

Directorate Performance Overview Report

Directorate: Children and Enterprise Directorate

Reporting Period: Quarter 3, Period 1 October 2012 – 31 December 2012

1.0 Introduction

This report provides an overview of issues and progress within the Directorate that have occurred within Quarter 3. The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within the Appendix (section 8).

Please note initials have been provided to indicate which Operational Director is responsible for the commentary to aid Members, as requested by the Children and Young People Policy and Performance Board. A key is provided at the end of the report in Appendix (section 8).

2.0 Key Developments

Inspiring Families Project (previously Troubled Families)

In November 2012 Halton's Inspiring Families programme became operational. The model includes a scaled up existing team that works intensively with families in most need. Whilst this team is not yet fully staffed, work has begun with those families identified as being most in need of intensive support. Partner agencies including Youth Offending Team and Police have now joined this team. Each family is assessed holistically and their progress tracked closely. Colleagues in Communities Directorate and the wider Children's Trust are also involved in the programme, as well as Children's Social Care. Following this work, the first submission for payments by results was submitted on 21 January 2013 and Halton has made a claim for 24 families. (AM, TC)

Adoption Scorecard

The Adoption Scorecard which illustrates performance for the period between 2009-2012 was published at the end of November 2012. Local authorities (LA's) were measured against two thresholds. The first threshold was the average time between a child entering care and moving in with their adoptive family. Halton achieved an average of 567 days compared with an England average of 636 days. The second threshold was the average time between the local authority receiving court authority to place a child and deciding on a match with a family. Halton achieved an average of 130 days compared with an England average of 195 days. Both thresholds were therefore met. (TC)

Upton All Saints Children's Centre

In November 2012 Upton All Saints Children's Centre underwent an Ofsted inspection. Ofsted confirmed that they are now applying the current inspection framework even more rigorously, yet despite this the Centre was graded as 'good' overall. All other aspects were graded as 'good', except partnership working and safeguarding which were graded as 'outstanding'. (TC)

Narrowing the Gap (NtG)

Schools have been invited by the LA to self-evaluate themselves with regards to narrowing the gaps which will support subsequent work in closing gaps in attainment for vulnerable groups. A programme of LA support is being developed for launch in 2013. All schools will be invited to attend NtG network meetings where a project group of up to 12 schools, with differing gaps in attainment will be established. These schools will be engaging in action research and focusing on strategies to NtG that have been proven to work in other LA's. The group will feedback to the wider network group which is being developed in collaboration with colleagues in St Helens LA. (SN)

Academy/Free School Updates

Wade Deacon High School is progressing with its transfer to becoming Academy. Due to the complexity of the transfer the conversion is now planned for 1 March 2013. As the running track on the site is a joint use facility to protect the use of other schools and community use, a joint use agreement is being negotiated prior to the conversion.

A Warrington Montessori Free School is planning to open in Daresbury Park. The schools will be a primary school for 140 pupils and will offer child-centred learning based on Montessori principles of children learning through choosing, trying and doing things for themselves. (AM)

Key Stage 4 Pupil Referral Unit (KS4 PRU)

A new Senior Leadership Team has been appointed to the KS4 PRU. For the academic year 2012-2013 provider contracts have been amended to include a base payment for learner places with additional payments to reward providers if they are able to secure a set percentage improvement in attendance, or for providing a tutor with qualified teacher status. (AM)

3.0 Emerging Issues

Children's Centres- proposed new inspection framework

Ofsted have produced a new Children Centre inspection framework and a consultation period is underway which ends in January 2013. A key change includes the plan to undertake single inspections where a group of Centre's share leadership and management. This could affect Halton positively given its shared management structure. It is also proposed that the number of inspection judgments is significantly reduced from 20 to three key judgments, which would include leadership and governance and a judgment for overall effectiveness. Judgment grades would also change, meaning that any Centre that is not good or better will receive a new judgment- 'requires improvement'. (TC)

Social Work Caseloads

The framework proposed for multi-agency safeguarding inspections is due in February 2013 and the framework for Looked After Children and Care Leavers in January 2013. Both inspection frameworks will have significant implications on services. An initial event to undertake a self-assessment under both frameworks is planned for the Children's Trust and the Local Safeguarding Board on 1 March 2013. This will inform the multi-agency planning for both inspections. In addition the Working Together statutory framework is still awaited and this will also have significant implications for services.

The Efficiency Review of the Child In Need Service identified that whilst social work vacancy rates and turnover is low, there is a significant issue of reduced capacity within the service due to the demographic of the workforce. It has been agreed, therefore, that three additional social work posts would be created in recognition of this reduction in capacity, two of these have been filled. Additionally it has recently been agreed to allow the service to further 'over – recruit' social workers to increase capacity and reduce caseloads in line with Ofsted recommendations. This will be achieved within existing budgets.

Educating Children with Health Needs

The Department for Education (DfE) issued updated statutory guidance for local authorities (LA's) in January 2013 outlining the LA's duty to provide a suitable full time education (or as much education as the child's health condition allows) for children unable to attend mainstream (including academies, free schools, and independent schools) or special school due to health needs. The guidance highlights that LA's should not reduce or withhold provision on the basis of cost so as to ensure that any provision is able to provide a good quality education, which enables access to appropriate qualifications and supports eventual reintegration into school. The provision should ensure that pupils receiving such provision should be able to make similar progress to their peers.

LA's are responsible for arranging provision and must ensure that processes and policies are in line with the issued guidelines. LA's also need to ensure that they have policies based upon the percentage of time a child is able to attend school rather than whether the child is receiving a suitable education during that attendance or have lists of health conditions which dictate whether or not they will arrange education for children or inflexible policies which result in children going without suitable full time education. This means that the LA should have processes and policies in place which ensure that a child receives the right type of educational provision, therefore, this will need to be reviewed within Halton to ensure the standard of provision is as expected.

4.0 Risk Control Measures

Risk control forms an integral part of the Council's Business Planning and performance monitoring arrangements. During the development of the 2012/13 Business Plan, the service was required to undertake a risk assessment of all key service objectives with high risks included in the Directorate Risk Register.

As a result, monitoring of all relevant 'high' risks has been undertaken and progress reported against the application of the risk treatment measures. This included in each of the quarterly monitoring reports by department. Below is a summary of the risks where progress is uncertain or not met for each high risk.

LAS1: Failure to provide sufficient resources to ensure required levels of support for schools and settings as a result of cessation of grant funding and future efficiencies. Whilst there is no evidence at this stage that there has been an impact upon quality and standards this will continue to be monitored to establish the long term impact. Risk have been mitigated through the deployment of retained school improvement support to target schools; effective school to school support including the use of National and Local Leaders in education and schools' purchase of school improvement through traded services. (SN)

CFS1: Failure to ensure that the development, design and implementation of CareFirst6 supports and enhances the effectiveness of frontline practice. CareFirst6 has been implemented within approximately 40% of the department and the Children's Social Care ICT Management Group meets monthly. The system will be upgraded to the most up to date version in mid-November which should improve the user experience of the system and reduce down time. (TC)

CFS5: Failure to recruit and retain sufficient numbers of social work front line managers to meet statutory duties and requirements. Whilst the risk control measures have been put in place the risk is still considered high as there continues to be a vacancy issue within the front line social work management positions. The Management Trainee Programme has been implemented with the successful candidate having secured a Senior Early Help Role and with recruitment to the scheme underway it is hoped that there will be more candidates from social care.

COPS2: Failure to secure improvement in education, employment and training rates in light of government cuts. Whilst the percentage of Halton 16-18 year olds in NEET has reduced compared with previous years, the borough still faces a significant challenge to ensure full post-16 participation for all young people as part of the Raising Participation Age (RPA) agenda. (AM)

COPS5: Failure to reduce teenage conception. Through effective performance monitoring it has been identified that clinic opening times needed to be reviewed to allow improved accessibility for children and young people across the borough. This will be closely monitored. (AM)

5.0 Progress against high priority equality actions

The Council must have evidence that it reviews its services and policies to show that they comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) which came into force in April 2011. The PSED also requires us to publish this information as it is available.







As a result of undertaking a Departmental Equality Impact Assessments no high priority actions were identified for the Directorate to Quarter 3 2012 – 2013.

6.0 Performance Overview

The following information provides a synopsis of progress for both milestones and performance indicators across the key business areas that have been identified by each Directorate.

Commissioning

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
LAS1	Review the performance of all schools and EY provision with a specific focus on those currently graded as satisfactory. Identify actions, including levels of support or intervention, required to improve inspection outcomes by July 2012. (SN)	
LAS3	Commission a review of Autism provision in Halton through the National Autistic Society by October 2012. Consider the recommendations of the Review and implement an appropriate action plan. (SN)	
COPS1	Ensure sufficiency to cover the extension of support to vulnerable 2 year olds by April 2012 (AMc)	
COPS2	Evaluate and monitor the impact on current school sufficiency and sustainability through the development of Academies and Free Schools by March 2013 (AMc)	
COPS3	Strengthen the understanding and links with colleagues in Health to ensure effective commissioning by March 2013 (AMc)	
COPS4	Improve outcomes for children and young people through integrated and targeted youth support ensuring the effective transition in youth service to the new providers (AMc)	

Supporting Commentary

All milestones related to commissioning are progressing in line with expectations.

The review of Autism provision was completed and reported to the Executive Board in May 2012 with a detailed action plan devised following the recommendations. As part of this a consultation was completed in the Autumn term on the suggested re-designation of Ashley School. Informal Consultation on this recommendation was approved by the Executive Board of the Borough Council. This consultation began with a public meeting held at Ashley School on Thursday 8 November 2012 (This informal consultation concluded at the end of December 2012 and the outcome will be reported back to the Executive Board in January 2013). (SN)

Various options to increase the current capacity of two year old places are currently being pursued, particularly the use of under-utilised space within existing nurseries and crèche space within Children's Centres. Also in the current quarter we have been successful in attracting new providers of the free entitlement for 2 year olds, which is a direct boost to levels of sufficiency. (AMc)

Since the Sandymoor Free School opened pupil numbers have been reported to be rising and are currently be reported to be 27 pupils. The impact on Runcorn secondary provision is being monitored. The Heath School has been granted a 300 place sixth form provision. A new facility will be constructed for the sixth form at the same time as the Priority School Building Programme constructs the new school. A Warrington Montessori Free School is planning to open in Daresbury Park. The school will be a Primary School for 140 pupils. (AMc)

The Clinical Commissioning Group has recruited to two new Children's Commissioning Post. Both postholders are expected to commence in January 2013. In addition, a 0.5 Children's Public Health Consultant has now been appointed and the newly appointed Children's commissioner is expected to take up their role in March. These staff will form part of the virtual Children's Commissioning team. Health representatives have been agreed for each of the key strategic groups. Joint training is being planned for January and February 2013. (AMc)

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
SCS CYP09	Percentage of educational settings with overall effectiveness of Good or Outstanding	79%	84%	79%		N/A
NI112 adjusted SCS	Under 18 conception rate, percentage change from 2009 baseline (58.9 rolling quarterly average)	63.3 rolling quarterly average	56.3 rolling quarterly average	40.8 rolling quarterly average		
COP LI05	Under 18 conception rate, reduction in conceptions from 2009 baseline (140 conceptions)	142	137 (3% reduction)	69		
SCS CYP07	Reduce the rate of CYP admitted to hospital for substance misuse	New calculation	N/A	Refer comment	N/A	N/A
SCS SH04	Reduce the number of Young People who repeatedly run away in Halton	465 episodes	To re-establish baseline in 2012/13 - Reduction	164 episodes	N/A	N/A

Supporting Commentary

Most measures are progressing in line with expectations;

Overall effectiveness across phases is Nursery 100%, Primary 80%, Special 100%, Secondary 60%, and PRUs 50%. Overall this means that 50 out of 63 schools have achieved good or outstanding (including PRUs, but excluding academies). As this a small cohort this affects the percentages. (SN)

The latest ONS conception rate data for Quarter 3 2011 shows Halton's rate as 40.8. This is 25% decrease from Quarter 2 2011 and 27% below the target for 2012-13. The number of actual conceptions for 2012/13 is currently 69. This is a reduction compared to the previous year and this means that Halton is on target to exceed the 3% reduction target set for 2012/13. (AMc)

Cheshire Constabulary data is used as an indicator only as both adult and young persons recorded episodes are included and unfortunately data restrictions do not allow for this to be split. Therefore numbers are to be considered alongside commissioned services data, which is young person specific. Both datasets have demonstrated a reduction in overall numbers. Cheshire Constabulary has seen a reduction of 19% during Quarter 3 when compared to the same quarter in the previous year, with 39 less Police incidents. Halton reductions continue to record the highest across Cheshire Commissioned Service data: numbers have increased this quarter from 8 repeat episodes and 6 runners in Quarter 2 to 40 repeat episodes and 8 repeat runners in Quarter 3. The increase can be attributed to individuals running from home, the service and Police coordinator are actively engaged with all of these individuals to address the issues and reduce the impact for Quarter 4. There were no recorded episodes for CICOLAs during this quarter. (AMc)

Early Help & Support

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
CFS2	Develop with the Children's Trust a new level of needs framework by December 2012	
CFS2	Implement the new Team Around the Family structure by September 2012	
LAS3	Ensure the support for vulnerable two year olds is appropriate within EYFS settings	
LAS1	Complete the Foundation Stage Profile data analysis at ward level, to identify multi agency links; training and interventions that can be planned through Children's Centre and Early Years support by December 2012	

Supporting Commentary

All milestones related to early help and support are progressing in line with expectations.

New proposed levels of need were sent out for consultation in November 2012. A number of workshops were held to share the proposals with practitioners and managers across the Trust. Feedback was collated and is now being considered by the established working group. The Safeguarding Board and Children's Trust have both been briefed on the progress of the group and final proposals will be finalised over the next two months. The timescale for its launch is April 2013, subject to the Safeguarding Board endorsing the new levels of need. (TC)

The new Team around the Family structure is now fully implemented, although there remain a number of vacancies. The priority now is to embed the new design to ensure services within the Division are fully integrated. Early Years Children's Trust (EYCT) monitor provision and support for vulnerable two year olds through setting visits. Training of baby, toddler and child development has been delivered and most settings have accessed this training. Observation, planning and recording of progress and development is supported through EYCT and cluster meetings, Foundation Stage Profile (FSP) data of past funded two year old children. (TC)

Foundation Stage Profile data analysis completed at LA level and prioritised analysis of ward level where Children's Centres are anticipating an Ofsted inspection. All other wards are being prioritised for completion by end of Feb 2013. Multi-agency links and interventions have been planned and are being delivered within Children's Centre and through EYCT.(SN)

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
LPI07COP	Take up of Early Years entitlement for vulnerable 2 year olds	107	100	128		
NI072 SCS CYP01	Early Years Foundation Stage Attainment	48.3%	56%	54.1%		
CFS LI03	Number of multi-agency interventions (CAF) which are in place and operating for Level 2/3 cases	New indicator	250	311		
CFS LI07 SCS	Percentage of referrals to social care that had been subject to CAF in the previous 12 months	7%	15%	6.6%		

Supporting Commentary

Some measures are progressing in line with expectations;

Halton were given the target of 70 Full Time Equivalent we have been able to exceed this target by more than 50 each term by maximising the funding available as outreach work was already in place and being funded from other budgets. An internally determined target of 100 has also been exceeded. (AMc)









Following a 6% increase on 2011 attainment of the Early Years Foundation Stage attainment, the target was nearly achieved. (AMc)

The overall trend for number of CAF's in place continues to rise across the Borough. Improved multi-agency working across the Children's Trust has resulted in the target of 250 being exceeded, with the total number of CAF's now over 300. (TC)

The percentage of referrals that had previously been subject to a CAF continues to improve. A key issue is ensuring that other measurable aspects of early help across the Children's Trust are captured in this indicator, as well as CAF activity. This is a priority for 2013/14 (TC)

Narrowing the Gap

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
CFS3	Effectively implement the new Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and the changes to Working Together to Safeguard Children (currently out for consultation)	
CFS4	Implement the revised Children in Care and Care Leaver pathways by September 2012	
CFS4	Implement the action plan from the multi-agency Children in Care strategy (2011-14) by March 2013	
LAS1	Review the alerts and triggers criteria to ensure that they align with the current floor standards and use to support the categorisation of all schools	
LAS2	Analyse the levels of absence, including persistent absence, across all phases on a termly basis	
LAS3	Conduct data analysis for Children in Care and with schools to ensure that action plans for individual pupils are in place by September 2012	
LAS3	Conduct data analysis for Free School Meals Pupils and identify areas of need and support required by November 2012	
COPS2	Monitor and evaluate the arrangements for Information, Advice and Guidance due to changes in Local Authority statutory responsibilities, with particular focus on the impact on NEET (not in education, employment or training) by March 2013	

Supporting Commentary

All milestones related to narrowing the gap are progressing in line with expectations.

The new framework for the Assessment of Children and Need has been out for consultation and Halton contributed to the consultation. The new framework was anticipated to be implemented in April 2013, however, there may be some delay with this from DfE. (TC)












The school improvement team use the national floor standards as an indicator of school performance. The analysis of school performance against these indicators supported the categorisation of all schools in October 2012. A further analysis of performance data has recently been undertaken to include an analysis of value added data following the publication of school RAISEonline reports (OFSTED's data report on schools).(SN)

The data analysis has taken place following initial confirmation of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 results. The data shows there was a decrease in performance at Key Stage 2, although the two levels progress indicator shows that children in care did well according to their own abilities and expected levels of progress. At Key Stage 4 both performance and two levels progress both showed a significant improvement. Validated data is expected in January 2013. (SN)

Key stage 2 data is now confirmed and shows that the gap has narrowed significantly compared to previous year. All schools have been invited to self-evaluate and "RAG rate" (Red/Amber/Green) themselves in relation to Narrowing the Gap and this will be compared to the Authority's analysis of each school in order to agree a "RAG rating" category. Support will then be arranged for all "Red" schools. (SN)

As part of the on-going NEET strategy the 14-19 Team have secured focus groups through the IAG and Youth Service Provider during December 2012. Monthly meetings are held with the IAG contractor to actively monitor the delivery of the revised authority contract to support NEET young people aged 16-18 – this has led to a fall in the number of 16-18 NEET young people in the 12 months to November 2012.(TC)

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
CFS LI02	Single Social Work Assessment – measure to be defined once guidance published	New Indicator	TBC		Refer comment	
NI075 SCS CYP03	Proportion achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C including English and Maths	56%	55.5%	59% <i>provisional</i>		
NI073 SCS	Proportion achieving Level 4 KS2 English and Maths	77%	81%	83%		
LPI03 CYP SCS	Percentage of Children in Care achieving expected outcomes at KS2 and KS4	83% (KS2)	No target	100% 60% <i>provisional</i>	N/A	N/A
NI102a SCS CYP10	Achievement gap at Key Stage 2 English and Maths Free School Meals and peers	20.6%	12%	13% <i>provisional</i>		
NI102b SCS CYP11	Achievement gap at Key Stage 4 Free School Meals and peers	28.3%	24%	26.8% <i>provisional</i>		
NI148	Care Leavers in Employment, Education or Training at 19	81.8%	75%	74%		
SCS CYP12	Improved identification of Special Educational Needs at School Action and School Action Plus	New indicator	20.2%	19%		N/A
SCS CYP14	The percentage of children with Statements of SEN or receiving enhanced provision achieving two levels progress	New indicator	No target	86.2% (English) 79.6% (Maths)	N/A	N/A
NI104	SEN/Non-SEN achievement gap at KS2 English and Maths	53.3%	33%	Refer comment ~		
NI105	SEN/Non-SEN achievement gap at GCSE 5+ A*-C including English and Maths	46.2%	27%	Refer comment ~		
NI080	Achievement of Level 3 qualification at age 19	51.2%	45%	Refer comment ~		

Supporting Commentary

There is mixed performance with measures representing narrowing the gap at Quarter 3 and significant numbers are not available for reporting at this stage in the year. ~ Data is expected Quarter 4.

The new Single Social Work Assessment is not now expected to come into effect until April 2013 in line with the new Assessment of Child and Need framework. Performance for Initial Assessments was 75% and for Core Assessments was 79%. (TC)

The proportion achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C including English and is 3% higher than 2011 results and the target has been exceeded. This is Halton's highest ever attainment in this indicator and results are in line with national results. (SN)

The proportion achieving Level 4 KS2 English and Maths has increased by 6% on the 2011 results, the target has been exceeded (SN)

Children in Care who achieved their expected outcomes at KS2 and KS4 was very positive as the KS4 cohort included a young person with severe learning difficulties who was unable to take GCSEs and was therefore never predicted to achieve 3 levels of progress. (TC, SN)

There are six young people who are NEET. One of these is in custody, three are young parents or pregnant (the new G6 category), one has significant mental health issues and one young person is hoping to commence some training in January 2013 (TC)

Employment & Growth

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	11/12 Actual	12/13 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
NI117 SCS	Percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training	10.3%	9.5%		Refer comment	
SCS CYP13	Percentage of young people progressing to Higher Education	New indicator	24%		Refer comment	

Supporting Commentary

Most indicators related to employment and growth are progressing in line with expectations:

The 2011/12 performance will be available in late January 2013. Performance at November 2012 was 9.0%, which is equivalent to 387 NEET young people aged 16-18.(AMc)

Whilst performance for the proportion of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training is not available until quarter four. The percentage of young people progressing to Higher Education will be available in quarter four, however, it is expected that the performance will be lower than previous years given the national changes to tuition fees. (AMc)

Common key areas of focus:

Workforce planning & development, Asset Management, Resources

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
CFS1	Review the terms and conditions for Halton's Social Care workforce to ensure Halton's offer is competitive by June 2012	?
CFS2	Ensure the Team Around the Family workforce have a set of core competencies to work with families with multiple problems by March 2013	✓

Supporting Commentary

The majority of milestones in this section are progressing in line with expectations.

A local temporary agreement to pay recruitment and retention increments for hard to recruit Principal Managers has been agreed with Unions. The agreement will be reviewed in March 2013. The efficiency review of Child Protection and Children in Need service has identified recruitment of frontline managers a significant challenge. The 'to be' report and will bring forward recommendations in regard to recruitment and retention in Quarter 3 (TC)

A programme of training has been agreed in conjunction with Learning and Development colleagues to ensure frontline staff have a core set of competencies to work with families in greatest need. This includes a commissioned programme on engaging and communicating with children and families. This particular programme is underway with staff involved on the Inspiring Families programme already completing this training. (TC)

7.0 Financial Statement

CHILDREN & FAMILIES DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31st December 2012

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	8,031	5,715	5,649	66
Premises	415	316	299	17
Supplies & Services	1,421	611	547	64
Transport	36	15	13	2
Commissioned Services	534	223	207	16
Agency Related Expenditure	389	240	221	19
Residential Placements	1,666	970	797	173
Out of Borough Adoption	80	20	15	5
Out of Borough Fostering	364	197	174	23
In House Foster Carer Placements	1,609	1,275	1,253	22
In house Adoption	497	411	403	8
Care Leavers	316	247	229	18
Family Support	129	90	77	13
Total Expenditure	15,487	10,330	9,884	446
Fees & Charges	-123	-76	-79	3
Adoption Placements	-41	-27	-27	0
Transfer to / from Reserves	-500	-500	-500	0
Early Intervention Grant	-9,075	-6,898	-6,898	0
Government Grant Income	-83	-203	-203	0
Reimbursements & Other Income	-222	-17	-17	0
Total Income	-10,044	-7,721	-7,724	3
NET OPERATIONAL BUDGET	5,443	2,609	2,160	449
Premises Support Costs	330	250	250	0
Transport Support Costs	85	66	66	0
Central Support Service Costs	3,143	2,337	2,337	0
Asset Rental Support Costs	46	10	10	0
Total Recharges	3,604	2,663	2,663	0
Net Expenditure	9,047	5,272	4,823	449

Employee expenditure is below budget, primarily due to a number of vacancies within the various Divisions. In the main vacancies exist with the Childcare & Think Family teams & as an expenditure item is to be under-budget at year end.

Supplies & Services are currently under budget to date due in the main to a reduction in

overall demand for supplies & services in localised areas following reduced staffing levels and streamlined workflows. This is expected to be under budget at year end.

An effort has been made to reduce the need to place children out of the borough through invest to save initiatives utilising in-house services. This underspend is in line with the annual underspend we are currently projecting. However, it is difficult to forecast the out-turn position due to the volatile nature of the budget (as difficult to project unexpected or emergency placements can occur during the year).

The in house fostering budget is currently below budget to date which is largely due to the timing of expenditure and is expected to remain within budget by year end.

The in house adoption budget is currently over budget to date because of an increase in capacity for these services and will need to be monitored closely in year to ensure a balanced budget is achieved.

Care leavers budget is currently under budget to date which is largely due to a decrease in the number of children reaching the leaving care age range.

**CHILDREN'S ORGANISATION & PROVISION
DEPARTMENT**

SUMMARY FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31st December 2012

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	3,828	2,668	2,640	28
Premises	457	77	77	0
Supplies & Services	1,442	776	771	5
Transport	5	5	5	0
Agency Related Expenditure	328	216	190	26
Commissioned Services - Youth Serv.	900	788	788	0
Commissioned Services	1,759	1,027	1,015	12
Connexions	1,073	624	624	0
Nursery Education Payments	2,202	1,799	1,799	0
Schools Contingency Costs	240	0	0	0
NQT Contingency	45	0	0	0
Schools Non Delegated Support	294	0	0	0
Schools Transport	967	604	586	18
Special Education Needs Contingency	357	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	13,897	8,584	8,495	89
Fees & Charges	-484	-208	-209	1
Transfer to / from Reserves	-268	-251	-251	0
Dedicated Schools Grant	-4,393	-3	-3	0
Reimbursements & Other Income	-607	-437	-468	31
Schools SLA Income	-516	-506	-506	0
Total Income	-6,268	-1,405	-1,437	32
NET OPERATIONAL BUDGET	7,629	7,179	7,058	121
Premises Support Costs	153	115	115	0
Transport Support Costs	276	94	94	0
Central Support Service Costs	2,032	1,370	1,370	0
Asset Rental Support Costs	3,186	0	0	0
Total Recharges	5,647	1,579	1,579	0
Net Expenditure	13,276	8,758	8,637	121

Employee expenditure is below budget to date due to vacancies within Integrated Youth Support Services and Place Planning and Provision Divisions. Further underspend in relation to Employee expenditure has resulted in savings been achieved within Place Planning due to extended maternity leave.

Agency Related expenditure is underspent due to Childcare settings sustainability applications still being processed. Commissioned Services is below budget to date as efficiencies have been achieved due to renegotiation of commissioned services contracts.

Overachievement of Reimbursement & other income is as a result of additional income mainly achieved within Place Planning & Provision Division's Technical Services budget. Income relates to payment for services such as training and other technical services reimbursements. Income has also been achieved within COP Management Division in relation to education visits training and recoupment of pension overpayment.

LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31st December 2012

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	4,180	2,576	2,508	68
Premises	37	15	15	0
Supplies & Services	1,178	464	452	12
Transport	13	0	0	0
Agency Related Expenditure	91	48	39	9
Commissioned Services	14	11	8	3
Independent School Fees	1,553	987	987	0
Inter Authority Recoupment	795	477	477	0
Speech Therapy	120	90	90	0
Total Expenditure	7,981	4,668	4,576	92
Fees & Charges	-160	-120	-126	6
Transfer to / from Reserves	-59	-125	-125	0
Government Grant Income	-4,766	-136	-136	0
Reimbursements & Other Income	-42	-10	-10	0
Inter Authority Income	-578	-202	-202	0
Schools SLA Income	-38	-46	-46	0
Total Income	-5,643	-639	-645	6
NET OPERATIONAL BUDGET	2,338	4,029	3,931	98
Premises Support Costs	90	45	45	0
Transport Support Costs	19	17	17	0
Central Support Service Costs	918	459	459	0
Asset Rental Support Costs	1	1	1	0
Total Recharges	1,028	522	522	0
Net Expenditure	3,366	4,551	4,453	98

Employee expenditure is below budget to date due to vacancies within both the 0-19 Learning Service and Inclusion Divisions.

Supplies & Services are currently under budget to date due in the main to a reduction in overall demand for supplies & services in localised areas following reduced staffing levels and streamlined workflows.

CHILDREN & ENTERPRISE CAPITAL PROJECTS

SUMMARY FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31st December 2012

	2012/13 Capital Allocation £'000	Allocation To Date £000's	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (overspend) £'000
Children & Enterprise Directorate				
Asset Management (CADS)	20	1	1	0
Capital Repairs	1,771	1,290	1,290	0
Fire Compartmentation	20	20	22	(2)
Asbestos Management	10	8	6	2
Schools Access Initiative	100	67	67	0
Education Programme General	140	60	60	0
Weston Primary	18	0	0	0
Lunts Heath – Basic Need	773	476	476	0
Windmill Hill – Basic Need	352	317	317	0
St Bedes Infants – Basic Need	534	500	413	87
St Bedes Junior – Basic Need	450	50	43	7
Weston Point –Basic Need	83	12	1	11
School Modernisation Projects	500	255	255	0
Short Breaks for Disabled Children	431	172	172	0
Wade Deacon (BSF)	1,200	0	0	0
The Grange (BSF)	16,537	15,500	15,353	147
Total Schools	22,939	18,728	18,476	252
Economy, Enterprise & Property Dep't				
Castlefields Regeneration	2,269	200	132	68
3MG	4,500	3,375	2,153	1,222
Widnes Waterfront	40	20	14	6
The Hive	284	142	20	122
Decontamination of Land	559	250	156	94
Property Purchase	29	29	29	0
Municipal Building Refurbishment of Podium Level	38	38	38	0
Runcorn Library Replacement	224	206	194	12
Queens Arms	160	0	0	0
Disability Discrimination Act/Disabled Access	300	100	61	39
Total	8,403	4,360	2,797	1,563
Grand Total	31,342	23,088	21,273	1,815

Comments on the above figures :

The majority of 2012-13 projects have been completed and spending on capital schemes is generally in line with the budget profile at the end of quarter 3.

Fire Compartmentation - although this project has overspent to date, it will be balanced to the budget figure at year end.

Asbestos Management - this is for on-going surveys and remedial action so may underspend.

Schools Access - bids have been received from schools and have been approved, work has commenced and the project is on target to spend as per budget allocation.

Education Programme General - expenditure incurred in relation to maintenance repairs in respect of Emergency and Health and Safety issues on an ad hoc basis.




Weston Primary - work not commenced as still in discussions with School. Possibility that work might not commence till 13-14, so funding will need to be carried forward.

Basic Need Projects – with St Bede's Infants work is complete (waiting on final invoices from Diocese) and St Bede's Junior the kitchen works complete with new classrooms extension due to start. For Weston Point tenders have been returned and contractors due on site February 2013.

Schools Modernisation Projects - bids have been received and provisionally approved. A good proportion of schemes have been completed over summer holidays. Those remaining will be complete before the end of the financial year.




8.0 Appendix – Explanation for use of symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

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

Direction of Travel Indicator

Where possible performance measures will also identify a direction of travel using the following convention

Green 	<i>Indicates that</i> performance is better <i>as compared to the same period last year.</i>
Amber 	<i>Indicates that</i> performance is the same <i>as compared to the same period last year.</i>
Red 	<i>Indicates that</i> performance is worse <i>as compared to the same period last year.</i>
N/A	<i>Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.</i>

Key for Operational Director lead:

SN – Steve Nyakatawa, Operational Director, Learning and Achievement Service (LAS)
 AMc – Ann McIntyre, Operational Director, Children’s Organisation and Provision Service (COPS)
 TC – Tracey Coffey Operational Director, Children and Families Service (CFS)