

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
3	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><u>July 2007 position</u> 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 Timescale: October 2007</p> <p><u>October 2007 update</u> The timescale for the review to be completed is now January 2008.</p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> The timescale for completion of the review is now March 2008.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> 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.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> 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.</p>	<p>4 or 5 (not achieved)</p> <p>Board to determine whether progress is acceptable</p>	

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
1	<p>In light of the evidence presented during our inquiry, we recommend that the youth offer for Leeds needs to address the following key findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for a more equal distribution of universal youth services on offer across the city • The need to include advice and signposting within universal provision • The need to recognise that some groups of young people (for example carers, looked after children and young people with disabilities) may need a different approach or extra assistance to enable them to access the types of opportunities included in the universal youth offer • The need to recognise young people's expressed desires for venues and spaces to undertake their own (unstructured) activity • The important role of inter-generational/all age activities as well as specific young people's activities <p>We ask the Director of Children's Services to report to us within 3 months on how each of these issues will be addressed in the published youth offer.</p>	<p><u>January 2008 update</u> 972 young people were consulted during the summer about the contents of the draft youth offer. The results led to the production, by the Youth Council and ROAR, of an excellent DVD introducing the Breeze Youth Promise. The consultation highlighted the need to change some elements of the youth offer. This is being done at present, meaning that the Breeze Youth Promise can be finalised by the end of March. Leeds is recognised nationally as being the most advanced authority in the country regarding the youth offer.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> Updates have previously been provided around work on the specific elements of this recommendation.</p> <p>The Breeze Youth Promise is now finalised and is awaiting imminent sign-off from the Leeds Youth Council. It addresses points covered in this recommendation. It will be officially launched following this sign-off and a communications strategy will be agreed by young people to share it across the city.</p> <p>Approximately 30 young people have sustained involvement in this development, and a group has been formed which will be responsible over the longer term for the Breeze Youth Promise.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> Young people have sustained their involvement in producing the Breeze Youth Promise. They are planning a launch event for the Breeze Youth Promise before the end of the year and will be inviting Scrutiny Board members to attend.</p>	4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring	

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
7	We recommend that the Director of Children's Services ensures that, in addition to existing consultation with service users, specific efforts are made to consult with non service users about their views on the Youth Service.	<p><u>October 2007 position</u> The Youth Service will be conducting its second annual user survey in October 2007. This is specifically designed to assess customer feedback and satisfaction ratings. Extensive public consultation with young people about the youth offer has been taking place during the summer as part of Breeze on Tour.</p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> The annual user survey will now take place in February 2008.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> Reports from the user survey and a focus group with non service users have been circulated to members of the Scrutiny Board.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> The next annual survey will be across IYSS instead of just Youth Service. In particular this involves extending the survey to Connexions clients. This means that the views of non Youth Service users will be captured. The results will be available by March 2009.</p>	2 (Achieved)	✓

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
2	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><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>	4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring	
5	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><u>July 2007 position</u> Metro will consider this further following the launch of their young people's website</p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> 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.</p> <p><u>July 2008 update</u> Metro has requested a quote for setting up and running a text messaging service.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> A text messaging service has not yet been established, but Metro remain committed to this and are hoping to appoint an operator shortly.</p>	4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring	

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
8	That the Director of Children's Services investigates adding travel concessions to the other benefits of the Breeze card and reports back to Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) in July 2007.	<p><u>July 2007 position</u> There are some technical issues that need to be addressed. Metro and Leeds City Council have agreed to closer joint working on publicity, events and discounts.</p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> Investigations into this are ongoing. This scheme will also depend on the introduction of a smart card. Metro will keep the Scrutiny Forum informed of progress in this area.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> See recommendation 2. 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 hoping to run the 'get around for a pound' promotion again next summer, and are exploring the idea of promoting it alongside Breeze events, to encourage young people to travel to Breeze by bus." Metro and Children's Services are continuing to explore other methods of joint working. In the long term, the introduction of a 'smartcard' which would combine Breeze and travel concessions is under consideration, and Metro see Children's Services as a key stakeholder in the development of this.</p>	4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring	

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
9	That the Director of Children's Services orders a review of how school transport monies are being spent in Leeds to see if there is a better way in which it could be spent and reports back to Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) in July 2007.	<p><u>July 2007 position</u> A review is taking place. Metro is developing a pathfinder bid for November 2007.</p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> The School Transport Team within Education Leeds are involved in an ongoing review of transport costs and implications. This is set within the context of the statutory obligations that must be met under government legislation. The team has been liaising closely with Metro as part of this work, with a strong emphasis on taking forward the recommendations from the scrutiny review, particularly using the Breeze card to widen access to bus transport. Ongoing updates on this progress can be provided.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> A report will be submitted shortly to Executive Board prior to consultation during the autumn term on proposed changes to the Home to School Transport policy to take effect from September 2009. Part of the proposals are likely to incorporate amendments to the policy for support for children with additional transport needs (for example children with special educational needs) to reflect improved coordination between the policies previously administered separately by Education Leeds and Children and Young People's Social Care.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> A report on the Sustainable Education Travel Strategy was submitted to the Executive Board's October 2008 meeting. This recommended both the adoption of the strategy and approval for the development of a Children's Services School Transport Policy and the intention to integrate this with the Leeds Sustainable Education Travel Strategy by September 2010.</p>	2 (Achieved)	✓

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
1	That Education Leeds should always show a full analysis of the factors it has taken into consideration in its projections of demand for pupil places, and that it reports back to the Scrutiny Board within 3 months as to how this will be achieved, using Fountain Primary School as a particular example to demonstrate this.	<p><u>February 2008 position</u></p> <p>In addition to utilising the existing systems which have proved to be robust during the closure and opening of almost 80 schools Education Leeds will develop a transparent system for reporting the demographic planning risks associated with a proposed school reorganisation. This could include for example the number of schools involved, their location in the city, the past reliability of projections in the area etc.</p> <p>An officer within the school organisation team has been identified to progress this work. The system for assessing risk will be reported to Scrutiny at its June meeting.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u></p> <p>To ensure a full, clear explanation is shown, Education Leeds is reviewing the information/explanation it uses to support its methodology.</p> <p>The revised information will be used for the updated pupil projections for schools, currently being completed by the School Organisation Team and due to be available on-line in the next two months.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u></p> <p>In recent proposals to replace existing schools with academies Education Leeds has applied learning from our experience at Fountain Primary School specifically, as part of the public consultation, we have reported demographic planning details and highlighted where there is vulnerability in this data.</p> <p>Revised information to update pupil projections for schools is available from October following analysis of September school census data.</p>	2 (Achieved)	✓

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
9	That the Governing Body of Fountain Primary School enters into early budgetary discussions with Education Leeds to review the school's current position so that any necessary further readjustments to class organisation and staffing structures are carried out with the least amount of disruption possible.	<p><u>February 2008 position</u> Support continues to be provided through the school's link finance, HR, Team Leader of Financial Services and school improvement advisors. Detailed plans for managing staffing reductions are implemented and an acceptable revised financial recovery plan produced by the governing body.</p> <p>3 school visits by finance officer since 13/12/2007. 2 school visits by HR adviser since 14/12/2007 with 2 further visits planned during MSR process. 0 school visits by school improvement adviser. Meeting convened in December involving senior manager of Education Leeds, school representatives, and relevant elected members to consider full range of actions available to governors and appropriateness of support from Education Leeds.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> There is ongoing work with the school. Staffing reductions are achieved through to September 2009 without disruption to the work of the school.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> 54 new starters in September 2008 contrast with 31 in September 2007, the total number on roll in the 2008-09 academic year is virtually the same as that which existed in the 2007-08 academic year. The other significant change in school staffing has seen the departure of the schools substantive head teacher and acting up arrangements establish, which sees the deputy head teacher now leading the school. The governing body and acting head teacher have already met with colleagues from the Organisational Change Team and are working positively with this team to manage and co-ordinate support from a range of Education Leeds services.</p>	2 (Achieved)	✓

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
1	That Education Leeds report quarterly to the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services) on any concerns regarding schools' use of delegated SEN funding raised through the school improvement process, and how schools have responded to challenge.	<p><u>July 2008 Response</u></p> <p>(a) Education Leeds are developing a monitoring and accountability framework that will include value for money judgements, against pupil outcomes and organisational practice.</p> <p>Working in partnership with schools, a document will be produced that sets out the full range of resources available to support children with SEN, with clear guidance as to how these resources can be utilised.</p> <p>An improved data set for Inclusion that will include both funding and outcomes for children will enable improved support and challenge mechanisms within which judgements can be made.</p> <p>Timescale January 2009</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u></p> <p>The FFI framework and handbook are being re-written with a full list of guidance for schools including criteria, outcomes and procedures available on the schools info-base. The Teams are still on schedule to deliver against the agreed timescale of January 2009.</p> <p>In addition work is ongoing to review the mechanism and procedures that are in place for reviewing the 2,500+ reviews that take place every year. Given the number of reviews that are ongoing Education Leeds focus on year 5, 9 transition reviews and requests for changes in placements. Work is still required to ensure the consistency and quality of advice coming through from some of the learning environments.</p> <p>Further work is required to ensure robust accountability mechanisms are in place that ensures more effective monitoring of pupil outcomes in relation to funding available, particularly for those pupils educated in mainstream schools. This will be strengthened through planned developments in Objective 1 of LILS including the revision of the School Improvement Policy and Procedures. Further strengthening of the annual review process and procedures and work being undertaken around FFI and the service specifications are being developed for locality working. Further work around value for money will be developed to link in with DCSF and Audit Commission recommendations and guidance.</p>	4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring	

Inclusion

Statement published April 2008

Last update received October 2008

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
		<p><u>July 2008 Response</u></p> <p>(b) Annual report to be prepared for the School Improvement Partnership Board and Scrutiny that highlights trends and actions taken both at an individual school level; extended school cluster; area and city level. Framework on which report will be presented to be agreed by September 2008.</p> <p>Timescale First annual report to be produced April 2009</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u></p> <p>b) There is still a need to agree a robust framework on which future judgements will be made for the annual report. Data is collected systematically at individual school level, extended service cluster, area and city level on which to form a base line.</p>		

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
2	That Education Leeds commits to early consultation with parents and professionals on any proposals for changes in the location of specialist SEN provision.	<p><u>July 2008 Response</u></p> <p>(a) The development of Specialist Provision, including the SILCs is Objective 2 within LILS. An audit of current and future projections of the SEN population are informing the development of a range of provisions within localities to ensure improved pathways for children. Proposals for the development of specialist provision will be consulted on with a wide range of stakeholders including parents, young people and professionals.</p> <p>The audit is now well under way. SENSAP is working collaboratively with PMIT and Schools Organisation to ensure that the data set upon which model is based is as accurate and detailed as possible.</p> <p>Agreement has been reached with SILC Principals regarding the options for a future model for specialist provision. A briefing document as a precursor to a consultative document is currently being prepared. It is planned that this will be available by the end of July 2008</p> <p>Timescale By December 2008. (Active informal consultation will begin October 2008.)</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u></p> <p>Informal discussions have been held with the Silc Principals and key partners over the Summer term, both through the Silc Forum and the SILC Strategy group. An extraordinary LILS Programme Board was held last week to review available data and suggested ways forward. As a result a recommendation was made that further analysis be undertaken prior to the November Board meeting when a written report would be scheduled that will inform options on which to move forward with the next stages of discussions with key Stakeholders. Whilst this will delay the start of further informal discussions to nearer the end of the Autumn term the Board agreed that this was necessary to ensure all factors have been considered in more depth.</p>	<p>4 or 5 (not achieved)</p> <p>Board to determine whether progress is acceptable</p>	

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
		<p><u>July 2008 Response</u> (b) A proposal will be taken to the Parenting Strategy Board early in the Autumn term that will propose establishing representative parent forums in each area of the City that can be used as a reference group for active participation and consultation of parents and carers as models emerge.</p> <p>The Education Leeds representative on the Parenting Strategy Board is working with parents to develop this. The Chair of the Parenting Strategy Board is on the LILS Programme Board.</p> <p>Timescale Proposal to Parenting Strategy Board September 2008. Groups in place for October 2008</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> A paper has been written for both the LILS Programme Board and the Parenting Strategy Board that highlights proposals for strengthening area based forums that will be developed as reference groups for active participation and consultation with parents and carers as models emerge. The paper has been approved by the Parenting strategy Board and once formally approved by the LILS Programme will be available on the LILS section of info-base.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Response</u> (c) Regular newsletters produced for parents that give updates, progress and opportunities to be involved from September 2008. Electronic and paper versions to be available Initial newsletter produced as part of phase 2 of the LILS. This will become a regular part of phase 3 work that starts September 2008. Regular newsletters produced with parents that give all parents in the City up-dated information, and from the Autumn term and onwards, information on info-base.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> Plans are embedded within the parenting paper to address this recommendation.</p>		

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
4	That Education Leeds clearly sets out the referral routes for the Oasis centres.	<p><u>July 2008 Response</u> (a) Referral routes into Oasis Provision will be contained as an appendix to the Service Level Agreement.</p> <p>Entry and Exit to the Oasis provision will be linked to the threshold of need document so as to ensure it is part of the continuum of early prevention work.</p> <p>Meetings to finalise service specification are fixed for July 2008. Discussions over SLA will be finalised with AMBs during September.</p> <p>Timescale October 2008</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> This work is ongoing and will be linked in with both the final agreed Service Level agreement that will be in place for April 2009 and also built into the preferred model for behaviour on which further discussions will be held. The preferred model on which to have further discussions is scheduled to go back to the LILS programme Board in November once further analysis by categories of need is complete.</p> <p><u>July 2008 Response</u> (b) The proposed programmes on offer and assessments to be used at the centres will be embedded into the Service Level agreements along with expected outcomes for children.</p> <p>Timescale Part of consultation package over the Autumn term</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u> b) This work is ongoing</p>	<p>4 or 5 (not achieved)</p> <p>Board to determine whether progress is acceptable</p>	

	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Complete
5	That Education Leeds continues to lobby the DCSF to ensure that the establishment of future Academies, especially in Leeds, provides for funding to follow an excluded pupil.	<p><u>July 2008 Response</u></p> <p>(a) Education Leeds has responded to consultation from the DCSF stressing the importance of the inclusion of academies in regard to in Year Fair Access arrangements and around locally determined financial adjustments for exclusion.</p> <p>The DCSF has proposed that budget adjustments should apply to academies from 1 April 2009. Two options are proposed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All Academies will be subject to statutory adjustment. 2. Academies will be subject to statutory adjustment and additional local adjustment if they have representation on schools forum. <p>Further guidance will be published in autumn 2008</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u></p> <p>This work is ongoing</p> <p><u>July 2008 Response</u></p> <p>(b) Arrangements in relation to future Academies and exclusions will be built into local authority memorandum of understanding from the start of the process.</p> <p>Education Leeds are currently consulting sponsors of proposed academies and the DCFS on the perms of such a memorandum.</p> <p><u>October 2008 update</u></p> <p>This work is ongoing</p>	4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring	