

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

**DATE:** 22 February 2010

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Children & Young People

**SUBJECT:** New Council Structures – Children & Young People's Directorate

**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To outline the new operational structure of the Children & Young People's Directorate with effect from 01.04.10.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

i) PPB notes the new CYPD Structure

**3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The Children & Young People's Directorate of the Council currently has four Departments, namely:

1. **Specialist Services** – Child protection, Children in Care, Children in Need, Children with Complex Needs and YOT.
2. **Universal & Learning Services** – School Improvement, 14-19 Strategy, Learning, SEN and Inclusion.
3. **Preventative Services** – Access to learning (Behaviour, Educational Welfare Officers, Pupil Referral Units etc); Integrated Youth Support; Children, Families and Extended Schools.
4. **Business Support & Commissioning** – BSF, Primary Capital, Management Information & Communication, Planning & Performance, Finance and School Services, Student Services.

3.2 The Efficiency Programme of the Council, undertaken with KPMG, will deliver the following:

- Reduced Managements Costs
- Bring together all Transactional and Non Transactional

(Administration and Policy/Performance) Council Services into “Centres of Excellence”.

- Broader spans of Management control
- Review all Council’s services in terms of their efficiency and effectiveness.

3.3 In light of the Efficiency Programme, the CYPD has reduced from four Departments to three, these are:

- Children & Families Services
- Learning & Achievement Services
- Children’s Organisation and Provision

3.4 A structure chart is enclosed as Appendix 1, which outlines the spheres of responsibility within this new structure.

3.5 The principle differences and outcomes this new structure is intended to achieve are:

3.5.1 A focus on early intervention and prevention for children and young people through the delivery of these services at a ‘Locality’ level. There will be two localities – Widnes and Runcorn.

3.5.2 A more integrated approach to Children with Complex Needs.

3.5.3 The delivery of Post 16 Learning, and the transferred commissioning function from the Learning & Skills Council

3.5.4 A dedicated commissioning function for Children’s Services separated from the delivery of services. This function is intended to commission both for the Children & Young People’s Plan for Halton and the Directorates Specialist Commissioning areas. The commissioning function will link closely with Adult Commissioning and the PCT.

3.5.5 Drawing together a range of capital and projects such as BSF and the Primary Capital Programme etc.

3.5.6 The Children’s Safeguarding Unit reporting direct to the Strategic Director in order to separate the delivery of Safeguarding Services from a review and auditing function.

#### **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

4.1 None.

**5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

5.1 The new Children & Young People Directorate structure makes a significant contribution to the overall savings that the Council needs to make over the next three years. The new CYPD structure is intended to equip the Council better in terms of both efficiency and delivering services in an increasingly integrated way.

**6.0 RISK ANALYSIS:**

6.1 The new CYPD Structure has to deliver a range of statutory duties that fall to the Council. The structural arrangements are set against the business critical factors that must be delivered.

**7.0 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY :**

7.1 The new structure is intended to provide a range of services that 'Narrow the Gap' in terms of the performance of a range of vulnerable groups. All services must be accessible and inclusive.

**8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

| <b>8.1 Documents:</b>          | <b>Place of Inspection</b> | <b>Contact</b>           |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Council's Efficiency Programme | Municipal Building         | Business Efficiency Team |