



Children and Young People Policy and Performance Board

**Monday, 7 September 2009 at 6.30 p.m.
Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David W R'.

Chief Executive

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Mark Dennett (Chairman)	Labour
Councillor Margaret Horabin (Vice-Chairman)	Labour
Councillor Peter Browne	Conservative
Councillor Philip Drakeley	Conservative
Councillor Robert Gilligan	Labour
Councillor Trevor Higginson	Liberal Democrat
Councillor Kath Loftus	Labour
Councillor Joan Lowe	Labour
Councillor Stan Parker	Labour
Councillor Margaret Ratcliffe	Liberal Democrat
Councillor John Stockton	Labour
Joyce Dipnall	
Mr Colin Chorley	

Please contact Caroline Halpin on 0151 471 7394 or e-mail caroline.halpin@halton.gov.uk for further information.

The next meeting of the Board is on Monday, 2 November 2009

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

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Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached and, with personal and prejudicial interests (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members), to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.	
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In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REPORT TO: Children and Young People Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy

SUBJECT: Public Question Time

WARD(s): Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider any questions submitted by the Public in accordance with Standing Order 34(9).
- 1.2 Details of any questions received will be circulated at the meeting.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That any questions received be dealt with.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Standing Order 34(9) states that Public Questions shall be dealt with as follows:-

- (i) A total of 30 minutes will be allocated for dealing with questions from members of the public who are residents of the Borough, to ask questions at meetings of the Policy and Performance Boards.
- (ii) Members of the public can ask questions on any matter relating to the agenda.
- (iii) Members of the public can ask questions. Written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. At any one meeting no person/organisation may submit more than one question.
- (iv) One supplementary question (relating to the original question) may be asked by the questioner, which may or may not be answered at the meeting.
- (v) The Chair or proper officer may reject a question if it:-
 - Is not about a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or which affects the Borough;
 - Is defamatory, frivolous, offensive, abusive or racist;
 - Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months; or

- Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.
- (vi) In the interests of natural justice, public questions cannot relate to a planning or licensing application or to any matter which is not dealt with in the public part of a meeting.
- (vii) The Chairperson will ask for people to indicate that they wish to ask a question.
- (viii) **PLEASE NOTE** that the maximum amount of time each questioner will be allowed is 3 minutes.
- (ix) If you do not receive a response at the meeting, a Council Officer will ask for your name and address and make sure that you receive a written response.

Please bear in mind that public question time lasts for a maximum of 30 minutes. To help in making the most of this opportunity to speak:-

- Please keep your questions as concise as possible.
- Please do not repeat or make statements on earlier questions as this reduces the time available for other issues to be raised.
- Please note public question time is not intended for debate – issues raised will be responded to either at the meeting or in writing at a later date.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 **Children and Young People in Halton** - none.

6.2 **Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton** - none.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton** – none.

6.4 **A Safer Halton** – none.

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal** – none.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

REPORT TO: Children and Young People Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Executive Board Minutes

WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Minutes relating to the Children and Young People Portfolio which have been considered by the Executive Board and Executive Board Sub are attached at Appendix 1 for information.
- 1.2 The Minutes are submitted to inform the Policy and Performance Board of decisions taken in their area.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Minutes be noted.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 None.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

5.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None

5.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None

5.3 A Healthy Halton

None

5.4 A Safer Halton

None

5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 None.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

**8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board and Executive Board Sub Committee Minutes Relevant to the Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 9 APRIL 2009

146. Approval of BSF Outline Business Case - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which detailed the Outline Business Case (OBC) and sought approval for the submission of the OBC to the DCSF by 22 April 2009.

It was reported that Halton submitted its Strategy for Change Part 1 in July 2008, which had now been agreed. The Strategy for Change Part 2 was submitted on 19 November 2008. It was noted that conditional approval was granted on the basis that additional information was provided by 27 February 2009 and the Authority was given permission to develop its OBCase. It was reported that notification had now been received which confirmed that the outstanding requirements from Strategy for Change Part 2 had now been met.

The Board was advised that the OBC consisted of the following key sections plus associated appendices:

- executive summary;
- background;
- the project within the programme;
- value for money;
- affordability;
- readiness to deliver; and
- managing change.

Explanations of each section were set out in the report for Members' consideration.

It was reported that the current Funding Allocation Model adjusted for Private Finance Initiative (PFI) credits was £175 million. Members were advised that this figure would cover the costs of Halton's BSF Programme.

It was noted that the estimated costs to deliver ICT solution for the BSF Programme was £23.5 million and included a 0.5 million contingency.

The available funding was a combination of the BSF funding and a contribution of £200 per secondary pupil per annum, which would be secured for each secondary pupil.

It was reported that for the OBC cases the authority must also confirm that sufficient resources were available to meet the procurement and BSF team costs. It was noted that the total resources available would meet the £4 million requirement for the Authority.

In addition the Board was informed that revenue affordability of the Programme must be confirmed at OBC and in the Halton BSF Programme the building programme was being supported produced in two ways; through PFI where there was more than 70% new build and through the conventional funding solution for Design and Build.

Detailed in the report was a table that set out all the additional contributions which would be made to the BSF Programme. It was noted that the one off (single) contributions had been used to reduce the ongoing annual costs of the PFI schools. In addition, the funding to reduce the annual affordability gap had been identified.

The Board considered the affordability section and noted the four key issues as follows;

- is the capital expenditure affordable?
- are revenue consequences affordable?
- are the costs of the team affordable? and
- are the costs of IT affordable?

Members were advised all the key issues above were affordable based on the model outlined in the report.

Arising from discussion Members requested that a breakdown of costs and plans of each site be circulated and presented in the near future.

REASON FOR DECISION

The Outline Business Case must be completed as part of the BSF Programme.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not applicable

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

The Outline Business Case must be submitted to the DCSF and PfS by 22nd April 2009.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The Executive Board note the progress made in the development of the Outline Business Case due for submission on 22nd April 2009;
 - 2) The Executive Board delegate responsibility to make any changes to the BSF Outline Business Case to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, Member for Children and Young People, Operational Director Financial Services and Operational Director Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources;
 - 3) The Executive Board requests the Strategic Director for Children and Young People to submit the Final Outline Business Case to the Department for Children Schools and Families in the form agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council Member for Children and Young People, Operational Director Financial Services and Operational Director Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources; and
- 1) The Executive Board request a full report on the outcome of the DCSF assessment of the Outline Business Case in June / July 2009.

(NB: Councillor Nelson declared a personal interest in the following item due to being a Chair of Governors at the Grange Schools.)

(Councillor Harris declared a personal interest in the following item due to being a Governor at The Bankfield School.)

(Councillor Swain declared a personal interest in the following item due to being a Governor at Halton High School.)

147. BSF Secondary Re-organisation - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which summarised the response to the statutory consultation undertaken on secondary Special Educational Needs (SEN) unit provision in Halton. An outline of the decision making process was also included for

Members' consideration. A further update on the outcome of the statutory consultation was circulated at the meeting following the end of the representation period on 2nd April 2009.

Members were also advised of the school organisation proposals required in Runcorn for The Heath Specialist Technology College, The Grange Comprehensive, The Grange Junior, The Grange Infant, The Grange Nursery and Halton High School.

It was reported that the proposals recommended the discontinuance of the 7 place EBD Unit at Halton High (Community School) and the discontinuance of the 14 place EBD Unit at The Grange Comprehensive (Community School). The proposals also recommended the reduction in the provision at Wade Deacon for Hearing Impaired pupils from 8 to 6 pupils.

Detailed in the report were the proposals to establish the secondary SEN resources provision as follows:

The Grange Comprehensive (Community School) – The school would provide resource provision for 11 pupils with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), 5 of these places would be reserved for outreach support for pupils in other high schools within the borough. In addition, there would be resource provision for 10 pupils with speech and language and communication needs.

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic College (Voluntary Aided Catholic) - The school would provide resource provision for 11 pupils with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), 5 of these places would be reserved for outreach support for pupils in other high schools within the borough.

The Bankfield (Community School) - The School would provide resource provision for 10 pupils with speech and language and communication needs.

Wade Deacon High (Community School) The school would provide resource provision for 6 pupils with hearing impairment and Specific Learning Difficulties.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The proposals for secondary and secondary special provision must be agreed prior to the submission of the Outline Business Case.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Alternative options have been considered and assessed during the

consultation process.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

The proposals for SEN unit provision must be agreed by 9th April 2009 and will be implemented by September 2011.

The proposal to commence the consultation on Runcorn secondary provision must be agreed by 9th April 2009, however, the increase in numbers at The Heath Specialist Technology College are not scheduled to be implemented until the school has been rebuilt as part of the BSF Programme (2012/2013). The proposals for the re-organisation of The Grange Comprehensive, Junior, Infant and Nursery are scheduled to be implemented in April 2010. The date for the establishment of the Academy to replace Halton High is September 2010.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Approval be given to commence the informal consultation process to expand the Heath Specialist Technology College to 1350 11-16 places;
- 2) Approval be given to commence the statutory consultation to alter the age range of The Grange Comprehensive to 0 – 16 years with 60 full time equivalent nursery places, 420 primary places and 900 secondary places and to discontinue (close) the Grange Nursery, Infant and Junior School;
- 3) Approval be given to commence the informal consultation process to discontinue (close) Halton High School followed by the formal consultation to close Halton High School by the authority and consultation to establish the Academy by the Sponsors;
- 4) The proposals to discontinue SEN provision and Halton High School and The Grange Comprehensive as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the tabled report be approved and implemented on 31st August 2011; and
- 5) The proposals to establish SEN Resource provision at The Grange Comprehensive, The Bankfield and St Peter and Paul Catholic College (Voluntary Aided Catholic) and to continue to offer provision at Wade Deacon High School as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the tabled report be approved and implemented by 1st September 2011.

148. Decision on BSF Funding and Procurement - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which set out the range of Procurement Standard Documents and Standard Form Agreements, that were required to be submitted on 22 April 2009 as part of the BSF Programme.

The Board was advised of the range of Procurement Standard Documents as follows:

- The Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU);
- Pre-Qualification Questionnaire;
- Pre-Qualification Evaluation Matrix;
- Descriptive Document;
- Invitation to Participate in Dialogue Volume 1 (IPD); and
- Invitation to Submit Final Bids.

It was reported that templates were available for the documents above which needed personalising in line with each Programme requirements. The documents must then be agreed with Partnerships for schools.

It was further advised that there was a suite of Standard Form Agreements which must be approved by Partnerships for Schools, detailed as follows:

- Shareholders' Agreements;
- Strategic Partnering Agreements;
- PFI Project Agreement;
- PFI Payment Mechanism;
- Funder's Direct Agreement;
- Management Services Agreement;
- ICT Services Contract;
- ICT Payment Mechanism; and
- Design and Build Contract Lump Sum Option.

REASON FOR DECISION

The procurement Standard Documents and Standard Form Agreements must be agreed and submitted with the Outline Business Case on 22 April 2009.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not applicable.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

The Outline Business Case and supporting documents must be submitted to the DCSF and PfS by 22 April 2009.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Chief Executive be authorised to agree the supporting Procurement Standard documents and Standard Form Agreements prior to the submission of the business case to Partnerships for Schools and DCSF; and
- 1) the procurement process to be applied to the BSF Programme is that which is set out in the Partnerships for School guidance.

149. Procurement of a Joint Local Education Partnership with Warrington Council - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which outlined the proposals and gain approval to establish a joint Local Education Partnership (LEP) with Warrington Borough Council.

It was reported that a LEP was a public private partnership between the LA, BSF for the Future Investments LLP (BSFI) and a private sector partner selected in open competition under the European procurement rules. The LEP was therefore a joint venture company whose primary purpose was to ensure that BSF investment was efficiently and effectively used to deliver transformation. The key aims of the LEP were outlined in the report for Members consideration.

The Board was advised of the proposal of a joint LEP be procured between Halton and Warrington Borough Council. It was noted that this would allow both Councils to have a joint BSF team that would manage the business cases and procurement preparation. It was further noted that this would strengthen both BSF teams and allow for revenue savings from both Councils. Members were informed that approval in principle was being considered by Warrington Council in April with formal consideration in May 2009.

It was further reported that approval by both Councils would be subject to the agreement of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which would outline the operational and revenue implications, role of external commissioned services, the scope of the LEP and the governance arrangements for the Board. Appended to the report was a summary of the style, type and provision of the MoU. It was noted that a full copy of the MoU could be made available on request.

REASON FOR DECISION

A decision is required on the position in terms of the Joint LEP prior to the submission of Outline Business Case on 22 April 2009.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not applicable.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

The Outline Business Case must be submitted to the DCSF and PfS by 22 April 2009.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Approval be given to enter into collaborative arrangements with Warrington Borough Council for the purposes of procuring a Private Sector Partner to participate and invest in a Local Education Partnership (LEP);
- 2) The arrangements in 2.1 of the report be subject of an agreed and signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between both Councils;
- 3) The scope of services to be obtained through joint procurement and the governance arrangements to be set out in the MoU; and
- 4) The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and the Executive Board Member for Children and Young People, be authorised to approve the final MoU and take whatever actions necessary to give effect to this decision

(NB: Councillor Harris declared a personal interest in the following item due to being a Governor at All Saints Upton CE Primary School.)

150. Children's Centre Phase 3 Capital - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which identified the availability of Phase 3 capital funding for children's centres and proposed deployment of this resource to maximise access to children's centre services.

It was reported that since April 2006, local authorities have had strategic responsibility for delivering children's centres, to reflect the mainstreaming of children's centres as a universal, national programme. Children's centre services were planned and delivered in partnership with

the NHS, Jobcentre Plus and a wide range of voluntary, private and community organisations based on local need.

Members were advised that children's centres were not currently recognised in legislation, although the integrated services which they offered to children and families had a statutory basis in the local authority duties under the Childcare Act 2006 to provide integrated early childhood services. However, it was noted that the Government's current proposals contained within The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill, to establish children's centres as a recognised part of children's services infrastructure that had direct bearing on the future developments of the centres.

It was further advised that the proposed legislation would mean that in future, whether or not an establishment was described as a children's centre would be a matter of law. It was reported that the Government proposed to use the Act to establish that all children's centres in existence at the date of the Royal Assent were captured as children's centres for the purpose of the statutory requirements.

It was reported that Local Authorities, working with their statutory partners, would be required to assess the need for children's centres in their area, and to establish and maintain sufficient children's centres to meet that need. The purpose of the proposed legislation was to provide children's centres with a statutory footing, so that their provision was not seen as the outcome of time-limited funding regime, but became a long term statutory commitment and part of the established landscape of early years provision.

The Board was advised that the intention was to reflect in the legislation and associated statutory guidance practice in localities which was outlined in the report for information.

It was further noted that under phase 1 and 2 of the programme, twelve children's centres had been established in Halton. Each children's centre was intended to serve a "reach" of between 800 and 1200 children under 5 years within the locality. All twelve centres had been formally designated as children's centres by Government.

The Board was informed that Government required Phase 3 children's centres (2008-11) to be situated outside the most disadvantaged areas and would therefore offer a less intensive level of support than those phase 1 and 2 centres serving families in the 30% most disadvantaged areas.

It was reported that Phase 3 was supported by capital funding of

£521,866. It was proposed that this funding is used to enhance the facilities at existing children's centres which were outlined in the report for Members consideration.

REASON FOR DECISION

The Local Authority had been notified that it would receive capital funding to develop two further children's centres in the Borough. Subsequent advice received has indicated that the capital provision could be used to enhance existing stock if locally it is determined that further centres are not required.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Consideration was given to developing further children's centres, however, following analysis of reach figures it was recognised that further centres were not necessary.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

This should be confirmed immediately with Together for Children. Work can then progress on developing the existing provisions at Windmill Hill Children's Centre and Upton All Saints Children's Centre and Primary School.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The Executive Board recommend the Council to approve the recommendation that the Phase 3 capital funding be made available to Halton for the enhancement and maintenance of current children centre stock; and
- 2) The Executive Board note the positive developments at Windmill Hill Children's Centre and Primary School and approve a lease for up to 5 years to the Primary Care Trust to establish a temporary health facility on the school site.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 4 JUNE 2009

3. Co-optee to Children and Young People PPB

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Children and Young People requesting them to agree that a representative from the Dioceses of Chester and Liverpool be appointed to the Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board.

Under a Direction issued by the Secretary of State, authorities must

appoint diocesan representatives to Scrutiny Committees under s499 Education Act 1996 and DfEE Circular 19/99 all as amended. These representatives would have voting rights in relation to any decision relating to schools maintained by the LA, pupils who attend schools maintained by the LA or are educated by the LA in some way but not the other business of the Committee. This was to enable denominations to have a direct input to policies on education provision for pupils of school age.

The Dioceses of Chester and Liverpool were therefore entitled to nominate representatives to sit on the Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board. At present these positions were vacant, however one name had been submitted, Joyce Dippnall. It was expected that another name would follow for the same consideration by the Board.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Board and Full Council be requested to agree the appointment of two Diocese representatives for Chester and Liverpool, as voting co-optees on the Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board for a period of four years, commencing from the date approval is given.

4. Children & Young People's Plan - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which provided the Executive Board with a brief summary of the information and requirements as contained in the Children and Young People's Plan Guidance and present Halton's Children and Young People Plan (CYPP).

In February 2009 DCSF published guidance to assist areas in compiling the CYPP. The report stated that the Plan must be a document of strategic intent, which sets the context of children and young people living their lives within safe, prosperous communities where parents were enabled to work. Therefore, establishing effective links between CYPP and the Sustainable Communities Strategy had been a key requirement for this plan. The guidance was concise but expects each plan to provide a number of key elements and statements. In addition the plan must address how local areas would improve the outcomes for children and young people with specific reference to children and young people, there were also a number of additional requirements that needed explanation within each plan. The required elements for local plans fundamentally asked a range of key questions which were detailed in the report.

REASON(S) FOR DECISION

It is a statutory requirement that Halton Borough Council produces and publishes a Children and Young People's Plan.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

None.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

June 2009.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The information contained in the report be noted; and
- 2) The Executive Board endorsed the CYPP to be approved by Full Council.

(Cllr Nelson declared a personal interest in the following item as he is the Chair of Governors for the Grange Junior School).

(Cllr Swain declared a personal interest in the following item as he is on the Board of Governors for Simms Cross and Weston C P Schools).

5. Primary Special Education Needs Review

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Children and Young People on the Primary Special Education Needs Review in Halton.

The Local Authority had been undertaking a review of Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision within the Borough. The reasons for this review were:

- The need to be able to describe clearly the nature of SEN provision that was required for Halton pupils and the number of places required both now and in the future. This was linked both to Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and the Primary Capital Programme (PCP);
- Acknowledgement that Halton currently retains a significant amount of unit provision, with some of these units carrying a number of unfilled places;
- Concern that the current range and scope of SEN Unit provision may not be appropriate; and
- The Local Authority was potentially not fully securing value for money in its SEN provision.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Consultation on the revised proposals on the number of places and location of the provision for SEN units within primary mainstream schools commences; and
- 2) Schools are asked to come forward with Expressions of Interest.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON

10. Capital Spending for the Aiming High for Disabled Children Programme

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which presented the Capital Funding Plan to support the delivery of Halton's short break programme to meet the requirements of the Aiming High for Disabled Children Programme.

The Aiming High for Disabled Children Programme was a national initiative to enable more disabled young people to engage in social activities within their local community. The programme also aimed to provide their parents/carers with a break from their caring responsibilities. In 2008/9 Halton made a successful bid for Pathfinder status, and were one of 20 nationally and two in the North West. During 2008/9 a number of measures were put in place to test out some new activities for children and to build partnerships with local and national providers of short break services.

Members were advised that there had been significant grant funding made available to local authorities by the Department for Children, Schools and Families to improve short break services for disabled children and their families. The funding stream included revenue and capital grants. The report related only to the capital element of the funding outlined in the report. Revenue funding was the subject of a separate commissioning progress.

Members were further advised that consultation with disabled children and young people and their families had been a major focus in the development of the planning for short break services, including the capital spending plan. The views of disabled young people and their families were sought through the "Powerful Voices" Conference along with a consultation leaflet that was sent out to all families with a child with additional needs. The consultation established the types of activities and practical support families would want to use.

It was noted that families of disabled children had told the Council that

they wanted more support after school, at weekends and in school holidays, so they that could have a break when they were under the greatest amount of stress.

It was further noted that disabled children had told us that they wanted to do the same things that other young people did. They wanted to participate in sporting activities, primarily for pleasure but also to join in local and national competitions. For those with potential, they wanted to be able to compete in Paralympics events. The children also wanted to have somewhere where they could meet friends that a safe, adapted and “home-like” space that was available during school holidays, events and weekends.

Members were advised that the Capital Funding attached to the programme had been made available to Local Authorities to support the delivery of the short break programme in recognition of the need for a specialist provision over and above that required by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. The Capital Funding spending plan had been developed following consultation with children and young people and their families and in accordance with the DCSF Guidelines. The proposed spending plan for Halton’s allocation of Capital Funding was as follows:

Halton AHDC Capital Allocation

2008/9	£85,600
2009/10	£199,600

Draft Spending Plan	2008/09	2009/10
Inglefield Outreach Centre adaptations	£85,600	£5,000
Outreach Centre (Widnes to be identified)		£120,000
Sporting Wheelchairs		£20,000
Enhanced Toileting Resources		£15,000
Play Builder Resources		£39,600
Total	£85,600	£199,600

The Board was advised of the creation of two resource bases, one in Runcorn and one in Widnes that would provide bases with the specialist equipment required, particularly for those young people with very complex needs. The bases would be available for use by individuals and groups in the evenings, at weekends and during school holidays. It was envisaged that the resource could be used for overnight stays by some young people with their personal assistants. Whilst the base in Runcorn had been identified, the options for possible locations in Widnes were currently being scoped.

Members were advised that funds would be used to purchase 10 specialist sports wheelchairs to enable young people to participate in sporting activities throughout the Borough. Some of the wheelchairs would be based in the Tennis Centre and Leisure Centres, with others available at Chesnut Lodge School to be transported to a range of venues locally and nationally to support young people who may be involved in competition events. The initiative was being developed together with Halton Sports Partnership.

Members were further advised that funding would also be used to provide enhanced disabled toileting facilities and play equipment in the new play parks being developed as part of the Play Builder Programme. This would enable more disabled children to use the facilities in their local parks, together with their siblings and peers.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) the Executive Board recommend to Council that the draft Spending Plan outlined in the report be approved.

11. Playbuilder - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which updated Members on progress with Playbuilder Year 1 2008-2009 and to agree proposals for Years 2 2009-2010 and outlined proposals for Year 3 2010-2011.

Members were advised that the Executive Board had received a report on the 21st May 2008 informing them of the success of the Authority in achieving Playbuilder status and confirmation of the funding awarded.

Members noted that the guidance received indicated that Halton must deliver a minimum of 6 new, transformed playgrounds in 2008/09, with a further 16 in 2009/10 and 2010/11, making a total of 22 over the 3 years.

Members were advised that a further report had been submitted on the 25th September 2008 whereupon the Playbuilder Project development process was approved, along with the six Year 1 sites and progress to date was outlined within the report.

It was noted that the Spike Island Project had to be deferred to 2009/10, as it proved impossible to complete within the required timeframe.

It was further noted that Playbuilder investment in Playgrounds in Halton in 2008/2009 was £299,092. The total investment from all sources generated or pump primed by the Playbuilder input was however, nearer to £1m.

Members were advised that the allocation 2009/10 was £388,469. The proposal was to allocate this money equally across the eight new target areas, resulting in funding of approximately £48,559 per area.

Members were further advised that the proposals for Year 2 had been considered by both Halton Play Partnership and the Playbuilder Sub-Committee. The proposals for Year 2 included Spike Island, Victoria Park, Milton Avenue, Halton Lodge, Caesars Close, Hallwood Park (Rowhampton Row) and Town Park. Further details of each of the schemes was outlined in detail in the report.

Members noted the possible sites for 2010/11 as being Upton, The Glen, Palacefields and in the areas of Beechwood, Farnworth, Halton Village and Windmill Hill. Further details on each of these areas was outlined in the report.

REASON (S) FOR DECISION

To agree (8) projects to be progressed in Playbuilder Project Year 2.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

A full consultation programme has taken place where all options were considered.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

3-year capital programme with annual capital allowance. Implementation of Year 2 projects to be completed by 31st March 2010.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) progress made with the Playbuilder Project 2008/9 be noted; and
- (2) full Council be recommended to approve the proposals for 2009/2010 Playbuilder projects.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 16 JULY 2009

19. Standard School Year - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which provided the results on the joint consultation with the Greater Merseyside Local Authority Learn Together Partnership on proposals for a standard school year. The report recommended approval for the Standard School Year and its implementation in Halton from September 2010.

The Board was advised that The Local Government Association (LGA) was championing the splitting of the school year (September – July) into six fixed terms of approximately equal length, whilst accommodating the Easter celebration.

In May 2008, it was agreed by the Greater Merseyside Directors of Children's Services to conduct a joint consultation to implement the standard school year based on the principles which were outlined in the report for consideration.

The Board was further advised that Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens, Knowsley and Halton had all participated in the consultation. Wirral, Warrington and Cheshire (as was) had declined to participate this year but had asked to be kept informed of the results.

In respect of the consultation document in Halton, 22,000 hard copies had been sent out to stakeholders. Information was also available on the intranet, internet, local media and the Inside Halton magazine which is delivered to every residence in the borough.

In Halton, 751 people had responded and details of the responses were appended to the report for Members information.

In addition, the results from other Local Authorities that participated in the consultation were similar to Halton's with an overwhelming 83% of all respondents agreeing to the proposals.

It was reported that Liverpool would commence the Standard School Year from September 2009. Knowsley and St Helen's had agreed to implement the standard school year and this would start from the academic year 2010/2011. Wirral were considering adopting the standard school year from 2011/2012 but were waiting to see the position of West Cheshire and Chester before proceeding. Therefore, it was recommended that Halton adopt the Standard School year from 2010/2011 in line with Knowsley and St Helen's.

Reason for the Decision

To establish set holiday periods and even out the length of school terms.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not to establish a standard school year.

Implementation Date

The implementation date would be the academic year 2010/2011.

RESOLVED: That Halton adopt the Standard School Year and agree to its implementation from September 2010.

20. Children in Care Pledge - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which sought approval for a proposed Pledge to Children in Care in Halton.

It was reported that the Government's Green Paper "Care Matters: Transforming the Lives of Young People in Care" and the subsequent White Paper "Care Matters: Time for Change" identified steps that needed to be taken to improve outcomes for children and young people in Care.

The report outlined the key aims and roles of Corporate parenting including the expectations that Government announced.

The Board was advised that Halton had established its Children in Care Council in December 2007. Since that time the functioning of the Council had developed, its membership had grown, and there had been some clear outcomes achieved for children.

It was reported that the consultations that had taken place so far included the Pledge itself, Personal Education Plans and Children in Care Reviews. A newsletter and website would also be launched in the near future, so that all Children in Care, and not just those who attend the meetings, were aware of developments and proposals.

Work on the Pledge had commenced in October 2008 and concluded with the young people accepting the final version at their meeting in May 2009 which was appended to the report for information.

The Board was further advised that the Pledge was a document which should ensure that Children in Care and Care Leavers are aware of the key

opportunities that are offered to them locally and that they are consulted and involved in the development of the Pledge.

It was reported that the Pledge as set out in Appendix 1 to the report was the result of the consultation with the Children in Care Council and used their own artwork. It also listed the 10 things that Children in Care and Care Leavers said were key to improving outcomes for them. The pledge was also supported by the statements made by our Children in Care and Care Leavers.

Reason For the Decision

The Children and Young Persons Act, which received royal assent in November 2008, strengthened the role of the Corporate parent. The Government now requires every local area to set out its 'Pledge' to Children in Care and Care Leavers covering the services and support that they should expect to receive.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

There is no prescribed format for a Pledge to Children in Care and Care Leavers, the 'Pledge' (Appendix 1), was designed by the Children in Care Council and therefore it is the one they would like the Executive Board to endorse

Implementation Date

Immediately.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Pledge to Children in Care be endorsed;
- (2) the action to promote the Pledge in order to raise awareness in the Council, Children's Trust and with other partners be endorsed; and
- (3) Young people report annually on the progress of the Pledge to Children in Care to the Executive Board.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 APRIL 2009

109. To seek a Waiver of Contract Standing Orders

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which sought a waiver of Contract standing Orders to permit the extension of the contract of the BSF Programme Director (Daniel Hennessy) from MD Consultants until the 31st March 2011.

It was noted that the current arrangements for the BSF Programme Director were approved at the Executive Board Sub-Committee on 19th July 2008 and a two-year contract was agreed until September 2009. However, prior to submission of the Outline Business Case on the 22nd April 2009 Partnerships for Schools required confirmation of the future Programme Director arrangements so that they could assess whether the Authority was sufficiently prepared to enter competitive dialogue.

It was further noted that the BSF Programme Director role was crucial as it provided the Strategic Direction for the Programme. The current Programme Director had provided leadership, direction and focus to the programme and had ensured that the Programme had met all the key milestones and objectives to date. The Programme Director had extensive experience as a 4PS adviser and Gateway Reviewer for BSG and his advice was often sought nationally and by other authorities.

Members were advised that as the DCSF prepared to announce the next wave of BSF Programme, many authorities were now looking for experienced BSF Programme Directors and Managers to lead their Programmes.

It was there proposed that the current BSF Programme Director contract be extended so that he could provide 217 days support to Halton per annum and that the daily rate of pay be £786 from September 2009 until 31st March 2011. The BSF Framework provided information on the Programme Director rates across the country with the North West, North East and Midlands rates varying from £745 to £1074 per day.

It was essential that as Halton moved into Programme Delivery, there was sufficient appropriately qualified staff. Interim arrangements still existed for the Programme Manager's post as it did not prove possible to recruit to this position initially. This post had now been advertised and interviews would take place on 1st April 2009.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Strategic Director, Children and Young People be authorised to agree a contract for 217 days per annum at £786 per day for a period from September 2009 until 31st March 2011; and

- (2) Legal Services be requested to revise the current contract for the BSF Project Director's role.

110. Contract extension for the provision of Personal Advisor Service for Care Leavers

The Sub-Committee received a report which sought the waiving of Procurement Standing Orders 3.1 to 3.8 which placed a requirement on the Council to tender for contracts with a greater value than £50,000 but not exceeding £1m.

Members were advised that the current personal Advisor for Care Leavers contract had been in operation for five years and would terminate on 31st March 2009. The current cost of the service delivery was £168,000.

Members were further advised that the Service fulfilled the requirements placed on the Local Authority by the Children (Leaving Care) Act, 2000, Regulations and Guidance Chapter 6 Regulation 12: Personal Advisors. The Personal Advisor Service supported young people in making the transition from being in care to living self sustaining and fulfilled lives as independent members of the community.

It was noted that following a competitive tendering process in March 2009, the Panel who considered the proposals from a number of organisations were unable to make a contract award to a single provider. This was primarily on the basis of service continuity for existing users, with no new provider able to meet the terms of the contract due to the length of the contract lead-in period.

Therefore, approval to extend the existing contractual arrangements until 31st March 2010 and to recommence a competitive tendering exercise for this service in September 2009, with a view to awarding a new contract from April 2010 was sought.

The proposed tender process would enable the Council to update the service specification and to include improved outcomes nationally and locally for this vulnerable cohort. In addition, it was proposed that the revised specification would ensure that the service provider continually delivered a service that met identified needs.

It proposed that the new contract would last for a period of three years and would offer an option to extend beyond that for a further two years, subject to specified outcomes being delivered and specified targets being met.

In considering the request to waive Standing Orders and due to the issues outlined in the report, the Sub-Committee felt that performance monitoring of the service provider by Members was necessary and agreed that a further report be submitted to the Sub-Committee detailing this information.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) in the exceptional circumstances set out below, for the purposes of Standing Order 1.6, Procurement Standing Orders 3.1 – 3.8 be waived in order for the existing contractual arrangements to be extended until 31st March 2010. During the period of extension, the Council would complete a competitive tendering exercise for the Personal Advisor Service for Care Leavers;
- (2) delegated powers be approved to enable the Strategic Director Children and Young People in consultation with the relevant Executive Portfolio Holder, subject to an evaluation of value for money in an open tender process, to award a contract to an external provider inclusive of the provision of management and administration; and
- (3) a further report be submitted to the Sub-Committee detailing performance monitoring of the service provider.

REPORT TO: Children and Young People Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: Special Strategic Partnership Board minutes

WARD(s): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The Minutes relating to the Children and Young People's Portfolio which have been considered by the Special Strategic Partnership Board are attached at Appendix 1 for information.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Minutes be noted.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

5.1 Children and Young People in Halton

None.

5.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

None.

5.3 A Healthy Halton

None.

5.4 A Safer Halton

None.

5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None.

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 None.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 None.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

8.1 There are no background papers under the meaning of the Act.



Halton Children's Trust
Minutes of Executive Group Meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2009
4.00pm, Wade Deacon High School, Widnes

Present:

Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director of Children's Services (Co-Chair)
Steve Collett	Chief Officer, Cheshire Probation Area (Co-Chair)
Ann McIntyre	Operational Director, Business Support and Commissioning
John Pearce	Divisional Manager, Planning & Performance, CYPD
Paula St Aubyn	Divisional Manager, Safeguarding, Quality and Review
Michelle Bradshaw	Halton & St Helens PCT
Jane Lunt	Halton & St Helens PCT
John Pearce	Divisional Manager, Planning & Performance, CYPD
Dave Howard	Connexions Greater Merseyside
Nigel Moorhouse	Operational Director, Specialist Services
Amanda O'Brien	Third Sector Lead Engagement Officer
Judith Kirk	Operational Director for Universal Learning, CYPD
Jackie Burns	Learning & Skills Council, Greater Merseyside
Mark Grady	Policy & Partnership Development Officer, Halton LSP
Dympna Edwards	Deputy Director of Public Health, Halton & St Helens PCT
Pauline Burke	Representing Warrington and Halton Youth Offending Team
Karen Hickey	Children's Trust Partnership Officer (minutes)

Apologies

Gareth Jones	Youth Offending Team
Tony Crane	Organisational Development Manager, HBC

Item		Action
1.	Minutes and Action List from Children's Trust Executive Group meeting 28.04.09, including Actions List	
1.1	Item 1.1 financial mapping – AMc to meet with AO'B and Norma Hornby to discuss included on 3 rd Sector contributions in exercise	AMc/AOB
1.2	Item 4.2 Teenage Pregnancy Report – CAA have now included 'tagging' process as part of assessment, and the area of Teenage Pregnancy within Halton currently has red tag status. Dialogue to be held with inspectors around this, to emphasise that this is a Children's Trust priority	GM
1.3	Item 5.1 Timeline for CAF review – No feedback from Exec Group has been received. An external company has been commissioned to complete the review, and will be holding consultation events during September for all professionals who work with children, young people and their families. The issue of sample size as referred to during the Executive group meeting on the 9 th June refers to file audits only.	
1.4	Item 5.6 Performance Dashboard – New version has now been	

	produced following feedback received. Dashboard to be used by GONW as a feedback tool, subject to agreement from Children's Trust Board. Performance report to be tabled for next Children's Trust Exec meeting on the 8 th September.	JP
2.	Priorities	
2.1	<p><u>SDP Update - Young People are Physically, Emotionally and Sexually Healthy</u></p> <p>JL updated the group on progress to date. A workshop is planned for early September with SDP partners to establish the best way for funding to be spent. Current focus for PCT spending is on teenage pregnancy and short-term interventions, 300k has been commissioned for this. SDP funding will be used for long-term plans. DH updated on current issues with available data, which is 2 years old. SDP looking to develop commissioning function to establish current data. OBA Champions to be linked to SDPs to embed process throughout agencies. WNF funding has not been allocated as yet due to need to avoid duplication of current PCT spend. Locality work not being addressed as yet. GM suggested JL have dialogue with CAA inspectors to discuss measures being taken to address current teenage pregnancy outcomes. NM queried whether a profile of potentially vulnerable young people had been identified as yet, and if so would this be addressed with schools. DE confirmed that this is planned, as they have currently established an 'open door' policy with 2 high schools and are looking to use the good work done here as an example to other schools.</p>	JL
2.2	<p><u>SDP Update – All Young People are Successful when they Leave School</u></p> <p>MB updated on progress to date. The full SDP membership is currently being established, and they are seeking representatives from schools, Jobcentre Plus, colleges and employers. An OBA methodology will be used. Regarding commissioning, current WNF providers will be used, but will be given different outcomes. GM added that there was also a CAA red flag status on employability and skills, and that CAA inspectors will meet with specific people on this issue.</p>	
2.3	<p><u>SDP Update – Children and Young People do Well Wherever they Live and Whatever their Needs</u></p> <p>PStA updated the group on progress to date. Representatives from housing and 3rd Sector partnerships are now part of membership for this SDP. Subgroups have now been formed for each of the 6 indicators of success within this priority. The SDP has been initially tasked with data collation and analysis, to identify key areas to address. JK suggested looking at groups of children based on age bands, as priorities are linked at some levels. Discussion was held around this and it was agreed by the group that, although it will be helpful to work to age categories, it is important that we do not lose sight of the outcomes based framework which has been adapted to tackle SDP priorities, and this is the primary method that SDP groups should be working to.</p>	

3.	Information Items	
3.1	<p><u>JICU Development Update</u> AMc Outlined the report to the group, and the difficulty encountered in engaging partners in JICU activity. Due to current efficiency review within the authority we no longer have a dedicated business support and commissioning resource for CYPD, as this function is to be managed council-wide via a centre of excellence. Because of this there will be difficulties in resourcing a dedicated post to take the JICU forward.</p> <p>GM updated that a meeting is planned between Adult and Children's Social Care and the PCT, to look at resource available to create a joint commissioning unit. This would be a separate centre of excellence, and would link into Strategy and Policy, Procurement and Commissioning. This has not been addressed so far by the efficiency review. Halton and St Helens PCT are working towards a joint commissioning process with the local authority as part of future development, and the Joint Commissioning Support Group is currently working to develop a model for this. AMc and JL to bring joint commissioning report to next Children's Trust Exec group meeting. Development of JICU to be deferred until after efficiency review.</p>	AMc/JL
3.2	<p><u>Commissioning Priorities</u> GM updated the meeting that the Children's Trust Executive Group need a full list of what services are being commissioned by next meeting on the 8th September, to establish how the group is moving forward. Information will be required from SDP Chairs, and also an overview of all commissioning activity across all agencies for children and young people. AMc updated that a large percentage of services are procured, not commissioned, so an evaluation of this also needs to be done. Report on procured services to be brought to next Children's Trust Exec group meeting</p>	SDP Chairs/ ALL AMc
3.3	<p><u>Performance Update</u> Performance dashboard update to be brought to next Exec group meeting</p>	JP
3.4	<u>HSCB Board Minutes</u>	
3.4.1	<p>Item 3.3 safeguarding audit – A checklist for schools has been compiled. Once the assessment is completed the school would achieve HSCB kite mark. Jonathan Potter recommended that the checklist be piloted in a primary and secondary school to see if it is user friendly. HSCB endorsed the proposal.</p>	
3.4.2	<p>Item 5 feedback from frontline staff event – next event to be held jointly with Children's Trust, to promote awareness of the function of the Children's Trust and it's link to HSCB. Event would need to be held in January, to follow results from the CAF review. PStA to discuss theme of with Ann Towey. KH to assist with organisation of event, initial action to obtain and agree date for event with Ann Towey</p>	PStA KH

3.5	<u>HSCB Executive Group minutes</u> To be tabled for next meeting	KH
3.6	<u>Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA) Briefing</u> MG updated the group on progress to date. Training has now taken place of SDP Chairs (1 day overview course) and Champions (2 day overview and training course). A meeting has been arranged for the 3 rd August to establish how the training will be rolled out, and how the champions will link into SDPs, JP will lead on this.	JP
3.7	<u>Membership Changes to Children's Trust Board</u> The group were updated on the recent changes as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angela Padgett representing Halton Primary Head Teachers • Colin Billingsley representing Job Centre Plus • Norma Hornby, new Chair for CYP 3rd Sector Partnership • New membership to Board from Cheshire Fire and Rescue Services, Nick Evans 	
3.8	<u>One Children's Workforce Framework summary report for Halton</u> Report shared for information. AMc outlined progress of the OCWF tool, which has collected views of children's workforce via a questionnaire. Feedback will be used to move forward the development of the workforce, and key actions have been produced for different areas of activity. Children's Trust priorities now need to be embedded into organisations so that staff are aware of them. Progress reports to come to Children's Trust Exec group on a regular basis.	AMc
4.	Any Other Business	
4.1	<u>Flu update</u> DE fed back to the group that the business continuity plan may need to be implemented in Autumn, as school closures are envisaged due to staff absences. In addition to this, risk assessment processes for front line staff need to be amended to take flu risk into account.	
4.2	<u>Health Engagement Worker</u> AO'B updated that a new Health Engagement Worker, Laura Neilson, has started in the borough, and will be based at HVA	
6.	Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 8 th September 2009, 2.00pm Marketing Suite, Municipal Building Widnes	

REPORT TO: Children & Young People's Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Children & Young People

SUBJECT: Comments, Complaints and Compliments relating to Child Care Services

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To meet statutory obligation to publish an annual report.
- 1.2 To report and provide an analysis on complaints processed under the Statutory Complaints Procedure for Children and Young People during 2008-09.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That: the report is accepted as the mechanism by which the Local Authority is kept informed about the operation of its complaints procedure.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The regulations came into effect 1st September 2006
- 3.2 The aims of The Children Act 1989 Representations Procedure is for Children and Young People have their concerns resolved swiftly and wherever possible by the people who provide the service locally.
- 3.3 A complaint may generally be defined as an expression of dissatisfaction or disquiet in relation to an individual child or young person, which requires a response.
- 3.4 ***There are 3 categories to the representation process.***
 - i. Statutory Complaint - the complainant is eligible as stated in the Representations Procedure to make a formal complaint.
 - ii. Representation - where the complainant is not eligible under the Representations Procedure to make a formal complaint but their comments are noted and responded.
 - iii. Compliment – positive feedback
- 3.5 The formal complaints procedure has a process of 4 stages.

Stage 1: Aims to resolve the problem as quickly as possible (within 10 working days, or 20 if complex) at the point of service delivery.

Stage 2: If unhappy with response at stage 1 they can ask for the complaint to be

investigated by an Independent Person of the service area involved (within 25 working days, 65 if complex).

Stage 3: If still dissatisfied, can ask for a Review Panel to consider whether the complaint has been dealt with adequately. The Review Panel is made up of 3 independent people and should be held within 30 working days of request.

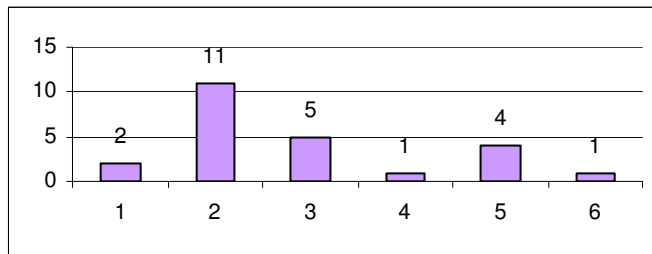
Stage 4: If still dissatisfied, has the right to refer self to the Local Government Ombudsman.

3.6 During 2008/09 Halton Borough Council extended a contract with Barnardo's to provide a Children's Rights Service, this is a mediation and advocacy service for children and young people. Two young people used the service this year.

3.7 **Statistical Data**

There were 24 Statutory Complaints made to the Local Authority in 2008/09.
(2007/08 there were 18 Statutory Complaints)

Types of Statutory complaints made



1	Service delivery	4	Council policy
2	Staff response	5	Assessment / Review Process
3	Statutory Requirement	6	Other

Five complaints are still ongoing into this financial year.

One is progressing through Stage 2 investigation.

One at the request of the complainant has been adjourned, pending Stage 3 Review.

One is on hold due to court proceedings.

Two at the complainant's request, do not wish to proceed to stage 2, there is ongoing mediation to resolve their issues.

The outcome of complaints

	Upheld	Partially upheld	Not upheld	Resolved	Totals
Stage 1	3	3	3	7	16
Stage 2	0	1	1	0	2
Stage 3	0	0	1	0	1
Ombudsman	0	0	0	0	0

One young person complained about having to move placement, this decision was reversed at Stage 1.

One young person complained about being unhappy in her placement, a move to a new one was organised.

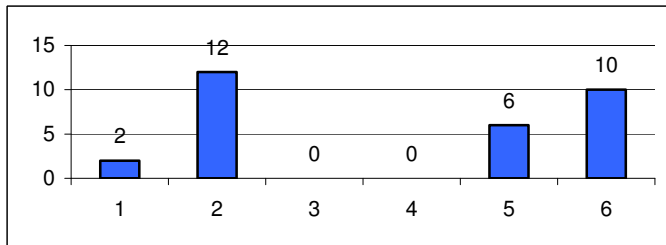
All Statutory Complaints were dealt with inside timescales, one of those being dealt with within the extended timescales at stage 2 due to the complexity and number of

complaints made by the complainant.

One complainant wrote to the Ombudsman but it was declined, as the complainant had not been through the local authority process. Due to additional information being needed, this complaint has now been logged in the next financial year

There were 30 representations made to the Local Authority in 2008/09.

The types of representations made.



1	Service delivery	4	Council policy
2	Staff response	5	Assessment / Review Process
3	Statutory Requirement	6	Other

There were 7 Compliments made in respect of Children’s Social Services.

4 compliments were in respect of the Children with Disabilities Team.

1 in respect of Child Care Team One.

1 in respect of the Young Peoples Team.

1 regarding Children in Care.

(2007/08 there were 12 compliments received)

3.8 Learning and Service Improvement

A complaint was received outside of timescale as stated in the Children’s Act 1989 Representations Procedure. Following an Ombudsman enquiry, clearer reasons for refusal to investigate a complaint should be given, and greater consideration of the individual case to ascertain any circumstances that would have prevented them complaining at the time.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The recommendation of a Stage 3 Review panel was to add clarification regarding the treatment of anonymous allegations. The work preparing the additional policy has now been completed and the following paragraph now forms a part of the Children in Need Procedures.

Members of the general public may seek to remain anonymous and Children's Social Care should assure the referrer that their identity would not be shared. The exception to this would be any member of the public seeking to refer a child/ren for whom they have parental responsibility, or a child/ren for whom they care. (It is expected that such a referrer has responsibilities for safeguarding and any concerns they have should be transparent in the interests of their own child/ren).

4.2 Following a representation, at the request of the Children’s mother a social worker left the children with a neighbour. The neighbour felt that there should have been some checks on her before doing this. The following paragraph now forms part of these procedures.

If Child/Children are felt to be at immediate risk and needs placing temporarily until next working day, other than if the child is made subject Police Protection Order to or Section 20 (voluntarily accommodated). The Emergency Duty Team, Social Worker needs to consider whether there are family or friends who are appropriate to care: -

- *Then permission of parent/Carer needs to be sought and negotiated.*
- *Checks made by the Police*
- *Checked made by Emergency Duty Team on carefirst & Integrated Children's System.*

Consider the need for written agreement to outline conditions i.e. where child is to stay and who can have contact with child.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 No other implications identified

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

The learning taken from comments, complaints and compliments ensures the ongoing development of services to provide better outcomes for children, young people and their families. The transparency of the process enables children, young people and their families to challenge our provision of services if they feel unhappy about any aspect of it and provides independent oversight if required.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

Any findings from a comment, complaint or compliment relating to this priority will be used to inform the relevant service.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Any findings from a comment, complaint or compliment relating to this priority will be used to inform the relevant service.

6.4 A Safer Halton

Any findings from a comment, complaint or compliment relating to this priority will be used to inform the relevant service.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Any findings from a comment, complaint or compliment relating to this priority will be used to inform the relevant service.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 A weak complaints process will fail individuals who want to use it, and the organisation from learning from complaints. Whilst complaints can result in changes for individuals, collectively they are a key source of information to help us develop the services we provide or commission.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 8.1 Five complaints were made by children and young people under the age of 18. Nineteen complaints were made by adults over the age of 18. The ethnicities of the complainants are all from the group, White British. No complainants provided any details regarding a disability.

REPORT TO: Children & Young People Policy & Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Children & Young People

SUBJECT: Climbie Visits

WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To report to PPB on the conduct of and outcomes from Climbie Visits to front line Child in Need Teams.
- 1.2 To review the outcomes from the recommendations reported to PPB on 23rd February 09.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) note the contents of the report;**
- (2) new and extended list of available Members is agreed by PPB and a rota of Climbe Visits agreed;**
- (3) following all Climbe Visits the report provided by Members and the responses made by relevant Managers should be reported to PPB and scrutinised twice a year; and**
- (4) the focus of Climbe Visits should give increased scrutiny to the core business of Contact, Referral and Assessment processes and performance data should routinely be discussed and understood.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Training was provided to PPB Members on 1st June this year. This explained the purpose of both Regulation 33 visits to Children's Homes and Climbie Visits.
- 3.2 There are currently four Members identified to carry out Climbie Visits, two in Runcorn and two in Widnes. Visits are carried out quarterly and a report is then sent to the Operational Director for Specialist Services and passed to the Divisional Manager, Children in Need to respond to any issues raised.

Meeting dates have been set for the year; visits to both teams took place in March 2009 and to the Widnes team in June. A visit

scheduled for 21st July in Runcorn did not go ahead and is in the process of being re-arranged.

3.3 The purpose of the Climbe Visit is to;

- Ensure that staffing levels are appropriate
- Check that workloads of individual workers are appropriate
- Ensure that referral management processes are sound and secure
- Check on the performance of the Duty Teams
- Track the progress of implementation of Integrated Children’s System (ICS)

3.4 Issues raised during visits have been predominantly around Health and Safety, working conditions for staff and Members have provided support in resolving a number of issues. There have also been issues raised in relation to the workload of Social Workers. Examples of issues and resolution have been listed below;

Issues Raised	Resolution
Workload of Social Workers	<p>Agreement for three additional social work posts across the three Children in Need Teams, (2 posts have been filled, 3rd going out to advert in September).</p> <p>Work being undertaken through Locality Pilot to develop a model across Halton for ensuring targeted and assertive earlier intervention to help reduce the number of Children and families requiring an intervention from Specialist Services.</p>
Safety in Car Park at Midwood House following a number of incidents of damage to vehicles and an assault on a staff member.	CCTV has been installed in the car park
Car Parking issues at Midwood House	Barrier installed with a key code, only staff members who are essential car users now have access to the car park.
Flu Vaccinations for front line workers	System has been put in place so that staff can claim back cost of flu vaccinations hopefully reducing sickness levels.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Lord Laming's Inquiry into the death of Victoria Climbe recommended that; *Chief Executives of local authorities with social services responsibilities must make arrangements for senior managers and councillors to regularly visit intake teams in their children's services department, and to report their findings to the Chief Executive and social services committee.* This recommendation remains 'best practice' and still considered as part of any Ofsted Inspection.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are two issues which need to be addressed to strengthen the conduct of Climbie Visits.

5.2 Firstly there have been some difficulties engaging Members to carry out visits. Visits to the Widnes team are prioritised by the two Members involved and take place at appropriate intervals, however embedding the same process in Runcorn has proved more problematic. All Members involved in Climbie Visits must have an Enhanced CRB Disclosure.

5.3 Secondly, whilst the visits have had a very positive impact, the expectation following the Baby Peter case, is that Members have a more detailed understanding of the functions of the contact, referral and assessment processes in ensuring children are safeguarded.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children & Young People in Halton

All Children in Need are subject to regulated service provision. From April 2009 there will be annual unannounced inspections of Contact, Referral and Assessment Teams. Climbie Visits afford Members an opportunity to assure themselves that front line teams are providing a standard of service that safeguards children.

6.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton

If children and young people are not safeguarded from harm they will have poorer outcomes and less likely to achieve economic well being.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

If children and young people are not safeguarded from harm they will have poorer outcomes and less likely to thrive and be healthy.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The performance of the Council's children services contact, referral and assessments teams is critical to keeping the most vulnerable children and young people in the borough safe.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

None

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 If Climbe Visits are not conducted regularly and effectively, the Council will be in breach of recommendation 41 of Lord Laming’s Inquiry. This will have a detrimental impact upon the rating of children services and the wider Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA).

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
The Victoria Climbe Inquiry	Grosvenor House	Vicky Buchanan
Procedure for Undertaking Climbe Visits	Grosvenor House	Vicky Buchanan

REPORT: Children & Young People Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Children and Young People

SUBJECT: Race Equality – Racist Incident Reporting – Schools

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE AND CONTENT OF REPORT

1.1 The Board received a report in September 2001 which detailed how the Local Authority (LA) and its schools would meet the requirements arising from the Macpherson Report (the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry). It was agreed that a progress report would be received each year. This is the fifth of such reports.

2.0 RECOMMENDED THAT: the report be noted.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 During the Autumn Term 2001, as recommended by this Board, the Governing Bodies of all Halton School adopted a model policy prepared by the LA entitled '*Promoting Anti-Racist Practices*' which included the requirement to record, investigate, act on and report racist incidents.

3.2 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 subsequently placed a specific duty on schools and local authorities to draw up race Equality Policies from May 2002. The specific duties for schools are to:

- prepare and maintain a written statement of its policy for promoting race equality;
- assess and monitor the impact of all school policies on pupils, staff and parents of different racial groups, including the impact on attainment levels of pupils; and
- create and implement strategies to prevent and address racism, including recording and reporting all racist incidents.

3.3 At the beginning of June 2002 all schools were sent a pack by the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) entitled 'The Duty to Promote Race Equality'. This pack contained a statutory Code of Practice on the Duty to Promote Race Equality and a Guide for Schools on how to meet their duty under the Code. Schools were recommended to undertake a review of the

model policy 'Promoting Anti-Racist Practices' using this pack and the previously published good practice guide 'Learning for All: Racial equality Standards for Schools'.

3.4 REPORTED RACIST INCIDENTS IN SCHOOLS

- 3.4.1 Schools are required to ensure racist incidents are reported to the Governing Body and to the Authority. The Authority has recommended to schools that reporting to governors is undertaken via Head Teachers' termly reports as a Part 2, confidential item.
- 3.4.2 Racist incidents in school have been reported to the Authority since the introduction of this requirement. They are recorded by a nominated officer in the Directorate who monitors the information and the action taken in response by Head Teachers. To date, appropriate action has been taken.
- 3.4.3 The nominated officer ensures that this information is included in the data submitted by the Council for the two Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI) on this subject. BVPI 174 - the number of racist incidents reported to the Council and BVPI 175 - the number of those reported that have been acted on.
- 3.4.4 The following is the data submitted for the BVPI report period April 2006 to March 2007 and a summary of some details of incidents.

BVPI 174	-	36
BVPI 175	-	36

Number of Schools

15 Schools reported 36 incidents:

9 Primary
6 Secondary
0 Special

Categories of Incidents (Victim/Perpetrator)

Victim:	Perpetrator:	
Public	Pupil	= 1
None	Pupil	= 3
Pupil	Pupil	= 26
Pupil	Pupils	= 2
Staff member	Pupil	= 4

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy guidance for schools was revised in 2006 to ensure that all members of the school community experience equitable treatment in relation to race.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

To ensure that all members of the school community enjoy equality of access to learning opportunities within the 5 key outcomes and that statutory requirements are met.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

All children and staff are having an equitable experience and treatment in relation to their race.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

All young people have improved life chances and are not disadvantaged because of their race.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Equally opportunity for all pupils and staff.

6.4 A Safer Halton

Children and young people do well whatever their needs, wherever they live and whatever their race leads to further development of the Council's priorities.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Children and young people do well whatever their needs, wherever they live and whatever their race leads to further development of the Council's priorities.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

Failure to promote and monitor race equality will prevent the LA and schools meeting statutory requirements.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

To promote policies, practice and procedures in schools which ensure that:

- there is positive representation of racial and cultural diversity

- all members of the school community who do experience discrimination know how to receive support to have their concerns dealt with.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000	Education and Social Inclusion Directorate	Ann McIntyre

REPORT TO: Children and Young People Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Children & Young People

SUBJECT: School Admission Arrangements 2009/10 and In-Year Co-ordination 2010/11

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE AND CONTENT OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Board on the 2009/10 admissions round to Primary and Secondary Schools.
- 1.2 To note the commencement of the consultation process with schools during the autumn term 2009 on the statutory requirement for the Local Authority to co-ordinate in-year admissions for all schools in the 2010 and subsequent admissions round.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That views are sought from the Policy and Performance Board regarding the statutory consultation on in-year admissions which must be undertaken with all schools during the autumn term 2009, and note that a report on the outcome of the consultation will subsequently be reported to the Board.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2009/10 Admissions Round Update

- 3.1 On 10th April 2008 the Executive Board approved the Council's School Admissions Policy and Admission Arrangements for the September 2009 intake to all community and voluntary controlled primary schools in Halton. Halton's admission arrangements continue to reflect the requirements within the revised Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) School Admissions Code which advises that admission authorities must have children in care as first priority for school places, and recognises commonly used criteria including siblings and distance criteria, all of which are applied within Halton. The new Code also removed the right to give priority to children according to the order of schools named as preferences by their parents/carers, including "first preference first" arrangements, replacing this with the Equal Preference Scheme.
- 3.2 In an Equal Preference Scheme the parent/carer's first, second, and third preference are considered at the same time. If potentially a place can be offered at more than one of the schools (i.e. because they have

a high enough priority for an oversubscribed school, the school is undersubscribed, or because the school receives exactly the same number of applications as the number of places available) the single offer of the place will be for the school the parent/carer ranked the highest on the preference form.

- 3.3 Halton continues to meet above the national average percentage of first preference applications for secondary schools. For the 2009 admissions round Halton met 90% of first preferences for secondary schools (against a national average of 83%) and 92% of first preferences for primary schools. This compares with 90% of first preferences met for secondary schools in the 2008 academic year (against a national average of 82%) and 94% for primary schools in 2008. The DCSF do not provide a national comparison for primary admissions.
- 3.4 Details of the school allocations for the September 2009 intake are attached as Appendix A for secondary Schools and Appendix B for Primary Schools.
- 3.5 The Council is the admission authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools and voluntary aided schools are their own admission authority, determining, following consultation, their own admissions criteria and allocating places according to those criteria. All schools, community, voluntary controlled, and voluntary aided, have agreed to the Local Authority's Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme and work to the requirements and timescales of that scheme.
- 3.6 Pupil numbers did increase slightly for the 2009 admissions round. 1448 pupils were admitted to primary schools in 2008 compared with 1469 in 2009, and 1438 pupils were admitted to secondary schools in 2008 compared with 1463 in 2009.
- 3.7 It is important to recognise that where a preference cannot be met, parents/carers have the right of appeal to an independent admission appeal panel. The panel may uphold or decline an appeal based upon the individual circumstances of the case presented by the parent/carer, and if the Panel decide that to admit a further pupil or pupils to the school will not prejudice the provision of efficient education and the efficient use of resources at the school they will uphold the appeal(s). The Local Authority as the admission authority for community and voluntary controlled schools, and governors and staff from voluntary aided schools as their own admission authority, are not involved in the decision making process undertaken by the independent admission appeal panel. The decisions made by independent admission appeal panels are legally binding on all parties: the Local Authority and School Governing Body as admission authorities, Schools, and Parents/Carers. The slight increase in pupil numbers from 2008 to 2009 also had an impact upon the number of appeals heard. 110 appeals were heard for the September 2008 intake across the primary

and secondary sector compared with 136 in 2009. 25 appeals were upheld for the 2009 intakes (7 for community and voluntary controlled schools and 18 for VA schools) compared with 19 for the 2008 intakes (13 for community and voluntary controlled schools and 6 for VA schools).

- 3.8 For those Halton resident pupils seeking admission to a secondary school in a neighbouring authority, 147 pupils were admitted to out-borough schools. 92 pupils were admitted from Runcorn to Warrington and Cheshire schools, (60 to Warrington, 32 to Cheshire) whilst 55 pupils from Widnes were admitted to other LA schools (37 pupils to Liverpool, 10 to Knowsley and 8 to St Helens). The number of pupils admitted to Halton secondary schools from out-borough is 51 (50 to Widnes schools, 1 to Runcorn).
- 3.9 Whilst Halton is currently a net exporter of pupils, members will be aware that key drivers for the Building Schools for the Future Programme include the introduction of 21st century learning, the expansion of popular and successful schools, and the delivery of a diverse range of educational opportunity through community, joint faith, trust and academy schools, and these factors currently being introduced in Halton support the aims of retaining Halton pupils in Halton schools, and attracting, where possible, out-borough pupils to Halton.
- 3.10 As part of the Secondary School Organisation process, and linked to the BSF Programme, members will also be aware that from September 2010 Fairfield High School will close and re-open as part of an extended Wade Deacon High School operating on two sites, and that as a response to public consultation, the Executive Board approved at the meeting held on 10th April 2008 the introduction of catchment zones in Widnes for The Bankfield and Wade Deacon High School.

In-Year Co-ordinated Admissions 2010/11

- 3.11 From the academic year 2010-11 onwards local authorities must co-ordinate all "in-year applications". In relation to academic year 2010-11 the arrangements for co-ordinating these applications must be formulated by 1st January 2010. Regulations prescribe that parents/carers must complete a common application form allowing them to express at least 3 preferences which may be for schools within or outside their home local authority area, and to give reasons for their preferences.
- 3.12 It is estimated that between 300-350 pupils per term move between schools either moving between Runcorn and Widnes, within Runcorn, within Widnes, or move into the Borough. Whenever a parent/carer wishes to change schools, or seek admission to a Halton school for the first time, they will be required to complete a preference form and submit

the form to the Local Authority, following which the application will be considered. If a place can be allocated the admission will be agreed, normally from the beginning of the next term, and if a place cannot be allocated at the school of preference an alternative offer will be made and parents offered the right of appeal against the school they have been refused.

- 3.13 The In-Year Co-ordinated Scheme will also need links with the Fair Access Protocol. The Fair Access Protocol exists to ensure that access to education is secured quickly for children who have no school place but for whom a place at a mainstream school or alternative provision is appropriate, and to ensure that all schools in an area admit their fair share of children with challenging behaviour.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Halton's Admissions Policy has been drawn up to maximize parental preference for Halton LA maintained community and voluntary controlled schools, and reflects the recommendations contained within the revised DCSF Code of Practice on School Admissions and associated Acts of Parliament and Regulations. The Council's Executive Board at their meeting held on 2nd April 2009 have already agreed the admission arrangements for the September 2010 intake into primary and secondary schools, which sees two schools changing status from community schools to that of an Academy and a Trust School, together with the introduction of catchment zones for The Bankfield and Wade Deacon High Schools in Widnes. Statutorily required consultation will commence in Autumn 2009 on the arrangements for the 2011 admissions round and a decision paper will be submitted to Executive Board in April 2010 for ratification.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 As a result of the introduction nationally of the equal preference scheme, admissions authorities (the Local Authority for community and voluntary controlled schools and governing bodies for aided schools) have seen a significant increase in the volume of work undertaken in managing and administering the equal preference admissions process. In real terms the workload for admission authorities has trebled as all three preferences must now be considered equally against the relevant criteria for every application made. Previously only the first preference was initially assessed for each application and only if that could not be met would admission authorities then consider second and third preference applications.
- 5.2 Local Authority officers have worked collaboratively with school governors to ensure the admissions process and admissions criteria are compliant with the revised Department for Children, Schools & Families School Admissions Code of Practice, and supported those schools through the process. The introduction of Local Authority management of

in-year admissions will continue to see increased workloads within the area of school admissions.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The proposed policy complies with statutory requirements in ensuring that the admission arrangements are fair and do not disadvantage, either directly or indirectly, a child from a particular social or racial group, or a child with disability or special educational needs, thereby ensuring that the educational provision for children & young people in the borough is inclusive and accessible.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Educational achievement is critical to the life chances of all children and is at the heart of the Government's Every Child Matters strategy. The School Admissions Policy detailing school admission arrangements in Halton underpins the requirement to promote fair access to educational opportunity.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The School Admissions Policy is aligned to the Council's Sustainable School Travel Policy which promotes and supports measures that encourage local communities to use environmentally sustainable forms of travel, especially walking, cycling, and public transport.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The alignment of the School Admissions Policy and the Sustainable School Travel Policy promotes the safe travel and transfer of pupils to school.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The Admissions Policy reflects the School Organisation programme intended to ensure that 21st century provision is in place across both the primary and secondary sectors.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 The current admission arrangements and co-ordinated schemes are in place to maximise parental preference for Halton schools. Any amendment to the current arrangements at this time may reduce parental preference and lead to an increased number of admission appeals, adversely affecting the intake at some schools. Furthermore, any amendments may affect the LA's School Organisation programme currently being undertaken in both the primary and secondary sector.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 The admission arrangements reflect the equality and diversity requirements of the Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended by the Race

Relations (Amendment) Act 2000, the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, the Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005, and the Equality Act 2006

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
DCSF School Admissions Code	Children & Young People's Directorate	Martin West
School Standards & Framework Act 1998	Children & Young People's Directorate	Martin West
Education Act 2002	Children & Young People's Directorate	Martin West
Education & Inspections Act 2006	Children & Young People's Directorate	Martin West

APPENDIX A - SECONDARY SCHOOL ALLOCATIONS SEPTEMBER 2009

School	Allocated
Fairfield High School	100
The Bankfield	141
Wade Deacon High School	228
Saints Peter & Paul Catholic College	285
Halton High School	121
The Grange Comprehensive School	160
The Heath Specialist Technology College	226
St Chad's Catholic & Church of England Joint Faith VA High School	202
TOTAL	1463

Total

2926

APPENDIX B - PRIMARY SCHOOL ALLOCATIONS SEPTEMBER 2009

School	Allocated
All Saints Upton Church Of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School	26
Astmoor Primary School	24
Beechwood Primary School	16
Brookvale Primary School	39
Castle View Primary School	23
Daresbury Primary School	15
Ditton Primary School	38
Fairfield Infant School	71
Farnworth Church Of England Controlled Primary School	56
Gorsewood Primary School	30
Hale Bank Church Of England Voluntary Controlled Primary Sch	11
Hale Church Of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School	24
Hallwood Park Primary School And Nursery	12
Halton Lodge Primary School	30
Hillview Primary School	30
Lunts Heath Primary School	45
Moore Primary School	30
Moorfield Primary School	45
Murdishaw West Community Primary School	25
Oakfield Community Primary School	38
Our Lady Mother Of The Saviour Catholic Primary School	27
Our Lady Of Perpetual Succour Catholic Primary School	28
Palacefields Primary School	28
Pewithall Primary School	32
Runcorn All Saints CofE Primary School	22
Simms Cross Primary School	15
Spinney Avenue C Of E Primary School	30
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School	15
St Basil's Catholic Primary School	57
St Bede's Catholic Infant School	68
St Berteline's C of E Primary School	43
St Clement's Catholic Primary School	30
St Edward's Catholic Primary School	17
St Gerard's Roman Catholic Primary And Nursery School	14
St John Fisher Catholic Primary School	29
St Martin's Catholic Primary School	30
St Mary's Church Of England Primary School	36
St Michaels Catholic Primary School	33
The Brow Community Primary School	25
The Grange Infant School	60
The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School	20
The Park Primary School	8
Victoria Road Primary School	40
West Bank Primary School	29
Westfield Primary School	20
Weston Point Community Primary School	22
Weston Primary School	19
Windmill Hill Primary School	22
Woodside Primary School	22
Total	1469

Mr Gerald Meehan
Strategic Director for Children and Young People
Halton Borough Council
Municipal Buildings
Kingsway
Widnes WA8 7QF

11 August 2009

Dear Mr Meehan

Compliance Exercise 2010 Admission Arrangements

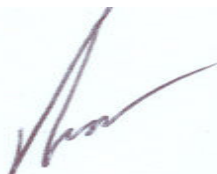
As you are aware, the Secretary of State has asked the OSA to scrutinise the admission arrangements of Local Authorities and schools across England and report to him on the extent to which these comply with the School Admissions Code and the Law. Schools Adjudicators were asked to look through the admission arrangements of a sample of schools across England and of every Local Authority.

I am pleased to advise we have found no breaches of the Code in the admission arrangements made by your Authority.

I should at this point emphasise that the checking undertaken by a Schools Adjudicator has necessarily been limited to those aspects of the admission arrangements that can fairly readily be compared against the requirements of the Code. It has obviously not been possible for a Schools Adjudicator to identify arrangements that contravene the Code in ways that would only become apparent once the local context had been taken into account. This means that, despite the check, the OSA may still receive an objection to your arrangements. However, since the period for submitting objections has now ended, it is unlikely that we will receive an objection but if we do, and the adjudicator has agreed that they will consider the late objection we will contact you in the normal way.

With thanks for your assistance in this important work.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Skuce
Secretary
Office of the Schools Adjudicator

REPORT TO: Children & Young People Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 7 September 2009

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director, Universal Services

SUBJECT: Summary of Educational Attainment 2009

WARD(S): Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To report on 2009 performance data for Foundation Stage Profile and Key Stages 1 to 4. This is an initial report referring to currently available data. It reports attainment only and does not indicate the effectiveness of service delivery. A more detailed report will be tabled at the meeting as further data will become available prior to then.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board note the attainment of children in Halton schools for the 2008-09 academic year.

3.0 SUMMARY

3.1 Foundation Stage Profile

Foundation Stage Profile is a continual assessment of a child's ability undertaken throughout the reception year and then reported on at the end of the year. The main headlines for Halton are summarised as follows;

- % achieving 6+ in Personal, Social & Emotional Development (PSED) - **73.7%** - in-line with Halton 2008 figure of 73.6%
- % achieving 6+ in Communication, Language & Literacy - **50.7%** - an increase of 2.3% from Halton 2008 of 48.4%
- % achieving 6+ in both PSED & CLL - **46.9%** - an increase of 1.5% from Halton 2008 of 45.4%
- The percentage of pupils achieving 6+ in PSED has decreased since 2008, the largest difference being a decrease of 1.6% in Emotional Development (**78.7%** compared to 80.3% in 2008).
- This is also the case with % of pupils 8+ in PSED, however the largest decrease here is 5.4% in Social Development (**27.2%** compared to 32.6% in 2008).
- The percentage of pupils achieving 6+ across CLL and Mathematical Development assessments have improved since 2008, the greatest increase is in CLL Language for Communication and Thinking by 2.9% (**82.1%** compared to 79.2% in 2008).

- Girls are currently outperforming boys at %6+ and %8+ across all individual aspects with the exception %8+ Mathematical Development – Shape, Space & Measurement
- Achievement in the 30% deprived SOAs has increased in CLL (**46.9%** compared to 42.1% in 2008) and in PSED & CLL (**42.2%** compared to 39.5% in 2008).
- Achievement in the 30% deprived SOAs has decreased in PSED (**68.6%** compared to 69.0% in 2008).

3.2 Key Stage 1

At Key Stage 1 a child's attainment in Reading, Writing, and Maths is assessed during Year 2. The main headlines for Halton are summarised as follows;

- Achievement at Reading has increased in both Level 2+, 2.5% rise from 79.8% in 2008 to **82.3%** in 2009, and Level 2B+, 2.4% rise from 66.9% in 2008 to **69.3%** in 2009.
- Achievement at Reading Level 3+ has remained at 23.8%
- Performance in Writing has increased at Level 2+ with a 3.2% rise from 76.9% in 2008 to **80.1%** in 2009.
- Achievement at Writing has decreased in both Level 2B+, 0.8% fall from 55.7% in 2008 to **54.9%** in 2009, and Level 3+, 2.6% fall from 9.6% in 2008 to **7.0%** in 2009.
- Achievement in Maths has increased across all indicator levels: -
 - Level 2+ - 1.3% rise from 86.7% in 2008 to **88.0%** in 2009
 - Level 2B+ - 2.8% rise from 69.3% in 2008 to **72.1%** in 2009
 - Level 3+ - 1.4% rise from 19.5% in 2008 to **20.9%** in 2009

3.3 Key Stage 2

At Key Stage 2 a child's attainment is assessed in English, Reading, Writing, Maths, and Science during Year 6. Current data should be treated as provisional as validation is ongoing with a number of papers returned for remarking. The main headlines for Halton are summarised as follows;

- Achievement in newest DCSF performance measure, English & Maths Level 4+ was 73.0%. Halton is performing above the national average
- Level 4+ Reading - **86.7%** - 0.9% below Halton 2008 figure of 87.6%, achievement at Level 5+ in Reading fell by 3.5% to **46.3%** compared to 49.8% in 2008
- Level 4+ Writing – **67.2%** - 0.6% below Halton 2008 figure of 67.8%, achievement at Level 5+ in Writing fell by 1.5% to **17.9%** compared to 19.4% in 2008 (***A very high numbers of KS2 Writing papers have been returned for remarking so these figures should be treated with caution***)
- Level 4+ Maths - **80.7%** - in-line with Halton 2008 figure of 81.0%, achievement at Level 5+ in Maths rose by 3.7% to **35.8%** compared to 32.1% in 2008

- Level 4+ Science - **89.5%** - 2.6% below Halton 2008 figure of 92.1%, achievement at Level 5+ in Science fell by 2.5% to **46.7%** compared to 49.2% in 2008

3.4 Key Stage 3

At Key Stage 3 a child's attainment in English, Maths, and Science is measured during Year 9. Performance cannot be reported at present but it is hoped to have summary level information to table at the meeting.

3.5 Key Stage 4

Key Stage 4 attainment measures a child's GCSE results in Year 11. Results are due to be published on 27th August and will be included in the report tabled at the meeting.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

No other implications have been identified.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Educational attainment is key to the future life chances of children and young people in Halton. It also provides a proxy to the work being done with vulnerable children in the borough and the critical priority areas of narrowing the gap.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Educational attainment of children and young people will have a significant impact on future employment, learning and skills of Halton's population.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

Not applicable.

6.4 A Safer Halton

Not applicable.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Not applicable.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 A risk analysis will be completed as part of the review of the Directorate Risk Register.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Educational attainment is central to reducing inequalities and ensuring the best outcomes for all children and young people in Halton with a particular focus on vulnerable groups.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 None

REPORT TO: Children & Young People PPB
DATE: 07th September 2009
REPORTING OFFICER: Chief Executive
SUBJECT: Performance Management Reports for 2009/10
WARDS: Boroughwide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of the 2009 – 10 1st quarter performance management reports on progress against service plan objectives and performance targets, performance trends/comparisons, factors affecting the services etc. for:

- Specialist Services
- Universal & Learning Services
- Preventative Services
- Business Support & Commissioning

2. RECOMMENDED: That the Policy and Performance Board

- 1) Receive the 1st quarter performance management reports;**
- 2) Consider the progress and performance information and raise any questions or points for clarification; and**
- 3) Highlight any areas of interest and/or concern where further information is to be reported at a future meeting of the Policy and Performance Board.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The departmental service plans provide a clear statement on what the services are planning to achieve and to show how they contribute to the Council's strategic priorities. The service plans are central to the Council's performance management arrangements and the Policy and Performance Board has a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

3.2 The quarterly reports are on the Information Bulletin to reduce the amount of paperwork sent out with the agendas and to allow Members access to the reports as soon as they have become available. It also provides Members with an opportunity to give advance notice of any questions, points or requests for further information that will be raised to ensure the appropriate Officers are available at the PPB meeting.

4. POLICY AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5. RISK ANALYSIS

5.1 Not applicable.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

6.1 Not applicable.

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTIONS 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
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QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Children & Young People
SERVICE: Universal & Learning Services
PERIOD: Quarter 1 to period end 30th June 2009

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Universal & Learning Services Department first quarter period up to 30 June 2009. It describes key developments and progress against 'key' milestones and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic lights symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Appendix 5.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

2.1 One to One Tuition

Funding for one to one tuition for primary schools has been extended and will be implemented from September 2009. The identified primary schools will be receiving funding to deliver a programme of support for target pupils. The criteria used to include children is those who entered the key stage behind the expected level and/or are not on trajectory to reach national expectations, or to make two levels of progress and/or are Children in Care who would particularly benefit from this kind of additional support.

All secondary schools will also be receiving funding to deliver a programme of support for target pupils. The same criteria applies to secondary school children as with primaries.

2.2 Delivering the 2013 Entitlement

By 2013, every young person will have an entitlement to choose any one of the 14 new diplomas. These new qualifications will combine practical skill development with theoretical and technical understanding and knowledge. They will offer all young people different ways of learning and a route into higher education and employment. Guidance has been published for Local authorities and Providers on meeting the 2013 entitlement. The 14-19 plan will be refreshed to ensure the recommendations are implemented.

2.3 Secondary resource bases¹

The type and location of Secondary resource basis was agreed in line with vision for 2 learning communities and Building Schools for the Future plans. Statutory notice has been completed with implementation due in 2011.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

3.1 The White Paper – Your Child, Your Schools, Our Future

We need to consider the implications arising from the Government's White Paper – Your Child, Your Schools, Our Future published in June 2009. The Your Child, Your Schools, Our Future White paper sets out statutory Pupil and Parent Guarantee, underpinned by legislation, a clear devolution of power matched by stronger accountability and an uncompromising approach to school improvement so that every child can succeed.

3.2 Gateway Four Diploma Submissions

The 14-19 Strategic Partnership will not be making Gateway applications for additional Diploma deliveries in 2011. These will be deferred until 2012 as this is when Riverside College is expected to have moved from a position of concern. The Borough is still on target to meet the 2013 entitlement.




3.3 Early Years

It is possible that there may be a need to restructure and re-locate Early Years Teams as an outcome of the Early Years Review.

3.4 Primary SEN Review

The review of Primary resource bases is underway. The provision for the future is under consultation and expressions of interest have been sought from the schools.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

Total	21		21		0		0
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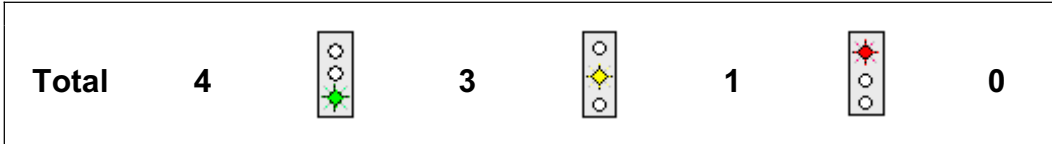
Good progress is being made in respect of all milestones. For further details, please refer to Appendix 1.

¹ Resource bases are mainstream schools with a resource base providing a specialism for children with additional needs

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW

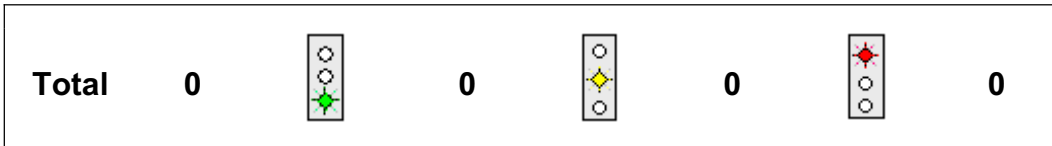
Nothing to Report

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Good progress towards targets for “Key” performance indicators. For further details, please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



No “Other” performance indicators have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2009-12 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated ‘High’ risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

8.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS

During 2008/09 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.





At this time concern is expressed over 2 high priority actions, for further details please refer to Appendix 3.





9.0 DATA QUALITY




The author provides assurance that the information contained within this report is accurate and valid and that every effort has been made to avoid the omission of data. Where data has been estimated, has been sourced directly from partner or other agencies, or where there are any concerns regarding the limitations of its use this has been clearly annotated.

10.0 APPENDICES





Appendix 1- Progress against Objectives/ Milestones
Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
Appendix 3- Progress against High Priority Equality Actions
Appendix 4- Financial Statement
Appendix 5- Explanation of traffic light symbols




Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
ULS 1	To Narrow the Gap in Educational Outcomes for Vulnerable Groups	Complete a comprehensive review of all Early Years provision within the borough by March 2010		A series of Early Years Pathways meetings have taken place to consider Early Years provision for vulnerable pupils. The review has yet to be completed but a number of colleagues from ULS and health have been involved in the consultation to date.
		Reinvest the savings gained by the reduction in statutory assessments achieved through capacity building in the mainstream sector by March 2010		Outreach support, training and inclusion development programme has led to an increase in children accessing mainstream places. Earlier intervention is leading to reduction in the number of statements.
		Complete the review of LDD provision and support by March 2010		The review of secondary resourced provision has been completed and type and location of provision has been agreed. Statutory notices have been published with implementation due September 2011. Consultation on the primary resourced provision has commenced and expressions of interest from schools have been received. It is hoped that decisions on the type and location of restructured primary resourced provision can be agreed and recommendations submitted to the Executive Board for approval. If approved, schools would be informed by the start of the next school term.
		Further develop support service for EAL children from the resource base at St Chad's Specialist Language college by March 2010		Service is established and has been running for one year. Feedback from schools is positive and service objectives have been more than met.

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Education support service to develop curriculum based group activities for Children in Care by March 2010		Access to Personal Education Allowance and 1 to 1 Tuition will be a priority for Children in Care to address curriculum based group activities.
ULS 2	To Improve Educational Outcomes for all Children at Foundation Level	Communication Language and Literacy Development (CLLD) project implemented to improve standards of literacy at Foundation Stage by March 2010		The CLLD project has been extended to include additional target schools and settings. There has been an observable impact in the acceleration of phonic development in those schools and settings that have implemented the programme.
		Review and evaluate Early Years Outcome Duty project to provide a consistent framework for Early Years provision by March 2010		The Early Years Outcome Duty Steering group is now an established team who have collaborated on a comprehensive action plan to support the achievement of Halton's statutory Early Years Outcomes duty targets. There is shared accountability for quality assurance across all EYFS settings.
		Develop a quality assurance system to ensure consistency of Early Years Provision by March 2010		It has been agreed that a policy for support and intervention for EYFS settings be written to include quality assurance criteria to support the 'categorisation' of settings. The LA will be using National Strategy resources - Early Years Quality Improvement Support Programme (EYQISP) and ECERs (Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale) to establish criteria. It is expected that this will be in place from January 2010. This information will be used to inform the deployment of support and intervention across private, voluntary and maintained settings.




Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Deliver the ICAN project across a broader range of settings by March 2010		To date 7 settings have been accredited at I Can supporting level and 1 has attained the enhanced accreditation. A further 10 settings are currently going through the accreditation process resulting in a total of 17 settings across private and voluntary and maintained sectors.
ULS 3	To Improve Educational Outcomes for all Children at Primary Level	Review and evaluate alerts and triggers system by March 2010		The draft alerts and triggers criteria have been shared with headteachers as part of the consultation process, and 3 primary schools have trialled their use in support of their self-review process. The system is now to be translated into an electronic format so that the data can be maintained and evaluated. Expected to be in operation by Autumn 2009.
		Work with schools via the SIP process to ensure they set challenging targets by January 2010		All schools have set challenging targets based upon the expected FFT D ² targets. Target setting is the outcome of professional dialogue between the school and the SIP using a range of available data, including the school's context and trajectory for improvement.

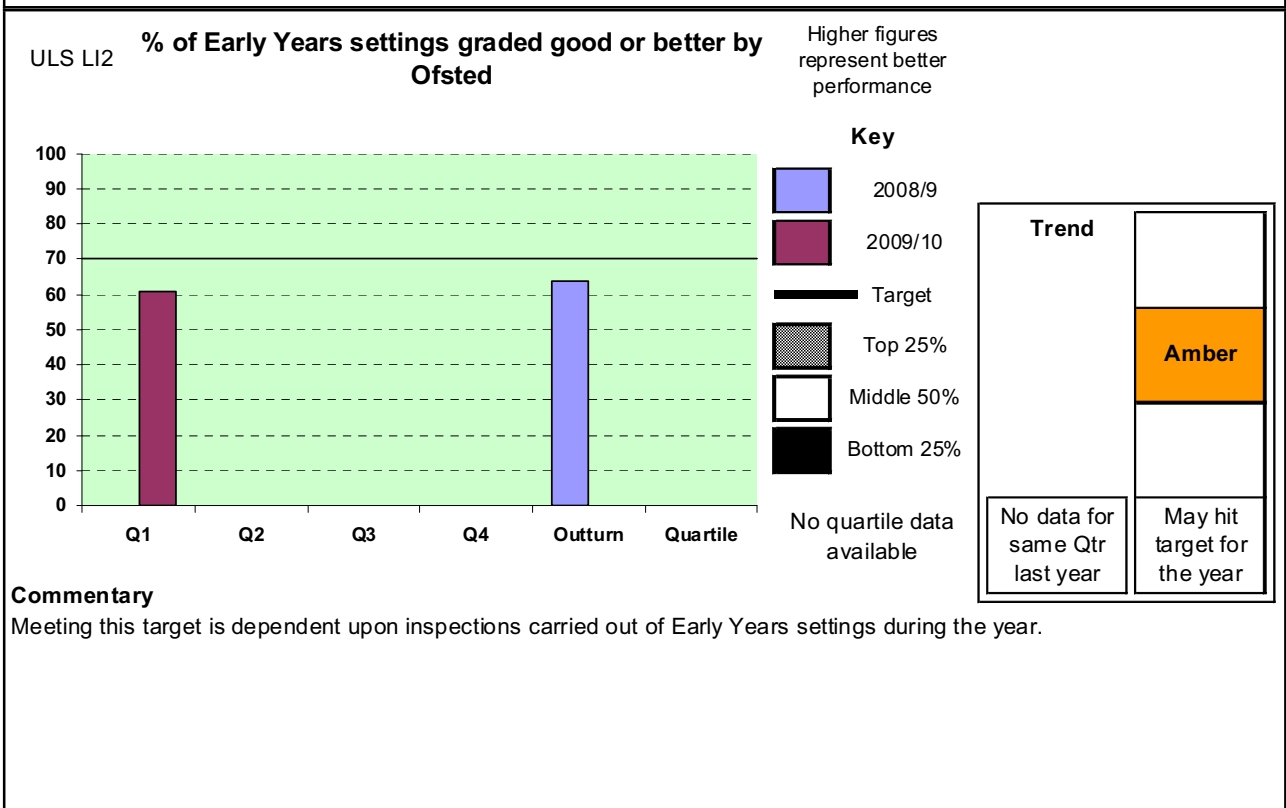
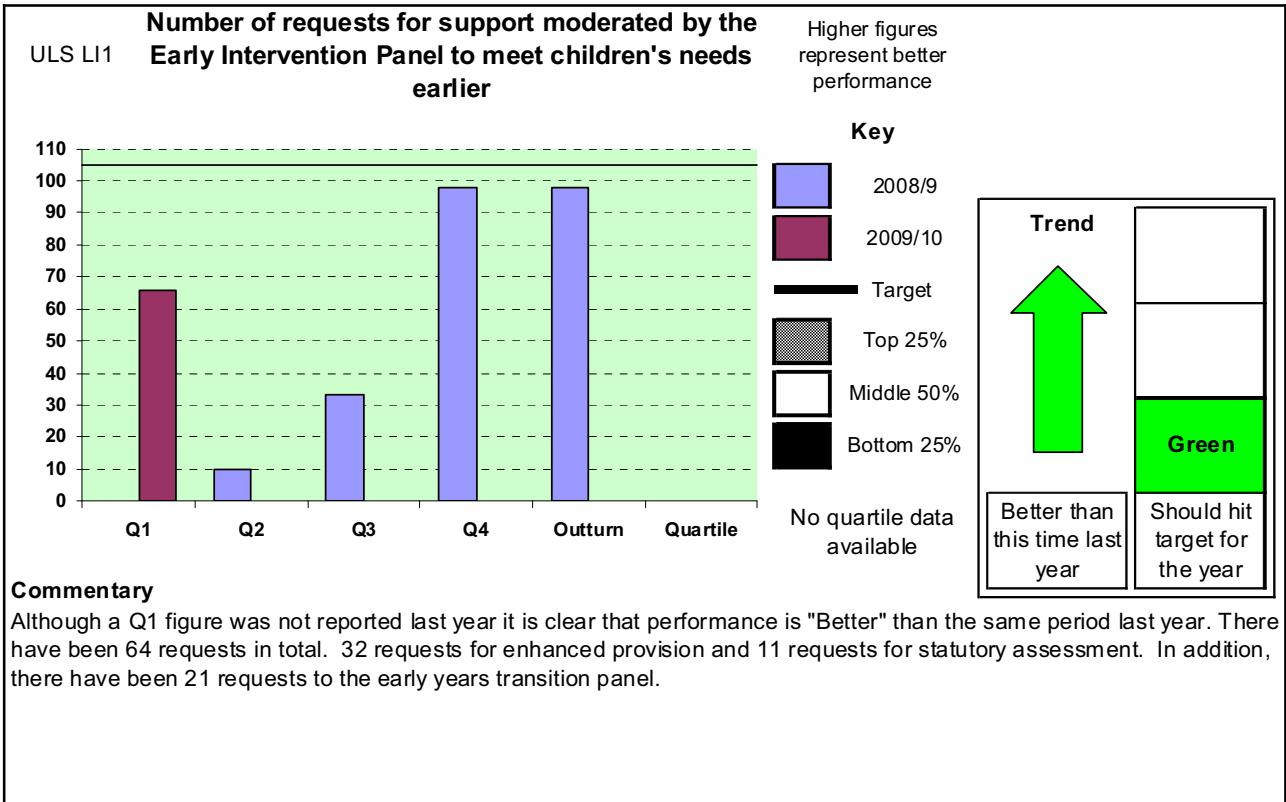
² Fischer Family Trust data is used to provide estimates for attainment. FFT D estimates provide an indication of what might be achieved if students made sufficient progress for the school to be in the top quartile for similar schools in terms of value-added ranking.

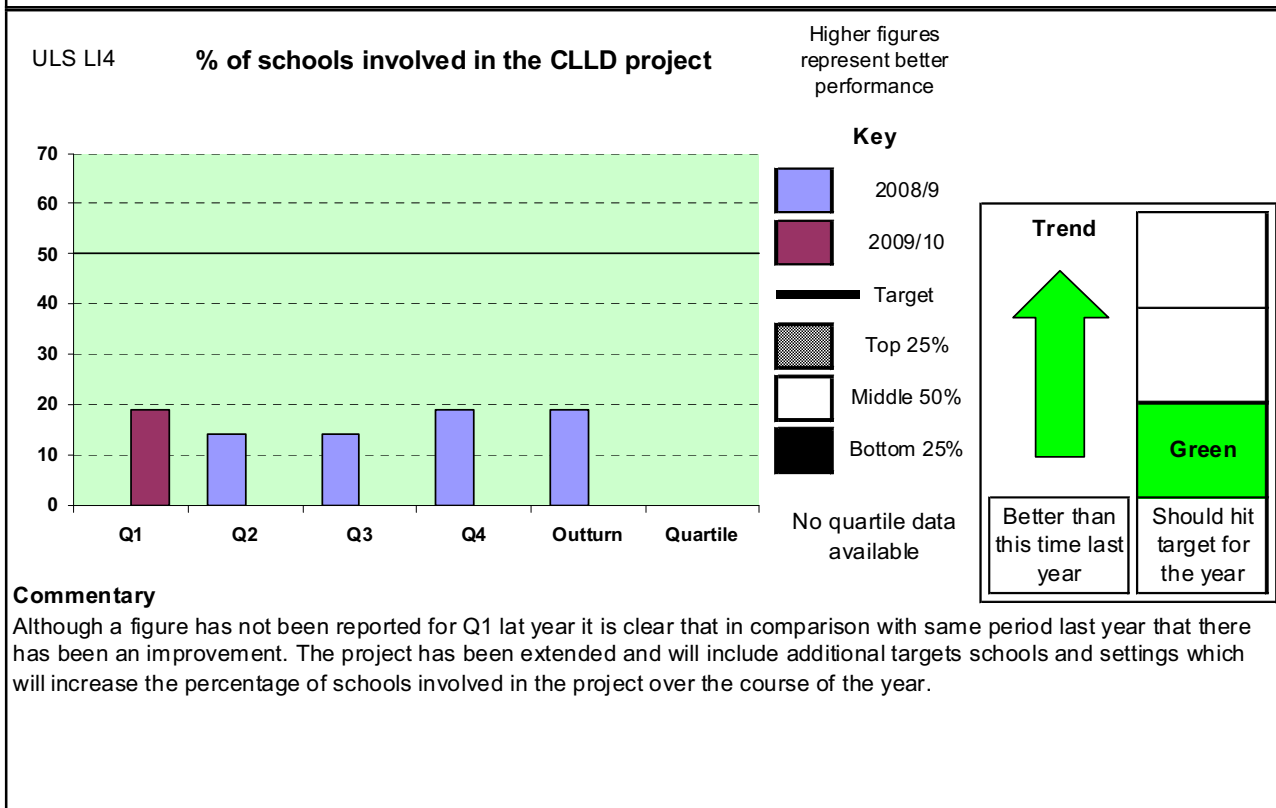
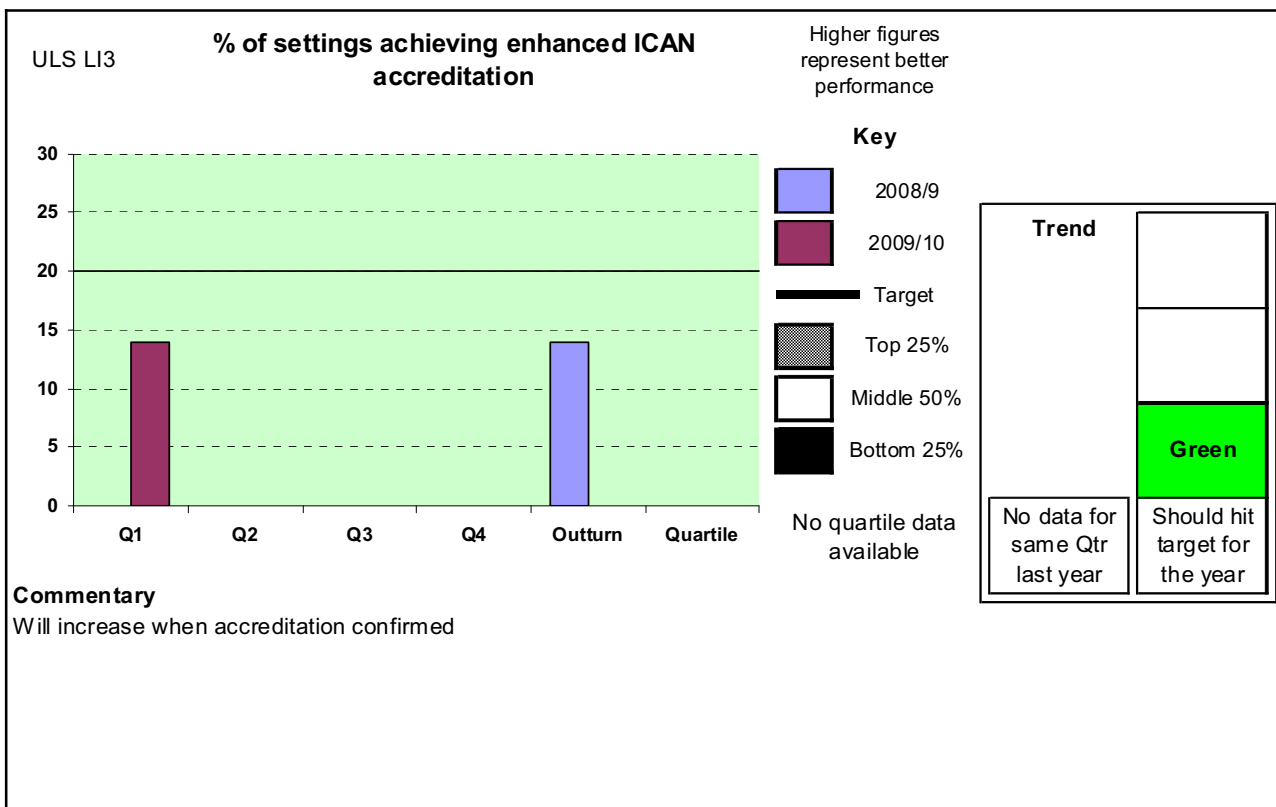
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Implement systems for managing schools at risk of formal categorisation by March 2010		There is a comprehensive system in place to manage schools at risk of categorisation in line with the LA's strategy for support an intervention. Where appropriate the LA uses its powers of intervention including the issuing of warning notices and also undertakes school reviews as necessary. There is a Cross Service Monitoring Group in place to provide a 'team around the school' approach and Single School Updates are held to support the planning of collaborative support for schools most in need. The outcome of SIP visits is fundamental to this process.
		Engage schools in literacy and numeracy projects to improve standards by March 2010		There are a range of projects on offer to schools, targeted where required. This includes Assessment for Learning (AfL) and Assessing Pupil Progress (APP); Improving Schools Programme (ISP); 1 to 1 tuition; Every Child a Reader (ECAR) and the LA's Leading Teacher programme.
ULS 4	To Improve Educational Outcomes for all Children at Secondary Level	Deliver Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning Programmes to targeted schools by March 2010		All secondary schools have engaged with the programme and to date 5 of the schools have implemented the SEAL programme. A further school will be implemented from September 2009.
		Implement plan for schools identified as in need of targeted intervention by March 2010		All schools are receiving appropriate support. National Challenge schools are in receipt of additional funding, consultant support and national challenge advisor support.



Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Review and evaluate alerts and triggers system by March 2010		The draft alerts and triggers criteria have been shared with headteachers as part of the consultation process. The system is now to be translated into an electronic format so that the data can be maintained and evaluated. Expected to be in operation by Autumn 2009.
		Work with schools via the SIP process to ensure they set challenging targets by January 2010		All targets have been set at FFT D ³ for 2009. For 2010 there is only 1 statutory target - % of 5A* to C including English and maths.
		Implement systems for managing schools at risk of formal categorisation by March 2010		There is a comprehensive system in place to manage schools at risk of categorisation in line with the LA's strategy for support an intervention. Where appropriate the LA uses its powers of intervention including the issuing of warning notices and also undertakes school reviews as necessary. There is a Cross Service Monitoring Group in place to provide a 'team around the school' approach and Single School Updates are held to support the planning of collaborative support for schools most in need. The outcome of SIP visits is fundamental to this process, including the deployment of consultant support.

³ Fischer Family Trust data is used to provide estimates for attainment. FFT D estimates provide an indication of what might be achieved if students made sufficient progress for the school to be in the top quartile for similar schools in terms of value-added ranking.

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
ULS 5	To Improve Outcomes Post-16	From emerging LSC/LA transitional arrangements pilot a demand led commissioning process for local provision based on need by March 2010		Six Greater Merseyside work streams have been established to facilitate the process:- Commissioning, Staffing, Data, LLDD, Legal & Finance, Common Application Process & E prospectus. 5 members of staff will transfer to the LA from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and the LSC is currently undertaking a job matching process, which will be complete by Sept 09.
		Collaboratively deliver a range of needs led diplomas at levels 1,2&3 by March 2010		A further 4 new diplomas will be available from Sept 09 and collaborative delivery plans are at an advanced stage of development. 84 learners have been offered places on new diplomas for Sep 09.
		Map the range and quality of post-16 provision in the borough by March 2010		Initial curriculum mapping has been completed. An in principle agreement of a Collegiate model with two collaborative is in place. The model will be tested over the next quarter as curriculum is discussed in more detail.





HIGH Priority Actions	Target	Progress	Commentary
Participate in programme of Equality Impact assessments on all Strategy, Policy, and Service Areas	Mar 2010 OD Universal & Learning Services and all DM's		There have been some gaps identified in completion of EIA's. The Children's Trust Equalities group is currently developing mechanisms to ensure completion and improve quality and impact of assessments.
Embed a system of stakeholder engagement, participation and consultation in all aspects of Service Delivery	Mar 2010 OD Universal & Learning Services and all DM's		Stakeholder engagement and participation is being developed across all service areas however further development is still required. .

UNIVERSAL & LEARNING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Employees	2,343	586	449	137	454
Premises	154	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	93	23	21	2	23
Transport	7	2	2	0	2
Agency Related Expenditure	16	6	6	0	6
Central Support	525	131	131	0	131
Service Recharges					
Independent School Fees	1,462	680	680	0	680
Inter Authority	748	0	0	0	0
Special Needs					
Speech Therapy	46	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	5,394	1,428	1,289	139	1,296
Reimbursements & Other Income	-41	-1	-1	0	-1
Schools SLA Income	-127	-63	-67	4	-67
Inter Authority Income	-565	0	0	0	0
Total Income	-733	-64	-68	4	-68
Net Expenditure	4,661	1,364	1,221	143	1,228

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending to the end of quarter 1 is under the budget profile.

The budget for Employees is currently spending below budget profile due to vacancies in the Advisory, Special Educational Needs and Psychology Service.

At this early stage it is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be below the Departmental budget by the end of the financial year.

STANDARDS FUND & AREA BASED GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Primary Targeted Support	556	98	93	5	94
Key Stage 3 Targeted Support	314	55	91	(36)	93
Extending Early Yrs Making Good Progress	180	32	0	32	0
School Lunch	313	55	0	55	0
Ethnic Minority Achievement	199	35	0	35	0
Music Services	38	7	0	7	0
Extended Schools	184	32	18	14	18
Extended Schools Sustainability	351	62	0	62	0
KS4 Engagement	93	30	1	29	2
Total Standards Fund	2,308	420	203	217	207
14-19 Flexible Funding	37	9	0	9	0
Choice Advisors	26	6	6	0	6
Education Health Partnership	60	15	6	9	6
Extended Rights for Free Travel	47	12	0	12	0
Extended Schools – Start Up	567	142	47	95	47
Secondary Behaviour & Attendance	68	17	17	0	17
Secondary National Strategy	132	33	33	0	33
Primary National Strategy	94	24	24	0	24
School Development	1,132	283	57	226	57
School Improvement Partners	71	18	0	18	0
School Intervention	44	11	2	9	2
School Travel Advisors	17	4	0	4	0
Sustainable Travel to Schools	10	3	0	3	0
Connexions	1,682	420	420	0	420
Total	3,987	997	612	385	612

GENERAL SURE START & CHILDRENS CENTRE GRANT SCHEMES**As at 30th June 2009**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Sure Start Main	2,229	557	386	171	481
Ditton CC	512	128	103	25	106
Brookvale CC	521	130	158	(28)	181
Halton Lodge CC	447	112	114	(2)	120
Halton Brook CC	588	147	118	29	155
Kingsway CC	618	155	98	57	106
Warrington Road CC	81	20	22	(2)	23
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour CC	15	4	3	1	3
Runcorn All Saints CC	0	0	2	(2)	2
Castlefields CC	0	0	(6)	6	(6)
Palacefields CC	75	19	9	10	9
Windmill Hill CC	75	19	34	(15)	34
Children's Centre General	1,081	270	(19)	289	(15)
Total General Sure Start & Children's Centres	6,242	1,561	1,022	539	1,199

OTHER EXTERNAL GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
LSC Post 16	31	8	9	(1)	9
Transport					
Children's Workforce Development	81	20	1	19	1
Walking to School Initiative	4	1	0	1	0
IS Contact Point	267	67	33	34	33
Info Systems for Parents & Providers	4	1	3	(2)	3
Children's Workforce Higher Level	86	22	25	(3)	35
Teaching Assistants	56	14	0	14	0
Arts Education Development	67	17	23	(6)	23
National	149	37	17	20	17
Remodelling School Workforce					
Basic Skills Quality Mark – Primary	4	1	1	0	1
Schools Music Service	17	4	2	2	4
Build Capacity for Leadership Succession	53	13	0	13	0
PE & Sports	580	145	107	38	108
Aim Higher	336	84	56	28	68
14-19 Advisory	491	123	93	30	98
Education Business Link	284	71	54	17	58
Neighbourhood Managers Project	44	11	15	(4)	16
Enterprise Game	128	32	27	5	32
14-19 Diploma	247	62	39	23	40
Parenting Strategy	40	10	0	10	0
St Chads – Lottery	8	2	4	(2)	4
Gateway Plus	115	29	18	11	18
Mental Health in Schools	220	55	1	54	1
Total Other External Funding	3,312	829	528	301	569

LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP SCHEMES**As at 30th June 2009**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Neglect – PACT	125	31	0	31	0
Barnardos Missing from Home	70	18	18	0	18
Teenage Pregnancy (Health)	45	11	0	11	0
Portage	16	12	8	4	9
Attendance	22	17	25	(8)	25
HITS	50	12	0	12	0
Vikings in the Community	17	13	0	13	0
Connexions – NEET	46	35	0	35	0
Canal Boat Adventure	17	12	0	12	0
Improved Education for Vulnerable Youngsters	13	10	1	9	5
Kingsway Literacy Development	355	89	26	63	26
Youth Activity	27	21	10	11	10
H9P PEP Dowries	3	3	3	0	9
Unallocated Funds	162	41	0	41	0
Total LSP	968	325	91	234	102

Comments on the above figures:

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) funding spending to the end of quarter 1 is below budget profile.

Regular monitoring reports are sent to the LSP in respect of all LSP projects and any areas of concern are dealt with throughout the year by the CYP commissioning / finance team. Further support is provided by the LSP team in the Policy & Performance Division as well as individual project managers.

There are some projects which have been allocated working neighbourhood funds for the first four months of the year so the budgets have been profiled to reflect this.

CHILDREN'S & YOUNG PEOPLES DIRECTORATE

Capital Projects as at 30th June 2009

	2009/10 Capital Allocation	Allocation To Date	Actual Spend To Date	Total Allocation Remaining
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Asset Management Data	5	0	0	5
Fire Compartmentation	15	0	0	15
Capital Repairs	1,152	380	378	774
Contingency	191	24	24	167
Fairfield School	306	60	39	267
Asbestos Management	45	0	0	45
Cavendish School Changing Rooms	43	42	42	1
All Saints Upton School PCP	713	48	48	665
Our Lady Mother of Saviour School	100	0	0	100
Kingsway Centre Children's Centre General	1,625	90	90	1,535
Astmoor CC	56	0	4	52
Runcorn All Saints CC	26	19	16	10
St Augustine's CC	8	0	0	8
The Park CC	4	0	0	4
Windmill Hill CC	20	9	8	12
Children's Centre Maintenance	17	0	0	17
Brookfields School	41	0	0	41
Cavendish School Early Years Childcare	217	59	59	158
School Access Initiative	98	0	0	98
Play-builder Capital	388	5	5	383
Moore Primary	273	9	9	264
Lunts Heath	63	0	0	63
Westbank School	87	0	0	87
Hillview School	92	0	0	92
Cavendish School Furniture & Equipment	35	0	0	35
Aim Higher for Disabled Children	285	0	0	285
Harnessing Technology	631	11	67	564
Total Capital	6,605	756	789	5,816




Comments on the above figures:

There are still some schemes with no actual expenditure up to the end of Quarter 1.

It is important that these projects get underway as soon as possible and are closely monitored during the year, in order to ensure that the relevant capital allocations are fully utilized by the financial year end.

There are a number of schemes where the works will take place in the 2010-11 financial year as the funding is permitted to be carried forward into 2010-11.

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>milestone/objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u> .
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, <u>whether the milestone/objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the milestone/objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Children & Young People
SERVICE: Business Support & Commissioning
PERIOD: Quarter 1 to period end 30th June 2009

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Business Support & Commissioning Department first quarter period up to 30 June 2009. It describes key developments and progress against 'key' milestones and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic lights symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Appendix 5.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

2.1 Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

An Outline Business Case was prepared and submitted to Partnerships for School by the deadline of 22nd April 2009. This document identified the projects within the BSF Programme, how value for money would be achieved, details on the affordability of the Programme, how prepared the authority was to deliver the BSF Programme and how Halton would lead and manage change.

During May and June, following the submission, DCSF and Partnership for Schools have sought further information, amendments and clarifications to the Outline Business Case.

2.2 One Children's Workforce Tool

Every Children's Trust was required to complete a baseline position and action plan against the One Children's Workforce Tool to be signed off and returned to the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) by the 30th June. In Halton we had excellent engagement from all areas of the Children's Workforce and the Tool enabled us to gather valuable information from a range of perspectives to inform our future workforce planning. The report submitted to CWDC on 30th June is the starting point in working towards a fully integrated and reformed children's workforce of the future to improve outcomes for children and young people in Halton.

2.3 ICT Projects

Carefirst6 & ICS: Projects are progressing well and the Project Team are now building the system to meet each CYP Children's Social Care Teams individual requirements. The Government have responded to

recommendations made by Lord Laming on the ICS following the death of Baby P, in the form of a ministerial letter and circular to Local Authorities. Key messages are that LA's will no longer need to be ICS compliant to receive funding and will be able to use their professional judgement in deciding how to implement local ICS systems using a much simpler non-prescriptive set of national requirements.

Online Admissions: We are introducing a fully integrated online admissions system that will be used in respect of September 2010 admissions. The new application has been purchased from Tribal Solutions, and is being currently run in a test environment, pending going live later in the year.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

3.1 School Organisation

The Grange Schools: Statutory consultation will commence in June on the proposal to discontinue The Grange nursery, infant and junior school, change the age range of the Comprehensive and extend the school size. The neighbourhood nursery provision will be transferred to the Comprehensive to create All Through Provision. Executive Board will consider the outcome of the consultation at their meeting on 24th September 2009. The governing body of the school will then commence consultation on Trust Status.

The Heath: Pre-statutory consultation will commence in June on the proposal to expand pupil numbers at The Heath. It will be proposed that the pupil numbers increase from 210 per year group to 240 per year group in 2011. Once the building work has been completed in 2013, the numbers will increase further to 270 per year group, giving the school a total capacity of 1350 places for 11-16 year olds.

3.2 BSF

Once the full review of the Outline Business Case has been undertaken, a Main Review Approval meeting will be held in London. Following approval the Authority can then enter into the next phase of the Programme which is the Procurement Phase

3.3 School Funding Review

Work has commenced to review the Dedicated Schools Budget. The funding formula for schools will need to be reviewed, to take into consideration the proposed changes to school provision from September 2010, such as the proposed All Through provision at The Grange, the discontinuance of Fairfield High school and increase in Wade Deacon and the potential Academy. The funding formula will also need to be revised, to address the changes in Special Unit provision in the secondary and primary sector. Changes will also need to be made to the funding for Early Years provision, post 16 provision and diploma funding.

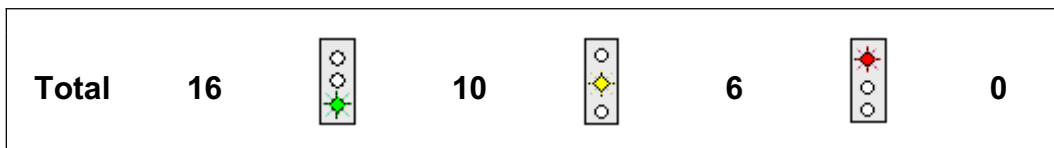
3.4 ICT Projects

ContactPoint: DSCF announced the start of the second phase of implementation including a pilot taking place in various local authorities. Halton's ContactPoint Team have trained a number of Practitioners who are taking part in the pilot. Nominated practitioners including Social Workers, Education Welfare Officers, Educational Psychologists, Safeguarding in Education, CAF Coordinator and support, YOT Education Officer and Family Intervention Officers, have been successfully trained on how to use ContactPoint securely and efficiently. An evaluation of the pilot will take place before the full rollout in September / October 2009 and any necessary changes will be made to training and to relevant policies and processes.

3.5 Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA)

The Children and Young People Plan for 2009-2011 outlines a new approach to tackling entrenched issues within the Borough using the OBA model. This model allows us to take a different approach to tackling the 3 priorities set out for the Children's Trust focusing on how we impact on outcomes for children and young people. To enable this a number of OBA Champions will be trained during the next quarter, and then attached to each of the Service Delivery Partnerships and other Key Groups to facilitate the roll out of the model.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

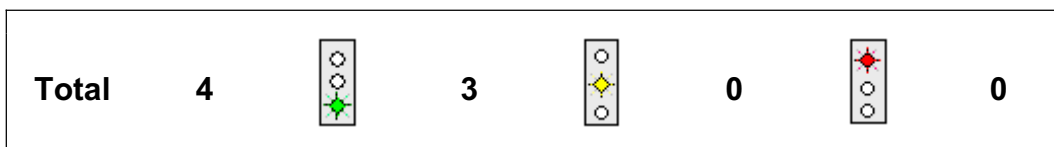


Most milestones (10) are on course to be achieved within set timescales, 6 may not. For further details, please refer to Appendix 1.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW




Nothing to report this quarter

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Good progress towards targets for "Key" performance indicators. 3 are set to achieve target, whilst the remaining indicator, due to a change in method of calculation, did not have a target set. For further details, please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	0		0		0		0
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No "Other" performance indicators have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2009-12 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

However, some measures relating to objectives BSC3 & 4 have been reported by exception this quarter. For further details please refer to Appendix 3.

8.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS

During 2008/09 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

No actions have been identified as high priority for the service.

9.0 DATA QUALITY


The author provides assurance that the information contained within this report is accurate and valid and that every effort has been made to avoid the omission of data. Where data has been estimated, has been sourced directly from partner or other agencies, or where there are any concerns regarding the limitations of its use this has been clearly annotated.

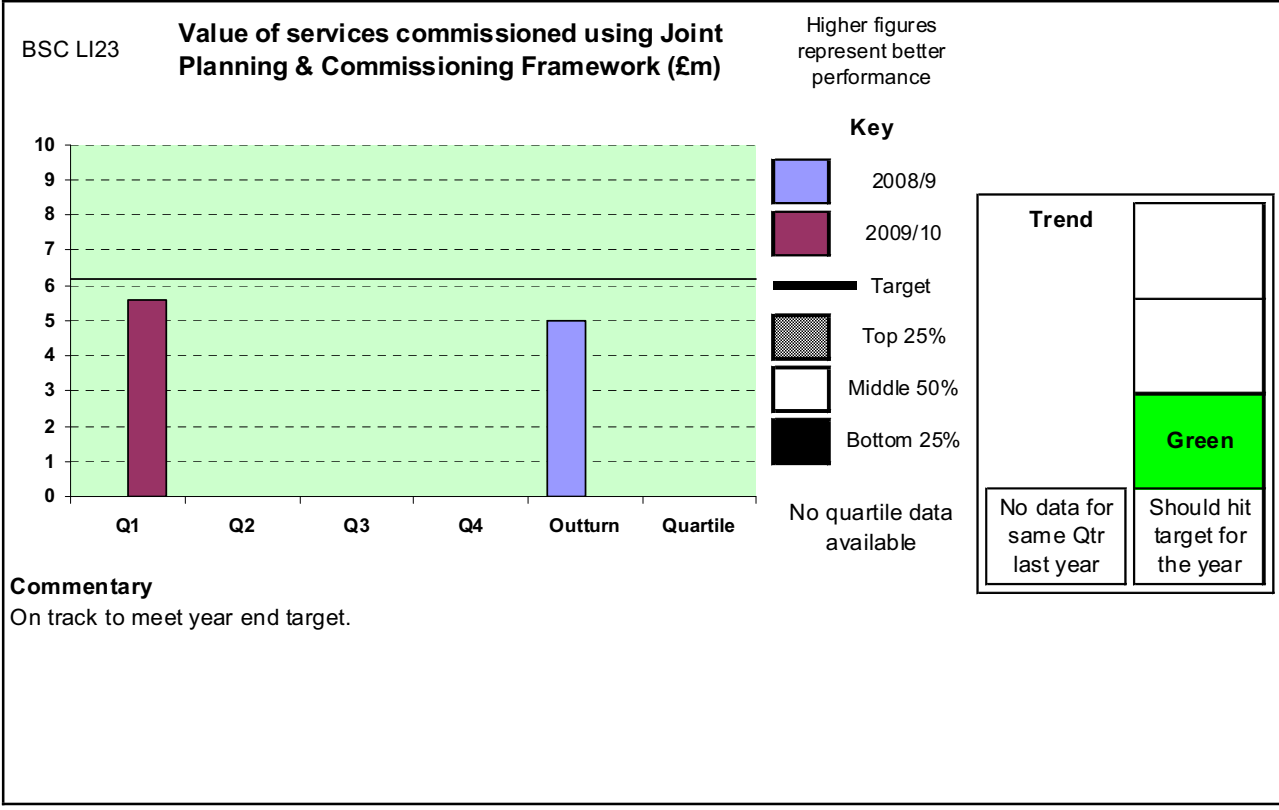
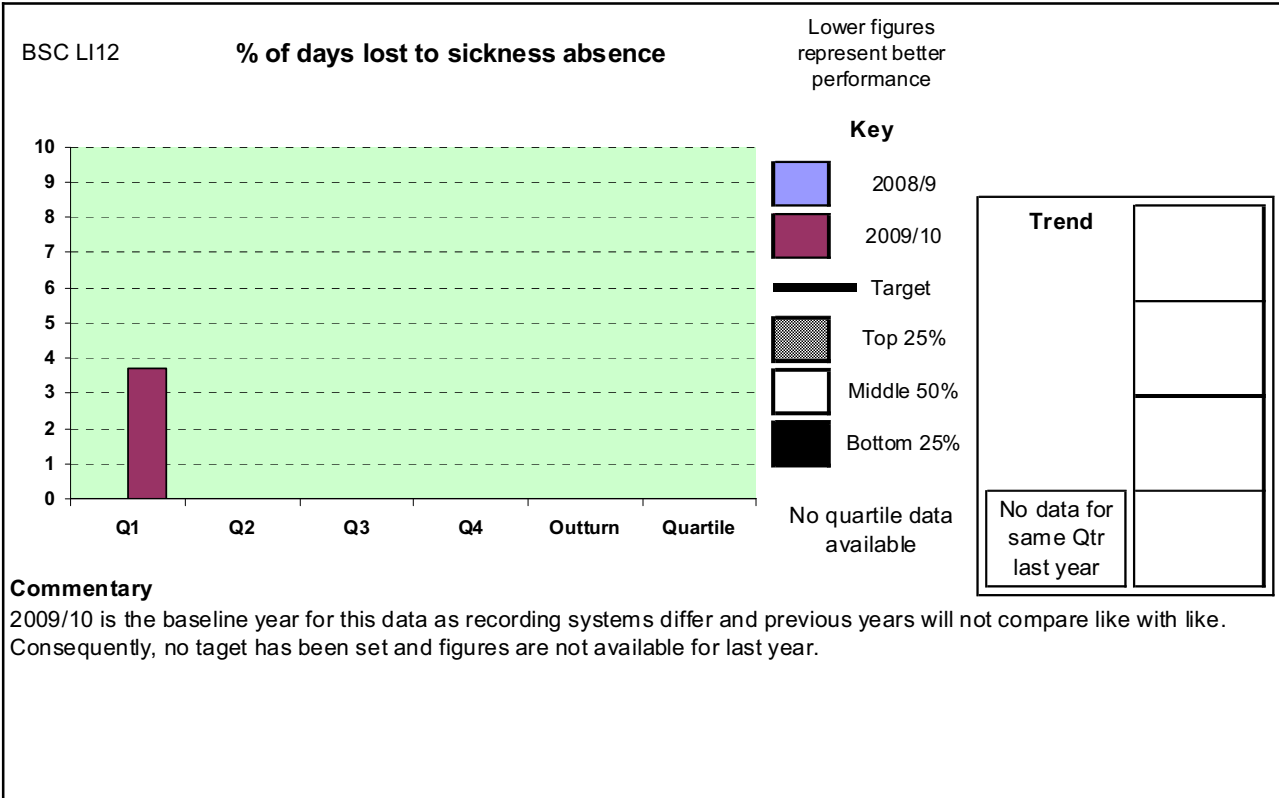
10.0 APPENDICES

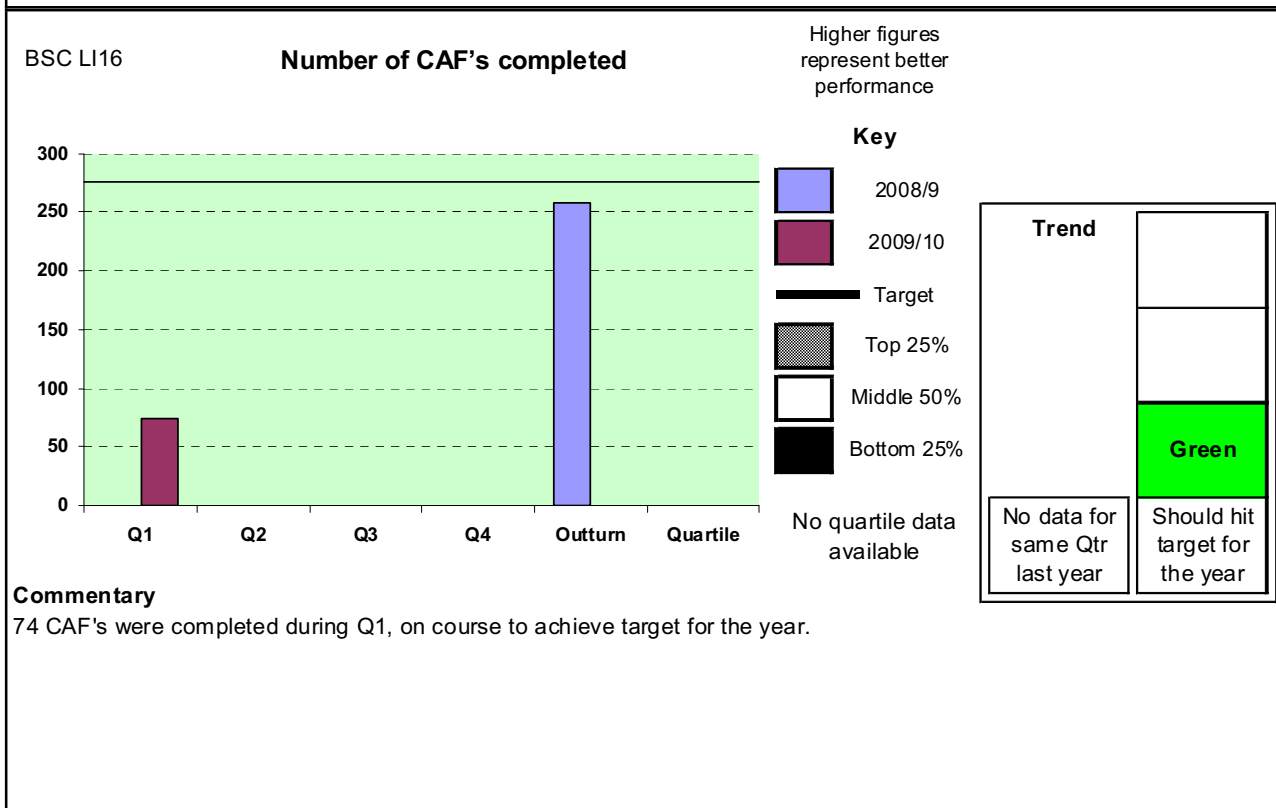
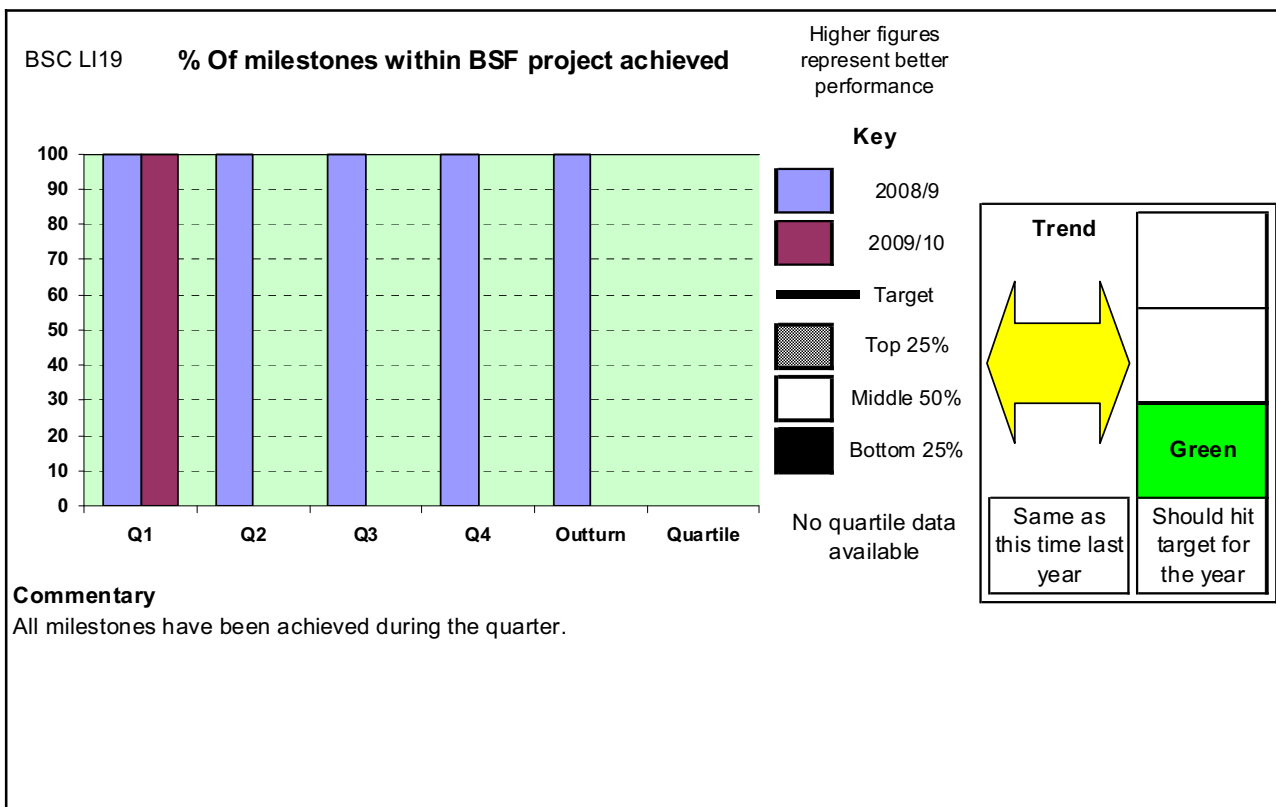
Appendix 1- Progress against Objectives/ Milestones Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators Appendix 3- Progress against Risk Treatment Measures Appendix 4- Financial Statement Appendix 5- Explanation of traffic light symbols




Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
BSC 1	To transform the Learning Environment	Complete outline business case for BSF by May 2009		BSF outline business case was submitted in April.
		Commence Competitive Dialogue by July 2009		On target to start Competitive Dialogue in July 2009.
		Develop the plan for Phase 3 Children's Centre Capital and Child Care Capital by March 2010		Plan will be in place by March 2010.
		Gain approval to commence the process of Primary School Re-Organisation by March 2010		Members approved the proposals and a working group established. Needs analysis and resource assessment to be carried out. Expected reporting to Executive Board in Autumn on the position for Halton Primary Schools.
BSC 2	To Manage Resources Effectively	Review of Directorate funding including schools in line with the efficiencies agenda by March 2010		Formula to be revised to include the SEN Review and the changing governance for some schools.
		Medium Term Financial Plan to be finalised for the Directorate by March 2010		Financial mapping is ongoing and a Medium Term Financial Plan will be developed. This should be within timescales but may be impacted by the Efficiency Programme.
		Identify opportunities for income generation through traded services across the Directorate by March 2010		Currently reviewing trading services. May be some implications from changing governance for some schools through school organisation.

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Establish a process to benchmark costs of services by March 2010		Work is planned to establish a process to benchmark cost but has not started yet.
		Implementation of Care Assess and ESCR to be complete by March 2010		Projects are progressing well and on target to meet timescale.
BSC 3	To Develop an Integrated Children's Workforce	Submission of 'One Children's Workforce' project report to CWDC by June 2009		Project report was submitted on time.
		Implement the OCWT Action Plan and complete all required actions by March 2010		The action plan was submitted to CWDC in June. There is currently no slippage on timescales for action identified.
		Establish a thorough baseline position of Workforce data for the Children's Trust by March 2010		A review of workforce data will begin in September. Staff vacancies have impacted on the timescales to deliver this review.
		Establish Workforce Development strand of JICU by March 2010		Development of the JICU is currently on hold pending the outcome of the Council's Efficiency Review.
BSC 4	To develop Joint Intelligence and Commissioning to inform the work of CYPD and the Children's Trust	To establish JICU and implement the four key strands through actual or virtual teams by March 2010		Development of the JICU is currently on hold pending the outcome of the Council's Efficiency Review.
		To establish the Service Delivery Partnerships of the Children's Trust by September 2009		Service Delivery Partnerships have been developed for the 3 Children's Trust Priorities.

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Develop integrated systems for intelligent use of data by March 2010		Systems have been developed to allow reporting across vulnerable groups and localities.





Objective Reference	Risk Control Measures	Progress	Commentary
BSC 3	Action plan developed and implemented to minimise the impact on affected service areas		Action plan will be developed as part of the review of the Directorate Recruitment and Retention Strategy.
BSC 4	Resource requirements identified on a multi-agency basis to ensure ownership of the project. Identification and awareness of benefits of integrated support function		Development of the Joint Intelligence and Commissioning Unit for the Children's Trust is currently on hold pending the outcome of the Council's Efficiency Review.
	Change management programme to drive culture change Common terminology and glossary of terms to be agreed Project Group meeting on a regular basis to oversee the development of the 4 key strands		Development of the Joint Intelligence and Commissioning Unit for the Children's Trust is currently on hold pending the outcome of the Council's Efficiency Review.

BUSINESS, PLANNING & RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2009**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Employees	3,570	940	942	(2)	978
Premises	864	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services	445	165	232	(67)	252
Transport	49	12	9	3	9
Schools Transport	1,456	328	328	0	328
Redundancy Costs	334	1	1	0	1
Pension Costs	593	148	147	1	147
Schools Non Delegated Support Costs	437	2	2	0	2
Schools Contingency Costs	402	0	0	0	0
Central Support Service Costs	1,142	285	285	0	285
Asset Rental	5,593	0	0	0	0
Support Costs					
Revenue	-837	0	0	0	0
Contribution from Reserves					
Total Expenditure	14,048	1,881	1,946	(65)	2,002
Dedicated Schools Grant	-8,282	-2,070	-2,070	0	-2,070
HBC Support Costs	-209	0	0	0	0
Income – Deferred Grant Write Down					
Reimbursements & Other Income	-15	-4	-6	2	-6
Schools SLA Income	-449	-112	-177	65	-177
Government Grant – Sure Start & Early Years Childcare	-30	0	0	0	0
Total Income	-8,985	-2,186	-2,253	67	-2,253
Net Expenditure	5,063	-305	-307	2	-251

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending to the end of quarter 1 is under the budget profile.

Supplies and Services expenditure at quarter one exceeds the budget profile as a result of additional expenditure incurred on contract and licences costs in the Management, Information and Communications team. However, this has been offset by the additional income received from School's through the Service Level Agreement.

At this early stage it is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be in line with the Departmental budget by the end of the financial year.

STANDARDS FUND & AREA BASED GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Primary Targeted Support	556	98	93	5	94
Key Stage 3 Targeted Support	314	55	91	(36)	93
Extending Early Yrs	180	32	0	32	0
Making Good Progress	313	55	0	55	0
School Lunch	199	35	0	35	0
Ethnic Minority Achievement	38	7	0	7	0
Music Services	184	32	18	14	18
Extended Schools	351	62	0	62	0
Extended Schools Sustainability	93	30	1	29	2
KS4 Engagement	80	14	0	14	0
Total Standards Fund	2,308	420	203	217	207
14-19 Flexible Funding	37	9	0	9	0
Choice Advisors	26	6	6	0	6
Education Health Partnership	60	15	6	9	6
Extended Rights for Free Travel	47	12	0	12	0
Extended Schools – Start Up	567	142	47	95	47
Secondary Behaviour & Attendance	68	17	17	0	17
Secondary National Strategy	132	33	33	0	33
Primary National Strategy	94	24	24	0	24
School Development Partners	1,132	283	57	226	57
School Improvement	71	18	0	18	0
School Intervention	44	11	2	9	2
School Travel Advisors	17	4	0	4	0
Sustainable Travel to Schools	10	3	0	3	0
Connexions	1,682	420	420	0	420
Total	3,987	997	612	385	612

GENERAL SURE START & CHILDRENS CENTRE GRANT SCHEMES**As at 30th June 2009**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Sure Start Main	2,229	557	386	171	481
Ditton CC	512	128	103	25	106
Brookvale CC	521	130	158	(28)	181
Halton Lodge CC	447	112	114	(2)	120
Halton Brook CC	588	147	118	29	155
Kingsway CC	618	155	98	57	106
Warrington Road CC	81	20	22	(2)	23
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour CC	15	4	3	1	3
Runcorn All Saints CC	0	0	2	(2)	2
Castlefields CC	0	0	(6)	6	(6)
Palacefields CC	75	19	9	10	9
Windmill Hill CC	75	19	34	(15)	34
Children's Centre General	1,081	270	(19)	289	(15)
Total General Sure Start & Children's Centres	6,242	1,561	1,022	539	1,199

OTHER EXTERNAL GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
LSC Post 16 Transport	31	8	9	(1)	9
Children's Workforce Development	81	20	1	19	1
Walking to School Initiative	4	1	0	1	0
IS Contact Point	267	67	33	34	33
Info Systems for Parents & Providers	4	1	3	(2)	3
Children's Workforce Higher Level	86	22	25	(3)	35
Teaching Assistants	56	14	0	14	0
Arts Education Development	67	17	23	(6)	23
National Remodelling School Workforce	149	37	17	20	17
Basic Skills Quality Mark – Primary	4	1	1	0	1
Schools Music Service	17	4	2	2	4
Build Capacity for Leadership Succession	53	13	0	13	0
PE & Sports	580	145	107	38	108
Aim Higher	336	84	56	28	68
14-19 Advisory	491	123	93	30	98
Education Business Link	284	71	54	17	58
Neighbourhood Managers Project	44	11	15	(4)	16
Enterprise Game	128	32	27	5	32
14-19 Diploma	247	62	39	23	40
Parenting Strategy	40	10	0	10	0
St Chads – Lottery	8	2	4	(2)	4
Gateway Plus	115	29	18	11	18
Mental Health in Schools	220	55	1	54	1
Total Other External Funding	3,312	829	528	301	569

LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP SCHEMES**As at 30th June 2009**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Neglect – PACT	125	31	0	31	0
Barnardos Missing from Home	70	18	18	0	18
Teenage Pregnancy (Health)	45	11	0	11	0
Portage	16	12	8	4	9
Attendance	22	17	25	(8)	25
HITS	50	12	0	12	0
Vikings in the Community	17	13	0	13	0
Connexions – NEET	46	35	0	35	0
Canal Boat Adventure	17	12	0	12	0
Improved Education for Vulnerable Youngsters	13	10	1	9	5
Kingsway Literacy Development	355	89	26	63	26
Youth Activity	27	21	10	11	10
H9P PEP Dowries	3	3	3	0	9
Unallocated Funds	162	41	0	41	0
Total LSP	968	325	91	234	102

Comments on the above figures:

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) funding spending to the end of quarter 1 is below budget profile.

Regular monitoring reports are sent to the LSP in respect of all LSP projects and any areas of concern are dealt with throughout the year by the CYP commissioning / finance team. Further support is provided by the LSP team in the Policy & Performance Division as well as individual project managers.

There are some projects which have been allocated working neighbourhood funds for the first four months of the year so the budgets have been profiled to reflect this.

CHILDREN'S & YOUNG PEOPLES DIRECTORATE

Capital Projects as at 30th June 2009

	2009/10 Capital Allocation	Allocation To Date	Actual Spend To Date	Total Allocation Remaining
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Asset Management Data	5	0	0	5
Fire Compartmentation	15	0	0	15
Capital Repairs	1,152	380	378	774
Contingency	191	24	24	167
Fairfield School	306	60	39	267
Asbestos Management	45	0	0	45
Cavendish School Changing Rooms	43	42	42	1
All Saints Upton School PCP	713	48	48	665
Our Lady Mother of Saviour School	100	0	0	100
Kingsway Centre Children's Centre General	1,625	90	90	1,535
Astmoor CC	56	0	4	52
Runcorn All Saints CC	26	19	16	10
St Augustine's CC	8	0	0	8
The Park CC	4	0	0	4
Windmill Hill CC	20	9	8	12
Children's Centre Maintenance	17	0	0	17
Brookfields School	41	0	0	41
Cavendish School Early Years	217	59	59	158
Childcare School Access Initiative	98	0	0	98
Play-builder Capital	388	5	5	383
Moore Primary	273	9	9	264
Lunts Heath	63	0	0	63
Westbank School	87	0	0	87
Hillview School	92	0	0	92
Cavendish School Furniture & Equipment	35	0	0	35
Aim Higher for Disabled Children	285	0	0	285
Harnessing Technology	631	11	67	564
Total Capital	6,605	756	789	5,816




Comments on the above figures:

There are still some schemes with no actual expenditure up to the end of Quarter 1.

It is important that these projects get underway as soon as possible and are closely monitored during the year, in order to ensure that the relevant capital allocations are fully utilized by the financial year end.

There are a number of schemes where the works will take place in the 2010-11 financial year as the funding is permitted to be carried forward into 2010-11.

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>milestone/objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u> .
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, <u>whether the milestone/objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the milestone/objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Children & Young People
SERVICE: Preventative Services
PERIOD: Quarter 1 to period end 30th June 2009

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Preventative Services Department first quarter period up to 30 June 2009. It describes key developments and progress against 'key' milestones and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic lights symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Appendix 4.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

2.1 Development of business plans to support 100% Full Core Offer by 2010

Business plans in development and will be presented to school clusters in the autumn term. All developments of the agenda will be delivered against a clear Extended Services action plan. Delivery against Extended Services action plan will ensure the achievement of target of all schools delivering.

2.2 Targeted provision against local need

Analysis of data in relation to locality and consultation will be carried out prior to providing services and activities. This allows services to be delivered based on locality need as well as pupils attending the schools. Full core offer by September 2010 measurement of impact will be based on the targeted provision within wards as well as by school.

2.3 School Improvement Planning Framework

Schools will be supported in adopting the School Improvement Planning Framework (SiPF)¹. Training events on use of SiPF will be delivered during the forthcoming school year. Schools will adopt the SiPF to support the development of the Self Evaluation Form.

¹ The School improvement Planning Framework (SiPF) is a suite of tools and techniques designed to help schools take their planning, strategic thinking and implementation to the next level. The framework was developed in response to school leaders' requests for help in making the five Every Child Matters (ECM) outcomes a reality. This approach to school improvement planning aims to raise standards of attainment and promote pupil well-being.

2.4 Targeted mental health in Schools project

Halton was successful in bidding for a DCSF project called Targeted mental Health in Schools which is about supporting schools to support the mental wellbeing of pupils. This funding is available for 2 years and will roll out to schools in September.

2.5 Information sharing between Halton Children's Centres and PCT

The JNA Children's Centre data system has been used in all Halton Children's Centres since 2006 and is well established. This is able to report accurately on registration and service use both Halton wide and on an individual Children's Centre basis.

The PCT share monthly data from the child health data base with the Local Authority so that we are able to identify the uptake of Children's Centre services from the eligible population.

A joint pilot has been developed between the Council and PCT, when families are visited by front line health staff an administrator checks the JNA system to see if the family is registered. If not the health visitor will actively seek to secure this during the health visit.

2.6 Children's Centre Self Evaluation Forms

The Self Evaluation Form forms the basis of an annual performance management conversation between the local authority and the children's centre. All Halton Children's Centres have completed their first SEF documents, and will have business plans in place by the 3rd quarter of 2009-10.

Advisory Boards will be in operation from October 2009, in line with Sure Start Children's Centre Guidance.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

3.1 Disadvantage subsidy

The disadvantage subsidy is intended to increase the range of extended services being delivered through schools, and the numbers of those delivering them. This additional funding will enable schools to commission activities from other providers without fear of passing on the charges preventing some children from accessing the activities. The process for identifying target group to access the subsidy to be agreed, and the process for accessing the subsidy will be agreed and implemented schools required to agree the process for allocation of funds against the agreed target group. Monitoring and evaluation processes will be developed with regular reporting mechanisms in place for monitoring outcome of accessing the subsidy.

3.2 "Back on Track" White Paper - Alternative provision

The government's white paper 'Back on track' dealing with Alternative education provision may have a large impact making it a requirement for providers to be registered and inspected by OFSTED. This presents

both threats and opportunities and will need to be carefully managed to avoid it having an impact on our current provision.

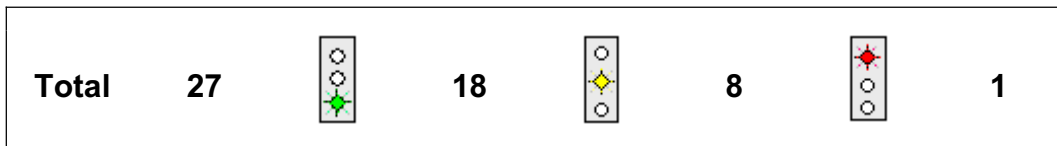
3.3 OFSTED inspection framework changes

The new OFSTED framework introduces significant changes to the way that attendance and behaviour will be inspected within school inspections. The general impression is that the judgements for both in the new inspection framework represent a significant raising of the bar and potentially could have a much bigger impact on the overall inspection judgements.

3.4 Children’s Centres

It is anticipated that Children's Centres will become statutory by the end of 2009. A new OFSTED inspection framework will be in place by April 2010.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

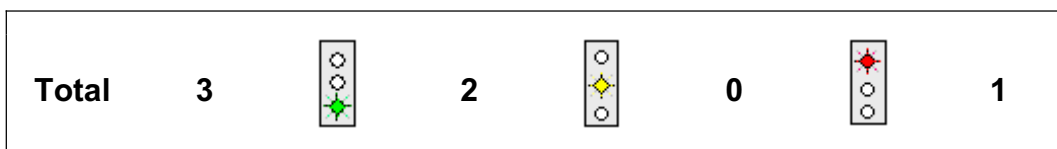


Of the 27 milestones, 18 are on track to be achieved within set timescales, concern is expressed in respect of a further 8 and 1, the commissioning of “connexions services” and Halton Youth Service”, has been delayed until January 2010. For further details, please refer to Appendix 1.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW




Nothing to Report

6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



The target for children not in education, employment or training (NEET) is unlikely to be met. For further details, please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	11		0		0		0
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No "Other" performance indicators have been reported by exception this quarter.

7.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2009-12 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

8.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS





During 2008/09 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.


9.0 DATA QUALITY


The author provides assurance that the information contained within this report is accurate and valid and that every effort has been made to avoid the omission of data. Where data has been estimated, has been sourced directly from partner or other agencies, or where there are any concerns regarding the limitations of its use this has been clearly annotated.





10.0 APPENDICES



- Appendix 1- Progress against Objectives/ Milestones
- Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
- Appendix 3- Financial Statement
- Appendix 4- Explanation of traffic light symbols



Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
PS 1	To strengthen early intervention processes to address needs of children and families	Review and evaluate the findings of the multi-agency Locality Working pilot by October 2009		Resource for the multi-agency pilot has been agreed. Locality defined based on identified need. The timescale for the pilot has moved from June 2009 to December 2009. Evaluation of the findings from the pilot will influence the cross Borough locality implementation.
		Implement strategy for Locality Working from January 2010		Evaluation of the findings from the pilot will influence the cross Borough locality implementation.
		Establish early intervention pathways across children 0 – 5, school age, and 13 –19 outside of schools settings by March 2010		Referral pathways including the use of CAF (Common Assessment Framework) established. Processes to identify need and those children at risk in development.
PS 2	To improve young people's sexual health	Implement strategy to deliver a broader range of community based Sex & Relationship Education (SRE) services to young people by March 2010		Engagement of teachers and Teaching Assistants on National CPD PSHE Programme supported through workforce reform grant. In addition, Halton continues to respond to identified needs by providing a range of contraceptive services. This will be developed within the strategy of Integrated Youth Support Services.





Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Implement quality standards at Key Stage 3 for SRE as recommended by the Teenage Pregnancy Unit by March 2010		<p>Key Stage 3 SRE Government Office North West pilot was implemented in pilot school, with the evaluation completed by John Moores University. The Teenage Pregnancy Team support provided to implement programme. GONW presentation on the findings was disseminated to North West. A review of curriculum in light of school feedback taken place and resource amended accordingly.</p> <p>In addition The Teenage Outreach Team supports PSHE in the majority of High schools and special schools within Halton. The team deliver a mixture of individual, group or targeted sessions for pupils in line with PSHE remits for each institution.</p>






Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		<p>Deliver a range of teenage drop-in centres in hotspot wards addressing sexual health, alcohol misuse, and emotional health and well being by March 2010</p>		<p>We have developed strong working links with Schools, local providers and Young Addaction etc to provide a number of support needs led sessions for at risk groups of identified young people. The Outreach team provide tailored sessions to suit at risk groups across all vulnerabilities including: Young Offenders, Pregnant young people, Young Parents, Young women and young men's groups, LDD / SEN, Homeless, substance misuse, young people in danger of none attendance from statutory education and those young people accessing other provision to support independence i.e. Care Leavers etc. These sessions form part of an overall needs led package of support and on going assessment.</p> <p>We also provide resource support to local young peoples sexual health clinics and discuss any issues or barriers with individuals and refer on to relevant provision within Halton.</p>





Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
PS 3	To reduce NEET and improve the employability of our young people	Implement Working Neighbourhoods Fund apprenticeship scheme by March 2010		Funding agreed within Halton Borough Council to enhance opportunities. On target for March 2010 implementation.
		Secure the effective and efficient commissioning of 'connexions services' and Halton Youth Service by October 2009		Comprehensive process for commissioning of Connexions services in place, however due to a range of complex legal issues the appointment of preferred supplier will now result in contract starting 1 st January 2010. As a consequence of the slight delay the commissioning of Halton Youth Service will gather momentum in Autumn 2009.
		Establish a directory of positive activities for young people by September 2009		Halton4Teenz has been designed by young people and will go live Sept 09. Help4Me has been improved to include up to date events and activities for young people. Halton4Teenz editorial group meet weekly to add reviews and keep the front pages interesting and dynamic.
		Embed access to targeted youth support by March 2010		Halton currently has a draft IYSS/TYS strategy which identified the key elements of local targeted youth support services. In addition the Youth Matters steering

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
				group have developed a referral pathway and structure for single point of access for young people in their own communities. These direct access services will be developed further after the findings of the current locality pilot that is currently taken place in central Runcorn.
		Undertake a locality pilot with targeted interventions for young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET		Connexions Personal Advisor (PA) time has been allocated to the locality pilot in the Grangeway ward the PA has been given the NEET young people living in this ward as his caseload. He is currently working with other professionals to look at issues relating to the wider family context of these young people and is supporting these young people to move into EET.
		Establish a system to ensure targeted interventions are in place for young people at risk of NEET by March 2010		A small sub group of the NEET Strategy Group as been established to identify an early identification matrix for use in schools to identify potential NEET young people from year 7. Key indicators have been established and data from Connexions and 14

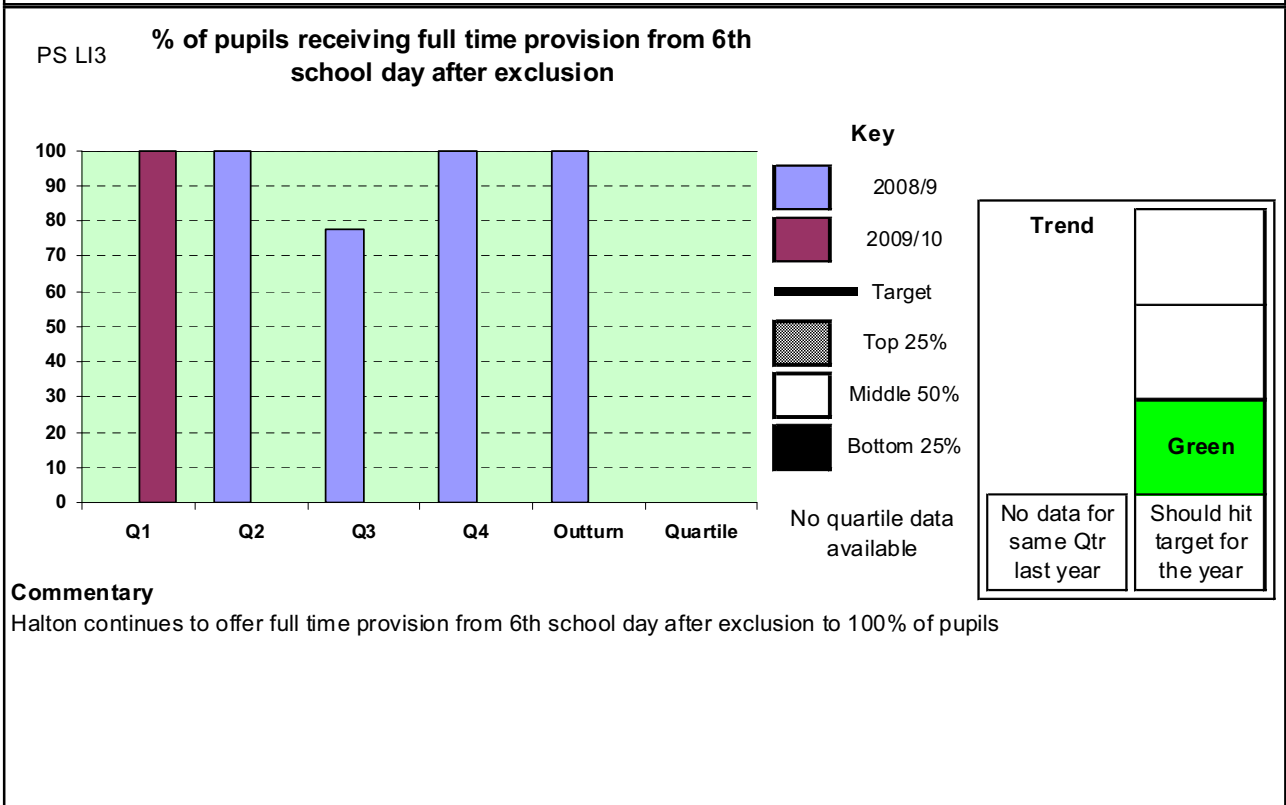
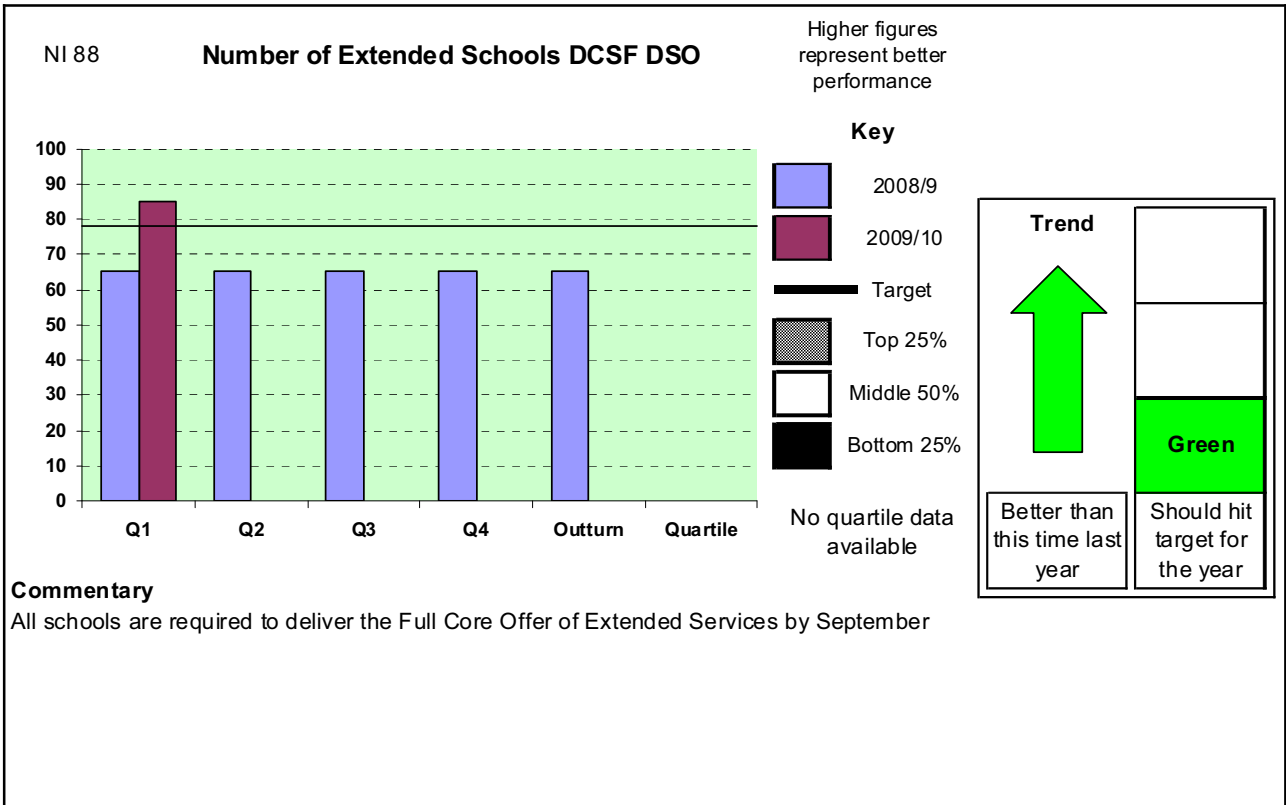
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
				to 19 team is currently being collated.
PS 4	To reduce alcohol and substance misuse	Using the range of information / data available compile and complete alcohol needs analysis / ACCE (alcohol, cannabis, cocaine, ecstasy) profile by March 2010.		Data set for substance misuse has recently been developed and is awaiting sign off from the Integrated Youth Support Service Strategy Board. This will inform the development of a matrix to identify those young people who we know sit within the ACCE profile cohort. This work will be undertaken by the new Teenage Pregnancy/Substance Misuse lead, who is due to join the organisation early September.
		Develop relevant and accessible information for young people on drugs and alcohol, their effects and support services across Halton by March 2010.		<p>The mobile outreach project has been developed and due to start delivery during the summer school holiday period. The programme will provide a service to those young people currently not accessing services either because they are unable or unwilling to access site-based services, or they don't feel alcohol/substances is impacting on their lives.</p> <p>As there are a number of models of delivery, a three-year plan is</p>

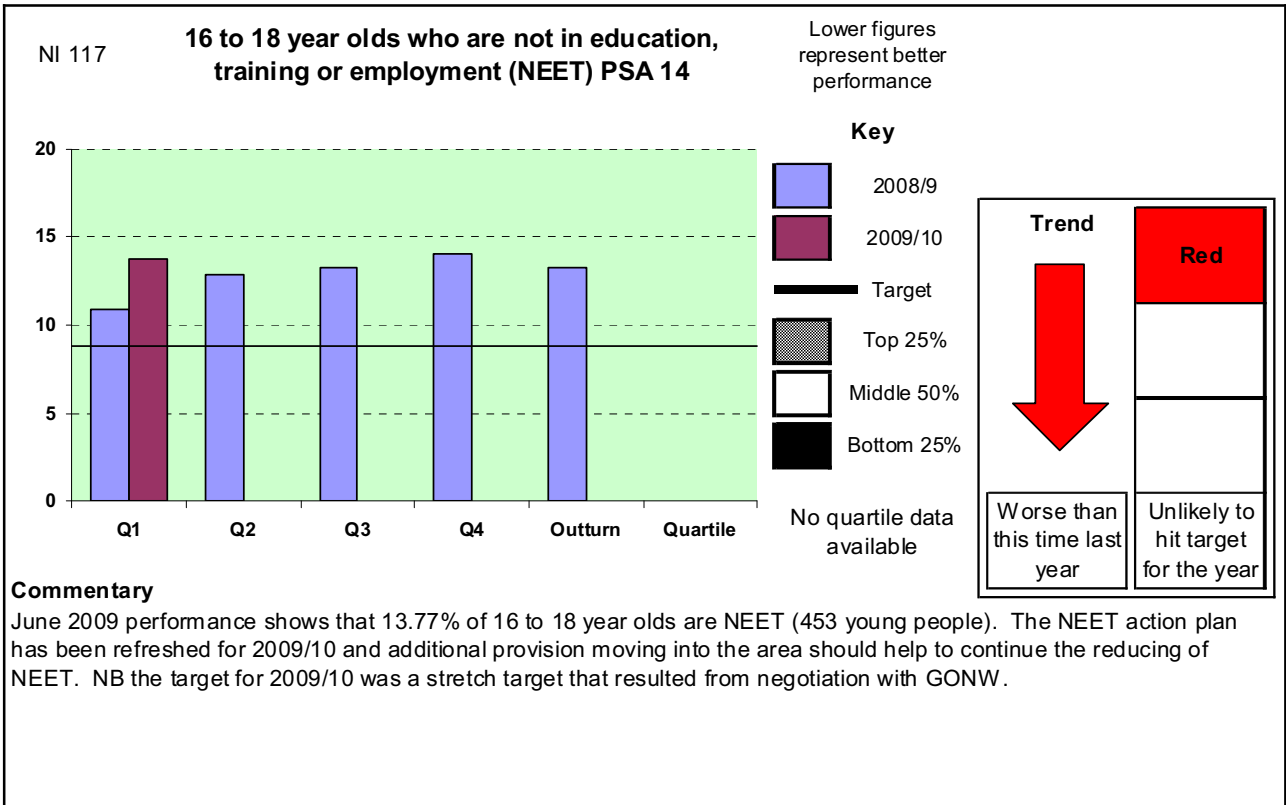
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
				currently being developed aimed at incorporating assertive, detached and domiciliary work.
		Further development of referral and screening protocols using CAF across universal, targeted prevention and specialist treatment services, especially as part of development of Integrated Youth Support Services by March 2010		The development of at risk matrices is integral to the referral and screening protocols. Progress is good and on target to meet the deadline.
PS 5	To improve levels of school attendance for all children	Develop a multi-agency intervention plan for each child identified in persistent absent cohort by September 2009 to improve their attendance and reduce their risk of becoming NEET		All young people identified as persistently absent will have a plan in place by July 2009 ahead of schedule.
		Make available support, appropriate to need, to all schools to assist them to meet their published attendance target set out in an SLA by September 2009		Support available to all schools
		Ensure that procedures and processes are in place to meet legislative and guidance requirements around Children Missing from Education by April		Missing from education regulations are being met by Halton

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		2009		
		Provide targeted interventions from Educational Welfare Service to further improve the attendance of children who are in need of safeguarding by March 2010		Children who are the subject of child protection plans are all actively monitored
PS 6	To improve behaviour in schools for all children	Develop the LA monitoring and quality assurance in respect of all alternative provision commissioned for Halton Young People by September 2009		Systems are in place and have been used to commission services from September 2009
		To review and embed alternatives to exclusion through the KS3 outreach service and KS4 gateway by September 2009		Outreach service is in place but due to be reviewed with schools in September.
		To rationalise services for young people with medical/mental health issues within the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) structure by September 2009		As much as possible services for vulnerable learners not in school have been centralised within the PRU.
PS 7	To Reduce Health Inequalities for all Children and Young People	Local reporting system is developed to provide an accurate benchmark to monitor the joint PCT and Children's Centres targets for breastfeeding, teenage pregnancy & childhood obesity by Sept 2009		Health data on breastfeeding at 6 weeks is currently being input on Children's Centre database. This is a new system and not yet consistent across all health visiting teams. Childhood obesity data is shared on an annual basis (school and

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
				Area Network level).
		PCT in partnership with Preventative Services review access to services and activities to secure improvements in breastfeeding rates by March 2010		JNA records attendance at all breastfeeding groups in Children's Centres. A multi-agency Breastfeeding Steering Group has been established to secure improvements in breastfeeding in Halton and St Helens. Area Network Manager sits on this partnership. Key stands of work are: Get Closer Baby Welcome Peer Support service
		PCT in partnership with Preventative Services secure the roll-out of support services for addressing childhood obesity via children's centres and schools by March 2010		Obesity Commissioning Partnership oversees the development of service provision and contracts. Area Network Manager sits on this partnership.
		Establish measures to monitor the improved access and participation in children's centre services from Sept 2009.		Effective systems in place to record, monitor and report on access and participation.
		Establish performance management frameworks for children's centres in accordance with developing government		SEFs in place. Business plans to be in place by 3 rd quarter of 2009-10. On line tracker system being

Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		guidance by March 2010		developed (national reporting system). Advisory Boards in operation from October 2009.





PREVENTATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Employees	1,920	480	444	36	449
Premises	278	27	32	(5)	51
Supplies & Services	623	156	151	5	168
Transport	42	11	10	1	10
Central Support	438	110	110	0	110
Service Recharges					
Agency Related	75	0	0	0	0
Expenditure					
Nursery Education	1,874	721	721	0	721
Expenditure					
Youth Service –	1,141	285	285	0	285
Connexions					
Asset Rental	8	0	0	0	0
Support Costs					
Total Expenditure	6,399	1,790	1,753	37	1,794
Fees & Charges	-90	-20	-14	-6	-14
Government Grant –	-64	0	0	0	0
Sure Start Early					
Years & Childcare					
Rent	-9	0	0	0	0
Reimbursements	-2	0	0	0	0
Total Income	-165	-20	-14	-6	-14
Net Expenditure	6,234	1,770	1,739	31	1,780

Comments on the above figures:

In overall terms revenue spending to the end of quarter 1 is under the budget profile.

The budget for employees is currently spending below budget profile due to vacancies in the Welfare Service and the Bridge Pupil Referral Unit.

At this early stage it is anticipated that overall revenue spending will be in line with the Departmental budget by the end of the financial year.

STANDARDS FUND & AREA BASED GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items £'000
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Primary Targeted Support	556	98	93	5	94
Key Stage 3 Targeted Support	314	55	91	(36)	93
Extending Early Yrs Making Good Progress	180	32	0	32	0
School Lunch	313	55	0	55	0
Ethnic Minority Achievement	199	35	0	35	0
Music Services	38	7	0	7	0
Extended Schools	184	32	18	14	18
Extended Schools Sustainability	351	62	0	62	0
KS4 Engagement	93	30	1	29	2
Total Standards Fund	2,308	420	203	217	207
14-19 Flexible Funding	37	9	0	9	0
Choice Advisors	26	6	6	0	6
Education Health Partnership	60	15	6	9	6
Extended Rights for Free Travel	47	12	0	12	0
Extended Schools – Start Up	567	142	47	95	47
Secondary Behaviour & Attendance	68	17	17	0	17
Secondary National Strategy	132	33	33	0	33
Primary National Strategy	94	24	24	0	24
School Development Partners	1,132	283	57	226	57
School Improvement	71	18	0	18	0
School Intervention	44	11	2	9	2
School Travel Advisors	17	4	0	4	0
Sustainable Travel to Schools	10	3	0	3	0
Connexions	1,682	420	420	0	420

Total Area Based Grant	3,987	997	612	385	612
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GENERAL SURE START & CHILDRENS CENTRE GRANT SCHEMES**As at 30th June 2009**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Sure Start Main	2,229	557	386	171	481
Ditton CC	512	128	103	25	106
Brookvale CC	521	130	158	(28)	181
Halton Lodge CC	447	112	114	(2)	120
Halton Brook CC	588	147	118	29	155
Kingsway CC	618	155	98	57	106
Warrington Road CC	81	20	22	(2)	23
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour CC	15	4	3	1	3
Runcorn All Saints CC	0	0	2	(2)	2
Castlefields CC	0	0	(6)	6	(6)
Palacefields CC	75	19	9	10	9
Windmill Hill CC	75	19	34	(15)	34
Children's Centre General	1,081	270	(19)	289	(15)
Total General Sure Start & Children's Centres	6,242	1,561	1,022	539	1,199

OTHER EXTERNAL GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
LSC Post 16	31	8	9	(1)	9
Transport					
Children's Workforce Development	81	20	1	19	1
Walking to School Initiative	4	1	0	1	0
IS Contact Point	267	67	33	34	33
Info Systems for Parents & Providers	4	1	3	(2)	3
Children's Workforce Higher Level	86	22	25	(3)	35
Teaching Assistants	56	14	0	14	0
Arts Education Development	67	17	23	(6)	23
National	149	37	17	20	17
Remodelling School Workforce					
Basic Skills Quality Mark – Primary	4	1	1	0	1
Schools Music Service	17	4	2	2	4
Build Capacity for Leadership Succession	53	13	0	13	0
PE & Sports	580	145	107	38	108
Aim Higher	336	84	56	28	68
14-19 Advisory	491	123	93	30	98
Education Business Link	284	71	54	17	58
Neighbourhood Managers Project	44	11	15	(4)	16
Enterprise Game	128	32	27	5	32
14-19 Diploma	247	62	39	23	40
Parenting Strategy	40	10	0	10	0
St Chads – Lottery	8	2	4	(2)	4
Gateway Plus	115	29	18	11	18
Mental Health in Schools	220	55	1	54	1
Total Other External Funding	3,312	829	528	301	569

LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Neglect – PACT	125	31	0	31	0
Barnardos Missing from Home	70	18	18	0	18
Teenage Pregnancy (Health)	45	11	0	11	0
Portage	16	12	8	4	9
Attendance	22	17	25	(8)	25
HITS	50	12	0	12	0
Vikings in the Community	17	13	0	13	0
Connexions – NEET	46	35	0	35	0
Canal Boat Adventure	17	12	0	12	0
Improved Education for Vulnerable Youngsters	13	10	1	9	5
Kingsway Literacy Development	355	89	26	63	26
Youth Activity	27	21	10	11	10
H9P PEP Dowries	3	3	3	0	9
Unallocated Funds	162	41	0	41	0
Total LSP	968	325	91	234	102

Comments on the above figures:

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) funding spending to the end of quarter 1 is below budget profile.

Regular monitoring reports are sent to the LSP in respect of all LSP projects and any areas of concern are dealt with throughout the year by the CYP commissioning / finance team. Further support is provided by the LSP team in the Policy & Performance Division as well as individual project managers.

There are some projects which have been allocated working neighbourhood funds for the first four months of the year so the budgets have been profiled to reflect this.

CHILDREN'S & YOUNG PEOPLES DIRECTORATE

Capital Projects as at 30th June 2009

	2009/10 Capital Allocation	Allocation To Date	Actual Spend To Date	Total Allocation Remaining
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Asset Management Data	5	0	0	5
Fire Compartmentation	15	0	0	15
Capital Repairs	1,152	380	378	774
Contingency	191	24	24	167
Fairfield School Asbestos Management	306	60	39	267
	45	0	0	45
Cavendish School Changing Rooms	43	42	42	1
All Saints Upton School PCP	713	48	48	665
Our Lady Mother of Saviour School	100	0	0	100
Kingsway Centre Children's Centre General	1,625	90	90	1,535
	56	0	4	52
Astmoor CC	26	19	16	10
Runcorn All Saints CC	8	0	0	8
St Augustine's CC	4	0	0	4
The Park CC	20	9	8	12
Windmill Hill CC	17	0	0	17
Children's Centre Maintenance	52	0	0	52
Brookfields School	17	0	0	17
Cavendish School	41	0	0	41
Early Years Childcare	217	59	59	158
School Access Initiative	98	0	0	98
Play-builder Capital	388	5	5	383
Moore Primary	273	9	9	264
Lunts Heath	63	0	0	63
Westbank School	87	0	0	87
Hillview School	92	0	0	92
Cavendish School Furniture & Equipment	35	0	0	35
Aim Higher for Disabled Children	285	0	0	285
Harnessing Technology	631	11	67	564
Total Capital	6,605	756	789	5,816




Comments on the above figures:

There are still some schemes with no actual expenditure up to the end of Quarter 1.

It is important that these projects get underway as soon as possible and are closely monitored during the year, in order to ensure that the relevant capital allocations are fully utilized by the financial year end.

There are a number of schemes where the works will take place in the 2010-11 financial year as the funding is permitted to be carried forward into 2010-11.

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>milestone/objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u> .
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, <u>whether the milestone/objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the milestone/objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.

QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

DIRECTORATE: Children & Young People
SERVICE: Specialist Services
PERIOD: Quarter 1 to period end 30th June 2009

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This quarterly monitoring report covers the Specialist Services Department first quarter period up to 30 June 2009. It describes key developments and progress against 'key' milestones and performance indicators for the service.

The way in which traffic lights symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within Appendix 7.

2.0 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

2.1 Inspection regime

From the 1st June, all Councils will be subject to an annual unannounced inspection of Contact, Referral and Assessment Teams¹. Warrington, Blackpool, Redbridge, Sandwell have had their inspection and by the nature of the inspection, they have been reported as very challenging. A significant amount of preparation is underway within the Council.

In addition, the Council and all parties will be subject to a 3-year announced inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care. We will receive 10 working days notice of this inspection.

2.2 Private Fostering

The Annual Private Fostering Report was presented to the Halton Safeguarding Children's Board (HSCB) on the 16th June 2009, which identified significant challenges due to a low level of notifications. The Action Plan was agreed by HSCB to increase notifications.

2.3 Children in Care Council

The Children in Care Council have developed a Pledge for Children in Care, which identifies the key service areas that will make a significant difference to their outcomes. The Pledge will be presented to the Executive Board in July.

2.4 Care Leavers into Education, Employment or Training

Using Working Neighbourhoods Fund an Apprenticeship Scheme for

¹ Contact, Referral and Assessment teams are the front-line teams dealing with social care services for Children and Young People.

young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) has been introduced. Ten places on the scheme have been identified for care leavers.

3.0 EMERGING ISSUES

3.1 Case Law Judgements

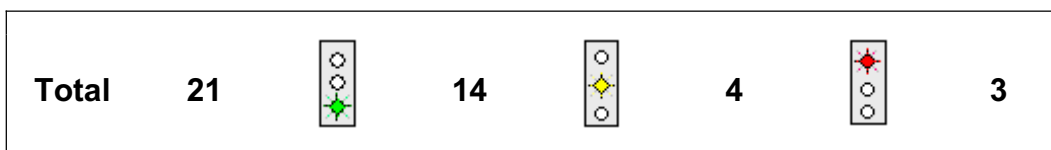
Homeless young people: A recent Case Law Judgement ‘G v’s Southwark’ has significant implications for Council’s responsibility to accommodate 16-17 year olds if they become homeless. This will have significant financial and resource implications for the Council.

Eligibility criteria for disabled children: Recent Case Law Judgements in ‘JL and LL v’s Islington’ in relation to the eligibility criteria for LA services to disabled children necessitates a review of eligibility and assessment processes.

3.2 Children in Care

During 2008/09 there was a 12% marked increase in Children in Care. Prior to 2008/09, Halton had seen a decrease in numbers of Children in Care, against the national trend of an increase. Whilst the national figures are yet to be published, it is expected to follow the trend of the local benchmarking, showing a continued growth.

4.0 PROGRESS AGAINST OBJECTIVES / MILESTONES

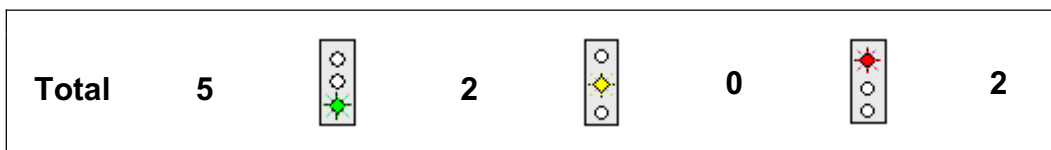


Most milestones (14) are set to be met within timescales, the remaining 7 are either unlikely to, or will not, be met. For further details please refer to Appendix 1.

5.0 SERVICE REVIEW

Nothing to report.




6.0 PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS



Of the 5 “Key” performance indicators, 2 are on track to achieve annual target, of the remainder 2 are unlikely to achieve target and 1 (referrals

going to initial assessment) data is not yet available. For further details, please refer to Appendix 2.

6.1 PROGRESS AGAINST OTHER PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Total	1		0		0		1
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Performance indicator NI 148 (care leavers in employment, education or training) has been reported by exception this quarter as the annual target will not be met. For further details, please refer to Appendix 3.

7.0 RISK CONTROL MEASURES

During the production of the 2009-12 Service Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all Key Service Objectives.

Where a Key Service Objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of risk treatment measures is to be monitored, and reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

Measures relating to objective SS 2 have been reported by exception this quarter. For further details please refer to Appendix 3.

8.0 PROGRESS AGAINST HIGH PRIORITY EQUALITY ACTIONS

During 2008/09 the service was required to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment. Progress against actions identified through that assessment, with associated High priority are to be reported in the quarterly monitoring report in quarters 2 and 4.

Action relating to the participation in the programme of Equality Impact assessments on all Strategy, Policy, and Service Areas has been reported by exception this quarter. For further details please refer to Appendix 4.





9.0 DATA QUALITY






The author provides assurance that the information contained within this report is accurate and valid and that every effort has been made to avoid the omission of data. Where data has been estimated, has been sourced directly from partner or other agencies, or where there are any concerns regarding the limitations of its use this has been clearly annotated.





10.0 APPENDICES

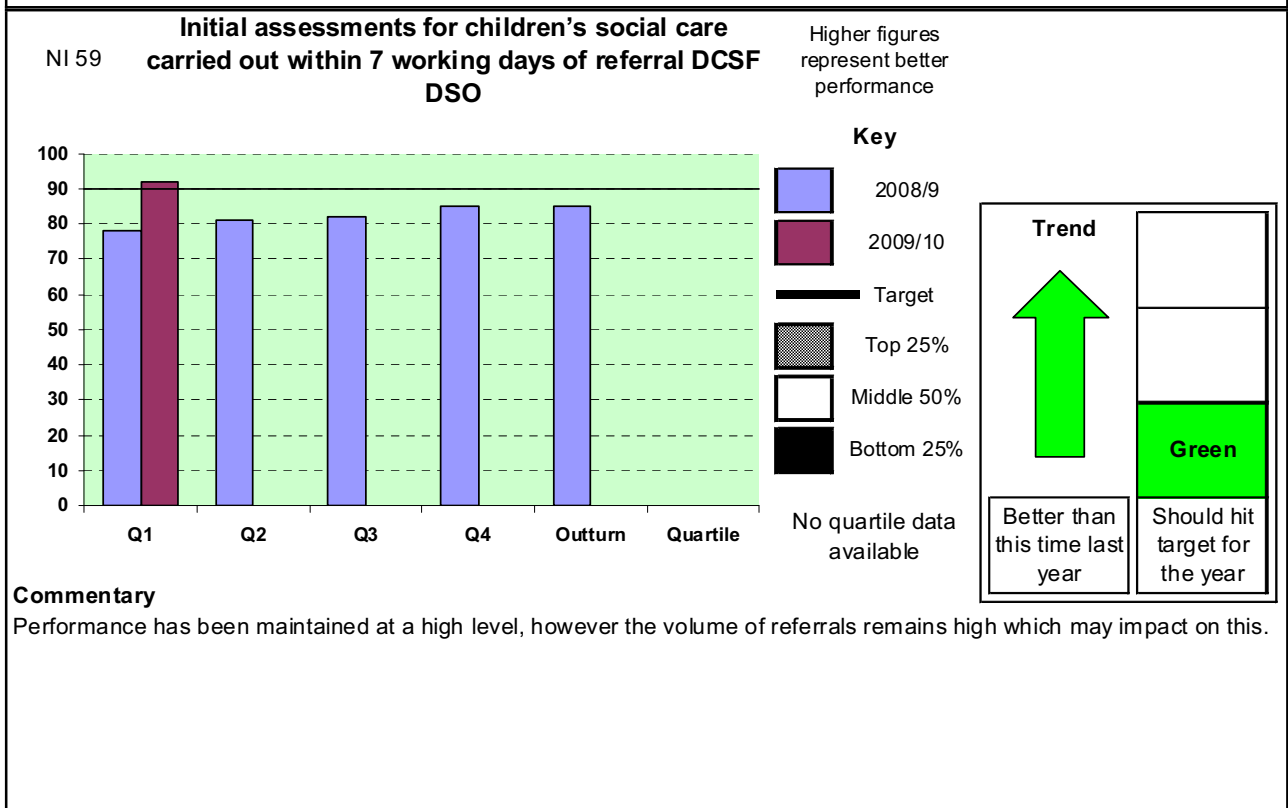
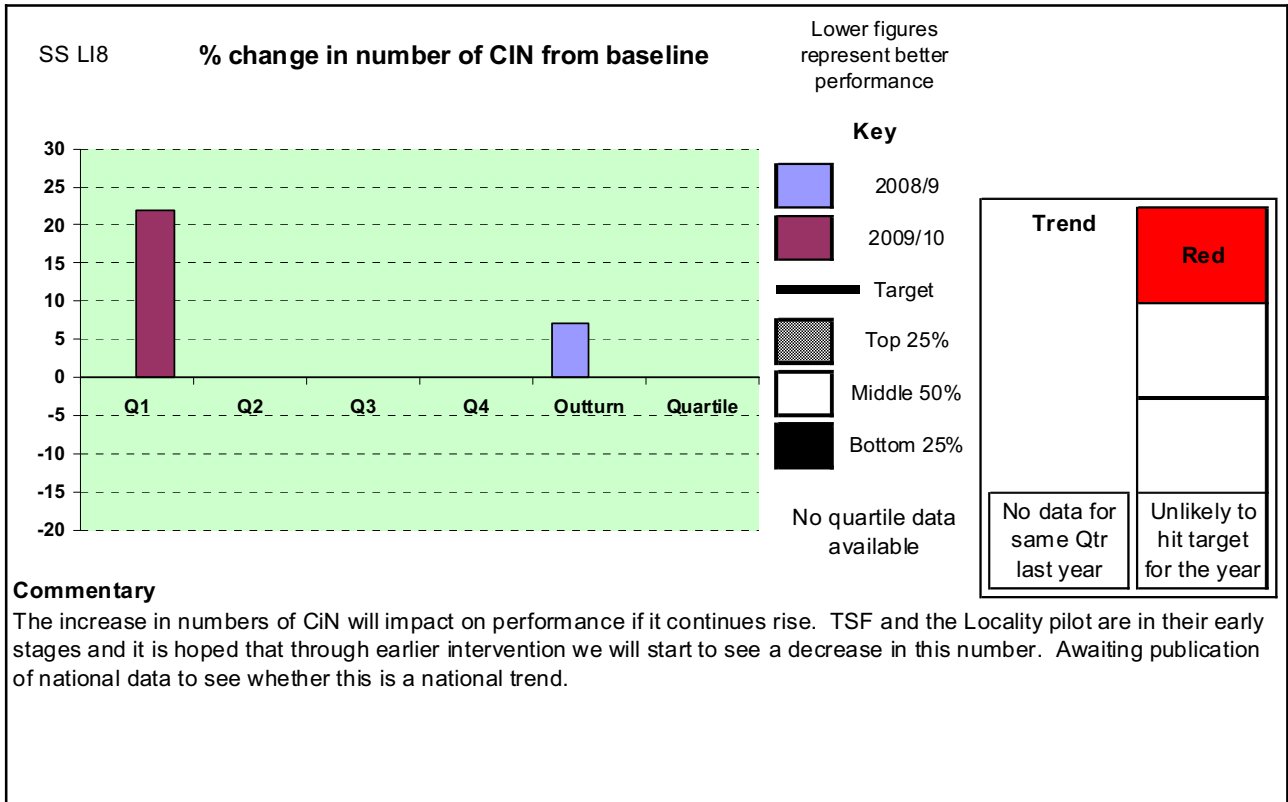
Appendix 1- Progress against Objectives/ Milestones
Appendix 2- Progress against Key Performance Indicators
Appendix 3- Progress against Other Performance Indicators
Appendix 4- Progress against Risk Treatment Measures
Appendix 5- Progress against High Priority Equality Actions
Appendix 6- Financial Statement
Appendix 7- Explanation of traffic light symbols

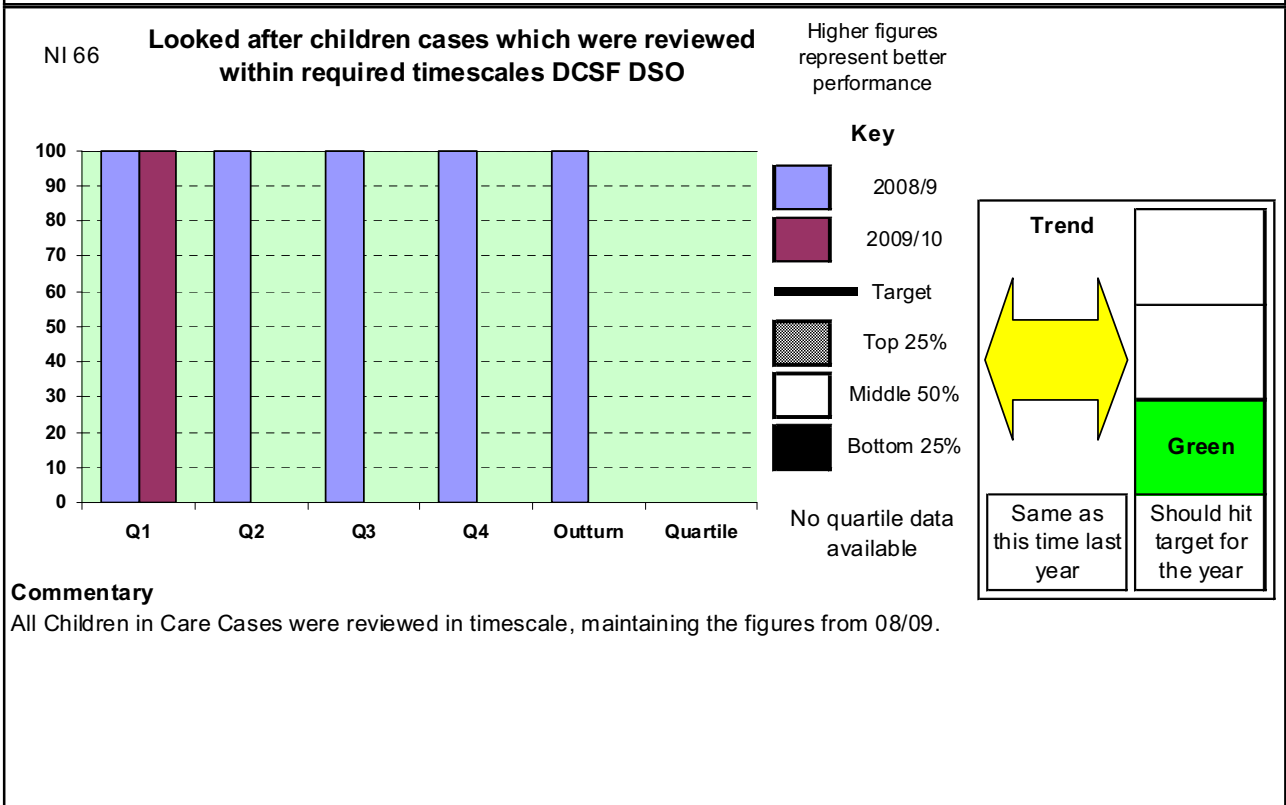
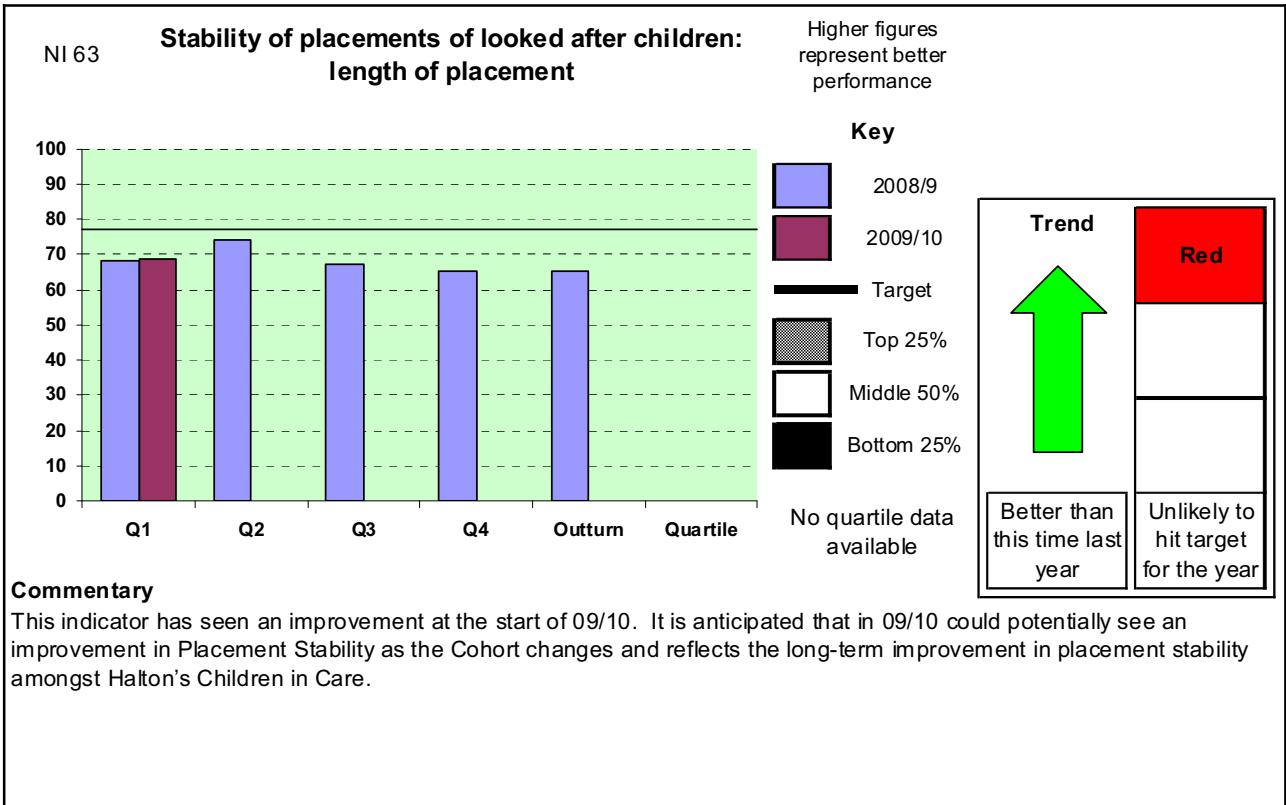
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
SS 1	Improve Education and Employment Opportunities for Care Leavers	Appoint a designated officer to manage care leaver employment by September 2009		Dedicated post to be in place by August 2009
		Implement an scheme that provides 10 apprenticeships for care leavers per year by March 2010		Scheme in place
		Fully implement the Council's employment scheme for care leavers by March 2010		Discussions underway to improve the robustness of the scheme
		Introduce a bursary for care leavers going on to higher education by September 2009		Introduced
		Develop the role of the Education Support Service/CSW (EET) to support the ongoing learning needs of care leavers up to the age of 21 by March 2010		Additional posts to be recruited to in September 2009
		Increase the availability of permanent accommodation for care leavers by 4 units by March 2010		Achieved, with additional units planned for late 2009
		SS 2	Increase Placement Choice and Quality of Care for Children in Care	Complete a review of the demand for and supply of placements for children in care by March 2010.
Implement a marketing strategy to improve recruitment of foster carers by March 2010.				Marketing strategy revised and in place.

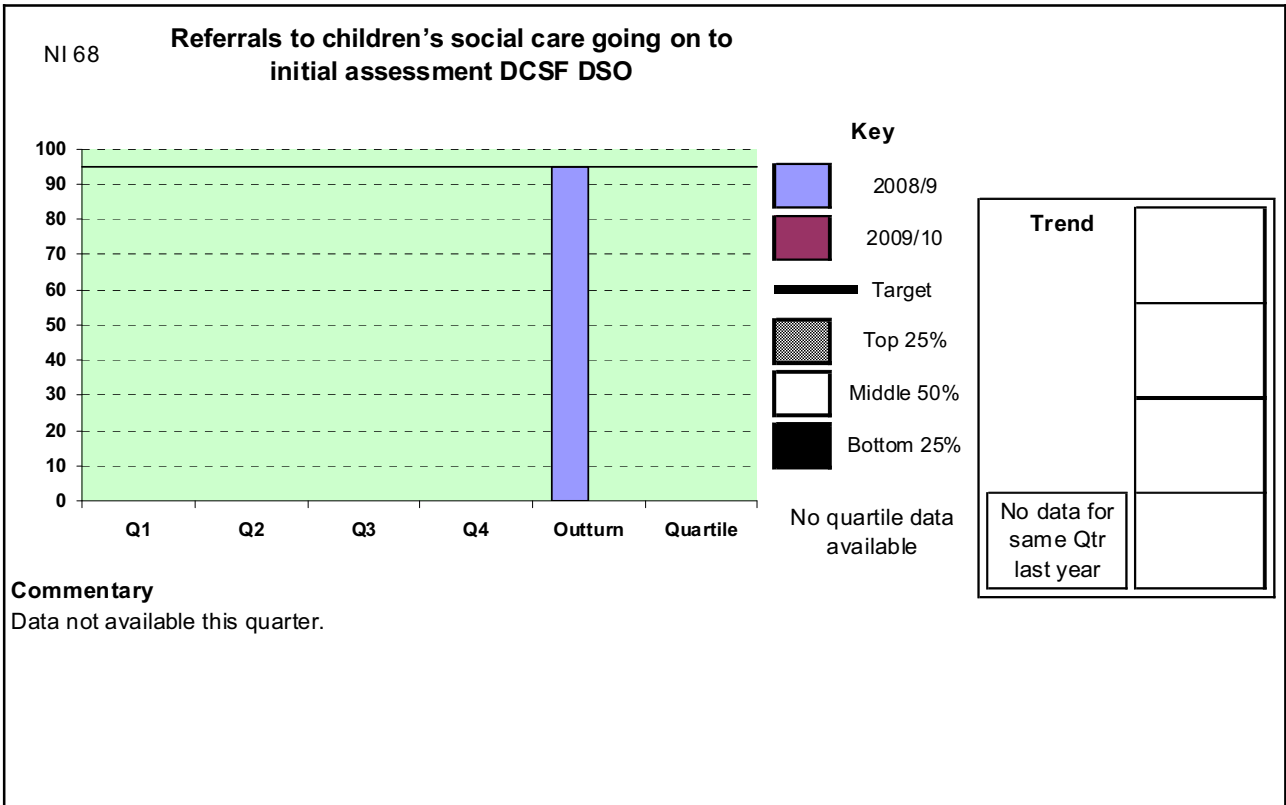
Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Increase the number of in house foster care placements by 8 by September 2009 (10% increase)		New carers have been recruited but due to other carers leaving the service, the overall number will not meet the 10% target
		Review the role of Principal Manager Fostering to secure a permanent appointment by April 2009.		Delayed by JE and efficiency process but due to be progressed before the end of the year
		Recruit to the vacant 4 social work posts in the adoption and fostering services by June 2009		One part time and one full time member of staff have been recruited for the adoption team and that service will now be fully staffed. Number of external advert placed for the fostering posts but the response has been poor. Currently internal process to see if existing social workers will consider transferring into the service. Further external adverts will then be undertaken if necessary. Posts are currently covered by agency staff.
		Continue to engage with the Regional Commissioning programme to improve knowledge, quality and competitiveness of local, private provision by March 2010		Good progress with increasing information on quality and cost available.


Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
		Implement and monitor CWDC development standards for foster carers by March 2010		Programme of implementation underway
SS 3	To maintain effective Safeguarding processes	Establish a Safeguarding Unit bringing expertise across the Directorate, health and the Police to improve the co-ordination of professional expertise and quality assurance processes by April 2009.		Safeguarding Unit established.
		Implement a systematic approach to learning arising from Serious Case Reviews by September 2009		A systematic approach is proposed for Specialist Services and seeking endorsement from HSCB in Sept 2009 with a recommendation all partners detail and adopt a systematic approach.
		Ensure that all agencies understand their responsibilities with regard to the management of allegations made against adults who work with children by March 2010		Appointment of Lead Conference and Reviewing Manager has been made who will assume the role of LADO and lead on the briefing for all agencies.
		Audit the implementation of the neglect protocol ensuring there are interagency minimum standards by March 2010		A multi agency short life task group is working on a review and update of the neglect protocol and will agree minimum standards.




Service Plan Ref.	Objective	2009/10 Milestone	Progress to date	Commentary
SS 4	To provide effective and efficient services to Children in Need	Pilot an integrated Targeted Support to Families (TSF) service for children in need by realigning resources in the Directorate to meet the needs of children in need by September 2009.		TSF has been established and is now being embedded within Children Centre Family Support. Services have been configured to ensure that Family Support workers work across the continuum of need at level 3a and above and assistants at level 3a and below.
		Roll out of an assessment and analysis toolkit, supported by training for frontline staff with the aim of improving the effectiveness of assessment and care planning by March 2010		A comprehensive plan has been put in place and agreed, that should ensure that frontline staff have the tools to undertake their work effectively. Plan now needs to be progressed through commissioning and delivering training.
		Introduce a system for independently reviewing children in need plans at levels 3b by December 2009		This will depend on the successful recruitment of an Independent Reviewing manager. Post to be advertised in September and therefore unlikely to be in post until December 2009.
		Ensure that the children in need teams are sufficiently staffed to meet the current demand for children in need services by March 2010.		SW recruitment has been good with only one vacancy across CiN at present. However, recruitment of Practice Managers has proved difficult (2 vacancies) and due to promotions, there are 2 Principal Manager posts vacant. These posts are critical to the service.








Ref	Description	Actual 2008/9	Target 09/10	Quarter 1	Progress	Commentary
Fair Access						
NI148	Care leavers in employment, education or training (%)	46%	71%	56%		The development of dedicated apprenticeship opportunities and support for care leavers, continued work with Connexions and work on the Council's Care Leaver Employment Policy should improve performance by 2010.

Objective Reference	Risk Control Measures	Progress	Commentary
SS 2	Targeted recruitment strategy to increase numbers of local foster carers		In place but no impact to date, without new payment structures to attract more carers
	Review payments structure and rates for carers		Completed and new rates and structures identified but has significant resources implications in the medium term
	Evaluate impact of Recruitment and Retention Strategy		Significant progress in front line CiN services but vacancies in fostering and adoption remain a challenge

HIGH Priority Actions	Target (Resp. Officer)	Progress (Traffic lights)*	Commentary
Participate in programme of Equality Impact assessments on all Strategy, Policy, and Service Areas	Mar 10 OD Specialist Services and all DM's		Now built into policy development and review, but requires more work to imbed process

SPECIALIST SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 30th June 2009

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000	Actual Including Commitments £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Employees	6,193	1,538	1,369	169	1,598
Premises	454	25	25	0	35
Supplies & Services	579	143	146	(3)	176
Transport	167	28	26	2	36
Agency Related Expenditure	309	27	21	6	21
Residential Placements	1,986	417	417	0	417
Out of Borough Adoption	80	1	1	0	1
Out of Borough Fostering	365	102	102	0	102
In House Foster Care Placements	1,670	298	298	0	300
Care Leavers	307	77	45	32	58
Central Support Service Recharges	762	141	141	0	141
Commissioned Services	2,020	266	266	0	266
Other Expenditure	190	55	51	4	51
Contribution to CwD Pooled Budget	1,426	344	338	6	387
Total Expenditure	16,508	3,462	3,246	216	3,589
<u>Income</u>					
Aiming Higher for Disabled Children	-552	0	0	0	0
Carers Grant	-129	-32	-32	0	-32
Care Matters Grant	-141	-65	-65	0	-65
Child & Adolescent Mental Health Serv.	-402	-176	-176	0	-176
Child Death Review Processes Grant	-23	-6	-6	0	-6
Children's Fund Grant	-484	-122	-122	0	-122
Children's Trust Fund Grant	-3	-1	-1	0	-1
Cohesion Grant	-49	-12	-12	0	-12
HSCB	-210	-200	-200	0	-200
Inter Authority Income	0	0	-56	56	-56
Other Income	0	0	5	(5)	0
Positive Activities for Young People	-196	-49	-49	0	-49
Teenage Pregnancy Grant	-106	-28	-28	0	-28
Youth Opportunity & Youth Capital	-273	-68	-68	0	-68
Young Persons Substance Misuse	-63	-16	-16	0	-16
Total Income	-2,630	-774	-826	51	-831
Net Expenditure	13,878	2,688	2,420	268	2,758

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms, revenue spending at the end of Quarter 1 is below budget profile.

The Employee budget is below budget profile. This is due to a number of posts which still remain vacant, although partly offset by the use of external agency staff. It is anticipated that these vacant posts will be filled during the year with an offsetting reduction in the use of agency staff. Expenditure is planned to remain within budget by year-end.

The Residential Placements and Out of Borough budgets are currently in line with the budget profile. However, these budgets are extremely volatile and the Department is monitoring activity closely.

The In House Foster Care Placements budget is also currently in line with the budget profile. The Department is currently reviewing its placement policy which may result in increased costs within this budget.

The Care Leavers budget is currently below budget profile, however, it is anticipated that spend will be in line with the budget profile towards the end of the financial year.

The Income Budgets are currently above budget profile due to the receipt of inter authority income which was unforeseen at the start of the financial year.

SPECIALIST SERVICES DEPARTMENT**Children with Disabilities Pooled Budget as at 30th June 2009**

(The following provides a summary of the council's contribution to the CwD Pooled Budget)

	Annual Revised Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000	Actual Including Commitments £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Employees	932	233	224	9	258
Premises	161	30	30	0	42
Supplies & Services	58	14	10	4	14
Transport	26	6	3	3	3
Agency Related Expenditure	965	158	158	0	158
Central Support Service Recharges	192	34	34	0	34
Commissioned Services	52	13	23	(10)	23
Other Expenditure	10	3	3	0	3
Total Expenditure	2,396	491	485	6	534
<u>Income</u>					
PCT Income	-970	-147	-147	0	-147
Total Income	-970	-147	-147	0	-147
Net Expenditure	1,426	344	338	6	387

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms, revenue spending at the end of Quarter 1 is below budget profile.

The Employee budget is below budget profile. This is due to a number of posts which still remain vacant, located within the Children's Disability Team and Inglefield. These vacancies are currently offset by the use of external agency staff. It is anticipated that these vacant posts will be filled during the year with an offsetting reduction in the use of agency staff. Expenditure is planned to remain within budget by year-end.

The Commissioned Services budget is above budget profile. This is due to unplanned expenditure which can be subsumed within the pool budget.

STANDARDS FUND & AREA BASED GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Primary Targeted Support	556	98	93	5	94
Key Stage 3 Targeted Support	314	55	91	(36)	93
Extending Early Yrs Making Good	180	32	0	32	0
Progress	313	55	0	55	0
School Lunch	199	35	0	35	0
Ethnic Minority Achievement	38	7	0	7	0
Music Services	184	32	18	14	18
Extended Schools	351	62	0	62	0
Extended Schools Sustainability	93	30	1	29	2
KS4 Engagement	80	14	0	14	0
Total Standards Fund	2,308	420	203	217	207
14-19 Flexible Funding	37	9	0	9	0
Choice Advisors	26	6	6	0	6
Education Health Partnership	60	15	6	9	6
Extended Rights for Free Travel	47	12	0	12	0
Extended Schools – Start Up	567	142	47	95	47
Secondary Behaviour & Attendance	68	17	17	0	17
Secondary National Strategy	132	33	33	0	33
Primary National Strategy	94	24	24	0	24
School Development Partners	1,132	283	57	226	57
School Improvement	71	18	0	18	0
School Intervention	44	11	2	9	2
School Travel Advisors	17	4	0	4	0
Sustainable Travel to Schools	10	3	0	3	0
Connexions	1,682	420	420	0	420
Total Area Based Grant	3,987	997	612	385	612

GENERAL SURE START & CHILDRENS CENTRE GRANT SCHEMES**As at 30th June 2009**

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Sure Start Main	2,229	557	386	171	481
Ditton CC	512	128	103	25	106
Brookvale CC	521	130	158	(28)	181
Halton Lodge CC	447	112	114	(2)	120
Halton Brook CC	588	147	118	29	155
Kingsway CC	618	155	98	57	106
Warrington Road CC	81	20	22	(2)	23
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour CC	15	4	3	1	3
Runcorn All Saints CC	0	0	2	(2)	2
Castlefields CC	0	0	(6)	6	(6)
Palacefields CC	75	19	9	10	9
Windmill Hill CC	75	19	34	(15)	34
Children's Centre General	1,081	270	(19)	289	(15)
Total General Sure Start & Children's Centres	6,242	1,561	1,022	539	1,199

OTHER EXTERNAL GRANT SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
LSC Post 16 Transport	31	8	9	(1)	9
Children's Workforce Development	81	20	1	19	1
Walking to School Initiative	4	1	0	1	0
IS Contact Point	267	67	33	34	33
Info Systems for Parents & Providers	4	1	3	(2)	3
Children's Workforce Higher Level	86	22	25	(3)	35
Teaching Assistants	56	14	0	14	0
Arts Education Development	67	17	23	(6)	23
National Remodelling School Workforce	149	37	17	20	17
Basic Skills Quality Mark – Primary	4	1	1	0	1
Schools Music Service	17	4	2	2	4
Build Capacity for Leadership Succession	53	13	0	13	0
PE & Sports	580	145	107	38	108
Aim Higher	336	84	56	28	68
14-19 Advisory	491	123	93	30	98
Education Business Link	284	71	54	17	58
Neighbourhood Managers Project	44	11	15	(4)	16
Enterprise Game	128	32	27	5	32
14-19 Diploma	247	62	39	23	40
Parenting Strategy	40	10	0	10	0
St Chads – Lottery	8	2	4	(2)	4
Gateway Plus	115	29	18	11	18
Mental Health in Schools	220	55	1	54	1
Total Other External Funding	3,312	829	528	301	569

LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP SCHEMES

As at 30th June 2009

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)	Actual Including Committed Items
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Neglect – PACT	125	31	0	31	0
Barnardos Missing from Home	70	18	18	0	18
Teenage Pregnancy (Health)	45	11	0	11	0
Portage	16	12	8	4	9
Attendance	22	17	25	(8)	25
HITS	50	12	0	12	0
Vikings in the Community	17	13	0	13	0
Connexions – NEET	46	35	0	35	0
Canal Boat Adventure	17	12	0	12	0
Improved Education for Vulnerable Youngsters	13	10	1	9	5
Kingsway Literacy Development	355	89	26	63	26
Youth Activity	27	21	10	11	10
H9P PEP Dowries	3	3	3	0	9
Unallocated Funds	162	41	0	41	0
Total LSP	968	325	91	234	102

Comments on the above figures:

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) funding spending to the end of quarter 1 is below budget profile.

Regular monitoring reports are sent to the LSP in respect of all LSP projects and any areas of concern are dealt with throughout the year by the CYP commissioning / finance team. Further support is provided by the LSP team in the Policy & Performance Division as well as individual project managers.

There are some projects which have been allocated working neighbourhood funds for the first four months of the year so the budgets have been profiled to reflect this.

CHILDREN'S & YOUNG PEOPLES DIRECTORATE

Capital Projects as at 30th June 2009

	2009/10 Capital Allocation	Allocation To Date	Actual Spend To Date	Total Allocation Remaining
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Asset Management Data	5	0	0	5
Fire Compartmentation	15	0	0	15
Capital Repairs	1,152	380	378	774
Contingency	191	24	24	167
Fairfield School Asbestos Management	306	60	39	267
Cavendish School Changing Rooms	43	42	42	1
All Saints Upton School PCP	713	48	48	665
Our Lady Mother of Saviour School	100	0	0	100
Kingsway Centre Children's Centre General	1,625	90	90	1,535
Astmoor CC	56	0	4	52
Runcorn All Saints CC	26	19	16	10
St Augustine's CC	8	0	0	8
The Park CC	4	0	0	4
Windmill Hill CC	20	9	8	12
Children's Centre Maintenance	17	0	0	17
Brookfields School	41	0	0	41
Cavendish School Early Years	217	59	59	158
Childcare School Access Initiative	98	0	0	98
Play-builder Capital	388	5	5	383
Moore Primary	273	9	9	264
Lunts Heath	63	0	0	63
Westbank School	87	0	0	87
Hillview School	92	0	0	92
Cavendish School Furniture & Equipment	35	0	0	35
Aim Higher for Disabled Children	285	0	0	285
Harnessing Technology	631	11	67	564
Total Capital	6,605	756	789	5,816




Comments on the above figures:

There are still some schemes with no actual expenditure up to the end of Quarter 1.

It is important that these projects get underway as soon as possible and are closely monitored during the year, in order to ensure that the relevant capital allocations are fully utilized by the financial year end.

There are a number of schemes where the works will take place in the 2010-11 financial year as the funding is permitted to be carried forward into 2010-11.

The traffic light symbols are used in the following manner:

	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Indicator</u>
<u>Green</u>	 <p>Indicates that the <u>milestone/objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target is on course to be achieved</u>.</p>
<u>Amber</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>unclear</u> at this stage, <u>whether the milestone/objective will be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that it is either <u>unclear</u> at this stage or too early to state whether the target is on course to be achieved.</p>
<u>Red</u>	 <p>Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain that the milestone/objective will not be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.</p>	<p>Indicates that the <u>target will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</p>

Children and Young People Directorate

Quarter 1, 2009-10 Overview Report

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report provides an overview of issues and progress within the directorate for the period ending 30th June 2009.

2.0 Key Developments

2.1 The following key developments have impacted on the work of the Directorate during the quarter;

- **Delivering the 2013 Entitlement:** By 2013, every young person will have an entitlement to choose any one of the 14 new diplomas. These new qualifications will combine practical skill development with theoretical and technical understanding and knowledge. They will offer all young people different ways of learning and a route into higher education and employment. Guidance has been published for Local Authorities and Providers on meeting the 2013 entitlement. The 14-19 plan will be refreshed to ensure the recommendations are implemented. (*Universal and Learning Services Plan*)
- **One Children's Workforce:** Every Children's Trust was required to complete a baseline position and action plan against the One Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) by 30th June. In Halton, we had excellent engagement from all areas of the Children's Workforce and the Tool enabled us to gather valuable information from a range of perspectives to inform our future workforce planning. The report submitted to CWDC on 30th June is the starting point in working towards a fully integrated and reformed children's workforce of the future to improve outcomes for children and young people in Halton. (*Business Support Commissioning Plan*)
- **Inspection Regime:** From 1st June, all Councils will be subject to an annual unannounced inspection of Contact, Referral and Assessment teams dealing with front-line social care services for children and young people. Warrington, Blackpool, Redbridge and Sandwell have had their inspection and by the nature of the inspection they have been reported as very challenging. A significant amount of preparation is underway within the Council. In addition, the Council and all parties will be subject to a 3 year unannounced inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care. We will receive 10 working days notice of this inspection. (*Specialist Services Plan*)
- **Targeted mental health in Schools project:** Halton was successful in bidding for a DCSF project called Targeted mental Health in Schools which is about supporting schools to support the mental wellbeing of pupils. This funding is available for 2 years and will roll out to schools in September. (*Preventative Services*)

3.0 Emerging Issues

3.1 The following emerging issues have been identified and will have an impact on the work of the Directorate;

- **Children in Care:** During 2008/09 there was a 12% marked increase in Children in Care. Prior to 2008/09, Halton had seen a decrease in numbers of Children in Care, against the national trend of an increase. Whilst the national figures are yet to be published, it is expected to follow the trend of the local benchmarking, showing a continued growth. (*Specialist Services Plan*)
- **Schools Organisation:** Statutory consultation will commence in June on the proposal to discontinue The Grange nursery, infant and junior school, change the age range of the Comprehensive and extend the school size. The neighbourhood nursery provision will be transferred to the Comprehensive to create All Through Provision. Executive Board will consider the outcome of the consultation at their meeting on 24th September 2009. The governing body of the school will then commence consultation on Trust Status. Pre-statutory consultation will commence in June on the proposal to expand pupil numbers at The Heath. It will be proposed that the pupil numbers increase from 210 per year group to 240 per year group in 2011. Once the building work has been completed in 2013, the numbers will increase further to 270 per year group, giving the school a total capacity of 1350 places for 11-16 year olds. (*Business Support and Commissioning Plan*)
- **“Back on Track” White Paper - Alternative provision:** The government’s white paper ‘Back on track’ dealing with Alternative provision may have a large impact. Making it a requirement for providers to be registered and inspected by OFSTED. This presents both threats and opportunities and will need to be carefully managed to avoid it having an impact on our current provision. (*Preventative Services Plan*)
- **“Your Child, Your Schools, Our Future” White Paper:** We need to consider the implications arising from the Government’s White Paper – ‘Your Child, Your Schools, Our Future’ published in June 2009. The ‘Your Child, Your Schools, Our Future’ White paper sets out statutory Pupil and Parent Guarantee, underpinned by legislation, a clear devolution of power matched by stronger accountability and an uncompromising approach to school improvement so that every child can succeed. (*Universal Learning Plan*)

4.0 Service Objectives / Milestones

4.1 The majority of service objectives within the directorate are being delivered as planned and most notably positive progress has been made in regards to;-

- Milestones in improving young people’s sexual health are progressing well with the implementation in a pilot school of quality standards at Key Stage 3 for Sex and Relationship Education. A review of curriculum in light of school feedback has taken place and resource amended accordingly. (*Service Objective PS2*)

- All milestones measuring progress on transforming the Learning Environment are on track and progressing well, with some significant deadlines being met in regard to Building Schools for the Future and the Primary School Re-organisation. (*Service Objective BSC1*)
- Six Greater Merseyside work streams have been established to facilitate the process of moving post-16 provision from the Learning and Skills Council to the Local Authority. This process is on track to meet the target of March 2010 and contribute to improving outcomes Post-16. (*Service Objective ULS5*)
- Effective Safeguarding processes are being maintained with the establishment of a multi-agency Safeguarding Unit and the implementation of new systematic approaches to use learning arising from Serious Case Reviews and increase understanding across agencies of their responsibilities with regard to the management of allegations made against adults who work with children. (*Service Objective SS3*)

Of those objectives that have not progressed as planned those of most concern at this stage are;

- Due to delays in starting the Locality pilot in relation to early intervention, an implementation strategy for Locality Working is unlikely to meet the original timescale. (*Service Objective PS1*)
- Changes in approach have been agreed in relation to workforce development. Use of findings from the workforce tool will be used to inform a review of the Integrated Workforce Strategy, and a second pilot of the population centric model will not be completed. (*Service Objective BSC3*)
- Recruitment of foster carers and developments in the roles and recruitment to fostering services are will not meet the targets set, impacting on the placement choice and quality of care for Children in Care. (*Service Objective SS2*)

5.0 Performance Indicators / Targets

5.1 The majority of performance indicators within the directorate are on target and most notably positive progress has been made in regards to;-

- NI059 Initial Assessments has seen some improvement on it's already high level during quarter one. It must be noted that should the volume of referrals remain high this may negatively impact on this indicator in the future. (*SS Plan*)
- NI088 By the end of quarter one, Halton had exceeded the target set for the proportion of schools delivering the Full Core Offer of Extended Services. (*PS Plan*)
- BPR LI16 Number of CAF's completed is on course to meet the target at the end of the year with 28% of the years target completed within the first quarter. (*BSC Plan*)
- ULS LI4 Percentage of schools involved in the CLLD project has shown an increase on the position at quarter one in 2008-09 and is on course to achieve the year end target. (*ULS Plan*)

Of those performance indicators within the directorate that are not on target those of most concern at this stage are;

- NI063 Stability of placements of Children in Care: length of placement whilst showing some improvement on the previous year is unlikely to meet the target set. (*SS Plan*)
- NI117 measures the percentage of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training. June 2009 performance shows that 13.77% of 16 to 18 year olds are NEET this is 453 young people. NEET has been steadily falling from April 2009, but is still unlikely to meet the target for the year. (*PS Plan*)
- ULS LI2 Percentage of Early Years settings graded good or better by OFSTED is lower than the target. Reaching the target is dependent on number of inspections as well as the inspection outcome. This is now an integral part of the Ofsted Performance Profile so performance will be important in the overall Annual Performance Rating. (*ULS Plan*)