

REPORT TO Children Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 21 February 2011

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Children and Young People

SUBJECT: Contract/Commissioning Update

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1.1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.2 To provide an update on the contracts/commissioned services for Children and Young People from April 2011.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Board notes the contracts that have been de-commissioned and the measures taken to mitigate the impact.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 A report was presented to the Board on 6th January 2011 outlining the process undertaken within the Children and Young People's Directorate to review contracted/commissioned services and identify the contracts that would need to be terminated from 31st March 2011. This report now provides the details of the status of the key contracts and identifies those that have been de-commissioned. Information is also provided which summarises the contract provision, the value of the contract and the source of funding.

3.2 An opportunity was provided for services currently funded through Working Neighbourhood Funding to bid for projects for the next twelve months that were both sustainable and meet the Children and Young People's key priorities. The bids received from services supporting Children and Young People totalled in excess of £562,000. The Children and Young Peoples Executive Board considered each application against the key priorities and bids were approved up to the allocated budget of £162,170 of funding.

3.3 The table below shows current contracts position for contracts with a current termination date of 31st March 2011:

Provider	Service	Budget & Cost	Recommendation
5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Trust	CIC CAMHS Worker	Child Adolescent Mental Health Grant £63,959	This service provides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional support to CIC • Supported access into specialist CAMHS service. • Training for staff working with CIC
5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Trust	Substance Misuse Service	Child Adolescent Mental Health Grant £34,244	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service was designed to have a part time CAMHS worker based within the drug treatment service (Young Addaction) to ensure young people presenting with mental health related issues can access direct support without having to wait to be seen in the CAMHS services.
Action For Children <i>Contract 2012</i>	Children's Rights and Advocacy Service and Independent Visitors Service	Specialist Services £110,186	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The services works with CIC and disabled children & young people to ensure that they are fully involved with their care plans and that they can ensure their rights and needs are being addressed
Action For Children Kings cross Catholic Children's Society	PACT	Working Neighbourhood Fund £125,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service was designed to work with families that have recently left the care system to support the family who now have additional needs. Therefore reducing the needs for referral back into social care
Adult Learning	Adult Learning	Children's Centres £139,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service was designed to provide adult and family learning in line with Every Child Matters Agenda within children centres. Aiming to ensure all learners work towards an accredited outcome.
After Adoption <i>Contract 2012</i>	Adoptive Support Service	Specialist Services £20,571	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tripartite service with St Helens and Knowsley • Provides one to one and group support to individuals and families who have experienced adoption.
Arch Initiatives	Family Services	Children's Fund/& Specialist Services/WNF £75,000 & £25,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service works with children, young people and families whose lives have been affected by parental substance misuse.
Barnardos	Befriending Service	Aiming High for Disabled Children £49,051	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service supports disabled children and young people in either 1:1 or small groups to access social and leisure activities in the local community.
Barnardos	Brokerage Service	AHDC £90,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This service provides a single point of access for families accessing short breaks. The service assist families by providing a support plan for each child

			and ensuring the child has a positive social experience in the activities undertaken.
Barnardos	Missing From Home Project	Children's Fund/Working Neighbourhood Fund £90,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service provides 24hr response to all reports of missing children & young people. The project provides a range of interventions for the family to help prevent young people running away again
Canal Boat Adventure Project Contract 2012	Happy Ness Inclusion Project	Children's Fund £16,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a range of diversionary and training programmes for disaffected young people
Catholic Children's Society	Children & Young People's Bereavement Service	Children's Centres £65,100 (this is on 1 year 8mths)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service provides one to one support to children who have experienced loss. The project also offers programmes within schools to address bereavement.
Citizens Advice Bureau	Ideal and Housing Careworker/Solicitor Service	Children's Centres £124,350	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets the holistic advice needs of parents with children 0-19 (especially relating to debt, employment and benefits enquiries).
Citizens Advice Bureau	Extended Schools Service	Children's Centres £43,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a package of dedicated support and advice services to the parents of the pupils who are identified by staff at the Schools. Improves the chances of families getting out of poverty by maximising their household income levels and improving employment prospects of parents and carers.
Community Safety	Youth Inclusion and Support Panel	Children's Fund £65,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service is an early intervention and preventative initiative for children and young people (aged 5 to 18 years) and families. YISP and FIP will ensure that this group receives joined up preventative services at an early stage to discourage them from becoming involved in offending and anti-social behaviour.
Connexions	Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health Service	Teenage Pregnancy Grant/Working Neighbourhood Fund £143,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service supports and promotes the teenage pregnancy agenda with local children's centres, reproductive and sexual health services, midwifery, health visiting, social services, education and child care services who offer support to pregnant teenagers and young parents.
Crossroads	After School Clubs - Widnes	Aiming High for Disabled Children £45,310	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crossroads provide After School Clubs in Widnes. They provide services aimed specifically at

			<p>children and young people with disabilities and these will be available for 48 weeks of the year. The service is flexible to allow staff ratio per child to change on the basis of the need of each child.</p>
Crossroads	Short Breaks	AHDC £48,960	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crossroads will provide a service which offers families the opportunity to take a short break from their caring responsibilities. The short breaks service provides support for holidays, overnight stays and weekends. Crossroads will provide services aimed specifically for children with disabilities and their families.
FCA	Family Breaks	AHDC £45,376	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This service supports families with daytime and overnight breaks either in the child's own home or elsewhere for example Universal settings, through a befriending sitting or sessional service. The service can also provide emergency care services.
HAFS	Family Breaks	AHDC £46,966	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This service supports families affected by Autism by providing short break/care respite services for the whole family not just the affected child. The service aims to ensure the child achieves their full potential and improves quality of life for the families.
Halton Child Contact Centre	Child Contact Centre	Specialist Services £1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low cost / medium impact. Continue with contract This service provides a neutral meeting place for estranged family members to have contact with their children. The service is provided in Runcorn and Widnes on alternative Saturdays.
Halton Play Council	Cavendish After School Club	AHDC £25,304	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This service provides short breaks by way of an after school club which includes a variety of social and play activities for children with disabilities. Activities are organised around the consensus of the group and individually depending on the particular needs of the children and young people.
Halton Play Council	Inclusive Play schemes	AHDC £28,052	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service provides support to children with disabilities to enable these children to attend open access playschemes. 1:1 support

			will be provided for those children assessed as having high level needs.
Halton Speak Out	Planning for Life	AHDC £25,054	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service is centred around Person Centred facilitation and Person Centred Planning (PCP). PCP is a planning approach for determining the preferred future of a young person with a learning disability.
Halton Women's Aid	Children's Outreach	Children's Centres £12,586	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service provides a children's outreach service for those children who have experienced domestic violence. The service promotes anti-violence and helps to raise awareness of the effects of domestic violence on children.
Kings Cross	Community Parenting/ Breastfeeding Buddies	Children's Centres £51,912	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides home visiting (buddying) and advice service to families, particularly to new parents and those who are in danger of being excluded. It delivers positive intervention at an early stage to reduce the chances of escalation of issues.
Kings Cross	Young Persons Counselling Services	Child & Adolescent Mental Health grant/Children's Fund £150,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main focus of the Service will be to provide individual counselling and appropriate group work. Some children and young people will be assessed as requiring one to one support, whilst others will benefit from a group response where they will learn about managing change, loss and significant change.
NSPCC	Young Witness Support Contract with Warrington BC, Cheshire Police and Cheshire CC	Child Adolescent Mental Health Grant £15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service provides a Young Witness Support scheme within Halton, Warrington and Cheshire. The project involves preparation, support and post trial therapeutic services for children and young people up to the age of 18 years who have to attend court to give evidence. The age limit can be extended for young people with disabilities. These children will be victims or witnesses to crime. Many of the children referred will have been physically or sexually abused or have witnessed domestic violence.
PCT	Speech and Language	Children Centres £178,254	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This service specifically addresses children at age 0-5 years offering preventative, targeted and specialist service delivery to enhance communication skills to those families where there are concerns regarding speech & language development.
PCT	Speech and Language	Special	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service aims to maximise

	(SEN)	Educational Needs £120,000	<p>communication skills in educational settings by training staff in these settings. Enabling staff to deal with children presenting with communication difficulties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service also offers direct intervention prioritising children through tribunal or Statements of SEN groups.
PCT	Teenage Service Midwife	Teenage Pregnancy £15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a holistic service to teen parents in Halton. Working closely with Connexions Teenage Pregnancy service enables continuity of service delivery. Weekly young parents groups are held.
Phil Andrews Vending Services	Repair and Maintenance of Condom Machines	Teenage Pregnancy £2,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repair and Maintenance of Condom Machines on sites in Runcorn and Widnes, namely colleges.
PSIFX Networks	IT Support Maintenance - CIC	Specialist Services £3,700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of the Halton's Children in Care ICT Installation, Repair and Maintenance
YMCA	Emergency Service Bed	Specialist Services £13,802	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YMCA provides an emergency bed service in YMCA premises Runcorn for the sole use of Young People, 16-18 years and for Care Leavers 18 plus.
Young Addaction	Mobile Service Outreach	Children's Fund/Young Peoples Substance Misuse grant £103,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service uses an outreach bus to provide a holistic service to young people during core and outside core hours and weekends. Linking in with services to address issues such as substance misuse, housing, education, employment, anti-social behaviour and teenage pregnancy with those young people who are hard to reach or at risk.
Young Addaction	Young Persons Substance Misuse Support Service	Young Persons Substance Misuse Grant £154,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service provides specialist planned interventions for young people with substance misuse and complex health, education and criminal issues.
Youth Media	Health Bytes Provision	Childrens Fund £5,250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The service provides provision of a software product, "Youth Bytes" which conveys health and related information on computer screens in local schools and colleges.
Action For Children	Young Carers Lead	Working Neighbourhood Fund £49,949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create a Young Carers Strategy. The document presents a multi agency cross

			cutting vision for improving outcomes for all, identified, actual and potential young carers in Halton. In implementing this vision we will ensure this.
Canal Boat	Making Waves	Working Neighbourhood Fund £48,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This service delivers accredited programmes to young people aged 14+ who are referred from schools and other service providers as they are at risk or vulnerable young people who need extra support to fulfil their potential and achieve their ambitions. • 'Life Routes' is an accredited based course which is ASDAN accreditation which is based on life skills-routes to employment. • The centre also offers NCBA training for canal boat steering and trains up volunteers as they are V Volunteering registered.
HBC	Independent Travel Trainers	Working Neighbourhood Fund £25,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide the necessary training and support for vulnerable children and young people to travel and access key education, training and other facilities, independently.
Widnes Viking	Tackling Fitness	Working Neighbourhood Fund £37,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This service helps children and young people enjoy a healthy lifestyle both physically and emotionally. • The service is delivered in schools in the form of coaching sessions and classroom based workshops. The service also delivers anti-bullying workshops.
Action for Children	C Card	Teenage Pregnancy Grant £ 24,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To fund a full-time free condom distribution scheme for under 19 year olds, within Halton for Halton Borough Council.

3.4 In December termination letters were sent out to all providers (shaded in grey above) to ensure that they have had the appropriate notice.

3.5 There are a range of contracts which were previously funded under Aiming High for Disabled Children Funding (these are highlighted above in red), each of these projects has received a termination notice. It is however intended that Commissioners will work to develop a whole service specification for Aiming Higher for Disabled Children which will be more costs effective, better meet needs and be affordable.

- 3.5 In addition it will be necessary the level and type of Adult learning currently provided through our Children's Centres is under review.
- 3.6 Discussions will also be held with colleagues in Health on a number of health services commissioned through the PCT such as Speech and Language, Breastfeeding Buddies and the Teenage Midwifery service.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Decommissioning these contracts due to the reduced levels of funding available may impact on the sustainability of some of the current providers. Providers have therefore been given as much notice as possible of their position in terms of future service delivery so that they are able to plan their staffing and resources.

5.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 5.1 A comprehensive risk assessment process has been undertaken on each of the commissioned services.

6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 6.1 A comprehensive assessment has been undertaken on each commissioned service to understand and mitigate against any equality and diversity issues.