidays; and 5) Breeze on tour takes place during quarter 2.													
The rational behind the raised year end prediction is based on the 5 factors mentioned above and some planned projects with partners to increase the take up of Breeze card.													
CYPP Priority - 5. Raising the proportion of YP in education or work													
10	National Indicator	NI 45	Young offenders engagement in suitable education, training and employment	Youth Offending Service	Quarterly %	Rise	68.2%	77.0%	77.7% (271/349)	77.0% (500/649)	77.0%	Yes	No Concerns with data
There has been a marginal drop in performance in quarter 2, however the target has continued to be met.													
This slight decline in performance is a result of reduced educational resource in west Leeds which has led to this team performing lower than other areas. The Youth Offending Service is currently looking at staffing issues across the service, including resources in west Leeds.													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
CYP Priority - 8. Reducing the need for children to be in care													
11	Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	LSP- HW2B(i) A	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly Numerical	Fall	1,281	1,255	1,031	1,292	1,293	1,293	Yes	Some concerns with data
12	Leeds Strategic Plan - Partnership Agreed	LSP- HW2B(i) B	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly Number	Fall	83.8 per 10,000	82.1 per 10,000	67.5 per 10,000	84.6 per 10,000	84.6 per 10,000	84.6 per 10,000	Yes	Some concerns with data
<p>The number of looked after children has increased compared to last year and remains high in Leeds when compared to statistical neighbours and the national average. However, the increase in the numbers of looked after children in Leeds reflects a national trend. There is a risk that this increase will have a subsequent effect on performance against other indicators for Looked After Children.</p> <p>Since the last quarter the overall number has remained stable. The service is undertaking work to look at statistics in greater detail to better understand the reasons for the 50 new entrants into care in May 2009. This work was originally planned for August and has been delayed due to changes in leadership arrangements.</p>													
CYP Priority - 9. Strengthening safeguarding													
164	National Indicator	NI 59	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	79.9%	76.5%	80.0%	68.7% (666/969)	65.9% (1400/2123)	65.9%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>As anticipated performance has deteriorated since the last quarter due to the following factors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A continued increase in the number of referrals which reflects a trend identified nationally. 2) The retrospective audit work of referrals in response to the inspection findings, which identified a need for additional assessments to be undertaken, created further workload pressures. This retrospective work resulted in reviews of all referrals received from 1 April – 20 July 2009. This included 61 assessments under Section 47 for cases with immediate issues and 329 cases for further consideration. These additional assessments were carried out in quarter 2. It should be noted that these assessments have been initiated retrospectively and cannot meet the statutory timescales for completion. Ongoing work to implement the quality framework is leading to clearer thresholds, which has subsequently increased the number of initial assessments being carried out. 3) The number of referrals going straight to core assessment or Section 47 assessments, which led to delays in initial assessments being recorded or, in some instances, not being carried out. The recruitment to advanced practitioner roles should address delays in initial assessments being recorded. 													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
14 National Indicator	NI 60	The percentage of Core Assessments that were completed within 35 working days of their commencement	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly %	Rise	77.4%	83.3%	84.0%	79.4% (143/180)	76.2% (275/361)	76.2%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>As anticipated performance has deteriorated since the last quarter due to the following factors:</p> <p>1) A continued increase in the number of referrals which reflects a trend identified nationally.</p> <p>2) The retrospective audit work of referrals in response to the inspection findings, which identified a need for additional assessments to be undertaken, created further workload pressures. This retrospective work resulted in reviews of all referrals received from 1 April – 20 July 2009. This included 61 assessments under Section 47 for cases with immediate issues and 329 cases for further consideration. These additional assessments were carried out in quarter 2. It should be noted that these assessments have been initiated retrospectively and cannot meet the statutory timescales for completion. Ongoing work to implement the quality framework is leading to adherence to clearer thresholds, which has subsequently increased the number of initial assessments being carried out</p>													
15 CYP	CYPP-P9-1	Ofsted judgement on the quality of Leeds Fostering Service	Children and Young People's Social Care	Annual	Rise	Inadequate	Inadequate	Satisfactory	Inadequate	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>Re-inspection of Leeds Fostering service took place in July and the service was rated as satisfactory overall with a good rating in: Be Healthy; Enjoy and Achieve; Make a Positive Contribution; and Achieve Economic Wellbeing.</p> <p>The DCSF are proposing to commission a new inspection cycle from Ofsted. Until such time as this there will be no review of the current grading.</p>													
16 CYP	CYPP-P9-3	The proportion of residential homes judged by Ofsted to be good or better	Children and Young People's Social Care	Quarterly	Rise	69% (9 out of 13 homes (2008/09)	New indicator from 2009/10	100% = 13 Homes	77% (10 out of 13 homes)	69.24% (9 out of 13 homes. Inc East M SCC)	Data to be provided in November	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>Although there are no units operating at inadequate, quarter 2 performance has fallen as there are now 4 homes rated as satisfactory. Currently all have Ofsted approved action plans. In order to improve performance, the Interim Head of Service has instructed each unit to produce a position statement report which will identify progress made and indicate where there are potential obstacles hindering progress. The deadline for all position statement reports to be completed is 13 November 2009.</p>													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
Other key PI, but not allocated to any of the 10 priorities													
17 National Indicator	NI 53A	Coverage of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth (Breastfeeding coverage)	Leeds PCT	Quarterly %	Rise	89.0%	89.0%	90.0%	88.8% (2097/2362)	90.95% (2262/2487)	90.0%	Yes	Checklist completed, no concerns
For Quarter 2 the Coverage figure has increased due to ensuring records are updated by health visitors which has reduced the not knowns. A significant refresh of the breastfeeding strategy has recently been undertaken and is planned for a launch in November 09.													
18 National Indicator	NI 53B	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth (Breastfeeding prevalence)	Leeds PCT	Quarterly %	Rise	41.0%	40.6%	42.0%	41.0% (959/2362)	41.62% (1035/2487)	42.0%	Yes	Checklist completed, no concerns
The quarter 2 result has exceeded the quarter 1 performance and is 0.38% (1 person) short of meeting the annual target. A significant refresh of the breastfeeding strategy has recently been undertaken and is planned for launch in November and this will improve the prevalence figures.													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
19 National Indicator	NI 88	Number of extended schools	Education Leads	Quarterly %	Rise	42%	80%	85%	85% (225/265)	88%	88%	Yes	No Concerns with data
	<p>Leeds continues to make very good progress in the delivery of extended services with 88% of schools providing access to the full core offer. This represents 231 schools and is above the target for September 2009. The target for the 2009/10 financial year relates to the position at September 2009, as this is when the Teaching and Development Agency (TDA) undertake their main audit. The next target to reach is 100% in September 2010 and recent monitoring by the TDA recognised that Leeds is continuing to make good progress on national targets and that it is in a good position to reach this target.</p>												
20 National Indicator	NI 103A	Special Educational Needs - statements issued within 26 weeks -A) Percentage of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks excluding exception cases as a proportion of all such statements issued in the year.	Education Leads	Quarterly %	Rise	91.8%	91.8%	100.0%	76.0% (19/25)	100.0% (29/29)	88.9%	Yes	No Concerns with data
	<p>This result equates to 29 statements issued in quarter two, all of which were issued within deadline. This reflects the improvements that were put in place at the end of quarter one to ensure statutory duties are met.</p>												
21 National Indicator	NI 103B	Special Educational Needs - statements issued within 26 weeks B) Percentage of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks as a proportion of all such statements issued in the year.	Education Leads	Quarterly %	Rise	85.7%	85.7%	90.0%	88.2% (45/51)	98.1% (53/54)	93.3%	Yes	No Concerns with data
	<p>This result equates to 53 statements issued within deadline out of a possible 54. Improvements in performance have been brought about through updates to internal processes to ensure that statutory timescales are met.</p>												

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
22 National Indicator	NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services	Leeds PCT	Quarterly Number	Rise	16 out of 16	12 out of 16	14 out of 16	12 out of 16	14 out of 16	14 out of 16	Yes	Checklist completed, no concerns
<p>This measure is assessed by answering a series of four questions each worth 4 points enabling a maximum score of 16. The assessment focuses on the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. range of CAMH services 2. access to services and accommodation appropriate to their age and level of maturity 3. availability of 24 hour cover to meet urgent mental health needs 4. range of early intervention support services delivered in universal settings <p>The PCT target has been met with improvements this quarter in the range of CAMHs services for children and young people with learning disabilities and availability of 24 hour cover.</p>													
23 National Indicator	NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds (screening levels)	Leeds PCT	Quarterly %	Rise	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5,396	7,912	35,075	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>This indicator measures screening levels. 24 GP practices have now signed up to the enhanced service model. Primary care and pharmacy champions have been appointed, providing peer leadership, motivation and direction. Wetherby Young Offenders will be screening on reception. Successful outreach via Breeze targeting deprived areas.</p>													
24 National Indicator	NI 126	Early Access for Women to Maternity Services	Leeds PCT	Quarterly %	Rise	80.2%	80.2%	85.0%	79.4% (2135/2688)	79.5% (2207/2775)	85.0%	Yes	Checklist completed, no concerns
<p>It should be noted that 85% target has been set by Government.</p> <p>Performance for Quarter 2 has been maintained despite a significant increase in the numbers of bookings. For example, over 1000 bookings were made in July, this figure is higher when compared to the average number of monthly booking which usually ranges around 850-900. In addition to this the PCT experiencing difficulties in recruiting midwives.</p> <p>Further work is ongoing to deliver advice and information and promote the benefits of early assessment.</p>													
25 National Indicator	NI 43	Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	Youth Offending Service	Quarterly %	Fall	10.6%	11.4%	8.8%	8.6% (35/405)	9.25% (80/865)	8.8%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>Performance has declined by on quarter 1. However this performance is an improvement when compared to the same period last year.</p> <p>This increase is still lower than expected in light of increased police activity around burglary and stiffer sentences for this crime. The data shows that the majority of offences resulting in custody for the quarter were burglary offences. In response to this the service has increased prevention activity targeted at young people who have been linked or involved in burglary. This intervention work is intended to have a long term effect on burglary rates in Leeds.</p>													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
26	Ni 44	Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals	Youth Offending Service	Quarterly %	Fall	4.6%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	To be reported at quarter 3	4.1%	Yes	No Concerns with data
Performance is at an expected level and on target.													
The Youth Offending Service has asked Government Office and the Youth Justice Board to look at a more practical way of developing this indicator to better track disproportionality in the Youth Justice System. Leeds YOS is co-ordinating the tracking of disproportionality in West Yorkshire. This work will promote a consistent approach to deal with BME offenders.													
27	Ni 46	Young offenders' access to suitable accommodation	Youth Offending Service	Quarterly %	Rise	91.5%	92.7%	96.0%	94.6% (354/374)	95.7% (648/677)	96%	Yes	No Concerns with data
Performance in quarter 2 has improved by 1.1% and is on course to meet the annual target.													
This improved performance is expected to be maintained and is a result of young people finding stable accommodation during the winter months as opposed to relying on temporary housing or living with friends (this type of accommodation does not meet the definition of suitable).													
28	Ni 71	Children who have run away from home/care	DCSU	Quarterly Number	Rise	5	N.A.	8 out of 15	5 out of 15	5 out of 15	5 out of 15	No	
This indicator involves carrying out a self assessment every quarter. The assessment is comprised of five elements each of which has a number of criteria.													
Ni 71 is managed through the Missing Children Task Group of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board. The assessment score for quarter 2 has remained the same as quarter 1. However a piece of work has been undertaken to identify what actions need to be carried to improve the assessment score and has considered potential targets for the next two years.													

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Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Predicted Year End Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
29	Local Indicator LKI - LYWP1	The level of reach into the resident 13-19 population achieved by the LYW Partnership	Early Years and Youth Service	Quarterly %	Rise	To be established in 2009/10	30.4%	25.0%	11.3% (8200)	21.0% (15256)	25.0%	Yes	Some concerns with data
Performance over Quarter 2 is following the trend of 2008/09 and the annual target is expected to be met. The return is subject to a data quality audit which is due to be undertaken with the directorate and corporate performance colleagues in November 2009. It is hoped that the audit will verify the position and IYSS will be able to set future targets with a level of confidence.													
30	Local Indicator LKI - LYWP2	The level of participation into the resident 13-19 population achieved by the LYW Partnership	Early Years and Youth Service	Quarterly %	Rise	To be established in 2009/10	24.3%	20.0%	10.2% (7374)	18.8% (14672)	20.0%	Yes	Some concerns with data
Performance over Quarter 2 is following the trend of 2008/09 and the annual target is expected to be met. The return is subject to a data quality audit which is due to be undertaken with the directorate and corporate performance colleagues in November 2009. It is hoped that the audit will verify the position and IYSS will be able to set future targets with a level of confidence.													
31	Local Indicator LKI - LYWP3	The percentage of young people aged 13-19 gaining an accredited outcome compared to the percentage of young people in the local authority area, achieved by the LYW Partnership	Early Years and Youth Service	Quarterly %	Rise	To be established in 2009/10	9.9%	9.0%	1.2% (844)	2.6% (1838)	9.0%	Yes	Some concerns with data
Similar to Quarter 1, this return does not include manual counts from the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS). However training is planned to be delivered during Quarter 3 pending the resolution of IT problems. It is expected that contribution from the VCFS will be seen in Quarter 3 results.													
Progress towards achieving the year end target of 9% is following the trend of previous years with slow progress in the first three quarters being offset by the consolidation and cleansing of data in Quarter 4. In addition, there is evidence to suggest that there are a number of recorded outcomes achieved by individuals in the process of undertaking the Leeds Awards and Duke of Edinburgh awards that have been recorded on DEAMS (independent MI System for Duke of Edinburgh) that have not been recorded correctly on the I/O system. Once these have been recorded, they should impact significantly on this indicator.													
32	Local Indicator LKI - LYWP4	The percentage of young people aged 13-19 gaining an accredited outcome compared to the percentage of young people in the local authority area, achieved by the LYWP.	Early Years and Youth Service	Quarterly %	Rise	To be established in 2009/10	2.8%	3.2%	0.2% (115)	0.5% (346)	3.2%	Yes	Some concerns with data
As at Quarter 1, this return does not include manual counts from the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS). However training is planned to be delivered during Quarter 3 pending the resolution of IT problems. It is expected that contribution from the VCFS will be seen in Quarter 3 results.													
Progress towards the year end target of 3.2% is slow but follows the trend of previous years with greater progress being seen in Quarters 3 and 4 towards the year end target. There is evidence to suggest that there are a number of Leeds and Duke of Edinburgh awards recorded on DEAMS (independent MI System for Duke of Edinburgh) which have not been recorded correctly on the I/O system. Once these have been recorded, they should impact significantly on this indicator.													

Children's Services 2009/10 Provisional Full Year Results

Appendix 3

Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Full Year Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
1	NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths	Education Leeds	Annually Number	Fall	13 Schools	6 Schools	2 Schools	6 Schools	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>Of the original 14 schools that were part of the National Challenge, only six remained in this category at the end of the 2008/09 academic year. Three of these schools have now closed: West Leeds and Wortley have merged to become the new Swallow Hill Community College and South Leeds High school has closed and become an academy. Schools below the floor target have to be on a trajectory to be above as soon as possible but up to 2011. Leeds has a strong record of implementing the changes necessary to reach these targets and approved improvement plans are in place for all schools that remain in the National Challenge. Proposals are being presented to Executive Board for consultation to take place on structural changes for three schools that are designed to raise standards and secure rates of improvement that are above the floor target. Please note that this result remains provisional until January 2010.</p>											
2	NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	Education Leeds	Annually %	Rise	47.1%	47%	53%	51%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>There has been just over a 3 percentage point improvement in the percentage of children reaching a good level of achievement (78 points overall and at least 6 points in the Communication, Language and Literacy and Personal, Social and Emotional Development scales of learning). This rate of improvement is higher than the national one and the gap to national performance has closed to 1 percentage point, effectively in line. The actions which have contributed to this improvement include a robust moderation strategy which has meant more consistent assessment across schools, and the support provided by an Early Years school improvement adviser who was in place for the first time this academic year.</p>											
3	NI 73	Achievement at Level 4 or above in both English and maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)	Education Leeds	Annually %	Rise	72%	72%	77%	71%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>Provisional data shows that both Leeds and national results fell by one percentage point against this indicator, and Leeds remains only one percentage point behind national. The impact of previous falling standards at Key Stage 1 is now being felt at Key Stage 2, as the cohorts who entered Year 3 with lower prior attainment are now progressing through Key Stage 2, and will continue to reach the end of Key Stage 2 over the next three years. However, this trend in falling standards at Key Stage 1 is now being reversed, as provisional data shows an improvement at Key Stage 1 with the rate of improvement seen in Leeds is greater than that for statistical neighbours and that recorded nationally.</p>											

Children's Services 2009/10 Provisional Full Year Results

Appendix 3

Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Full Year Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
4	NI 75	Proportion of pupils in schools maintained by the authority achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A* - C or equivalent, including Maths and English	Education Leeds	Annually %	Rise	42.1%	46.4%	51.6%	45.6%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>The long-term trend over the last five years shows improvement against this measure, despite the decline in 2009's results. Despite the decrease in city-wide average results, some schools recorded excellent improvements, for example Parklands, Bruntcliffe, John Smeaton, Cockburn and Intake (now Leeds West Academy). The decline was largely due to not meeting expectations in mathematics. In response to this we are working with regional advisers for maths on improving the accuracy of assessment, the quality of teaching for functional maths and on preparation for final exams, including the management of tiered papers. Please note that this result will remain provisional until January 2010.</p>											
5	NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	Education Leeds	Annually %	Fall	38%	39.7%	30%	35.6%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>The gap between the median point score and the average of the bottom 20% of pupils has closed by just over 4 percentage points to 35.6%. This reduction is more than twice as much as the national rate of reduction, thereby closing the gap further to national performance. Interventions took place last year for schools where no children were recognised as having a good level of achievement, and also where many pupils were scoring the highest level in every scale of learning, so that assessment was more accurate. School improvement partners and headteachers received additional training and the Early Years Foundation Stage was highlighted as part of the school improvement partner agenda with headteachers.</p>											
Leeds Strategic Plan DCSF	NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Education Leeds	Annually %	Rise	84%	83.6%	87%	83.8%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>Although not to target, there has been an increase in pupils making two levels of progress in English. National and statistical neighbour data for this indicator is not yet available for comparison. The schools who require most intensive support will continue to receive this as part of the Improving Schools Programme, through support from a Literacy consultant. Another additional programme for young children experiencing real difficulty with reading is Every Child a Reader (Reading Recovery). Around thirty schools are involved and we have our own Teacher Leader. Schools have also been trained in the use of Fischer Family Trust Literacy. Please note that this result remains provisional until Spring 2010.</p>											
7	NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Education Leeds	Annually %	Rise	76.5%	78.8%	85%	83%	Yes	No Concerns with data
Leeds Strategic Plan DCSF	<p>Although not to target, there has been an increase in pupils making two levels of progress in maths. National and statistical neighbour data for this indicator is not yet available for comparison. Work will continue this year to improve the quality of mathematics teaching and subject knowledge and also to ensure all schools are familiar with the strategies for Assessing Pupil Progress and accelerating learning. The Every Child Counts programme will also be expanded this year. Although this targets pupils in Year 2, it will provide the basis for the lowest-attaining pupils to make greater progress beyond Key Stage 1. Please note that this result remains provisional until Spring 2010.</p>										

Children's Services 2009/10 Provisional Full Year Results

Appendix 3

Performance Indicator Type	Reference	Title	Service	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	Last Year Result	Target	Full Year Result	Reporting/ Data Quality Checklists Received	Data Quality
8 National Indicators	NI 76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 55% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2	Education Leeds	Annually Number	Fall	32	28	15	38	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>There has been an increase in the number of schools below this floor target. The government's aim is that local authorities achieve reductions by 2011 of 40% in the number of schools below floor target compared to 2007 levels. For Leeds this means having 19 or fewer schools at this level in the next two years. School improvement advisors and School Improvement Partners will continue to provide targeted support to schools below floor target. Evidence shows that where schools receive interventions including rigorous monitoring, analysis of pupil progress and booster work that is effective in raising attainment. An additional initiative this year is the introduction of one-to-one tuition in English and Maths for small groups of pupils who do not make the progress they should in small group or whole-class settings. Outcomes for schools involved in improvement programmes show a better than national rate of improvement. Please note that this result remains provisional until quarter 3.</p>											
9 National Indicators	NI 84	Achievement of 2 or more A* - C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent	Education Leeds	Annually %	Rise	41.2%	44.2%	47.4%	46.2%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>Provisional data indicates that the improvements against this indicator continued in 2009. Education Leeds has used DCSF funding to work with targeted schools on a 'Level 6 and beyond' project that has aimed to improve Level 6 achievement in sciences at Key Stage 3 and the percentage of pupils scoring A*, A and B grades at Key Stage 4. Over the last three years, this scheme has run with approximately 15 schools participating each year, and the most intensive support has been at Key Stage 4. This sustained input will continue this academic year to build on the successes to date. Additional capacity has also been put into the science team for secondary school improvement. Please note that this result will remain provisional until January 2010.</p>											
10 National Indicators	NI 114	Rate of permanent exclusions from school	Education Leeds	Annually %	Fall	0.06%	0.05%	0.04%	0.04%	Yes	No Concerns with data
<p>The provisional result relates to the 2008/09 academic year and shows an ongoing reduction in the levels of permanent exclusions that is in line with our target and is well ahead of national performance. The percentage of pupils permanently excluded in Leeds in 2008/09 is less than half the national rate for 2007/08. Please note that this is a provisional result that will be confirmed by the DCSF in June 2010.</p>											

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Originator: Adam Hewitt

Tel: 0113 24 76940

Report of the Director of Children's Service

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 10th December 2009

Subject: Children's Services and the Children and Young People's Plan Update (December 2009)

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity



Community Cohesion



Narrowing the Gap



1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Children's Services Scrutiny Board has a well-established process of receiving regular update reports several times during its workplan year. These provide an overview of some key children's services developments and also focus on progress against one or more of the priorities from the Children and Young People's Plan.
- 1.2 These reports aim to give members: a feel for the national and local strategic 'direction of travel' across children's services; an insight into key initiatives and developments; and a 'manageable' way of looking across the various priorities within the Children and Young People's (CYP) Plan over the course of the year.
- 1.3 The September 2009 update report coincided with the launch of the new Children and Young People's Plan for Leeds (2009-14), which sets out immediate and longer-term priorities for children's services. Members identified that they wanted that September report to focus on a priority from

the new Plan (reducing the number of young people not in education, employment, or training) and a key strategic development (the transfer of powers from the Learning and Skills Council to the local authority in relation to the commissioning of 14-19 learning and skills provision).

- 1.4 The Board wishes to continue the pattern of addressing a priority and a key strategic development within this update report and as such they have identified the following areas of interest:
- The CYP Plan priority of providing young people with places to go and things to do.
 - The strategic development of locality working arrangements for children's services.
- 1.5 The report starts by providing an update on significant national and local strategic developments including an overview of important recent safeguarding activity, an update on work relating to the recommendation from the 2008 Joint Area Review (JAR) and Annual Performance Assessment (APA) inspections and new children's trust guidance. It then discusses the CYP Plan priority and finally the key strategic development around locality working.

2.0 An important period of development

- 2.1 Following from some of the themes discussed in the September update report - around the new Ofsted inspection regime, the safeguarding agenda and the launch of the new Children and Young People's Plan - Children's Services in Leeds continue to go through an important period of development.

Announced Inspection of Children's Services

- 2.2 The September 2009 update report informed members about the new CAA Ofsted inspection framework for children's services. It discussed the unannounced inspection that took place in July 2009 (considered further below) and the wider framework, including the announced inspection. Ofsted carried out its announced inspection of safeguarding and looked after children's services in Leeds between 23rd November and 4th December 2009. The inspectors met with a wide variety of groups and individuals including a significant number of parents, carers and young people. At the time of producing this report the findings from the announced inspection had not been published (publication is due in early January 2010). More details on the outcomes of this and any actions that follow will be reported to the scrutiny board at a future meeting.
- 2.3 The announced inspection will provide a detailed, current analysis of performance in safeguarding work and services for looked after children. In addition, the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) for Leeds is due to be published on 9th December and will be reported to the Council's Executive Board on that day. This will include an annual rating on children's services

performance drawn primarily from data drawn together through inspections conducted and performance evidence gathered over the past year.

- 2.4 The revised Ofsted inspection regime is highlighting important issues for children's services nationally and influencing a changing focus and approach around safeguarding and other areas of children's services work. To help better understand this national context members may wish to review the Executive Summary of Ofsted's 2008/09 Annual Report, attached at appendix 1.

Revised Guidance for Children's Trust Arrangements

- 2.5 Previous update reports have informed the scrutiny board on the government's ongoing work to review and refine children's trust arrangements across the country to make them more effective as a means of improving partnership and ultimately outcomes for children and young people. On 13th November 2009 the government launched its consultation on New Statutory Children's Trust Guidance and New Children and Young People's Plan Regulations.
- 2.6 The consultation brings together guidance on Children's Trusts and Children and Young People's Plans into one piece of statutory guidance. It also includes further advice arising from the recent changes to the Children Act 2004 made by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning (ASCL) Act 2009. The document also includes the draft new Children and Young People's Plan regulations. The consultation is on both the draft new statutory guidance and the draft new regulations.
- 2.7 The Executive summary of this consultation is attached at appendix 2. Of particular significance for Leeds is the requirement to establish a single Children's Trust Board, with greater statutory responsibility across all the partners involved for developing, producing and crucially delivering the city's Children and Young People's Plan. This greater shared responsibility extends particularly to schools. The current Trust Arrangements in Leeds make a distinction between the large body of stakeholders on the Children Leeds Partnership and the smaller group of senior leaders that constitute the Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board, it is likely that these arrangements will need to be refined to meet the requirements of the new guidance. Wider consideration will also be needed as to how to ensure all partners are sufficiently engaged in these arrangements to provide the ownership of and involvement in delivering outcomes that the new statutory guidance requires.
- 2.8 It is important to note that the size and diversity of Leeds and its population poses particular challenges and that the current children's trust arrangements were established with this in mind and to balance the importance of city wide commissioning, broad partnership working and local ownership and delivery. These related strands will continue to inform future arrangements in Leeds. Members may wish to consider this in more detail in view of the locality working developments discussed later in this paper.

Children's Services Review

- 2.9 Several considerations - the changing context for children's services around inspections, trust arrangements and safeguarding; the desire across Leeds to learn from progress and challenges over the last three years; and most importantly the need to ensure children's services move forward in a way that best delivers the priorities of the new Children and Young People's Plan - make this a timely opportunity for a wider review of children's services in Leeds.
- 2.10 During autumn 2009 a review was launched of Leeds children's services leadership, management and partnership arrangements. The full scoping document for this review is attached at appendix 3. This review has been led corporately by the council and has included consultation with a variety of key stakeholders. The main objectives are:
- a) review the progress made to date in children's services;
 - b) assess the effectiveness of our current leadership, managerial and partnership arrangements, and;
 - c) make proposals for any changes that may be considered necessary.
- 2.11 Its findings are scheduled to be reported during December 2009.

3.0 Continued Prioritisation of Safeguarding

- 3.1 As reported in the September overview report to the Scrutiny Board, a wide variety of work is ongoing to strengthen safeguarding practice, with a particular focus on addressing the issues raised in the July 2009 unannounced inspection. Much of the detail of this work has been reported to the scrutiny board's safeguarding working group, however the below provides an updated summary.

3.2 Activity relating to referrals, guidance and social care practice

- The retrospective audit, the ongoing quality assurance of all 24 hour decisions and the implementation of the new Quality Framework have created a rich mix of data and intelligence for senior managers. This has informed improvement planning, for example around improving performance and learning for key managers, creating additional capacity and designing for future delivery models.
- In August 2009 two additional Heads of Service roles for social care fieldwork were established, creating focussed leads for each locality area. In addition, a new Head of Disability Services post was established in October 2009. These new Heads of Service each spend direct time with team managers observing operational practice and arrangements, and are able to track activity through supervision, locality meetings and quality assurance activity.

- Children and Young People's Social Care are introducing a number of Advanced Practitioner roles that will provide better support and guidance to social care teams. Nine of these posts have already been appointed, with further recruitment in the new year.
- Children and Young People's Social Care Procedure Handbook has been completely revised and re-launched.
- A suite of clear and succinct threshold guidance documents have been developed in partnership with Education Leeds, the PCT and the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board. These were implemented in September 2009.
- Council-wide safeguarding procedures were finalised in October and have been agreed corporately.
- A Children and Young People's Social Care managers' seminar programme commenced in July 2009 and included early sessions around analysis of working practices and the arrangements to support good practice. This led to the revision of Section 47 guidance for social care staff and the associated guidance for using the Electronic Social Care Record (ESCR) system in Section 47 circumstances.
- The ESCR system has been improved following consultation with staff, who were asked to identify their 'top 10' priorities. The formal review of ESCR has been completed, and a programme has been established to undertake a procurement exercise for a new system.
- New practice introduced in the contact centre has provided those taking calls with more specialist guidance on how and where to allocate cases relating to children and young people. This has helped to ensure the right services get involved at the right stage. Through this work inappropriate referrals have reduced significantly and the percentage of 'no further action' cases has fallen from 18% to less than 2%, demonstrating that the appropriate thresholds are now being deployed. The impact of this initial change of approach has been positive and work is now underway to look at how to take the benefits of these new measures and implement them over the longer-term.

3.3 Safeguarding Board review

In addition to this activity, an independent review is also being carried out of the work and role of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board. This review takes into account the changing context of safeguarding work and in particular the need to strengthen the performance management and quality assurance capacity and function of the Board. The findings from the review are scheduled to report in January 2009. Further additional information will be brought to the scrutiny board at an appropriate time.

4.0 Joint Area Review (JAR) and Annual Performance Assessment (APA) Recommendation Tracking

- 4.1 Whilst improving safeguarding is a priority for all services, focus also continues on making improvements across the full range of priority areas within children's services. An important element of this is the continued tracking of progress against recommendations from previous inspections, in particular the Joint Area Review and the Annual Performance Assessment.
- 4.2 The Children's Services Scrutiny Board has previously received information drawing together and reporting on recommendations and actions from these inspections. Much of this work is now incorporated into other areas of service improvement, in particular the various initiatives being implemented in Children and Young People's Social Care, the delivery and monitoring of priorities in the 2009-14 Children and Young People's Plan and work monitored through national and local key performance indicators. The table attached at appendix 4 provides a summary of what the recommendations from the APA and JAR inspections were and where these are being taken forward and monitored. This will allow scrutiny members to cross reference against the other performance information they regularly receive. These areas of work continue to be extremely important and members may wish to identify any particular areas where they would like a more specific update in the future.

5.0 Priority from the Children and Young People's Plan: Providing Places to go and things to do

Why is this a priority?

- 5.1 Throughout consultation in the development of the CYP Plan, young people told us that having places to go and things to do is the number one priority from their perspective. We have responded by including it as one of the priorities in the new CYP Plan.
- 5.2 Young people and those working with them recognise that achieving this priority has multiple benefits. It helps to improve young people's health, happiness, confidence and wellbeing. It also contributes to addressing the challenges and targets associated with other CYP Plan priorities.
- 5.3 The Breeze Youth Promise contains a wide range of entitlements under the headings of "Somewhere to go" and "Something to do".

National Context

- 5.4 The "Youth Matters" Green Paper set out, in 2005, an expectation that Local Authorities, through Children's Trusts, would commission and provide activities and facilities for young people. Youth Matters also called on Local Authorities to develop an annual local offer which is communicated to and

delivered for young people. This led directly in Leeds to the establishment and release of the Breeze Youth Promise in April 2009.

5.5 Implementation of Youth Matters is through the Education and Inspections Act of 2006. This places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to secure, as far as is reasonably practical, sufficient educational and recreational leisure time activities for young people for the improvement of their wellbeing. This statutory duty focuses primarily on the provision of youth work and of positive activities.

5.6 Leeds has an excellent reputation nationally for its approach and achievements related to Youth Matters and the Education and Inspections Act. This is evidenced by, for example, national conference inputs, recent front page coverage in Youth Work Now magazine, and a prominent feature in the August edition of The Edge which is the newspaper about youth affairs for Elected Members.

Measuring Performance

5.7 The lead role for “providing places to go and things to do” rests with Children’s Services through the Integrated Youth Support Service. This priority is a good example, however, of a number of Services from different Directorates playing a role.

5.8 The two national indicators which are linked to this priority are:-

- NI 110 Young People’s participation in positive activities, as evidenced through the Tell Us survey.
- NI 57 Children and Young People’s participation in sporting opportunities.

5.9 Leeds also has a number of relevant local indicators, as described elsewhere.

5.10 Last year the number of Breeze Card holders rose to 104,000. An ambitious 2009/10 target of 116,000 was exceeded by the end of quarter two (121,650 achievement recorded). Breeze Card has the largest take up in England of cards for young people.

5.11 Breeze Card enables us to record the number of positive activities in which Breeze Card holders participate. Last year’s result was 423,174. The quarter two result of 338,468 suggests that the 2009/10 target of 500,000 will be met.

5.12 Similarly, the quarter two result of 2,399 for the number of children and young people involved in the Targeted Activity Programme suggests that last year’s achievement of 3,826 will be exceeded and the 2009/10 target met.

5.13 Quarter two performance data is contained in full in a paper elsewhere on the agenda.

5.14 Key areas of current activity

- Breeze on Tour was an unqualified success again this summer. More than 16,000 children and young people attended the events, the highest attendance ever. As part of the Breeze International Youth Festival 1,562 young people took part in performances.
- Arrangements have been made for all Looked After Children to hold a Breeze Card.
- The 2009 Breeze Has Talent events culminated in a high quality “finals” event with 11 acts demonstrating to a packed audience at West Yorkshire Playhouse that Leeds really does have talent.
- The Breeze website is being updated to make it even more attractive and engaging for young people. The redesign is using the BBC site as a model.
- The Youth Service, in partnership with VCFS organisations, is on target to exceed significantly its 2009/10 targets for the number of young people reached and for the number participating regularly in youth work programmes.
- The Youth Service is delivering approximately 500 youth work programmes a week in approximately 100 venues.
- Five new mobile youth work units were introduced this spring, resulting in a fleet of 10. This means far more capacity to reach out to local communities as and when required.
- Youth work now takes place on Friday evenings across the city. The Leeds response to the DCSF challenge to provide weekend work has been praised nationally by DCSF.
- Furthermore, the “Friday Night Project” has been successfully piloted in South and West Leeds. This provision is run through a partnership of council services and external organisations and offers sports, arts and crafts, music, and dance to young people aged 8 to 18. The Police have said that there are clear reductions in anti social behaviour reporting when FNP is in action.
- We are on target to open the myplace funded world class youth hub centre in November 2010.
- An additional promise has been developed for Looked After Children. An example of work is the Footsteps project which has engaged Looked After Children in creating heritage tours of the city centre.
- Find Your Talent is having a strong impact in localities and in the city centre. The new Culture Network is enabling young people to make their own decisions about cultural opportunities and to be linked more clearly to creators and providers of activities.
- Eleven of the outdoor play areas, approved by Executive Board in June, are scheduled to be open by March 2010.
- Since free swimming was introduced in April 2009 for under 16s, the number of swims for the first six months of this year has increased by 31% on the same period last year.
- 15,716 school pupils have visited museums and galleries within Leeds during the first six months of 2009/10.
- The new city centre arts space is now available within Leeds Art Gallery.
- 9804 individual young people took part in children’s activities in libraries in the period April to September 2009 and a further 2,333 young people took

- part within groups. The summer Reading Challenge worked especially well.
- A specific group targeted this year by Libraries has been autistic children and their carers who have developed Boardmaker to help them communicate. This work led Leeds to win the national Libraries Change Lives Award.
 - Party In The Park had an amazing line up and 70,000 young people enjoyed the acts and fairground.

Next steps and forthcoming challenges

- 5.15 Senior officers from Government Office and from the DCSF Youth Task Force express consistently a high regard for Leeds in terms of its provision for places to go and things to do. The brand and programmes of Breeze, in particular, are viewed as exceptional provision and practice.
- 5.16 Some Breeze equipment needs replacement in order to maintain the quality and quantity which have enabled Breeze on Tour to be so successful. In addition, young people are developing proposals for more equipment and are wanting to fund this themselves through the Youth Capital Fund.
- 5.17 At present, no funding for Find Your Talent or for PAYP (Positive Activities For Young People) is in place beyond 31/3/11. These losses of external funding place pressures on Leeds in terms of sustaining the existing levels of delivery of some aspects of what is highlighted in this report.

6.0 Strategic Development: locality working arrangements for children's services.

- 6.1 The original development of the children's trust arrangements in Leeds was designed with a strong emphasis on making locality working key to the delivery of improved outcomes. This approach continues to be a central feature of the new Children and Young People's Plan and is widely recognised as an important element of how children's services must now address its particular challenges around safeguarding.
- 6.2 A number of developments are currently helping to formalise, clarify and take forward the arrangements for partners to work together locally, including the involvement of elected members. The information below summarises these developments. In doing so it talks mainly about the practical arrangements being made and therefore recognises that members may appreciate a more specific understanding of how these arrangements are operating and impacting locally. Whilst it is not within the scope of this paper, if members would therefore like a case study of locality working arrangements in action at a future meeting then children's services officers would welcome the opportunity to arrange this.
- 6.3 The Children's Services Scrutiny Board has previously been informed about a number of pilot initiatives and other projects (such as the West Leeds Project and the Leadership Challenge), which, since the initiation of Children's Trust

Arrangements in Leeds in 2006, have helped build understanding of the most effective ways for partners from different services to work together and establish shared leadership and ownership around improving local outcomes.

- 6.4 Through this process of learning and development local partnerships have evolved that bring key local children's services partners together around a more consistent approach to monitoring and addressing outcomes.
- 6.5 Consultation work has been taking place to help formalise the model that has been developed, this includes reports to the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee in November and to Executive Board on 9th December 2009. These papers discuss partnership arrangements at both an area and locality level and recognize that these are evolving as the implications of national guidance for children's trusts are understood.
- 6.6 These papers propose that five Area Children Leeds Partnerships are established based on the current inner/outer area committee wedge model. The five Area Children Leeds Partnerships will provide a strong bridge between city wide structures and more local arrangements through extended services clusters. Appendix 5 to this report sets out an initial draft of the terms of reference and constitution for an Area Children Leeds Partnership.
- 6.7 The papers also propose that local children and young people partnerships are established based upon extended services clusters including schools, children's centres and a range of partners. These local partnerships will have a key role in enabling local services to work better to improve outcomes for children, young people and families and will build on the geographical model operating below the five Area Children Leeds Partnerships.
- 6.8 The approach proposed secures a role for Elected Members at the area and locality levels. The Children's Champion from each Area Committee will sit on the appropriate Area Children Leeds Partnership (meaning there are two elected members on each of these partnerships) and the local children and young people's partnerships will also include elected member representation. The proposed area and locality arrangements can link effectively to the current city-wide Children's Trust arrangements and any successor Children Trust Board resulting from the government consultation discussed elsewhere in this report. Members may wish to refer to the 9th December report to Executive Board for more information about these developments.
- 6.9 Both supporting and running in parallel to these developments has been the progress in taking forward the role of the local Children's Champions. Children's Champions have been working closely with Locality Enablers throughout 2009 to develop the role, understand key issues in their local area and in a number of cases get involved in initiatives to address specific priorities (such as reducing teenage conceptions). Locality Enablers and the Executive Member for Children's Services are now working with Children's Champions to strengthen understanding and involvement around the safeguarding and integrated locality working agenda. This is supported by a paper to Area Committees during December.

- 6.10 To further support local improvement, a report to the December 2009 round of Area Committee meetings proposes arrangements for improved performance management information and processes at a local and area level. This paper proposes that from February 2010, Area Committees will receive performance information which will outline the current performance of all local children's services settings, including schools, childcare provision and children's homes. The information will also include key performance measures for the Children and Young People's Plan priorities such as the number of young people not in education, training and employment, GCSE results and attendance rates. Area Committees are being consulted on a framework for supporting this through the report.
- 6.11 The combination of this work – formalising the arrangements for partnership working at area and locality level, developing the role of children's champions and improving performance management information to elected members, will help to strengthen locality working and accountability. The case study work discussed earlier can provide more information on this if members wish.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 This continues to be a challenging, but key period of development for children's services in Leeds. A significant amount of activity, both strategically and practically at the front line is being done to ensure services meet these challenges. At the same time services are continuing to focus on the full range of priorities within the Children and Young People's Plan, as highlighted in the update on providing places to go and things to do. Work at locality level is key to supporting this and the developments outlined in this area are therefore an important step forward.

Background Papers:

Report to Children's Services Scrutiny Board: September 2009: Children's Services and the Children and Young People's Plan Update (December 2009)

Report to Corporate Governance and Audit Committee: 12.11.09 - Children's Trust Arrangements: Locality Arrangements and Governance

Report to Executive Board: 09.12.09 - Children's Trust Arrangements: Locality Arrangements and Governance

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Commentary

This report presents the findings from the full range of Ofsted's work, bringing together evidence from inspections of education, children's services and skills with detailed surveys of specific themes, subjects and issues. It coincides with the completion of a full cycle of inspection of schools, colleges and work-based learning. The report, therefore, presents a particularly good vantage point from which to look back over inspection evidence in these areas: the success stories, and the critical weaknesses to be addressed.

The report also illustrates different aspects of improvement by considering three themes of national interest drawn from across Ofsted's wide remit: improving outcomes for looked after children; teaching and learning; and developing skills for employment. The first theme considers the changes needed to tackle a seemingly intractable challenge; the second explores progress from good to great; and the third looks at sustaining improvement in a rapidly changing environment. The context in which these issues are explored, and indeed in which Ofsted has carried out its inspection responsibilities, has changed dramatically since the publication of the last Annual Report, and this report reflects on the new challenges. In particular, the thematic section on skills for employment describes and evaluates how the skills sector is responding to the changing economic climate.

The national overview: strengths...

This commentary and the report itself draw on a remarkably extensive evidence base including evidence from some 40,000 inspections and regulatory visits. The overall picture of the quality of provision is positive and much inspection evidence is generally encouraging. For example:

- ✦ the large majority of childcare, whether provided by childminders or in day care, is good or outstanding; almost all childminders meet the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, and 65% do it well

- ✦ almost 70% of maintained schools inspected are now good or outstanding, with nursery schools and special schools judged to be particularly effective; the proportion of schools in Ofsted's categories of concern fell in 2008/09
- ✦ 88% of initial teacher education providers are good or outstanding in their overall effectiveness
- ✦ of the further education colleges inspected in 2008/09, 63% were good or outstanding; the level of employer engagement is a continuing strength of the learning and skills sector
- ✦ a greater proportion of the provision for learning and skills in prisons was judged to be satisfactory or better, including the first prison judged to be outstanding; achievements and standards in employability training have improved to good or outstanding in 22 of the 33 prisons inspected
- ✦ the quality of social care is good or outstanding in around 64% of settings, including children's homes
- ✦ the large majority of councils provide good-quality children's services, often in difficult circumstances. In many cases, youth work makes a valuable contribution to young people's development.

The report also provides evidence of sustained improvement over the past four years. For example, in 2005/06 only 11% of maintained schools inspected were outstanding, while 8% were inadequate; in 2008/09, 19% of schools are outstanding and only 4% inadequate. There has also been a trend of improvement in colleges of further education; again, more colleges are now outstanding and fewer are inadequate than was the case four years ago.

Commentary continued

...and weaknesses

While there is much that should give us encouragement, real concerns remain. There are still too many providers that are mediocre or worse. Given the considerable progress made over recent years in increasing the proportion of outstanding and good settings, the greatest challenge across childcare, social care, education and the skills sector is to raise satisfactory provision to the level of good or outstanding. Since so many have now made the journey successfully, I see no reason why every setting, every school and college, and every provider, should not aspire to be good and working towards excellence. That is the only way they can really improve the lives and life chances of the children and learners they serve.

There are more specific concerns which must be addressed with urgency today if our children, young people and adult learners are to benefit tomorrow. For example:

- ✦ some provision appears to be stubbornly resistant to improvement. Over 40% of childcare provision judged satisfactory at its previous inspection remains so, and maintained schools and colleges present a similar picture
 - ✦ schools with a high proportion of pupils from deprived backgrounds are still more likely to be inadequate. Moreover, 4% of previously outstanding schools and 17% of previously good schools were found to be satisfactory or inadequate at inspection in 2008/09
 - ✦ there is a 'stubborn core' of inadequate teaching; furthermore, too much teaching is just satisfactory and fails to inspire, challenge and extend children, young people and adult learners
 - ✦ of the 30 academies inspected by Ofsted in 2008/09, while over half were rated good or outstanding, eight were judged to be satisfactory and another five inadequate; for the latter, raising standards and establishing a settled ethos remain a considerable challenge
 - ✦ a small but increased minority of councils are performing poorly overall, principally because they are making an inadequate contribution to ensuring that children and young people are as safe as possible
- ✦ there is unacceptable variation in the quality of individual children's homes from one inspection to another
 - ✦ private fostering arrangements remain a concern, with six out of 36 rated inadequate this year
 - ✦ there is still much inadequate practice in the work of the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service. The improvement that is taking place is not fast enough; nor is the extent of the change sufficient. These weaknesses exacerbate the risk of harm within families already facing crisis or breakdown.

Outstanding provision in challenging circumstances

Much can be learned from inspection evidence about excellence. This year, for example, Ofsted published reports on the characteristics of outstanding schools in challenging circumstances. The schools described in the reports demonstrate that excellence does not happen by chance. It is found in schools which have leaders of vision, courage and conviction; leaders who have the ability to inspire teams whose members work consistently for each other, as well as for the students and the communities they serve. There is a strong personal connection between individual children and young people and the adults in the school. These schools spare no efforts in their search for ways of doing things better, and high aspirations and expectations underpin all they do. They show a dogged determination to prove that every child can succeed, no matter how long that takes.

Several common features of these exemplary schools stand out. Above all, there is a passionate and ambitious belief that all young people can be helped to progress, achieve and become successful. No challenge is regarded as insurmountable; indeed, they generate innovative and effective responses to problems and difficulties. High standards of work and behaviour are set and kept; there are no exceptions and no excuses. The schools have the hard-won respect and confidence of their communities because of what they do, not just what they say.

For these schools, 'every child matters' is an everyday objective which is understood, planned for and achieved, not just a worthy ambition. Outstanding providers are forensic in their assessment of the needs of each of their children and learners; they personalise the care, support and learning they provide, and they are rigorous in evaluating the impact of what they do on progress and outcomes. A variety of approaches is taken to the curriculum, but they all provide balance and breadth. These schools use data to shine a spotlight on themselves so they can honestly and with precision make use of strategies that work, and ruthlessly excise those activities which deflect children and staff from the core business of teaching and learning. The children and young people who attend these schools emerge as confident and capable young people, well equipped for the next stage of their lives.

A focus on literacy and numeracy

A key element in bringing about improvement is ensuring that children, young people and adults have the literacy and numeracy skills they need in their everyday lives and which will enhance their employability and their performance once in work. The infant and primary years are key, but weaknesses in the teaching of literacy and numeracy remain, despite the early achievements of the national strategies. Inspectors continue to report a lack of focus on basic literacy for lower attainers, limited opportunities for some pupils to use, extend and enrich vocabulary, and insufficient attention given to the skills of writing at length. Many schools identify problem-solving in mathematics as a priority for improvement, but few tackle it really well. For older students, evaluation of the implementation of Diplomas shows that, even in some successful consortia, the teaching of functional skills is less engaging and of poorer quality than the vocational elements.

The national strategies have been at the forefront of improving teaching in the core subjects and have been influential in providing a national focus on raising standards. Nevertheless, improvements in standards and progress have been too slow over the last four years and the potential effectiveness of the strategies is much diminished.

The recent White Paper signalled a radically different strategic approach to raising standards of literacy and numeracy, with greater devolution of funding and responsibility for improvement to schools.¹ At the same time, there must be clarity at national level about what needs to be done professionally to maintain and improve literacy and numeracy and the extent to which schools are to be held accountable for this. We now have to look back on what has been gained and learned from the national strategies and use this reflection to understand what more needs to be done to generate improvement. It is vital that gains in professional expertise are not lost, and the central importance of the acquisition of good basic skills is not diluted.

In the adult learning sector, significant barriers remain to supporting better acquisition of skills for life. There are shortages of staff suitably qualified in delivering skills for life; and employers remain reluctant to address basic skills issues with employees, which limits the extent to which support can be provided to those who may need it most.

Safeguarding

Last year's Annual Report said a good deal about the safeguarding of children and young people. Without apology, I am turning to the issue again; it is too important to leave until we can be confident that everything possible is being done to keep children and young people safe. Events such as the Baby Peter tragedy have clearly shown we are not there yet. This year's report is clear where weaknesses remain, including problems in a minority of local authorities and children's homes. To remedy these deficiencies, it is important to recognise the successful alternatives, so this year I shall comment on what we see in outstanding social care services. While responsibilities for safeguarding rest with a much wider range of people and services, it is social care services that bear the brunt of public scrutiny and media disapprobation when things go wrong.

¹ *Your child, your schools, our future: building a 21st century school system*, Department for Children, Schools and Families, 2009.

Commentary continued

Outstanding children's services have outstanding systems of performance management. They develop and use robust systems that ensure as far as possible that every child gets a good service, and they check to make sure this is happening in practice. They focus on a child's interests. They take the views and feedback of the young people, parents and carers they serve very seriously. Elected members and senior managers have a clear grasp of the challenges in providing good safeguarding practice. They know what good social care looks like, both in terms of policy and practice, and they question, check and challenge to improve both.

Partnerships are mature and effective, and include rich contributions from the voluntary sector. Management and leadership are strong at all levels, with even the most senior managers knowing the issues facing front-line workers and receptive to feedback from them. Communication is transparent and forms an unbroken thread that not only runs through and across each level of the organisation, but also links with key partners. This means they are able to draw together a comprehensive picture of each individual, their needs from different services and their development and progress. Accountabilities and responsibilities are absolutely clear; everyone knows where 'the buck stops'.

Important though they are, processes are only a means to an end for outstanding services; the acid test is whether they support staff effectively to ensure children thrive. This Annual Report indicates that such practice is far from universal.

Skills for life in an economic downturn

Lord Leitch's review of world-class skills made clear the significant challenge of improving the baseline of literacy and numeracy for our adult population and of raising overall adult skills levels. It also identified the trend towards a greater proportion of jobs requiring higher level skills.

Last year's Annual Report included a section on 'Skills for working lives', focusing on the critical importance of preparing young people and adults effectively for the world of work. Twelve months later the context in which providers of further education, work-based learning and employability training operate has changed dramatically. This year has seen a significant rise in levels

of unemployment and redundancies. The recession is particularly affecting young people leaving school or college and seeking their first jobs and, although the number of young people in education is going up, the proportion of 16 to 18-year-olds not in education, employment or training is also rising. The current economic climate is placing an increasing importance on having good levels of literacy and numeracy for those entering the job market or seeking to move within it. Yet there is continued resistance from employers, adults and young people to taking up skills for life training; adults in employment require particularly high levels of personal support and encouragement to tackle their basic skills needs effectively.

Alongside the challenges imposed by changed economic circumstances, the Government has set stretching targets to achieve the ambition of world-class skills by 2020. Developing these skills is even more important during a time of economic downturn; a more highly skilled workforce has the capacity to adapt to changing demands, learn quickly and improve productivity and efficiency, and thereby make a key contribution to economic recovery. Beyond this, the skills sector plays a vital role in increasing confidence and giving greater opportunity for social mobility, for example by supporting progression to higher education.

Two initiatives are of particular interest and importance within this context: the progress of the 14 to 19 reforms and the preparations for the raising of the school leaving age to 17 in 2013 and 18 in 2015. Early indications are that students are motivated and challenged by the applied style of learning in Diplomas. However, work to develop their functional skills frequently lacks coordination, and the quality of the teaching and learning of these skills varies considerably.

Undoubtedly there are tensions in the skills sector. The sector is complex and funding streams are changing; colleges are increasingly required to fulfil the roles of national experts, local community resource, collaborators with local partners, and competitors for resources. Nevertheless, the sector has a good track record of responding to changing needs, circumstances, funding and partnership arrangements. There has never been a better time to capitalise on the new and varied learning routes and the need of the population to learn. The best leaders

are holding their strategic course through the current uncertainty, focusing on the needs of learners and making the most of their strengths, including strong links with employers. They are also clear about how to deploy their resources to have the greatest impact.

Ofsted's role: raising standards and improving lives

In his report on the protection of children in England, Lord Laming wrote of inspection needing to embrace both challenge and support: 'inspection should not be a stand-alone activity... an isolated snapshot.' I agree. Inspection should drive improvement and Ofsted must be an agent for change, not just of scrutiny and challenge. I believe Ofsted can do more to promote further improvement through rigorous assessment and critique, well-crafted and precise recommendations, identifying and sharing good practice to inform professional development, and by celebrating success as well as exposing failure.

Fundamental to any regulatory and inspection system is the tension between stick and carrot. Fear of exposure is a powerfully motivating force, but this will only bring about improvement to the level of 'good enough'. So to be recognised for excellence has to be another powerful motivator. Ofsted celebrates success, principally to help others learn the lessons from it.

This Annual Report includes a section on the quality of services for children and young people in public care. There is evidence in some children's homes that insufficient priority is given to education: for example, some young people are not attending school regularly and staff take little action to address this. For these children, better support could transform their futures. This support has to be mediated through stable and close relationships with the professionals in their lives and it has to be both joined-up and of high quality. Inspection must focus on the needs, interests and voices of the people who rely on the services that we inspect, and we must focus on the detail of the professional practice, be that in social care, early years development or education and skills. Underpinning all this must be the highest aspirations and expectations; no limit should be imposed on the capacity of children,

young people and learners to improve, develop and achieve. Inspection supports improvement so long as it is focused on what actually matters: outcomes for children, young people and adult learners.

As I look to how inspection should develop over the next 12 months, several priorities stand out. First, inspection must engage with users and stakeholders at all levels; we need to ensure that the experiences of children, young people and adult learners are at the centre of everything we do. Second, we must do more to disseminate effective practice and what might be learned from it. Third, we must focus our work on what is happening on the ground, continuing to take performance data into account, but spending more time, for example, talking to social workers and observing teaching in classrooms. The presentation of local and national outcome data is accepted as routine now and enables the close scrutiny of absolute and relative performance. However, data must be corroborated by professional judgement. Direct observation of practice, talking to front-line staff and feedback from users are the core of our new approach to the inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services; and the annual assessment of children's services gives more emphasis to findings about services on the ground, and less to traditional performance indicators, such as those used in the Annual Performance Assessment, which it has replaced.

Fourth, we are putting in place a more systematic approach to the monitoring and evaluation of our own work, especially in the inspection of social care. In other words, I intend to put Ofsted's strapline of 'raising standards and improving lives' to the test. What difference do we make, and could we make more of a difference if we did things differently? Too many weaknesses identified in this report echo those found in previous annual reports. We must challenge those responsible for improvement to do even more – and we must challenge ourselves to do more too. But we must do that by keeping a tight focus on value for money.

Finally, when difficult decisions have to be made about the deployment of finite resources, I shall have no hesitation in demanding that Ofsted champions those for whom life is an uphill struggle, and especially those at risk of harm or failure. Too often they rely on poor services and they need Ofsted, on their behalf, to say so.

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Consultation

Launch Date 13 November 2009

Respond by 29 January 2010

Ref: Department for Children, Schools and Families

Consultation on New Statutory Children's Trust Guidance and New Children and Young People's Plan Regulations

This document brings together guidance on Children's Trusts and Children and Young People's Plans into one piece of statutory guidance. It also includes further advice arising from the recent changes to the Children Act 2004 made by the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning (ASCL) Act 2009. The document also includes the draft new Children and Young People's Plan regulations. The consultation is on both the draft new statutory guidance and the draft new regulations.



**department for
children, schools and families**

Consultation on New Statutory Children's Trust Guidance and New Children and Young People's Plan Regulations

A Consultation

To local authorities, district councils, schools, PCTs, head teachers, governors, strategic health authorities, GPs, youth offending teams, probation services, police, FE institutions, Jobcentre Plus, 3rd sector providers, and other interested parties

Issued 13 November 2009

Contact Details

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the consultation you can contact David Aickin in the Local Area Policy Unit on:

Telephone: 020 7340 7376

e-mail: NewChildrensTrustsGuidance.CONULTATION@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk

If your enquiry is related to the DCSF e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the Consultation Unit by e-mail: consultation.unit@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk or by telephone: 0870 000 2288.

1 Executive Summary

1.1 **Children's Trust statutory guidance (Children's Trusts: statutory guidance on co-operation arrangements, including the Children's Trust Board and the Children and Young People's Plan) and Children and Young People's Plan regulations : executive summary**

1.2 The draft new statutory guidance on Children's Trusts and the draft new Children and Young People's Plan regulations reflect the changes arising from the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (the ASCL Act). These changes, listed below, seek to strengthen Children's Trusts co-operation arrangements to meet the challenge to make this country the best place in the world for children and young people to grow up in.

- 1.3 The ASCL Act adds new statutory 'relevant partners' in the Children's Trust, puts the Children's Trust Board on a statutory footing, and gives responsibility for preparing, publishing, reviewing and revising the Children and Young People's Plan to the Board. Responsibility for implementing the Children and Young People's Plan remains with the individual partners, who are under a duty to have regard to the Plan. The Children's Trust Board is responsible for monitoring the extent to which the partners act in accordance with the Plan and to publish an annual report which sets this out.
- 1.4 The new draft regulations are intended to replace the existing regulations on the Children and Young People's Plan - The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005 and The Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007. The regulations cover the content of the Plan, the Plan's publication, and the people and bodies who the Board must consult when drawing up the Plan. The regulations also cover the annual review of the Plan and its revision.
- 1.5 The new draft statutory Children's Trust guidance brings together statutory guidance on Children's Trust co-operation arrangements, and the procedures and functions of the Children's Trust Board (including the Board's role in preparing, reviewing and monitoring the Children and Young People's Plan). It replaces Children's Trusts: statutory guidance on interagency cooperation to improve well-being of children, young people and their families (2008) and the non-statutory Children and Young People's Plan Guidance (2009). It is issued under sections 10(8), 10(10) and 12B(4) of the Children Act 2004 as amended by the ASCL Act.
- 1.6 Part One of the guidance looks at the implications of the new legislation and clarifies further what the Children's Trust co-operation arrangements are, the roles and responsibilities of the Children's Trust Board and how each of the partners should engage. Part Two covers some of the key tools and processes that should be developed as part of the Children's Trust co-operation arrangements to ensure that all children's services are effectively and appropriately commissioned, including those supporting early intervention and workforce development. Part Three provides more detailed and technical advice on setting up the Children's Trust Board and producing the Children and Young People's Plan in line with the provisions in the ASCL Act.

1.7 **Dates of the consultation**

The consultation on the draft new statutory guidance and regulations will run from Friday 13 November 2009 to Friday 29 January 2010. This provides a consultation period of 11 weeks. The shortened consultation

period has been due to a delayed start in order not to launch the consultation before the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill had received Royal Assent and become an Act of Parliament. The end date of the consultation has not been delayed, because it is important that the Department has sufficient time to take all responses on board before publishing the final statutory guidance and regulations prior to the commencement of the requirement for local authorities to establish a Children's Trust Board coming into effect. We expect section 12A of the Children Act 2004 (which requires the establishment of the Children's Trust Board) to come into force on 1 April 2010.

2 How To Respond

- 2.1 Consultation responses can be completed online at www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations by emailing NewChildrensTrustsGuidance.CONULTATION@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk or by downloading a response form which should be completed and sent to:

David Aickin (consultation response), Local Area Policy Unit, Ground Floor, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT.

3 Additional Copies

- 3.1 Additional copies are available electronically and can be downloaded from the Department for Children, Schools and Families e-consultation website at: <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations>

4 Plans for making results public

- 4.1 The results of the consultation and the Department's response will be published on the DCSF e-consultation website in spring 2010.



Review of:

**“Leeds Children’s Services’ Leadership,
Managerial and Partnership Arrangements”**

Scoping Paper

Version: Final v1.0

Author: James Rogers, Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement)

Date: 1 October 2009

1 Purpose of the Review

- 1.1 In 2006, the City Council appointed its first Director of Children's Services, Rosemary Archer, tasked with taking the strategic lead on the children's services agenda. The early work led by Rosemary saw the establishment of a strategic children's services team, known as the Director of Children's Services Unit (DCS Unit), with strategic leadership responsibilities for Leeds City Council's children's services and relevant external partners and providers. Social service delivery arrangements were split with Children's Social Care services responsible to a Chief Officer; early years services and youth services were brought under the umbrella of children's services, again under the managerial control of a Chief Officer, and the Chief Executive of Education Leeds was also brought under the strategic leadership umbrella of Children's Services.
- 1.2 Education Leeds was created, under Direction from the Secretary of State, following the receipt of a critical OfSTED report in 1999 and has been operational since 1 April 2001. The Company established its own brand, policies and procedures as it considered appropriate, but maintained close links with the City Council continuing to use the Council's accommodation for its staff and continuing, in most areas, to use the Council's support infrastructure. Over the last eight years, significant progress has been made in regard to the attainment and broader school's agenda. Indeed, in 2006, Leeds received its latest OfSTED report stating that Leeds was a 'highly satisfactory' LEA with good capacity for further improvement. The Direction was removed in 2006, but the company model has been retained by the City Council with oversight of the Company being undertaken by a Board consisting of Council representatives, professional educational input, business representation and an independent Chair. Whilst it has been possible to implement changes to the company model since the removal of the Direction in 2006, change has not yet been considered appropriate bearing in mind the improvements made and being cognisant of the developing world of Children's Services following the enactment of the Children's Act in 2004.
- 1.3 In regard to Elected Member responsibilities, the Children's Act 2004 required the appointment of a Lead member for Children's Services. An Executive Member (Cllr Golton) is responsible for the political oversight of the Children's Services portfolio and he undertakes the Lead Member responsibilities as defined by the Act. As a consequence of the size of the portfolio, another Executive Member (Cllr Harker) has been appointed with responsibility for political oversight of Learning. This Member is the key political interface with Education Leeds.
- 1.4 Since 2006, the Director of Children's Services' focus has been on developing a clear and aspirational strategy (i.e. the Children and Young People's Plan) to drive the development of strategic commissioning arrangements for children's services and deliver improved outcomes for children and young people. This work has been progressed through close working with the operational leads from the areas of children's social care, early years, youth services, Education Leeds, as well as with external partners and providers. We have seen the establishment of new partnership arrangements, Children Leeds, under the auspices of the Leeds Initiative which include the introduction of an Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board.
- 1.5 Following the enactment of the Children's Act in 2004, the Government has continued to develop policies aimed at improving services for Children and Young People (e.g. The Laming Report, Children's Trust developments, 21st Century schools etc.). Moreover, with the national outcry over the Baby Peter tragedy in Haringey, the issue of Children's Safeguarding arrangements are being critically reviewed and assessed as part of OfSTED's revised inspection arrangements.
- 1.6 Whilst we received a positive Joint Area Review inspection in late 2007 and was rated as Good in the 2007 Annual Performance Assessment, there have been a number of performance challenges over the course of the last 12 months, arising mainly from the new approach to inspections and assessments of safeguarding arrangements. The weaknesses

identified through such inspections have been fully acknowledged and responded to in a timely fashion and in light of this heightened profile this matter has become a key improvement priority for the City Council and Children Leeds partnership.

- 1.7 These recent inspections have highlighted the need to ensure that our improvement actions across Children's Services deliver improved outcomes at a faster pace and enable those involved in Children's Services activities to develop their ability to work better together ensuring well targeted and responsive services.
- 1.8 Earlier this year, the current Director of Children's Services gave notice of her intention to retire from the Authority's service at a mutually suitable time in the near future. A retirement date of 31 March 2010 has since been agreed.
- 1.9 Three years on from the development of our current Children's Services arrangements, and with the pending recruitment of a new Director of Children's Services, it is considered appropriate at this time to:
 - a) review the progress made to date;
 - b) assess the effectiveness of our current leadership, managerial and partnership arrangements, and;
 - c) make proposals for any changes that may be considered necessary.
- 1.10 This review will be led internally by Deputy Chief Executive and the Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement). Both senior officers will work closely with Elected Members and senior managers across Children Services (including Education Leeds) to ensure the required considerations are given to the options and future accountabilities for leadership and management across children's services operations and partnership arrangements.

2 The Process of Review

2.1 The work will be progressed in two phases.

2.2 **Phase 1** – A diagnostic phase considering what has been achieved to date; what's currently working well; what's working less well and the reasons for this, what works well in other authorities, and; what would need to change for things to work better. It is expected that the review will consider:

- a) Our strategic approach to the Children's Services agenda;
- b) Our leadership and managerial arrangements relating to Children's Services.
- c) The model/arrangements for the provision of operational children's services covering social care, early years, youth services and education and;
- d) The Role of Executive Members in Children's Services matters.

2.3 Phase 1 will be pre-dominantly undertaken through desk based research and interviews with key stakeholders including:

- a) The Council's Chief Executive
- b) The Leaders of the main Political Parties
- c) Executive Member for Children's Services
- d) Executive Member for Learning
- e) Chair of the Council's Scrutiny Board for Children's Services
- f) The Children's Services Leadership Team (as a Board and Individuals)
- g) The Board of Education Leeds (as a Board and Individuals)
- h) A representative group of Children Leeds partners
- i) A representative group of Headteachers
- j) A representative group of Governors
- k) A representative group of young people
- l) Government Office
- m) OfSTED
- n) CAA Lead

2.4 **Phase 2** – The preparation and presentation of a report which:

- a) outlines the issues and challenges identified from the phase 1 research and interviews.
- b) identifies options to address the issues and challenges identified;
- c) undertakes an appraisal of the appropriateness of options identified against the context of where Leeds currently is and what Leeds is aspiring to achieve for Children's Services in the future;
- d) makes recommendations for the preferred leadership, managerial and partnership arrangements for Children's Services which are sustainable in the medium to longer term, and;
- e) identifies the issues that need to be progressed to implement the recommended way forward and an outline timetable for implementing such option.

- 2.5 In making a recommendation for an option to move forward, then it is expected that the following issues will be considered:
- a) To what degree the preferred option will improve quality and add value to children's services in Leeds;
 - b) To what degree can the Council speed up the pace of transformation across Children Services through the recommended option;
 - c) To what degree will the option provide for clear and effective leadership and accountability across Children's Services;
 - d) To what degree does the recommended option offer opportunities for ensuring value for money and delivering efficiencies, and;
 - e) The risks and benefits and corporate implications arising from each option.

3 Timescales and Reporting Arrangements

- 3.1 In light of the reasons for the review highlighted above, it is important to progress this piece of work as quickly as possible.
- 3.2 Phase one will commence week commencing 28 September 2009 with all interviews and stakeholder sessions being complete by 13 November 2009 – a total period of 7 weeks.
- 3.3 Phase two (the written report and recommendations) will be complete by 30 November 2009.
- 3.4 The report and recommendations will be presented to key decision makers and stakeholders during December 2009, with the intention that a way forward be agreed to be communicated in January 2010 at the same time as commencing the recruitment process for the post of Director of Children's Services.

4 Review Team – Key Roles

- 4.1 Project Sponsor – Paul Rogerson, Chief Executive
- 4.2 Project Executive – Dave Page (Deputy Chief Executive) and James Rogers (Assistant Chief Executive)
- 4.3 Project Manager/Support – Ursula McGouran
- 4.4 Principal Stakeholders – refer to list at 2.3

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Monitoring Audit of JAR Recommendations and APA Areas for Improvement

Document purpose

This document has been designed to provide an overview of the routes through which performance regarding APA 'areas for improvement' and JAR Recommendations are being monitored. In addition, it highlights where the same issues have been raised as CAA 'tagged' issues.

The far right hand column provides a initial assessment of whether arrangements for the direct monitoring of each area for improvement or recommendation is in place based on the evidence included in the table.

	Issue being directly monitored through ...	Issue also picked up indirectly through...	Frequency monitored	Additional information
<p>JAR 1: Reduce the proportion of young people who leave school with no qualifications</p> <p>'Improve numbers leaving school with no qualifications' was a CAA tagged issue in June 09 but was no longer a tagged issue in September 09.</p>	<p>CAA tagged priority Q1update-'Improve numbers leaving school with no qualifications'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Indicator : NI 117 – The proportion of young people not in education, employment or training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 5 - Raising the proportion of young people in education or work. • LSP priority 'Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Tracker produced for this CAA tagged issues in Q1 09/10 performance report for CSLT • NI 117 - Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • CYPP-Priority 5 Action Tracker produced every 6 months • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months 	<p>Percentage of pupils leaving school with no qualifications monitored locally by Education Leeds.</p>
<p>JAR 2: Increase the rate of progress made by pupils in low-performing secondary schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP priority:' Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.' • Performance Indicator: NI 78 – Reduction in number of schools where fewer than than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months • NI 78 – Annual PI monitored through corporate & directorate performance reporting processes. 	<p>NI 78 - Some data is available as part of the Quarter 2 information but this will be confirmed at Q4.</p>
<p>JAR 3: Complete the review of 14–19 provision and address the issues involving small school sixth forms, excessive competition and duplication of provision and the low outcomes for some vulnerable groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14- 19 Learning Plan 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with monitoring arrangements for 14-19 Plan 	
<p>APA 1: There remain a high proportion of young people who are not in employment, education or training, especially from minority ethnic groups. Progress to improve this has been slow.</p> <p>'Improve levels attainment for pupils from BME backgrounds' was a CAA tagged issue in June 09 but was no longer a tagged issue in September 09.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAA tagged priority Q1update- 'Improve levels attainment for pupils from BME backgrounds' 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Tracker produced for this CAA tagged issues in Q1 09/10 performance report for CSLT 	
<p>APA 2: The proportion of young people obtaining a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19 is lower than in similar councils and is not improving.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP priority 'Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 19 year olds' • Performance Indicator: NI 80- Achievement of Level three qualifications by 19 year olds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 5 - Raising the proportion of young people in education or work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months • NI 80 -Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • CYPP-Priority 5 - Action Tracker produced every 6 months 	<p>Data on outcomes from the 2009 academic year will be available in April 2010.</p>

Monitoring Audit of JAR Recommendations and APA Areas for Improvement

	Issue being directly monitored through ...	Issue also picked up indirectly through...	Frequency monitored	Additional information
<p>APA 3: Attendance rates are below those of similar councils despite a significant reduction in the number of persistent absentees.</p> <p>Secondary school attendance and persistent absence' was a CAA tagged issue in June 09.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 2 - Improving attendance & reducing persistent absence. • CAA tagged priority Q1update – 'Secondary school attendance and persistent absence' • Performance Indicator: NI 87- Secondary school persistent absence rate • Performance Indicator: CYPP-P2-1- Overall attendance in secondary schools 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 2 - Action Tracker produced every 6 months • Action Tracker produced for this CAA tagged issue in Q1 09/10 performance report for CSLT • See additional information • See additional information 	<p>Confirmed results for NI 87 for the 2008-09 academic year will be available in February 2010.</p> <p>CYPP-P2-1- Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes. Due to be reported in quarter 4 2009/10.</p>
<p>JAR 4: Reduce the number of fixed-term exclusions for looked after children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Indicator: CYPP-P1-3 - Reduce fixed term exclusions from school for looked after children • CYPP-Priority 1 – Improving outcomes for LAC 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-P1-3- Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • CYPP-Priority 1 - Action Trackers produced every 6 months. 	
<p>JAR 5: Improve the proportion of looked after children in education, employment and training at age 16 and 17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP Priority – 'Increase the proportion of vulnerable groups engaged in education, training or employment' • Performance Indicator: NI 148 – care leavers in employment, education or training • CYPP-Priority 1 - Improving outcomes for looked after children 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months • NI 148 -Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • CYPP-Priority 1 - Action Trackers produced every 6 months. 	
<p>JAR 6: Ensure there is sufficient good quality education and training for young people who offend.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Indicator: NI 45 - Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, employment and training. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI 45 -Quarterly PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • This work is ongoing. 	

Monitoring Audit of JAR Recommendations and APA Areas for Improvement

	Issue being directly monitored through ...	Issue also picked up indirectly through...	Frequency monitored	Additional information
Outcomes for vulnerable groups - APA -Areas of Improvement				
<p>APA 4: The number of looked after children receiving final warnings or convictions over the past year is much higher than similar councils or the national average</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing Offending by Looked after Children Forum. • OC2 return (see additional information for more details) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum meets on a bi-monthly basis • OC2 return produced annually at the end of September 	<p>OC2 return At the end of September each year YOS and C&PYSC are required to report data on a cohort of young people in care for over a year who have offended as part of a OC2 return.</p>
<p>APA 5: Whilst there has been some improvement in the rate of dental checks over the past year, there has been a reduction in the number of looked after children receiving annual health checks. Performance remains much lower than in similar councils.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Indicator: CYPP –P1-6- Percentage of looked after children who had their annual health assessment during the year • Performance Indicator: CYPP –P1-7- Percentage of looked after children with an up to date dental check. • CYPP-Priority 1 – Improving outcomes for looked after children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Indicator: Percentage of looked after children aged 0-4 whose child health surveillance or child health promotion checks were up-to-date (from inspection list June 09) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP –P1-6-Quarterly PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • CYPP –P1-7-Quarterly PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • CYPP-Priority 1 - Action Trackers produced every 6 months. • Quarterly PI monitored through PCT performance reporting processes 	

Monitoring Audit of JAR Recommendations and APA Areas for Improvement

	Issue being directly monitored through ...	Issue also picked up indirectly through...	Frequency monitored	Additional information
Outcomes for vulnerable groups - APA -Areas of Improvement				
<p>APA 6: Despite marked improvements in the achievement of children of Black Caribbean and Black African heritage, the achievement of children from some other minority ethnic backgrounds remains low, particularly children of Kashmiri Pakistani origin</p> <p>'Improve levels attainment for pupils from BME backgrounds' was a CAA tagged issue in June 09 but was no longer a tagged issue in September 09.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAA tagged priority Q1update - 'Improve levels obtainment for pupils from BME backgrounds' NI 107 – KS2 attainment for BME groups (All), and disaggregated into the following categories: White, Mixed, Asian, Black and Chinese NI 108 – KS2 attainment for BME groups (All), and disaggregated into the following categories: White, Mixed, Asian, Black and Chinese 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Tracker produced for this CAA tagged issues in Q1 09/10 performance report for CSLT NI 107 & 108 – Data on pupil group outcomes from the 2009 academic year will be available at Q3 09/10. 	
<p>APA 7 : High levels of investment in family support and preventative services are not yet leading to improved outcomes for many young people.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LSP Priority – 'Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months 	<p>LSP Priority - Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk – Q4 (08/09)</p>
Health - JAR Recommendations				
<p>JAR 7: Establish the mental health needs of the increasing number of 0-19 black and minority ethnic population.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health Needs Assessment (includes all demographics) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular reports presented to Joint Information Group (JIG) which is part of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership 	
Health – APA Areas for Improvement				
<p>APA 8: The number of teenage conceptions remains high and the rate has not decreased since the baseline of 1998.</p> <p>'Reduce levels of teenage pregnancy ' was a CAA tagged issue in June 09 but was no longer a tagged issue in September 09.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CYPP-Priority 7/LSP Priority – Reducing teenage conception CAA tagged priority update – ' Reduce levels of teenage pregnancy'- used Q1 CYPP Action Tracker Performance Indicator – NI 112 Under 18 conception rate 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CYPP-Priority 7/ LSP Priority Action Tracker produced every 6 months Through Q1 CYPP Priority 7 Action Tracker NI 112 - Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes 	
<p>APA 9: Although the council and its partners have taken action and have agreed a new strategy, in 2004-06 the infant mortality rate is significantly higher than the national average.</p> <p>"Significantly higher infant mortality rates than the England average," was a CAA tagged issue in September 09</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infant Mortality Equalities Target Action Plan National Target - Starting with children under one year, by 2010 to reduce by at least 10% the gap in mortality between the routine and manual group and the population as a whole. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task groups meet on a regular basis to take forward various actions from the plan. Progress updates regularly provided to World Class Commissioning initiative who require progress updates on performance. 	

Monitoring Audit of JAR Recommendations and APA Areas for Improvement

	Issue being directly monitored through ...	Issue also picked up indirectly through...	Frequency monitored	Additional information
Safeguarding JAR Recommendations				
JAR 8: Ensure all initial child protection conferences happen on time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP Priority 9- Strengthening Safeguarding • LSP Priority –‘Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk’ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP Priority – ‘Improve the assessment and care management of children’. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 9- Action Tracker produced every 6 months • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months 	
JAR 9: Ensure all core assessments are of good quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP Priority 9- Strengthening Safeguarding • LSP Priority –‘Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk’ • Performance Indicator - NI 60 The percentage of core assessments that were completed within 35 working days of their start 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP Priority – ‘Improve the assessment and care management of children’. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 9- Action Tracker produced every 6 months • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months • NI 60 - Quarterly PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months 	This is also monitored the case file audit work which is underway.
JAR 10: Ensure the electronic case record system (ESCR) provides a fixed and permanent audit trail of entries made	NA	NA	NA	This initial action is complete and activity is now underway to replace the ESCR system.
Safeguarding - APA Areas for Improvement				
APA 10: Action taken to improve the quality of children’s homes has yet to have a significant impact across the provision as a whole.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP Priority 9 _ Strengthening Safeguarding • Performance Indicator: CYPP-9-3- The proportion of residential homes judged by Ofsted to be good or better 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 9- Action Tracker produced every 6 months • CYPP-9-3- Quarterly PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes 	

Monitoring Audit of JAR Recommendations and APA Areas for Improvement

	Issue being directly monitored through ...	Issue also picked up indirectly through...	Frequency monitored	Additional information
APA 11: The council's fostering service has recently been judged inadequate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP Priority 9- Strengthening Safeguarding • Performance Indicator: CYPP-9 -1 - Ofsted judgement on the quality of Leeds Fostering Service • Performance Indicator: CYPP-9- 2- Ofsted judgment on the quality of Leeds' Private Fostering 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 9- Action Tracker produced every 6 months • CYPP -9-1 - Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • CYPP -9-2 - Annual PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes 	
APA 12: The timeliness of reviews for looked after children has improved but remains significantly below the national average and that found in similar councils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP Priority 1- Improving outcomes for looked after children & Priority 9 – Strengthening Safeguarding • LSP Priority –‘Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children through better information, recognition and response to risk’ • Performance Indicator: NI 66 Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP Priority –‘Improve the assessment and care management of children’. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 1 & 9- Action Trackers produced every 6 months. • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months • NI 66 - Quarterly PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months 	
APA 13: Despite continued improvement, the participation by looked after children in their reviews remains much lower than similar councils and nationally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP Priority 1- Improving outcomes for looked after children & Priority 9 – Strengthening Safeguarding • LSP Priority –‘Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children through better information, recognition and response to risk’ • Performance Indicator: CYPP-1-5- Percentage of looked after children who participate in their review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP Priority –‘Improve the assessment and care management of children’. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP-Priority 1 & 9- Action Trackers produced every 6 months. An update on these priorities will be produced in Q2. • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months • Performance Indicator: CYPP-1-5- Quarterly PI monitored through corporate and directorate performance reporting processes • LSP priorities - Action Tracker produced every 6 months 	
APA 14: The percentage of unfilled posts for social care staff directly employed for children and families is high and there is too much reliance on temporary staff, with social care vacancy rates nearly twice those found in similar councils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a key action in the announced inspection preparation action plan. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The action plan is being monitored by the inspection steering group and is over seen by the Children's Services Corporate Improvement Board 	

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Draft Terms of Reference and Constitution

Area Children Leeds Partnerships

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Leeds City Council (“the Council”) as children’s services authority has a statutory duty¹ to make arrangements to promote co-operation between relevant partners² to improve local children’s wellbeing with reference to -
- Physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing
 - Protection from harm and neglect
 - Education, training and recreation
 - The contribution made by them to society
 - Social and economic well-being.
- 1.2 There is also a duty on relevant partners (“the relevant partners”) to co-operate with those arrangements³.
- 1.3 Area children Leeds partnerships are the local expression of the statutory duty to work in partnership and the duty to co-operate placed on relevant partners to improve children and young people’s wellbeing.
- 1.4 The partnership is not constituted as a legal entity for the purposes of contractual arrangements and will act accordingly.
- 1.5 The partnership is defined as a significant partnership as part of the council wide framework for ensuring compliance with expected standards for good governance.

2.0 Principles

- 2.1 The Partnership will have the breadth and depth of partners to develop priorities and plans, to improve the local targeting of resources and influence the city’s strategy and policy development for children, young people and family services.
- 2.2 The Partnership will provide local leadership which encourages integrated working to improve outcomes for children and young people.
- 2.3 Partners should work together locally with a common purpose to secure high quality integrated services for children, young people, and their families.
- 2.4 The partnership will take into account the priorities of the children and young people’s plan, the 4Ps (personalisation, participation, partnership, and prevention) and the commissioning framework.
- 2.5 The partnership will support its members to engage effectively with locality commissioning arrangements.
- 2.6 The Area Partnerships will receive performance management information using a suite of local indicators and receive relevant reports on the effectiveness for

¹ Under section 10 of the Children Act 2004 (“the Act”)

² Under section 10(4) of the Act

³ Under section 10(5) of the Act

services provided (eg. Ofsted) and use these to inform future planning.

- 2.7 Area Partnerships provide a local framework of accountability to service users, stakeholders and the wider community for the quality of services to children, young people and their families.
- 2.8 Area Partnerships should have information appropriately in order to achieve its objectives.
- 2.9 Ensure that the services continue to be appropriate to the community by arranging regular consultations with staff, parents, children and the community.
- 2.10 Ensure that the voice of children, young people, parents and carers has a strong influence on any service / activity the partnership commissions.

3.0 Functions

3.1 Area Children Leeds Partnerships should:

- develop, oversee and monitor the delivery of the Children and Young People themes actions in Area Delivery Plans (including 14-19 planning);
- support and drive local priorities (locality level action plans);
- oversee and monitor locality level planning work in support of that overall delivery;
- ensure links to the partnership groups operating at locality levels (e.g. extended services management groups; area inclusion partnerships; and 14-19 planning);
- ensure the required coordination of effort to facilitate the efficient and effective delivery of services; and
- monitor as appropriate the execution of the Local Trust Arrangements

3.2 Area Children Leeds Partnerships should link to the city-wide Children's Trust arrangements by:

- agreeing a local Children and Young People Plan, ensuring the local partnership plans take cognisance of the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan and Leeds Strategic Plan;
- informing the strategy and policy making decisions of the citywide Children Leeds Partnership **[in particular with regards to the CYPP]**;
- informing the joint planning and commissioning activities of the Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board and commissioning activities of partners, and;
- informing and supporting the delivery of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board business plan.

4.0 Procedures

- 4.1 Meetings shall be held every 2 months, or more frequently if required.
- 4.2 Partnership meetings will be serviced by **[to be agreed during the consultative development of this constitution]**
- 4.3 Arrangements for recording, keeping and publishing the partnerships most important decisions **[to be agreed during the consultative development of this constitution]**
- 4.4 The Partnership will not exceed its powers and Partnership members will

always seek to achieve consensus through discussion. Any vote will be by a simple majority of Partnership members in attendance. However, relevant partners have a right to veto any decision of the Partnership, including proposed amendments to this constitution, in circumstances where relevant partners feel this would significantly affect the delivery of their statutory responsibilities. The reasons for the use of this veto should be submitted by the relevant partner concerned, in writing, to the chair, immediately following the relevant meeting of the Partnership. **[to be agreed during the consultative development of this constitution]**

4.5 The Partnership will be quorate when one third of its membership is present including the chair and vice chair or their substitutes. **[to be agreed during the consultative development of this constitution]**

4.6 The chair and vice chair will be confirmed annually at a meeting of the Partnership. **[to be agreed during the consultative development of this constitution]**

5.0 Accountabilities and Reporting

5.1 All partners will remain responsible and accountable for decisions on their individual services and resources.

5.2 There will be no change to the accountabilities of council officers or to the council's constitution in relation to the partnerships activities.

5.3 Democratic accountability will be secured through elected member representation on the partnership; through regular communication with ward members and through participation in the community engagement activities facilitated in each ward by the council's area management team.

5.4 Area Children Leeds Partnerships will report into:

- the Children's Trust Board

6.0 Stakeholder Involvement

6.1 Ensure effective engagement with key stakeholders including children and young people.

6.2 Principles for engaging with CYP... **[to be developed in accordance with the findings of the consultation with children and young people regarding their involvement with Area Children Leeds Partnerships]**

7.0 Membership

7.1 The partnership will primarily comprise representatives from:

- Children's champions
- School clusters
- Early years - Leeds City Council
- IYSS
- Children and Young People Social Care
- Voluntary Community and Faith Sector
- Primary Care Trust
 - Ideally, PBC Consortia Children's Lead

- NHS Commissioning Lead
- NHS Provider Services Manager
- Education Leeds
- Locality enablers (DCSU) - Leeds city council
- Area managers (environment and neighbourhoods) - Leeds City Council
- Area committees

7.2 This membership is not exclusive and will be kept under review. New members will be invited to support the partnership as it evolves.

8.0 Additional information to be considered during the consultative development of this constitution

8.1 role and authority of members

8.2 roles and responsibilities of partners in relation to:

- financial administration
- resources (including staff)
- assets and liabilities
- external auditing arrangements

9.0 Conduct of Members

9.1 Members will operate within the Code of Conduct **[code to be agreed during the consultative development of this constitution]**

10.0 Leaving the Partnership

10.1 A Partnership member shall cease to be a member of the Partnership if:

- he or she resigns;
- the partner notifies the Partnership of a change of representative; or
- the partner ceases to exist.
- Should any partner wish to withdraw from the Partnership, six months notice must be given in advance to the chair of the Partnership.

11.0 Conflict of Interest

11.1 Members must declare any conflict of interest in a matter being considered by the Partnership, which

- arises from their personal circumstances, or
- arises in respect of the partner which they represent.
- Any member who declares an interest may, at the discretion of the chair,
- be required to leave the meeting while the matter is discussed; or
- remain in the room but not participate in the discussion; and/or (c) participate in the discussion but not vote on the matter.

12.0 Dispute Resolution

12.1.1 Any dispute relating to the Partnership shall be dealt with in accordance with this clause.

12.1.2 [to be agreed during the consultative development of this

constitution]

13.0 Complaints

- 13.1 All complaints from service users, including those referred to the relevant ombudsman, in relation to specific service provision will be subject to the complaint and representations procedures of the partner which is the lead authority in respect of that provision.
- 13.2 Representation to the Partnership will only be available in circumstances where the lead authority's complaints and representations procedures have not been complied with or undertaken.

14.0 Annual report

- 14.1 Area Children Leeds Partnerships shall produce an annual report which will include:
- A review of its purpose and objectives
 - A review of its performance
 - A review of its financial position and performance
 - A review of other strategies and policies as appropriate

15.0 Constitution

- 15.1 The constitution shall be reviewed annually, though amendments to the Constitution can be made at any other time with the agreement of the Board.
- 15.2 In particular the Partnership will review its membership, recognising that this should remain flexible to encompass effectively the Partnership's developing agenda and organisational requirements arising from new legislation. Membership shall be formally reviewed by the Partnership annually although the Partnership's membership can be amended at any stage with the agreement of the partners.
- 15.3 Subject to the agreement of the Partnership this constitution and annexes may be altered by a resolution passed by not less than two thirds of the members present and voting at a meeting of the Partnership. The notice of the meeting must include notice of the resolution, setting out the terms of the alteration proposed.
- 15.4 No amendment may be made to this constitution which would conflict with any legislation, regulations or standing orders of the Council or the Leeds Primary Care Trust.

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Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 10 December 2009

Subject: Recommendation Tracking

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Each Scrutiny Board receives a quarterly report on any recommendations from previous inquiries which have not yet been completed.
- 1.2 This will allow the board to monitor progress and identify completed recommendations; those progressing to plan; and those where there is either an obstacle or progress is not adequate. The board will then be able to take further action as appropriate.
- 1.3 A standard set of criteria has been produced, to enable the board to assess progress. These are presented in the form of a flow chart at Appendix 1. The questions should help to decide whether a recommendation has been completed, and if not whether further action is required.
- 1.4 For each outstanding recommendation, a progress update is provided. In some cases there will be several updates, as the board has monitored progress over a period of time.
- 1.5 The recommendations from the Young People's Scrutiny Forum report 'Protecting our Environment' have not been included on this occasion. A report on the Young People's initial views was considered by the Board in November, and this will form the basis of future joint monitoring by the Scrutiny Board working group and the Youth Council.

- 1.6 To assist members, the Principal Scrutiny Adviser has given a draft status for each recommendation. The board is asked to confirm whether these assessments are appropriate, and to change them where they are not.
- 1.7 In particular, members should note that some recommendations may have a draft status of 4 or 5. For these recommendations, the Principal Scrutiny Adviser suggests that progress has been made. However, the decision as to whether this progress is acceptable is a judgement for board members to make.
- 1.8 In deciding whether to undertake any further work, members will need to consider the balance of the board's work programme.

2.0 Next Steps

- 2.1 The next cycle of quarterly recommendation tracking reports will be presented to Scrutiny Boards in March 2010, enabling the Board to judge progress against outstanding recommendations.

3.0 Recommendations

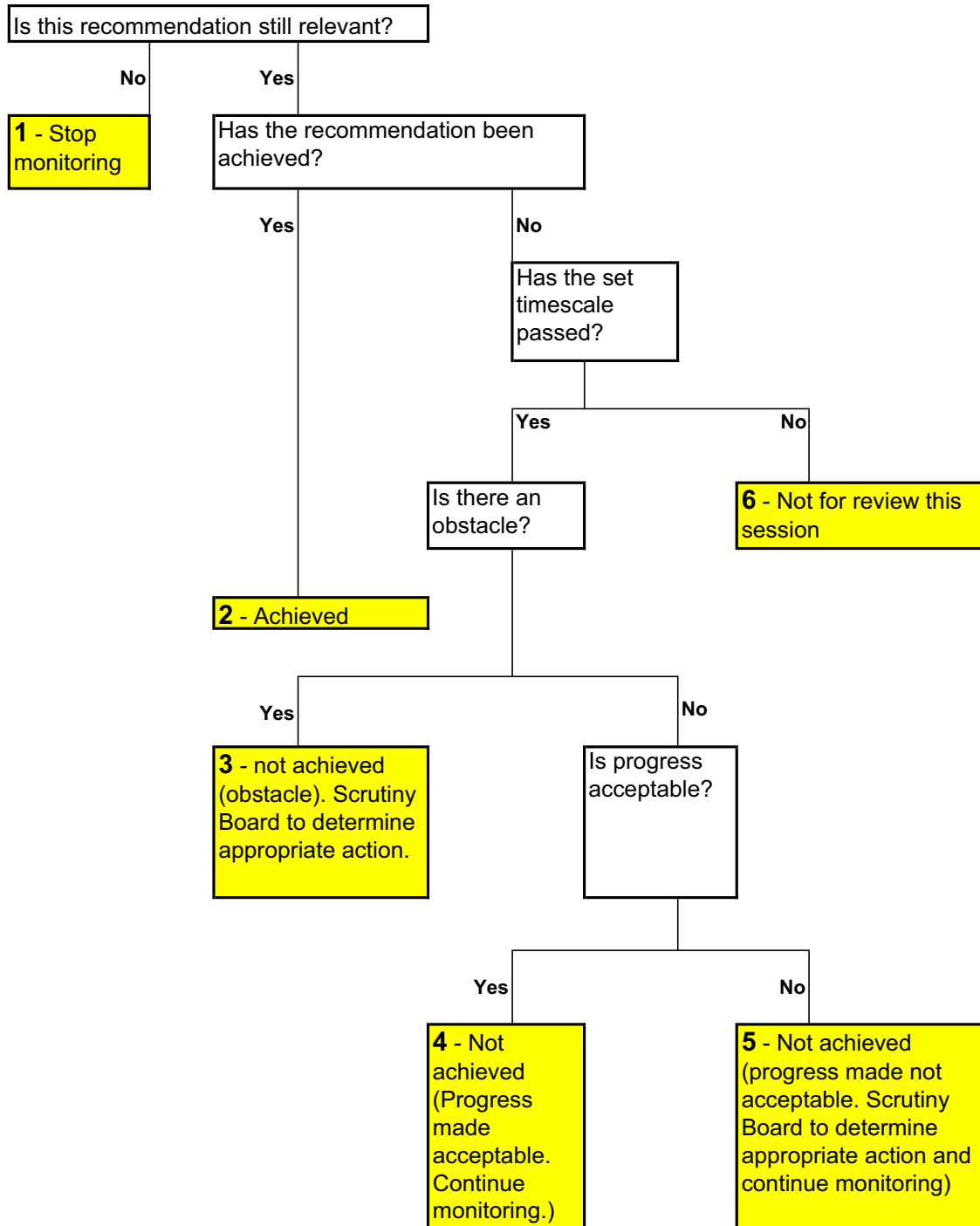
- 3.1 Members are asked to:

- Agree those recommendations which no longer require monitoring;
- Identify any recommendations where progress is unsatisfactory and determine the action the board wishes to take as a result.

Background Papers

Recommendation Tracking - Report to Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 4 December 2006

Recommendation tracking flowchart and classifications:
Questions to be Considered by Scrutiny Boards



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	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
3	<p>We recommend that the Director of Social Services considers whether a similar organisational approach to that taken in Liverpool would benefit adoption in Leeds, and reports back to us with a view within three months</p>	<p>4 or 5 (not achieved)</p>	
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u> Only one adoption post remains that has not been recruited to. This is the BME Adoption Officer post. This is being readvertised for a fourth time.</p> <p><i><u>July 2007 position</u></i> <i>This proposal will be considered as part of the full review of the service as it represents a significant change to current practice and has budgetary implications</i> <i>Timescale: October 2007</i></p> <p><i><u>October 2007 update</u></i> <i>The timescale for the review to be completed is now January 2008.</i></p> <p><i><u>January 2008 update</u></i> <i>The timescale for completion of the review is now March 2008.</i></p> <p><i><u>July 2008 Update</u></i> <i>The Liverpool model has been considered and rejected on the basis that the benefits from that approach can be achieved by other means in Leeds. Specifically, Leeds has instead invested in 3 additional adoption officers to help shorten the timescale for assessments – a key priority for the service.</i></p> <p><i><u>October 2008 update</u></i> <i>To create extra capacity within the adoptions service as soon as possible, 1.5 of the posts available will be used to take on fostering work that has been covered by those responsible for adoptions. This will free up those staff to work entirely on adoptions. Half a post will be used to increase contact work and the other half a post will add to existing capacity. The process for filling these posts is currently being carried through. To stay within budget it has been necessary to reduce the 3 additional posts to 2.5.</i></p>	<p>Board to determine whether progress is acceptable</p>	

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
Page 120	<p><u>January 2009 update</u> <i>In October the Board asked the Chair to monitor progress, with a view to signing off the recommendation once recruitment took place. The Chair has received a delegated decision report which is due to be considered by the Chief Officer (Children and Young People's Social Care) in January 2009, following which the posts can be filled/advertised.</i></p> <p><u>April 2009 update</u> <i>The Board decided in January that progress was not satisfactory, and requested a further report on the reason for the delays. This was considered by the Scrutiny Board in February 2009. The Board noted that posts had been advertised, and requested a further update in April 2009.</i></p> <p><i>The Board were informed in March that interviews had taken place for the Contact officer post and a candidate had been recommended for appointment. Only 2 applications were received for the Adoption worker posts, which were not of a standard suitable to interview. The posts are currently being re-advertised.</i></p> <p><i>A Delegated Decision report to approve a number of new fostering posts will be submitted at the beginning of April. If there are not sufficient suitable applicants for the adoption posts from the current re-advertising process, then there will be an opportunity to combine with the recruitment process for these new fostering posts.</i></p> <p><u>September 2009 update</u> <i>Interviews for these posts have been held twice, without being able to recruit either time. The posts are being readvertised in Community Care in a further attempt to recruit. Further delay has been caused by the need to go to the Redeployment Board each time the posts are advertised.</i></p>		

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
2	<p>That Metro should investigate the possibility of developing a concessionary scheme whereby young people pay for the first few journeys in the usual way and then get one/two free (buy four, get one free for example but avoiding the need to pay up front) and report their findings/actions to Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) in July 2007.</p>	<p>1 (no longer relevant) or 2 (Achieved)</p>	<p>✓</p>
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u> The report regarding free travel for young people is now complete and will be circulated to interested parties including the DCS in the very near future for further discussions and next steps. The report is very clear that the current range of tickets is confusing and needs simplifying, and also that fares can be a barrier in accessing education, training, leisure and employment opportunities. Many of the benefits of a free travel scheme are accrued at a national level and it is therefore intended that the findings be shared with the Department for Transport, DCSF and others. In the meantime Metro is consulting with operators about simplifying the ticket offering perhaps to a single flat fare for all journeys, but because of the pressures on budgets, it is unlikely that changes can be implemented in the near future. Metro will of course keep the Scrutiny Board updated and will forward copies of the report for distribution.</p> <p><u>July 2007 position</u> Metro has agreed to consider this approach.</p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> This type of scheme is conditional on the introduction of smart cards. Metro will keep the Scrutiny Forum informed of progress in this area.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> Operators have agreed to a 'get around for a pound' promotion over the summer holiday, entitling all young people (11-16) with a half fare pass to a £1 ticket. Other work to take this forward is still ongoing.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> Metro are still in the process of compiling feedback from the 'get around for a pound' promotion. However, it is hoped that the promotion will be run again next summer. They are also continuing to explore the idea of free travel for young people, and are appointing a consultant to look at the costs and benefits of this.</p> <p><u>January 2009 update</u> Consultants have been appointed to review the ticketing options available to young people in West Yorkshire in order to address the issues of cost and complexity of the offering that have been consistent elements of feedback to Metro. Part of this work will consider whether there is a business case for free bus travel for young people as is the case in London.</p> <p>The first phase of the consultants' work is close to completion and was primarily around consultation. The feedback of Leeds young people has been a part of this phase. The second phase will take different economic models for ticketing offerings in order to establish the cost but also the benefits in their widest sense of different options (e.g. access to education, training and leisure, decongestion, health impacts).</p> <p>The 'carnet' idea is one of the options put forward to consultants for modelling.</p> <p>The consultants' report will be available in early summer.</p>		

<p><u>April 2009 update</u> <i>Get Around for a Pound will run again this August. Promotional materials are being developed as well as links to sites such as Breeze. Particular links are being made to the Free Swimming initiative. The consultants' work on concessions is well underway and a report should be available after Easter.</i></p> <p><u>September 2009 update</u> <i>The consultants' work on concessions is in its final phase with a report expected by the end of September. In parallel, Metro is working with officers in the five districts of West Yorkshire to consider how ticketing products in general can be simplified. Work on ticketing has also been an important feature of the newly formed Metro Youth Transport Forum on which the five Youth Councils of West Yorkshire are represented. Metro Active has taken place throughout August (£1 day ticket for young people with a half fare pass) and an evaluation is now ongoing. If deemed successful, bus operators will be asked to support this promotion and extend it to other times of year.</i></p>		
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	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
5	<p>That Metro develop a text messaging comments and complaints system, promote this amongst young people and report progress to Scrutiny Board (Children’s Services) in July 2007.</p>	1	✓
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u></p> <p>As reported in September, Metro’s market research suggests that young people would prefer to make complaints by phone and email. Metro has currently put extra staffing resource into complaints management and is procuring new software to make the system much simpler to handle and follow up queries. Metro will consider how to promote this service to young users and to monitor their views on the effectiveness of complaint handling.</p> <p><u>July 2007 position</u> <i>Metro will consider this further following the launch of their young people’s website</i></p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> <i>The website has now been launched and complaints/comments can be submitted by email. Metro are still considering the possibility of introducing a text message system at some point in the future.</i></p> <p><u>July 2008 update</u> <i>Metro has requested a quote for setting up and running a text messaging service.</i></p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> <i>A text messaging service has not yet been established, but Metro remain committed to this and are hoping to appoint an operator shortly.</i></p> <p><u>January 2009 update</u> <i>Metro has established that this is technically feasible in terms of sending out messages to customers, e.g. about late running buses. By inference it is also technically feasible to receive such messages – the issues that remain to be resolved are (a) ensuring that customers send in sufficient information that such feedback can be followed up, and (b) ensuring adequate staffing levels to resolve issues in a timely manner. It is believed that a pilot with a small number of young people might help to understand these issues better and the possibility of running this will be explored in the New Year.</i></p>	<p>(no longer relevant) or 2 (Achieved)</p>	

	<p><u>April 2009 update</u> <i>A text facility is being developed to inform parents of primary school children of late running services which may be extended to secondary school children in due course if found to be useful.</i> <i>Leeds Youth Council is represented on Metro's Youth Forum which recently discussed the issue of making complaints. A free phone service, perhaps via MetroLine, was suggested as it enables complainants to communicate all information necessary to investigate the complaint fully and also to vent their frustration effectively! The feasibility of this option is under discussion.</i></p> <p><u>September 2009 update</u> <i>The text facility is now available for the new school year to all parents of primary school bus users.</i> <i>A recent survey of nearly 1200 secondary school bus users revealed that they would like service updates by text (66%) but would prefer to make complaints by phone (49%) or email/website (21% each).</i> <i>Mechanisms for delivery of the above are being developed.</i></p>		
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	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
9	<p>That the Director of Children’s Services commissions an in-depth review of transport, to promote more effective use of existing resources and improve children and young people’s access to services, and that she reports back to us within three months on progress.</p>		
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u></p> <p><u>September 2008 response</u> <i>It is agreed that an in-depth review is required, but it is not possible with the resources available in this financial year to undertake the work to scope and conduct such a review. We have however, during the last three months undertaken informal discussions with key stakeholders about opportunities to take this forward. This recommendation from scrutiny will also ensure this matter is considered a priority within the revised Children and Young People’s Plan for 2009 and beyond. Meanwhile, work is progressing to look at the current availability and use of school transport so that it better supports the offer of extended services to young people.</i></p> <p><u>January 2009 update</u> <i>The position is as above with respect to this becoming a priority within the revised Children and Young People’s Plan for 2009 onwards.</i></p> <p><u>April 2009 update</u> <i>Transport considerations will form an important strand of the ‘places to go and things to do’ priority within the new Children and Young People’s Plan. This will focus more attention in this area. Key partners are continuing to work closely to identify opportunities to improve transport provision, for example in supporting the progress of Metro’s Strategy for Young People.</i></p> <p><u>September 2009 update</u> <i>The new Children and Young People’s Plan has now been completed. This gives renewed focus to work around the ‘places to go and things to do’ priority. Work is continuing in support of the wider initiatives to improve transport provision for young people, including the work that Metro are planning over the autumn.</i></p>		

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
5	<p>That the Director of Children's Services produces clear guidelines which support partners to manage existing and future jointly funded activities, projects or teams, with clear lines of accountability for key areas such as personnel and performance management.</p>	<p>6 (Not for review this time).</p> <p>Next review in Mar 2010</p>	
	<p><i><u>Director's Response (Approved by Executive Board April 2009)</u></i> <i>A new financial planning framework established in 2009/10 will ensure that all aspects of children's services financial planning are considered together. Detailed guidance will also be developed by a small partnership group. This will be completed by September 2009.</i></p> <p><i><u>Update on Latest Position/Activity May 2009</u></i> <i>It is anticipated that the partnership group will complete this work over the summer of 2009.</i></p> <p><i><u>September 2009 update</u></i> <i>Education Leeds has produced guidelines for schools re HR issues and 'cluster' arrangements. An HR partnership network is being established to further progress this work and produce guidance before April 2010.</i></p>		

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
6	<p>That the Director of Children's Services produces a protocol with partners which promotes proper consultation with all partners involved in jointly funded activities, projects or teams before the removal of funding. The protocol should allow for the consideration at a strategic level of the implications of the potential loss of any such service within the overall priorities for Children's Services.</p>	<p>4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring</p>	
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u></p> <p>A development paper on Locality Governance has been prepared and shared with the Council's Corporate Governance and Audit Committee. Further work is required but the paper includes recommendations that clusters should be seen as significant partnerships within the Council's overall partnership framework. The paper includes recommendations about resource management arrangements. However, this work will need to be reflected upon within the context of the current Children's Services Leadership Review.</p> <p>The Strategic Leader (Resources) has asked all partners represented on the Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board to alert him about any single agency decision which might impact adversely on existing multi-agency arrangements during the current budget planning round. He will follow up on this at the January meeting.</p> <p><i><u>Director's Response (Approved by Executive Board April 2009)</u></i> <i>A partnership working group will be established to progress this recommendation, which will be completed by September 2009. This will link in to the financial planning framework outlined in recommendation 5 above.</i></p> <p><i><u>Update on Latest Position/Activity May 2009</u></i> <i>It is anticipated that this work will be completed over the summer of 2009. This will enable the group to set it in the context of the new Children and Young People's Plan and consider new government guidance around Children's Trust Arrangements.</i></p> <p><i><u>September 2009 update</u></i> <i>The Vulnerable Group Commissioning Partnership is progressing work re 'pooled' budget arrangements which will be taken through relevant partnership and executive arrangements prior to the next financial year.</i> <i>We will use the Co-location fund project in Seacroft and the Youth Hub project in South Leeds to further develop through practical examples protocol and guidance.</i> <i>Partners through ISCB will be asked to identify at an early stage in the budget cycle any jointly funded projects at risk.</i></p>		

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
2	<p>That the Director of Children’s Services reports back to us within 3 months on the steps being taken to ensure that:</p> <p>b) the children experience as seamless a transition as possible, regardless of which school they move on to</p> <p>c) assistance is offered to those Centres, or schools, which are having difficulty in establishing these ties, and</p> <p>d) all Children’s Centres are encouraged to form stronger ties with their Extended Services cluster where this is not already happening.</p>	<p>2 (Achieved)</p>	<p>✓</p>
	<p><u>December 2009 update – 2c only</u></p> <p>The recent appointment of Early Years Consultants has improved the capacity to support and advise settings in promoting these ties. Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Leadership forums have been established which involve lead EYFS practitioners from schools, Children’s Centres and settings to attend within wedge localities to facilitate partnership working. One common referral system is in place for any setting requiring support or advice with EYFS issues. Universal EYFS training and networks across all sectors are supporting practitioners in establishing and maintaining partnerships.</p> <p><i>Director’s Response (Approved by Executive Board August 2009)</i></p> <p><i>The Director of Children’s Services agrees with this recommendation.</i></p> <p><i>b) We have developed guidance to ensure children experience seamless transition for their Children’s Centre this will be a focus for training at the newly established EYFS leadership and management forums from Sept.</i></p> <p><i>c) The Quality Improvement Teams across the two services are being revised in light of this report and the requirements of the Early Years Outcomes Duty to ensure a clear referral route for advice and support.</i></p> <p><i>d) Heads of Children’s Centres Services are ensuring that Children’s Centre managers attend extended services clusters meetings, both contributing to and leading developments.</i></p>	<p>2c only for review this time.</p> <p>2b and 2d are not for review until March 2010</p>	

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
4	<p>That the Director of Children’s Services and the Chief Executive of Education Leeds report back to us within three months on the steps being taken to promote the EYFS Transition Record as widely as possible, and to encourage as many settings as possible to make use of it.</p>	<p>6 (Not for review this time).</p>	
	<p><i>Director’s Response (Approved by Executive Board August 2009)</i> <i>The Director of Children’s Services agrees with this recommendation.</i> <i>The EYFS Transition Record has been created by a range of settings including day care and childminders. The record has been piloted and is due to be widely distributed from September 2009.</i></p>	<p>Next review in Sept 2010</p>	
7	<p>That the Director of Children’s Services and the Chief Executive of Education Leeds report back to us within three months on how the support on offer to those groups of children identified as being at high risk of underachievement, such as Black and Minority Ethnic children and those with Special Educational Needs, is being made as seamless as possible, particularly during the transition period.</p>	<p>4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring.</p>	
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u></p> <p>The ongoing work of the Data Working Group – Early Years Outcome Duty (EYOD) group two - has identified where data is held within the service. A LCC officer is coordinating a scoping project to ensure this information is accessible and available in one database; this work aims to be completed by February 2010. Meanwhile data has been used to target National Strategy programmes (e.g. Every Child a Talker) where they are needed most. Partnership working between LCC and Education Leeds continues and this is being monitored through the EYOD Quality Improvement Working Group. An Early Years Consultant is working closely with the Early Support Co-ordinator to ensure training is co-ordinated and reflects the principles of the EYFS.</p> <p><i>Director’s Response (Approved by Executive Board August 2009)</i> <i>The Director of Children’s Services agrees with this recommendation.</i> <i>Through the work of Objective 2 in the EYOD the Local Authority has recognised the need to use data in a way that supports service planning and early identification. For example information collated from Children’s Centres and schools identifies Gypsy Roma and Traveller children who may require specialist support in centre and at home. An Early Years Consultant (Early Years Service) is now working closely with the newly appointed EAL early years consultant (Education Leeds). An action plan has been drawn up which will ensure training and support is offered where needed.</i></p>		

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
8	<p>Also, that the Director of Children’s Services and the Chief Executive of Education Leeds carry out a review of the funding for children with Special Educational Needs within Early Years, within the next three months, with a particular focus on ensuring that children are offered the same level of high quality support, regardless of the type of setting which they attend.</p>	<p>4 (not achieved)</p>	
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u></p> <p>Earlier this year the Private Child-care Providers network and the Early Years Reference Group which oversees the implementation of flexible free entitlement for nursery education and the implementation of an equitable funding system for free entitlement in school and Private Voluntary and Independent Sector (PVI) nurseries, requested that a small group should look into the cost of inclusion in PVI providers. The aim of this piece of work was to develop a formula for the cost of inclusion in PVI settings and to make recommendations around the affordability for such provision in the current economic climate. The ultimate aim was to reduce barriers to inclusion in the PVI sector and ensure that this provision was sustainable.</p> <p>The work was undertaken by a small group of volunteers from the PVI sector and supported by early years business support. The findings of this group have been compiled into a draft report 'the cost of inclusion in PVI settings'. This report will be ready for consultation in the new year and the results of the consultation will be incorporated into the report.</p> <p>The outline recommendations are as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Consultation on the following recommendations should take place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) A single equitable funding system should be implemented across PVI and Maintained sector settings ii) The amount of funding for each type of setting should be the same per unit iii) The funding delivery system should be equitable iv) Further investigations should be undertaken to ascertain if we are able to pay this funding to the PVI sector through the free entitlement system which would reduce the resources needed to administer the system and if this would be acceptable to PVI settings b) After consultation and recommendations from this are incorporated into the report, implementation should be undertaken at the earliest possible opportunity c) Further investigation needs to be undertaken on funding methods for those above the age of 5 <p><u>Director’s Response (Approved by Executive Board August 2009)</u> <i>The Director of Children’s Services agrees with this recommendation. A review is being undertaken around funding for young children with disabilities across all sectors to ensure inclusion and access- this will report to the Sure Start partnership in September 2009. There is a planned programme for all Children’s Centres to undertake Early Support training by April next year- this is a national programme to facilitate parental engagement as central to all planning for their disabled child.</i></p>	<p>Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring.</p>	

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
9	<p>That the Directors of Children’s Services and Education Leeds develop a means of coordinating and moderating different services and their associated governance arrangements to ensure that there is a consistently high standard of service across all providers. That the option of making use of the Area Management Boards to achieve this be considered. That a report on progress is brought to the Children’s Services Scrutiny board within the next 3 months.</p>	<p>2 (Achieved)</p>	<p>✓</p>
	<p><u>December 2009 update</u></p> <p>In April 2009 Children’s Centres identified that 59% (29) of centres have an established Advisory Board attended by a range of partners from the area and including parents as active decision makers in the development of services. By December 49 centres will have undertaken their initial Advisory Board meeting. Centres have been advised to approach the Area Management Boards for involvement and support of their governance arrangements. There are a number of centres that have active elected member support and involvement e.g. Little London, Middleton, Windmill, Ardsley and Tingley. This will be further reviewed in March 2010.</p> <p><i><u>Director’s Response (Approved by Executive Board August 2009)</u></i></p> <p><i>The Director of Children’s Services agrees with this recommendation.</i></p> <p><i>The recent review of Children’s Centres identified that 59% (29) of centres have an established Advisory Board attended by a range of partners from the area and including parents as active decision makers in the development of services. All centres (49) are expected to have Advisory Boards in place by January 2010. Centres will be advised to approach the Area Management Boards for involvement and support of their governance arrangements.</i></p>		

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Originator: Kate Arscott

Tel: 247 4189

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 10 December 2009

Subject: Scrutiny Inquiry – The impact of population growth on children's services in Leeds

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the board's meeting in June, members agreed to carry out an inquiry into the impact of population growth on children's services in Leeds, as one of their major pieces of work this year. A copy of the agreed terms of reference is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The first formal session of the inquiry was held in October, focusing on the first two objectives of the inquiry:

how good is our information and how do we make it better?

how well do we use the information, and how can we improve?

Representatives from the Office for National Statistics, Local Government Association and the University of Leeds School of Geography attended the Board, in addition to officers from Education Leeds on behalf of Children's Services, and from Planning, Policy and Improvement.

- 1.3 The second session was held in November, and focused on the third objective of the inquiry:

What service changes do we need to make because of population growth?

Officers from Education Leeds, Children and Young People's Social Care, Early Years and Health attended the Board.

- 1.4 These two sessions completed the scheduled activities for the board's inquiry. However, Members agreed that they required further evidence before they were able to complete this inquiry.
- 1.5 The issues raised where further evidence was required were:
- The information on Super Output Area (SOA)/Ward profiling held by the Regeneration service within Environment and Neighbourhoods
 - Information from Housing on changing patterns of housing provision and occupation
 - Information from the Planning Division of City Development with regard to development within the city and its likely impact on population
 - The remit and membership of the Joint Information Group involving NHS Leeds and the Council/Education Leeds
 - Further information on the proposals to accommodate increased pupil numbers in primary schools and, in the longer term, secondary schools
- 1.6 It is suggested that the Board uses its February 2010 meeting to accommodate an additional session of the inquiry to cover the above issues, and any further areas identified by the Board at this meeting.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The board is requested to agree to hold a further session of the inquiry in February 2010, and to confirm the areas of evidence to be provided.

Background papers

None

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) Inquiry

The impact of population growth on children's services in Leeds

Terms of reference

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 According to the Office for National Statistics, the population of the Yorkshire and Humber region grew by 175,400 (3.5%) in the five years up to 2007. The latest forecasts indicate a further 19% growth – nearly a million people – by 2026. This includes a predicted increase of 180,000 people in the Leeds local authority area.
- 1.2 The council is currently feeling the impact of the rise in population in terms of needing to identify additional primary school places in some parts of the city.
- 1.3 In light of the information on population growth, the Executive Member for Children's Services and the Director of Children's Services suggested that it would be helpful to them if the Scrutiny Board carried out an inquiry into the wider impact of population growth for children's services in Leeds.

2.0 Scope of the inquiry

- 2.1 The purpose of the Inquiry is to make an assessment of and, where appropriate, make recommendations on:
 - The availability, timeliness and accuracy of local population change data;
(how good is our information and how do we make it better?)
 - The use that is made of available data in planning service provision;
(how well do we use the information, and how can we improve?)
 - The reasons for population growth, and the consequent implications for services in terms of both universal services and also specific areas of additional demand.
(what service changes do we need to make because of population growth?)
- 2.2 The Board hopes that its findings will provide a timely and positive contribution to the management of change.

3.0 Comments of the relevant director and executive member

- 3.1 This inquiry was proposed by the Executive Member for Children's Services and the Director of Children's Services.

4.0 Timetable for the inquiry

4.1 The inquiry will take place in October and November 2009, with a view to issuing a final report in early 2010.

4.2 The inquiry will conclude with the publication of a formal report setting out the board's conclusions and recommendations.

5.0 Submission of evidence

5.1 The following evidence will be considered by the Board

5.2 Session One – Scrutiny Board meeting – 15 October 2009

This session will focus on the first two objectives of the inquiry:

how good is our information and how do we make it better?

how well do we use the information, and how can we improve?

The following information will be required:

- An outline of what sources of population information are currently available to children's services management in predicting future demand for services
- Current population growth data, including any analysis of particular trends or patterns within the data
- How services use population information to predict demand and plan the supply of services
- National contributions on best practice in the collection and use of timely and accurate population data

5.4 Session Two – Scrutiny Board meeting – 12 November 2009

This session will focus on the third objective of the inquiry:

what service changes do we need to make because of population growth?

The following information will be required:

- Action already being taken by children's services in response to population growth
- Areas of children's services that will be affected by population growth and proposals for responding to new needs
- Other services relevant to children and young people that will be affected, eg housing

The board will then consider emerging conclusions and recommendations to inform the production of the final inquiry report

6.0 Witnesses

- 6.1 The following witnesses have been identified as possible contributors to the Inquiry:

Local witnesses

Children's Services
Education Leeds
NHS Leeds (PCT)
Information and Knowledge Management

National bodies

One or more from the following:

Office for National Statistics (ONS)
Local Government Association
City and County of Swansea Council (have done a scrutiny inquiry on population estimates)
Leeds University School of Geography

7.0 Monitoring Arrangements

- 7.1 Following the completion of the scrutiny inquiry and the publication of the final inquiry report and recommendations, the implementation of the agreed recommendations will be monitored.
- 7.2 The final inquiry report will include information on the detailed arrangements for monitoring the implementation of recommendations.

8.0 Measures of success

- 8.1 It is important to consider how the Board will deem whether its inquiry has been successful in making a difference to local people. Some measures of success may be obvious at the initial stages of an inquiry and can be included in these terms of reference. Other measures of success may become apparent as the inquiry progresses and discussions take place.
- 8.2 The Board will look to publish practical recommendations.

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Originator: Kate Arscott

Tel: 247 4189

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 10 December 2009

Subject: Work Programme

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A copy of the board's work programme is attached for members' consideration (appendix 1). The attached chart reflects the discussions at the board's November meeting.
- 1.2 Also attached is a summary of the activities of the Board's various working groups, since the last meeting on 12th November (appendix 2).
- 1.3 The current Forward Plan of Key Decisions (appendix 3) and the Executive Board minutes from 4th November (appendix 4) will give members an overview of current activity within the board's portfolio area.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 The board is requested to agree the attached work programme subject to any decisions made at today's meeting.

Background papers

None

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**Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)
Work Programme 2009/10**

Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – 28 January 2010			
School performance and Ofsted Inspections	Annual report on school performance, Ofsted Inspections and schools causing concern	The Scrutiny Board agreed in 2006/07 to consider these reports to Executive Board	PM
Exam results	To receive a report on exam results for 2008/9		PM
Meadowfield Primary School	To agree the Board's Inquiry report		
Residential Care Home Inspections	To receive a briefing following a recent Ofsted judgement of inadequate at a residential care home	This report will be an exempt item (Timing subject to confirmation)	PM
Meeting date – 25 February 2010			
Population Growth	To receive additional evidence to complete the board's inquiry	The Board agreed in November 2009 that it required additional information in order to complete this inquiry	DP
Meeting date – 25 March 2010			
Performance Management	Quarter 3 information for 2009/10 (Oct-Dec)	All Scrutiny Boards receive performance information on a quarterly basis	PM
Children's Services and the Children and Young People's Plan	To maintain an overview across the Board's portfolio, and to monitor the development of the Children's Services arrangements in Leeds Includes tracking of progress against APA and JAR recommendations	The Board has agreed to monitor progress against one CYPP priority and one 'organisational' issue on a quarterly basis. This report will cover Sex and relationship education as part of the teenage conception priority, and new types of school – eg federations, academies and trusts	PM

**Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)
Work Programme 2009/10**

Recommendation Tracking	This item tracks progress with previous Scrutiny recommendations on a quarterly basis		MSR
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Item	Description	Notes	Type of item
Meeting date – 22 April 2010			
Annual Report	To agree the Board's contribution to the annual scrutiny report		
Scrutiny Board Inquiry Reports	To finalise the Board's inquiry reports		

Key:

RFS – Request for scrutiny

RP – Review of existing policy

DP – Development of new policy

MSR – Monitoring scrutiny recommendations

PM – Performance management

B – Briefings (including potential areas for scrutiny)

**Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)
Work Programme 2009/10**

Working Groups			
Working group	Membership from 2008/09	Current position	Meeting Dates
Safeguarding - Resources	Councillor Hyde Councillor Driver Councillor Gettings Councillor Selby Mr Britten Ms Foote Prof Gosden	To consider the adequacy of current children's social work resources to meet core child protection responsibilities	30 July 21 August 10 September 24 September 21 October 5 November 27 November 2 December
Safeguarding – Preventative Duty	Councillor Hyde Councillor Driver Councillor Gettings Councillor Lancaster Councillor Selby Mr Britten Ms Kayani Ms Morris-Boam	To consider the universal safeguarding duty and preventative work, particularly at a wedge level	30 July 7 October 16 October 6 November 2 December
14-19 review	Councillor Hyde Councillor Cleasby Councillor Driver Councillor Lancaster Mr Britten Professor Gosden	Inquiry carried over from 2008/09 – meeting with employers to be arranged	30 November

**Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)
Work Programme 2009/10**

Working Groups			
School Organisation Consultations	Councillor Hyde Councillor Cleasby Councillor Renshaw Councillor Selby Mr Britten Ms Johnson Mrs Knights	Request for scrutiny from Councillors Ewens and Pryke	3 September 2009 26 October 2009
Attendance	Councillor Hyde Councillor Gettings Mr Britten Professor Gosden	The Board agreed in May 2009 that the working group should review progress before the end of the 2009 calendar year.	16 November 2009
Youth Service Surveys	Councillor Lancaster Councillor Renshaw Mr Britten Mrs Knights Ms Morris-Boam	The Board agreed in September 2009 to set up a working group to ensure that the plans for the next non-user survey for the youth service engages schools sufficiently	January 2010
Liaison with Leeds Youth Council	Councillor Lancaster Councillor Renshaw Mr Britten Mrs Knights	The Board agreed in September 2009 to re-establish this working group to liaise with the Leeds Youth Council over its involvement with the scrutiny process, and specifically to monitor the recommendations of the Young People's Scrutiny Forum report 'Protecting our Environment'	To meet after Youth Council elections in October

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Update on working group activity

This report provides an update on the activities of the Board's various working groups, since the last meeting on 12th November.

Safeguarding – Resources

This working group met with the Director of Children's Services on 27th October.

The working group is also seeking the views of Trade Unions prior to completing its work.

A joint session of both Safeguarding working groups will take place on 2nd December to consider the emerging conclusions and recommendations of the inquiry.

Attendance

This working group met on 16th November to carry out an end of calendar year progress review. The working group has asked for some additional detailed figures to be provided prior to finalising its conclusions to report back to the full Scrutiny Board.

14-19 Review

This working group met with employer representatives on 30th November, to discuss their role in shaping the future delivery of 14-19 education and training in Leeds. This concludes the scheduled activities for the Board's inquiry.

Dates are also currently being scheduled for the following working group meetings:

Youth Service Surveys – first meeting
Leeds Youth Council engagement with scrutiny

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LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Extract relating to Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

For the period 1 December 2009 to 31 March 2010

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made and email address to send representations to)
Young People's substance misuse prevention and treatment service Contract Award	Chief Officer - Children and Young People Social Care	1/12/09	Vulnerable Groups Commissioning Board, Substance Misuse Advisory Board, National Treatment Agency, Youth Offending Service, Tender Panel	Tender Documents	Chief Officer - Children and Young People Social Care louise.atherton@leeds.gov.uk
Commissioning of Phase 3 Specialist Connexions Services - Young Offenders Services Contract Award	Chief Officer - Early Years and Integrated Youth Service	1/12/09	Procurement Unit, CSLT, CLT	Report to CLT (07/07/09) Invocation Report to the Chief Officer Early Years & IYSS 21/09/09	Chief Officer - Early Years and Integrated Youth Service gerry.hudson@leeds.gov.uk

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made and email address to send representations to)
Provision of Community Living Project for Children and Young People in Leeds Delegated Decision Required to Commission a Community Living Service for Young People	Chief Officer - Children and Young People Social Care	1/12/09	n/a	Report to be presented to the Delegated Decision Panel	Chief Officer - Children and Young People Social Care mary.cousins@leeds.gov.uk
Commissioning of Phase 3 Specialist Connexions Services Agree the recommendation to put the Phase 3 Connexions Services out to competitive tender. The three year contract has an indicative value of £1.75m.	Chief Officer - Early Years and Integrated Youth Service	1/12/09	Relevant Service Areas	DDN	Chief Officer - Early Years and Integrated Youth Service gerry.hudson@leeds.gov.uk

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made and email address to send representations to)
<p>Transfer of Responsibilities from the Learning and Skills Council to the Local Authority</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the approach to the preparation for the transfer of responsibilities from the LCS to the Local Authority 2. Confirm elected member representation on the reconstituted 14-19 Strategic Partnership 3. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding which informs joint working across local authorities in West Yorkshire 	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	9/12/09		The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds gary.milner@education.leeds.co.uk

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made and email address to send representations to)
The future of City of Leeds, Parklands Girls', and Primrose High Schools To agree the detailed proposals for public consultation on the future of City of Leeds, Parklands Girls', and Primrose High Schools.	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	9/12/09	Detailed in the report	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds dirk.gilleard@educationleeds.co.uk
Expansion of Primary Provision for 2011 Permission to consult on expansion of primary provision for 2011	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	9/12/09	Jan/Feb 09	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds lesley.savage@leeds.gov.uk
BSF Phase 1 Design and Build Contract - Settlement BSF Phase Settlement of the Compensation Claims against Cockburn and Temple Moor Design and Build Contractors	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	9/12/09	N/A	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds jackie.green@educationleeds.co.uk

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made and email address to send representations to)
Proposal to Relocate the West SILC from the Farnley Park Site under Building Schools for the Future Permission to consult on changes to SILC provision on the Farnley Park High School Site	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	9/12/09	Jan/Feb 09	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds stuart.gosney@educationleeds.co.uk
'Annual Standards and Biannual report on Ofsted Inspections and Schools Causing Concern (Primary)' The report provides an update of information	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	6/1/10		The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds christene.halsall@educationleeds.co.uk
'Annual Standards and Biannual report on Ofsted Inspections and Schools Causing Concern (Secondary)' The report provides an update of information.	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	6/1/10		The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds brian.tuffin@educationleeds.co.uk

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made and email address to send representations to)
School Places Strategy To agree a School Place Strategy for Leeds 2010-13	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	6/1/10	September – November 2009	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds george.turnbull@educationleeds.co.uk
The future of City of Leeds, Parklands Girls', and Primrose High Schools To receive the outcome of public consultations and consider the publication of a statutory notice.	Executive Board (Portfolio: Children's Services)	10/3/10	Detailed in the report	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Chief Executive of Education Leeds dirk.gilleard@educationleeds.co.uk

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor R Brett in the Chair

Councillors A Carter, J L Carter,
R Finnigan, S Golton, R Harker, P Harrand,
J Monaghan, J Procter and K Wakefield,

Councillor R Lewis - Non-Voting Advisory Member

108 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2009 be approved.

ADULT HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

109 Deputation to Council - The 'Time to Change' City Wide Steering Group Seeking Leeds City Council Support for the Events Planned to be held in Leeds as part of the National 'Time to Change' Campaign

The Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report in response to the deputation to Council from the 'Time to Change' City-Wide Steering Group on 16th September 2009.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the Council's support for the Deputation be confirmed, and that the work of Time to Change be endorsed by promoting the campaign to a wide audience across the City.
- b) That it be noted that the Council will carry promotional materials in One Stop Centres, Libraries etc and place links to the Time to Change campaign on the LCC website and intranet.
- c) That the Board notes the Council's approach in tackling these issues, as described in paragraph 3.1.2 of the report, and agrees that the Council can lead by example in line with its Disability Employment Strategy, by ensuring that good practice is followed in supporting employees with mental health problems.

110 Deputation to Council - The Access Committee for Leeds regarding Planned Day Centre Closures

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 9th December, 2009

The Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report in response to the deputation to Council from the Access Committee for Leeds on 16th September 2009.

RESOLVED - That the response to the deputation be noted and considered in conjunction with the accompanying report from Day Centres to Day Services: Response to the Consultation on Day Services as referred to in minute 111 below.

111 From Day Centres to Day Services - Response to the Consultation on Day Services

Further to minute 43 of the meeting held on 22nd July 2009 The Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report summarising the consultation process undertaken with respect to the future role and purpose of the Council's day centres for older people, and detailing the recommendations for the development of day services for older people, following consideration of the responses received.

RESOLVED -

- a) That the outcome of the consultation and comments received be noted.
- b) That the revised proposals outlined at paragraphs 5.4 to 5.8 of the report be approved
- c) That the implementation plan outlined in paragraph 6 be endorsed.
- d) That active consideration be given to the future use of the buildings with a particular review of locally based services in the Holbeck area.
- e) That further work to publicise and promote the implementation of self directed support and personal budgets be championed through the scrutiny review of Personalisation.
- f) That supply and demand of day care services be kept under close review with further reports as required.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter)

CENTRAL AND CORPORATE

112 Financial Health Monitoring 2009/10 - Half Year Report

The Director of Resources submitted a report on the financial health of the authority after six months of the financial year in respect of the revenue budget and the housing revenue account.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the projected financial position of the authority after six months of the financial year be noted and that directorates be requested to continue to develop and implement action plans.
- b) That Council be recommended to approve a virement in the sum of £1,000,500 from debt charge savings to fund the early leavers initiative.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter).

113 Capital Programme Update 2009-2013

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing financial details of the 2009/10 month 6 Capital Programme position and proposing a small number of scheme specific approvals which had arisen since the 2008/09 – 2012/13 Capital Programme was approved in February 2009.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the latest position on the general fund and Housing Revenue Account capital programmes be noted together with the fact that further work will take place with East North East Homes to clarify funding responsibilities.
- b) That it be noted that the general fund capital programme now takes account of £1,000,000 of additional highways maintenance costs and £1,600,000 of Building Schools for the Future development costs in 2009/10.
- c) That approval be given to the release of £844,000 from the Strategic Development Fund already earmarked for New Generation Transport to meet the Council's share of development costs in 2009/10.
- d) That approval be given to the transfer of £50,000 from the capital contingency scheme to meet the development costs on the Accelerated Development Zones pilot scheme.
- e) That the earmarking of the Wortley High School capital receipt to the Building Schools for the Future programme be approved.

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Wednesday, 9th December, 2009

- f) That the injection of additional spend of £600,000 on the City Varieties Music Hall be approved.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter).

114 Treasury Management Strategy Update 2009/10

The Director of Resources submitted a report providing a review and update on the Treasury Management Strategy for 2009/10.

RESOLVED - That the update on Treasury Management borrowing and investment strategy for 2009/10 be noted.

115 Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy

The Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) submitted a report providing an update on the review and public consultation of the Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Policy, and presenting the revised document for the purposes of the Board's recommendation to full Council.

The Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) reported the outcome of discussions at the meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Central and Corporate) on 2nd November 2009.

RESOLVED –

- a) That having considered the responses to the consultation carried out, including the comments of Scrutiny Board given verbally at this meeting and the Final Consultation Report at Appendix 2, this Board endorses the proposed responses to the consultation exercise and recommends to full Council that these be approved as the Council's response to matters raised in consultation.
- b) That the revised draft Statement of Gambling Policy as set out at Appendix 1 to the report be noted and that full Council be recommended to approve this as the final Policy under the Gambling Act 2005.

116 Council Business Plan 2008-11: Mid-Term Review and Refresh

The Assistant Chief Executive (Planning, Policy and Improvement) submitted a report outlining a number of proposed amendments to the Council Business Plan 2008-2011.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the proposed changes to the Council Business Plan 2008-11 be approved.

- b) That Council be recommended to approve these amendments at their meeting on 18th November 2009.
- c) That the Chief Executive be authorised to review and update any performance targets for the final year of the plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

117 Revised Environment Policy

The Director of City Development submitted a report presenting for adoption the revised Environment Policy, clarifying the rationale behind the Policy and identifying the core elements and the links to the Leeds Strategic Plan, Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and other requirements.

RESOLVED – That the revised Environment Policy at Appendix 1 to the report, which will be signed by the Joint Leaders of the Council and the Chief Executive, be approved for adoption.

DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

118 Remediation of Gardens in the Meanwood Area - Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy

The Director of City Development submitted a report on a proposed scheme of remediation works to 41 properties in the Meanwood area to remove contaminated soil from all garden areas, to a minimum depth of 0.6m, and replacement with clean soil; the scheme to be funded by grant from the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

RESOLVED –

- a) That approval be given to a fully funded injection of £1,375,503 into the 2009/12 Capital Programme from DEFRA government grant.
- b) That approval be given to the incurring of expenditure of £1,375,503 on the construction works relating to the scheme.

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING

119 New Social Housing in EASEL

The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods submitted a report providing details of a new funding opportunity which would enable two of the EASEL phase 1 sites to be brought forward for the provision of new social housing.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the construction of a 63 unit scheme within the EASEL area be authorised and that responsibility for the appropriate negotiations within

the funding approved in this decision be delegated to the Directors of Environment and Neighbourhoods, City Development and Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance).

- b) That approval be given to an injection into the capital programme of £7,089,000 and that expenditure in the same sum be authorised for the building of 63 new social houses which will be funded from £3,509,000 of Homes and Communities Agency grant and £3,580,000 prudential borrowing funded from the Housing Revenue Account.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

120 Proposal for Expansion of Primary Provision in the Gildersome Area

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on a proposed consultation exercise with respect to permanently expanding Gildersome Primary School by one form of entry with effect from 2011, as part of the remodelling work planned through the Primary Capital Programme.

In presenting the report the Executive Member (Learning) corrected a reference to a recommendation of the report as contained in the Executive Summary by deletion of the reference to 2012 and its replacement with 2011.

RESOLVED –

- a) That formal consultation be undertaken on the proposal to permanently expand Gildersome Primary School by one form of entry to two forms of entry with effect from September 2011.
- b) That a report on the outcome of the consultation be brought back to the Board in Spring 2010.

121 Design and Cost Report - Boston Spa Children's Centre

The Acting Chief Officer of Early Years and Integrated Youth Support Service Leeds submitted a report outlining proposals with respect to the development of Boston Spa Children's Centre.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to the transfer of £468,900 from the Phase 3 Children's Centre Parent (capital scheme 14778) and £100,000 from the GSSG Extended Services Parent 2008-2010 (capital scheme 14777), £100,000 from GSSG Quality and Access funding, £60,000 Section 106 monies, £105,000 Area Management funding, £20,000 of Youth Capital funding and that authority be given to incur expenditure on construction £668,300, equipment £30,000, and fees £155,600.

122 Multi-function centre: Co-Location Capital Grant

(a) Design and Cost Report: 'Wyke Beck Community Centre' Co-Location Capital Grant 2009/10 – 2010/11

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report on the proposed injection of the £3,335,000 Co-Location Capital Grant funding into the Council's capital programme and seeking authority to spend the capital monies on the 'Wyke Beck Community Centre' scheme.

RESOLVED – That the injection of capital expenditure in the sum of £3,335,000 into the capital programme be approved and that authority be given to spend in the same amount as set out in section 3 of the report.

(b) Lease of Land Adjoining the David Young Academy

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report on a request received from the David Young Community Academy for a lease of land associated with the Co-location scheme referred to in (b) above.

RESOLVED – That the request from the David Young Community Academy to lease the additional land on the terms outlined in the report be agreed and progressed.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 6th November 2009

LAST DATE FOR CALL IN: 13th November 2009

(Scrutiny Support will notify Directors of any items called in by 12:00 noon on 16th November 2009)

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