

	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>September 2009 update</u></p> <p>Interviews for these posts have been held twice, without being able to recruit either time. The posts are being readvertised in <i>Community Care</i> 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.</p> <p><u>July 2007 position</u> <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><u>October 2007 update</u> <i>The timescale for the review to be completed is now January 2008.</i></p> <p><u>January 2008 update</u> <i>The timescale for completion of the review is now March 2008.</i></p> <p><u>July 2008 Update</u> <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><u>October 2008 update</u> <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
	<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>		

	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>4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring</p>	
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> 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.</p> <p><i><u>July 2007 position</u> Metro has agreed to consider this approach.</i></p> <p><i><u>January 2008 update</u></i> <i>This type of scheme is conditional on the introduction of smart cards. Metro will keep the Scrutiny Forum informed of progress in this area.</i></p> <p><i><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.</i></p> <p><i><u>October 2008 update</u></i> <i>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.</i></p> <p><i><u>January 2009 update</u></i> <i>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.</i> <i>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).</i> <i>The 'carnet' idea is one of the options put forward to consultants for modelling.</i> <i>The consultants' report will be available in early summer.</i></p> <p><i><u>April 2009 update</u></i> <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>		

	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>	4 (not achieved)	
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> The text facility is now available for the new school year to all parents of primary school bus users. 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). Mechanisms for delivery of the above are being developed.</p> <p><i><u>July 2007 position</u></i> Metro will consider this further following the launch of their young people's website</p> <p><i><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.</p> <p><i><u>July 2008 update</u></i> Metro has requested a quote for setting up and running a text messaging service.</p> <p><i><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.</p> <p><i><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.</p> <p><i><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. 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.</p>	<p>Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring</p>	

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
5	<p>That the Director of Children's Services ensures that there is comprehensive provision of local activity programmes and directories across Leeds, and reports back to us within three months on how this will be achieved.</p>	2 (Achieved)	✓
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> Booklets were produced detailing summer activities for each wedge in Leeds and these have been well received. Feedback from customers is now being sought so that the booklets can be improved in the future. There has been significant uptake of Breeze activities during summer 2009 with 25 events having taken place across the city. The Breeze has Talent finals will take place at West Yorkshire Playhouse at the end of October. The Family Hub website has been re-launched to provide improved information for children, young people and families. Closer links between the Family Hub and Extended Services continue to be developed so that the information that is provided for families is more comprehensive.</p> <p><u>September 2008 response</u> This will be addressed at two levels: Citywide the Chief Officer for Early Years and Youth Services will work with partners to take an overview of programmes in place and ensure that current good practice is built on to develop a more comprehensive programme. At a local level the ongoing strengthening of partnerships and integration between different services will continue to enable a more co-ordinated approach and therefore a wider offer locally.</p> <p><u>January 2009 update</u> Building on the above, following the Scrutiny review, this is being achieved through extended services and the Family Hub working in a much more co-ordinated way to develop local service provision and directories for each part of the city. This is helping to focus on a better city-wide approach so that previous gaps in provision are more easily identified and more consistency is achieved. I.T. improvements to the Family Hub, coupled with this closer working mean that local service directories will be available for each part of the city in the summer holidays of 2009.</p> <p><u>April 2009 update</u> A series of meetings has taken place at Extended Services Advisor and Cluster Co-ordinator level to agree procedures and timescales to produce information on the full programme of Holiday activities Summer 2009. Extended Services Clusters will receive back the information they have provided to a central database in a format that will have some consistency city wide yet enable them to quickly and efficiently customise into their own locally produced booklets. Parents will receive the full programme of Holiday Activities: Registered / Non Registered and Educational/Cultural activities provided by Education Leeds. A workshop hosted by Government Office Y&H will take place in March/April that will develop the networking relationships and confirm the operational procedures that will deliver to the clusters at local level.</p>		

	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>4 or 5 (not achieved)</p>	
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> 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.</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>Board to determine whether progress is acceptable</p>	

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
1	<p>That the Director of Children's Services ensures that the staff of the MAST team are given clear information about the current plans for the future of the team as a matter of urgency, and that the staff are kept regularly updated on progress.</p>	<p>2 (Achieved)</p>	<p>✓</p>
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> All members of MAST have been included within the re-aligned BEST service in East Leeds or through funding available to the Seacroft Manston Children and Young People Partnership. The team had to be re-located because of the closure of East Leeds Family Learning Centre. The Governing Body at Parklands Primary School agreed to provide some office space to 'house' the team. Other space will be used to offer therapeutic/counselling services.</p> <p>The Locality Enabler (East) holds regular meetings with the MAST manager and has also met with the whole team.</p> <p>The MAST manager and deputy manager have been invited to join other managers providing education support services in East Leeds to review future service development.</p> <p><i><u>Director's Response (Approved by Executive Board April 2009)</u></i> The Director of Children's Services has required that the Locality Enabler (East) has met with all staff, meets regularly with the manager of the team and for any HR processes associated with the team to be routed through him to ensure that a co-ordinated approach is retained. The Locality Enabler will keep the Director informed of progress.</p> <p><i><u>Update on Latest Position/Activity May 2009</u></i> The Locality Enabler (East) is continuing to take an overview of progress and activity relating to the MAST and is encouraging all relevant colleagues to ensure that staff are kept up-to-date with information in a timely and co-ordinated manner.</p>		

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
2	That the present MAST team is retained until revised service proposals are in place.	2 (Achieved)	✓
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> This has been achieved. One member of the team recently was successful in her application to a new post in South Leeds.</p> <p><i>Director's Response (Approved by Executive Board April 2009)</i> The MAST team will all remain in place to August '09 with the expectation that they will have the opportunity to be part of the re-aligned BEST service in East Leeds.</p> <p><i>Update on Latest Position/Activity May 2009</i> Staff funded through the BEST / BIP initiative on the payroll of John Smeaton School have been accommodated by Crossgates Primary School and Parklands Primary School until August 2009. This adjustment has been made to comply with the request of the Governing Body at John Smeaton. Each individual member of staff will be accommodated within the process of re-aligning BEST across the city from September 2009 along with other members of MAST.</p>		
3	That the Director of Children's Services informs the Scrutiny Board of plans for future provision of the type of service offered by MAST, in the East area of the city and city-wide.	4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable. Continue monitoring.	
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> The re-alignment of BEST (mainly staffing) within East Leeds requires that the priorities for the service need to be re-assessed. Discussion is underway with Headteachers and service managers to further develop how to deliver against priorities in the context of broader proposals emerging to support children and young people who have challenging behaviours or who are persistently absent. Staff and budget provision have been allocated to each of the 5 children services 'wedge' areas.</p> <p>The Seacroft / Manston Children and Young People Partnership has worked with the David Young Community Academy to successfully secure a £3.3m capital bid through the Cross Government Co-location Fund. Part of this bid involves a commitment to establishing a multi disciplinary service team on site. MAST have already been involved in early discussion about the building design and service delivery. This will continue through to design freeze. The project offers an opportunity to refresh our thinking about the skills and disciplines that can be brought together to improve family support services locally alongside the work undertaken through the Children Centres.</p> <p>The development of multi disciplinary arrangements in the city are enabled through 3 key service delivery</p>		

mechanisms:

Children Centres, Extended Services and Integrated Youth Support Services.

In the Leeds Children and Young people Plan Priority 9 – Strengthening Safeguarding and Priority 10 – Enabling Integrated Working identify key actions to be taken to improve our ‘working together’ arrangements. The new CAA arrangements and new OFSTED inspection arrangements are providing a focus for further development of these priorities.

Director's Response (Approved by Executive Board April 2009)

The Scrutiny Board will be informed of this through the Leeds Inclusive Learning Strategy (LILS). Recommendations for changes through the LILS will be finalised for approval during the summer 2009 term.

Update on Latest Position/Activity May 2009

The re-alignment of BEST (mainly staffing) within East Leeds requires that the priorities for the service need to be re-assessed. Discussion is underway with Headteachers to give some shape to this work in the context of broader proposals emerging to support children and young people with challenging behaviours.

The Seacroft /Manston Children and Young People's Partnership is reviewing the work of the 3 Parent Support Advisers (these posts are additional to MAST) and the 2 Home School Liaison Officers (part of MAST) to determine how to continue and improve parent support services locally. This work will take account of the support now available from the Children's Centre Family Outreach Workers and the new contract in East Leeds for intensive family support with the PCT.

In East Leeds Re'new have been successful with a Youth Sector Development Fund bid (£2.2m over 2 years) to provide services which will improve opportunities for young people.

In addition, the Seacroft/Manston Children and Young People's Partnership has worked with the David Young Community Academy to submit a £3.3m capital bid through the Cross Government Co-location Fund. Part of this bid involves a commitment to establishing a multi disciplinary youth support service team on site. The bid if successful would also see the building available for the type of work MAST has successfully developed with children and young people in recent years.

The draft of the new Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2014 outlines the ambitions for helping services work together better. It is envisaged that to meet individual needs will require a multi-disciplinary team around the child to be established. This broad approach will help to shape future progress around support services to children and families in East Leeds.

	Recommendation	Stage	Complete
4	<p>That the Director of Children's Services ensures that the local knowledge of staff is properly recognised and retained. Also that the MAST name is retained in some way if it works for local people.</p>	<p>2 (Achieved)</p>	<p>✓</p>
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> As reported in April.</p> <p><i>Director's Response (Approved by Executive Board April 2009)</i> It is anticipated that the current staff will be an important part of the new arrangements and the DCS will encourage local 'cluster' partnerships and services to have a high-regard for the knowledge of local staff and to use this in developing more integrated working around activities like the common assessment framework.</p> <p>The DCS expects that the local cluster partnership will undertake an assessment before any change in name that adversely impacts on service delivery. The Locality Enabler (East) will monitor this.</p> <p><i>Update on Latest Position/Activity May 2009</i> The skills of staff in the MAST will continue to be utilised locally, for example in providing therapy to meet the emotional health needs of children and young people with challenging behaviours.</p> <p>Future consideration of the name of the relevant services in the area must recognise that for local people the name MAST has positive and well-understood connotations about the type of services provided and without stigma attached.</p>		
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>4 (not achieved) Progress made acceptable.</p>	
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> 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.</p> <p><i>Director's Response (Approved by Executive Board April 2009)</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.</p> <p><i>Update on Latest Position/Activity May 2009</i> It is anticipated that the partnership group will complete this work over the summer of 2009.</p>	<p>Continue monitoring.</p> <p>Next review in Mar 2010</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.</p>	
	<p><u>September 2009 update</u> 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. 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. Partners through ISCB will be asked to identify at an early stage in the budget cycle any jointly funded projects at risk.</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>Continue monitoring.</p>	