



## Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday, 16 November 2009</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall</b>

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### AGENDA

**1. MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / PARTY WHIP**

The members of the Committee are asked to consider whether they have a personal or prejudicial interest in connection with any item on this agenda and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of that interest.

Members are reminded that they should also declare, pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, whether they are subject to a party whip in connection with any item to be considered and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of the whipping arrangement.

**2. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 8)**

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 17 September and 3 November, 2009.

(The minutes of 17 September are attached, the minutes of 3 November will follow).

**3. YOUNG PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (Pages 9 - 28)**

**4. THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2008-2013 ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 29 - 176)**

**5. PRESENTATION ON SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE 2009/10**

The Second Quarter Performance Report on activities relevant to Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be available to view in the web library and a presentation will be made by David Armstrong, Head of Planning and Resources.

**6. SPECIAL SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS**

Peter Edmondson, Head of Participation and Inclusion, will give a verbal report on this item.

**7. YOUTH AND PLAY SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Pages 177 - 184)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 October, 2009 are submitted for the Committee's information.

**8. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 185 - 192)**

**9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR**

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 17 September 2009

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	K Hayes (Vice-Chair)	
	Councillors	F Doyle J George T Harney P Hayes	Cherry Povall T Smith W Smith A Taylor
<u>Deputy:</u>	Councillor	J Keeley (for S Clarke)	
<u>Co-opted Members:</u>		Mrs M Liddy	Mrs J Kearney
<u>Apologies</u>		Mrs M Cain Mr M Clarke	Mrs J Owens

### 14 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Karen Hayes welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that as Councillor Sheila Clarke was unwell, she, as Vice-Chair, would be chairing the meeting.

### 15 COUNCILLOR SUZANNE MOSELEY

The Chair announced the sad and untimely death of Councillor Suzanne Moseley and the Committee stood for a minute's silence in tribute to her memory.

### 16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The members of the Committee were asked to consider whether they had a personal or prejudicial interest in connection with any item on the agenda and, if so, to declare it and to state the nature of such interest. Members were reminded that they should also declare, pursuant to paragraph 18 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, whether they were subject to a party whip in connection with the item to be considered and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of the whipping arrangement.

Councillor Doyle declared a personal interest in minute 29 by virtue of him being Chair of Governors at Woodchurch Road Primary School.

### 17 MINUTES

Members were requested to receive the minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 2 June, 2009.

**Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 June, be approved as a correct record.**

18 **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chair agreed to vary the order of business and consider item 8 (Annual Complaints Report) next.

19 **ANNUAL COMPLAINTS REPORT**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which presented an annual analysis of complaints registered under the Children Act 1989 and the Representations Procedure (England) Regulations 2006 during the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

Caroline McKenna, Principal Manager (Safeguarding), and Dawn Stanley Smith, Complaints Investigations Officer, introduced the report and stated that over the twelve month reporting period 2008/09, the following complaints had been registered:

Stage 1 - 90 complaints (compared with 109 complaints in 2007/08)

Stage 2 - 10 complaints (compared with 9 complaints in 2007/08)

Stage 3 - no complaints (compared with 1 in 2007/08)

The report also gave statistics on compliments received and 'access to records' and 'freedom of information' requests.

Members congratulated the Department on their efforts and on the positive comments received. It was suggested that as much effort should be put into finding what good practice there was as well as into areas where things might have gone wrong. There was a need to encourage young people to voice any concerns.

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

20 **SCHOOL STANDARDS - HEADLINE RESULTS**

Mark Parkinson, Head of Learning & Achievement, together with Marie Lawrence, Strategic Service Manager (Primary & Early Years), and Stuart Bellerby, Strategic Service Manager - Secondary and Lifelong Learning (Learning & Achievement) gave a presentation on the headline figures for the 2009 test results at Key stages 1, 2, 3, 4 (GCSE) and 5 (A-level), and they elaborated on the information in response to members' questions.

**Resolved – That the officers be thanked for their presentation and also for the support given to all the schools and children.**

21 **AIMING HIGH FOR DISABLED CHILDREN**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which provided an update on progress on the Wirral Local Area Implementation programme for Aiming High for Disabled Children in relation to Short Breaks provision.

Julia Hassall, Head of Children's Social Care, introduced the report along with Clive Groves, Service Manager, and reported that the approach sought to transform services across sectors to provide support to achieve the best outcomes for children

and young people with disabilities and enable children and their families to live ordinary lives.

The Government were requiring the Council and Primary Care Trust to provide a stepped change to short breaks services and to deliver on what was termed the Full Service Offer designed to meet the needs of all groups of disabled children. The report advised on action taken in meeting the reporting and performance requirements set out by Together for Disabled Children, who were administering the programme on behalf of the DCSF, prior to April 2009 and the further steps required over the next two years to March 2011.

The report also included details of the consultation strategy which had been developed with parents, and the commissioning brief.

Dawn Tolcher, Project Manager, gave a presentation on some of the projects which had been held so far, including a family fun day at Barnstondale Outdoor Centre, summer school programmes at special schools and 'messy play' at the Bromborough Children's Centre.

Members paid tribute to everybody involved in providing the service and expressed the view that although it was only grant funded until March 2011, support should be found to continue with this initiative.

The officers responded to the comments of members and agreed that a report be brought back to a meeting of the Committee in March/April 2010 and some of the parents to have benefited from the scheme be invited to address the Committee.

**Resolved –**

**(1) That the report be noted and a further report be brought back to the Committee in March/April, 2010.**

**(2) That the Consultation Strategy for Parent Carers be noted.**

**(3) That the Commissioning Brief be noted.**

## 22 **ADOPTION SERVICE SIX MONTHLY REPORT**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which updated the Committee on the work of the Adoption Service in accordance with the requirements of the National Adoption Standards as set out in the Adoption and Children Act 2002. The report set out the relevant performance information since the last report in March 2009.

The timelines of placing children with adoptive families was expected to improve on last year's figures. Although it was unlikely to ever achieve 100% on this performance indicator, the adoption service were working hard to make improvements.

The report also highlighted that more Wirral children were being placed with Wirral's own adopters, which was of benefit to children generally and illustrated that the adoption service recruitment strategy was meeting the needs of children and adopters. Post Adoption Support Services were in place to enable adoptive parents

to redress some of the damage and help children recover. To achieve this, the service had highly skilled and trained staff, who needed to continue to be supported and resourced in working preventatively.

The Director informed the Committee that the next report would be provided at the beginning of April so that a full year's adoption performance figures could be provided. The six monthly reporting thereafter would then ensure Committee had as full and accurate information on adoption performance in future. The April 2010 report would also include the Annual Report of the Adoption Panel.

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

**23 VISIT TO SPECIAL SCHOOLS IN ESSEX - EDISON LEARNING**

Councillor Harney submitted a report on the visit in March by the three party spokespersons to special schools in Essex organised by EdisonLearning. EdisonLearning were a consultancy company working in many parts of the country giving support to Local Authorities on the Building Schools for the Future programme.

They were currently working with special schools in Essex and the visit involved the group being shown two of these schools. The report highlighted the involvement of EdisonLearning and in each case the successful amalgamation of two schools into new buildings.

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

**24 ELECTED MEMBERS' VISITS TO WIRRAL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT CHILDREN'S HOMES**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report on proposals for revised arrangements for elected member visits to children's homes.

Russ Tattersall, Service Manager, introduced the report which gave details of 2 options, including the pros and cons of both. These were for either monthly unannounced visits or scheduled meetings and he suggested that option 2 would best meet the corporate parenting role requirement of elected members.

Both options would include a commitment to providing up to date training and briefings to both members and relevant staff on their respective roles in this corporate parenting task.

Members suggested that a training programme could be offered to all members on fostering and all members should be offered a chance to visit the authority's three children's homes. When scheduled meetings with young people were arranged it should be ensured that they were not in the minority and that they also had a direct role in setting the agenda.

Russ Tattersall responding to further comments stated that reports on the members' visits would be incorporated in the Regulation 33 officer visit report. Julia Hassall, Head of Children's Social Care, in response to a member's comment stated that there was also the possibility of running unannounced visits, possibly one a year to each home, in addition to the scheduled visits.

**Resolved –**

**(1) That the report be noted with Option 2 as the preferred option for Elected Members' visits to Wirral Children & Young People's Department Children's Homes.**

**(2) That unannounced visits, one a year to each home, be arranged in addition to the scheduled visits.**

**(3) That a training programme be offered to all members on fostering and all members be offered a chance to visit the authority's three children's homes.**

**(4) That when scheduled meetings with young people are arranged it should be ensured that they are not in the minority and that they also have a direct role in setting the agenda.**

**(5) That reports on members' visits be submitted to this Committee for information.**

**25 FIRST QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT 2009/2010**

David Armstrong, Head of Planning and Resources, gave a presentation and submitted an overview of progress made against the indicators for 2009/2010 and key projects which were relevant to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Overall performance against the 2009/10 projects relevant to the Committee was good. Out of 28 indicators, 13 (46.43%) were rated as green or exceeding their targets, 5 (17.86%) were amber and 5 (17.86%) were red. The remaining 5 had no targets set. The report expanded upon those indicators which were under performing and the corrective action being taken in each case.

He also reported upon the financial position which had deteriorated significantly since the last monitoring report. Updating the figures in the report he stated that there was currently a predicted deficit of £3m for Children's Services in 2009-10. The forecast expenditure on residential care had increased by £1m. This reflected the number of children placed which had increased from 52 at the end of May to 61 in July. All budgets under pressure were being examined with managers and as part of this process, proposals to reduce costs were required and he would bring reports back to future Committees on how this would be achieved.

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

**26 WORK PROGRAMME - REPORTS 1 TO 5**

The Committee received an update on its work programme, which included the proposed outline meeting schedule for the current municipal year, and progress on the two in-depth panel reviews.

Councillor Doyle suggested that there was a lot of activity within Children's Centres and their effectiveness could be another topic for scrutiny. It was suggested that the 3 party spokespersons could be delegated to start work on a panel review.

**Resolved – That the report be noted with the addition of the effectiveness of Children’s Centres as a topic for scrutiny.**

27 **NARROWING THE GAP - IMPACT OF THE DEPRIVATION FUNDING REVIEW - DRAFT SCOPE DOCUMENT**

The Chair submitted a report and draft scoping document in respect of the review of the local authority’s current arrangements for funding schools for the costs of deprivation and to consider in conjunction with its Schools Forum whether the formula used to allocate funding between schools should be changed – known as “Deprivation Funding Review”.

The document outlined the main issues which the Review Panel would consider, together with aims and objectives and the methods of evidence gathering to be used.

**Resolved –**

**(1) That the scope for the “Narrowing the gap” – Impact of the deprivation funding scrutiny review, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.**

**(2) That the Panel members for the ‘Narrowing the gap’ – Impact of the deprivation funding scrutiny review be confirmed as the three party Spokespersons, with deputies where required and a co-opted member of the Committee be invited to join the panel.**

28 **SCHOOL STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE**

The minutes of the meetings of the School Standards Sub-Committee, held on 8 and 17 July 2009, were submitted. The Sub-Committee had considered a number of issues, in particular the Ofsted reports relating to the following schools:

**Primary**

Satisfactory schools

Riverside Primary School

Good schools

Leasowe Early Years and Adult Learning Centre  
Overchurch Junior School  
Mount Primary School

**Secondary**

Outstanding Schools

Wirral Grammar School for Boys  
Pensby High School for Girls

**Resolved – That the minutes be noted.**



29 **APPROVED SCHEME OF DELEGATION - CONTRACTS EXCEEDING £50,000**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which updated the Committee, in accordance with the Constitution of the Council, of those instances where delegated authority had been used by the Director of Children's Services with respect to the acceptance of tenders and to the appointment of contractors.

Peter Edmondson, Head of Participation and Inclusion, responded to comments from members and explained the extension of the Connexions contract and its timescale.

**Resolved – That the report be noted.**

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## WIRRAL COUNCIL

### SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 18 NOVEMBER 2009

### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16 NOVEMBER 2009

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION

### YOUNG PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

#### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides Members with the scale of young peoples' involvement in community safety issues, ranging from criminal activity to issues of anti social behaviour and the interventions available across Wirral to prevent their involvement in this type of behaviour. The structure of the report will be built around the following headings:

- The profiles of victims and perpetrators of crime and anti social behaviour.
- The forms and scale of enforcement action being taken against young people.
- The support which is available to young people and their parents prior to, and once within, the criminal justice system.
- The range of initiatives in place to prevent young people from becoming involved in community safety issues.

The report will also encompass some elements of risk taking behaviour in which young people engage, but by no means all aspects.

This report also contains a series of conclusions drawn from analysis of the data surrounding young people and community safety and these are included at the end of this report.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 There are a number of facts which we should be clear about from the outset.

- This report contains many facts and figures but does not claim to present a complete picture as it deals only with information reported to, and collated by, statutory agencies.
- The term young people that will be used throughout this report relates to young people within the age range 10 – 18 years.
- The number of young people on Wirral is 35,916 and only a small percentage of that population are engaged in criminal or anti social behaviour.
- Responses in the form of prevention, enforcement and support to young people, behaving criminally or in an anti social manner, and their families, stretches beyond the remit of any single agency on Wirral to deliver. This fact

is also reflected within the number of strategies, performance indicators and targets addressing this issue which are included as an appendix to this report.

### 3.0 YOUNG PEOPLE AS VICTIMS OF CRIME ON WIRRAL

On Wirral in terms of crime volume only 1% of crime is suffered by the 1-10 year cohort whilst the 11-20 year olds suffer 14% of all crime (Table 1). The majority (60%) of crime is suffered by three cohort groups aged between 20 and 50 years, each sharing approximately 20% of all crime. 5% of victims (655) had no age recorded.

Table 1

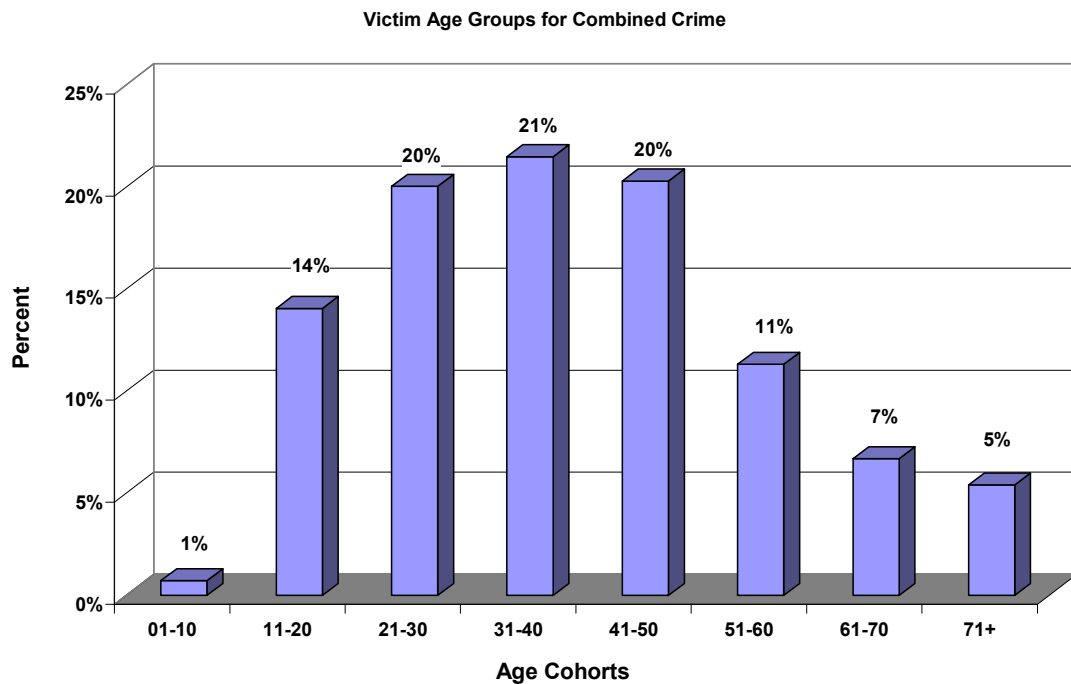
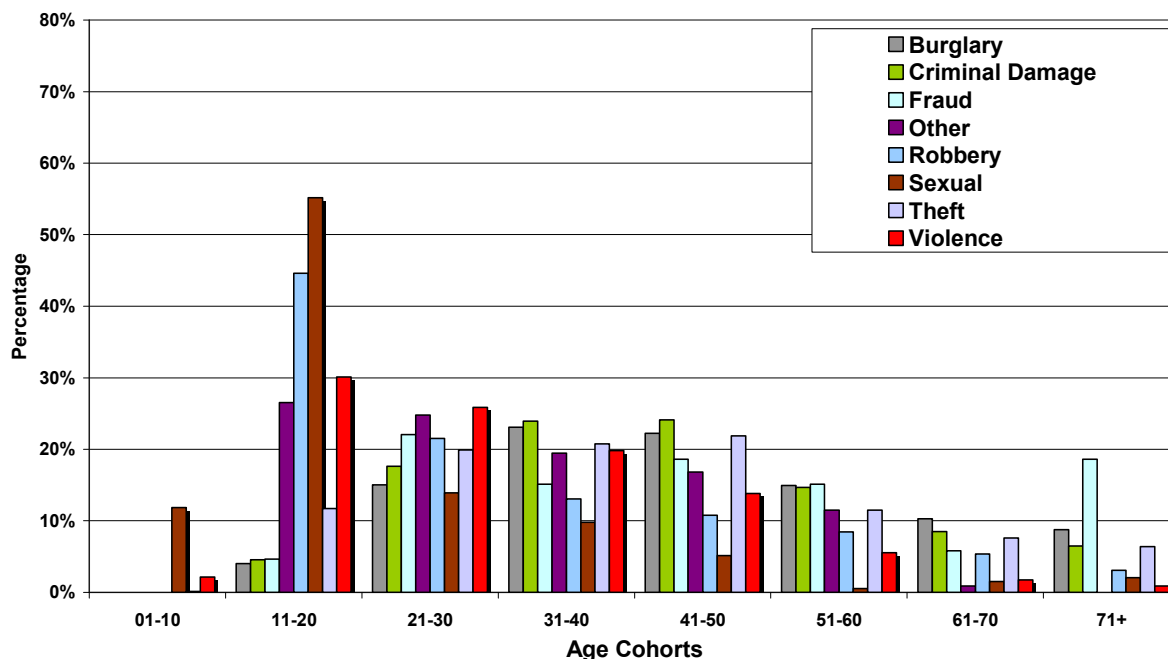


Table 2 below analyses further the types of crime suffered by the victims as defined by the age cohorts used in table 1.

Table 2

Victims and Offence Type by Age Range



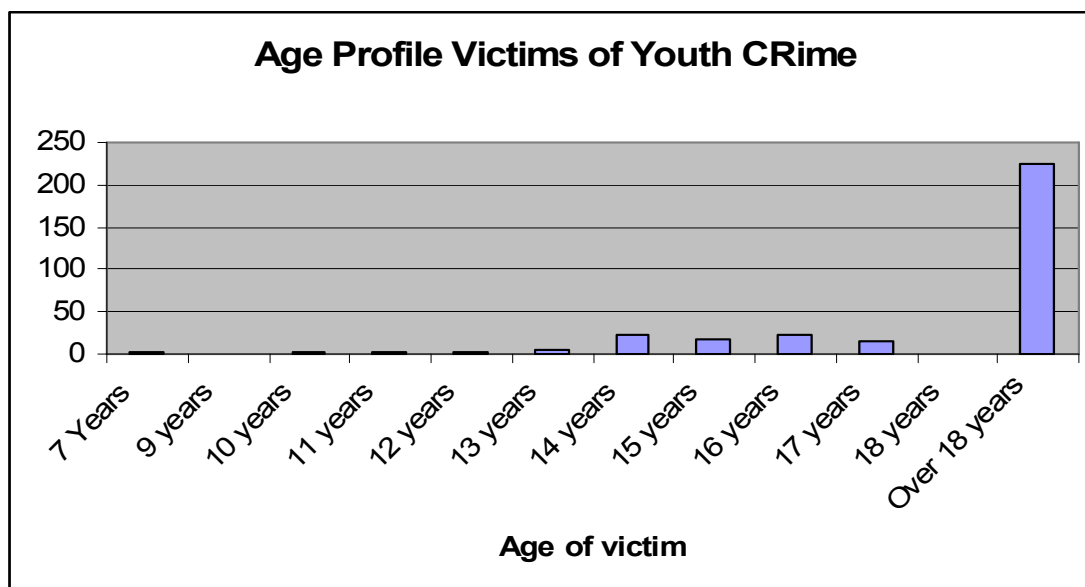
When considering the proportions of each crime category suffered by each age cohort, 11 to 20 year olds suffer a far higher proportion of “low volume” crimes against the person, (e.g. sexual, robbery, violence and other). At the same time 11-20 year olds suffer a *small* proportion of the “high volume”, (property), crime such as criminal damage and burglary. This explains why the proportions suffered by 11-20 are high in this graph but relatively low in the previous graph.

In contrast the older age cohorts tend to suffer lower proportions of crimes against the person, but higher proportions of the highest volume crimes against property (e.g. criminal damage and burglary).

- 3.1 The Youth Offending Service (YOS), a multi agency team who work with young people who find themselves in trouble with the Police and therefore come into contact with the criminal justice system, have analysed their profile of victims where young people are the perpetrators of crime.

During the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 the YOS supported 313 victims of youth crime and a breakdown of victims by age is included in table 3 below.

Table 3.



Of the victims four were mothers of the perpetrator. One was the father and two were teachers of the perpetrator. 63% of the victims were male 37% female.

Support is always offered to victims of youth crime by the YOS and during 2008 the response to the offer of support was that;

- 30% victims didn't wish to be involved.
- 60% victims wanted in-direct reparation via a letter of apology \ victim representation at Referral Order panel
- 10% victims wanted Restorative Justice Conference \ Direct Reparation, which is based on a risk assessment.

#### 4.0 YOUNG PEOPLE AS PERPETRATORS OF CRIME and ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.

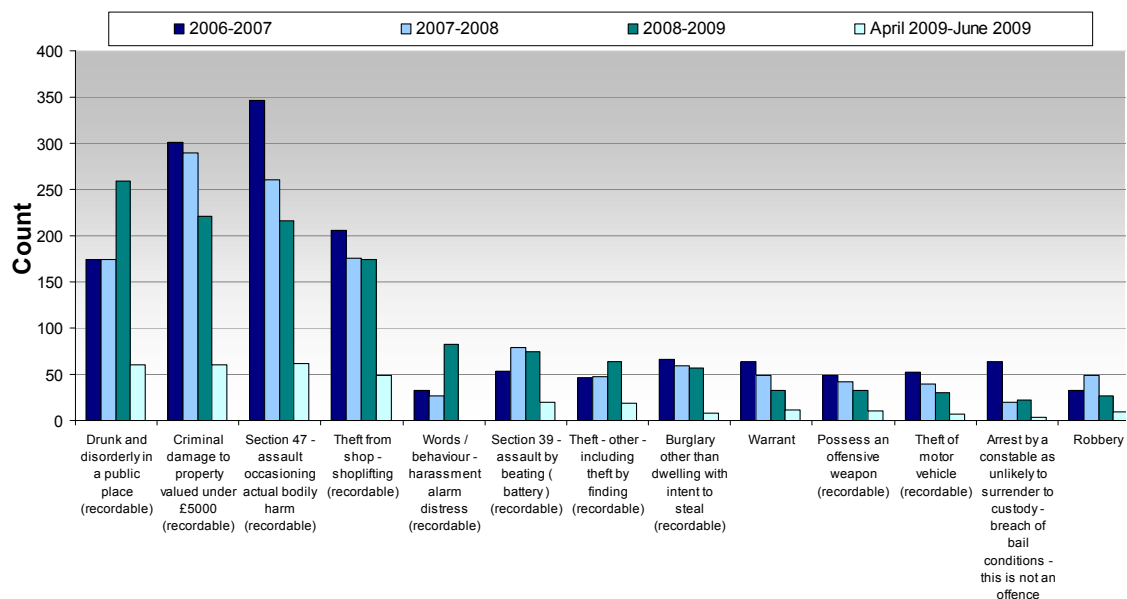
##### Young People Arrested on Wirral

On average during 2008 – 2009 there were 184 young people arrested by the Police each month. The types of offences for which young people are arrested are detailed in table 4 below.

During the period July 2008 – June 2009 15% of all arrests on Wirral involved young people aged 18 years and younger

When compared to July 2007 – June 2008 there has been a 20% reduction in the number of youth arrests in 2008 – 2009 made by the Police on Wirral.

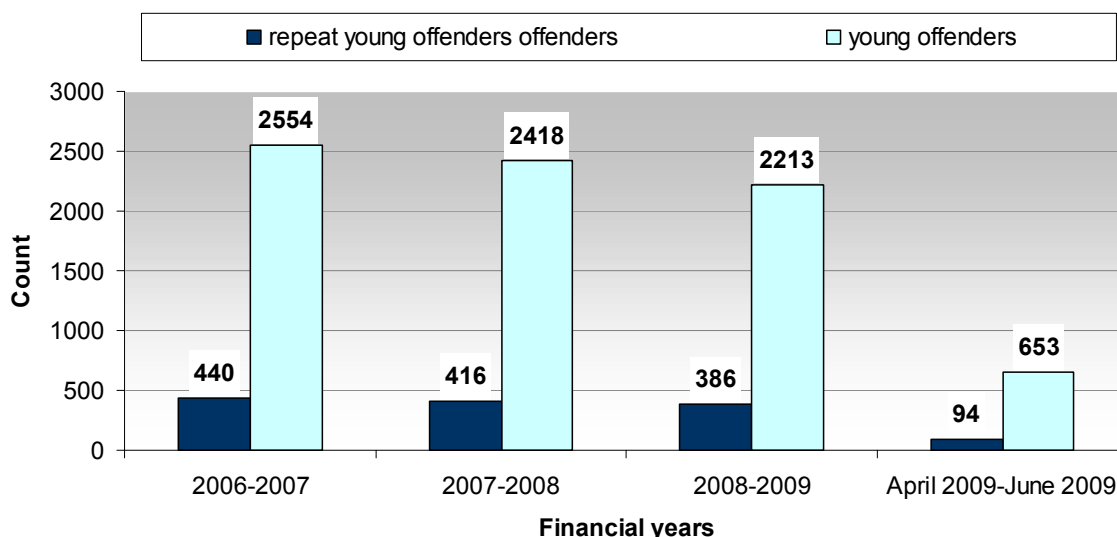
Table 4



Members will note that violence arrests have been at consistently high levels compared to other categories of offences for which young people have been arrested over the last three years. Recognising this fact the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Steering Group have asked the YOS to report quarterly on action YOS is taking to reduce the number of violence offences committed by young people and the impact these actions are having upon the numbers of arrests of young people.

Analysis can also identify of the numbers of young offenders who are arrested more than once during a 12 month period (Table 5).

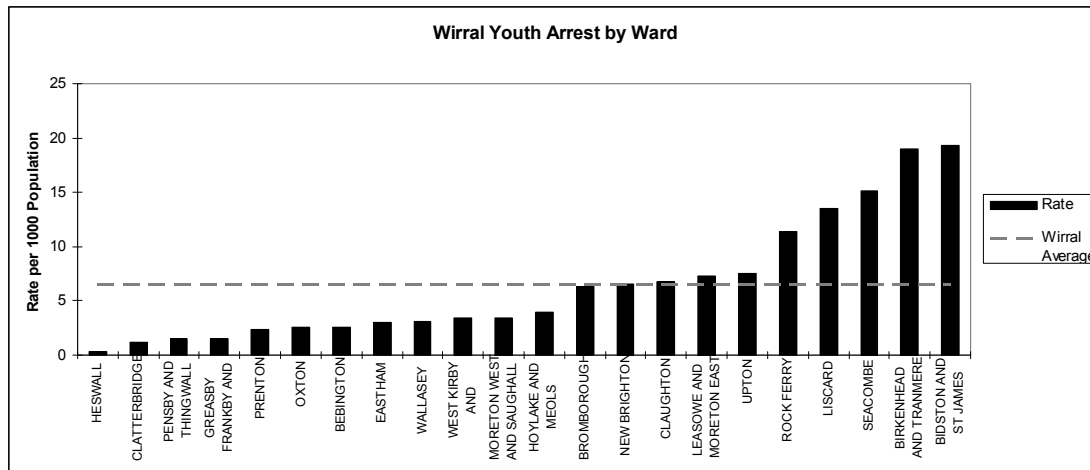
Table 5



### Analysis by Ward of arrests

Amongst the 22 Wards in Wirral, 8 were above the Wirral average. Table 6 below illustrates that the Bidston & St James and Birkenhead & Tranmere Wards had the most youth arrests, (three times higher than Wirral average), followed by Seacombe and Liscard (twice the Wirral average).

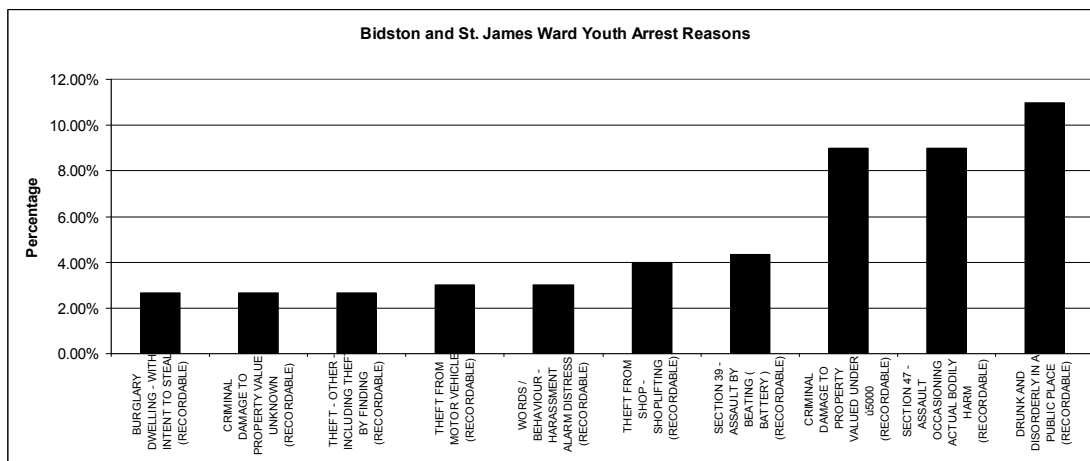
Table 6



**Bidston and St James Ward.**

Within the period of July 2008 – June 2009, there were 300 youths (18 years and under) arrested within Bidston and St. James Ward and table 7 below examines the reasons for youth arrest.

Table 7



Almost one third, 29% of all arrests within the ward are accounted for in only three types of offence.

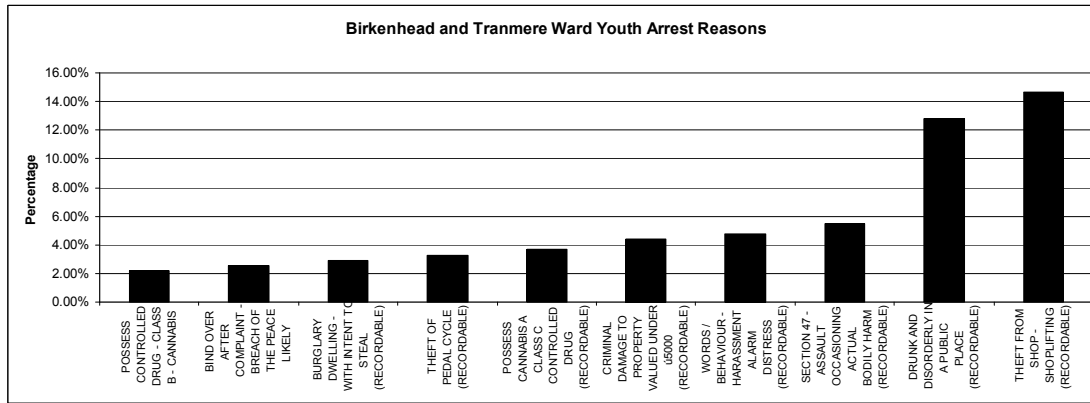
- 11% were arrested for Drunk and Disorderly in a Public Place
- 9% for Section 47 – Assault Occasionally Causing Bodily Harm
- 9% for Criminal Damage to Property.

**Birkenhead and Tranmere Ward.**

Within the period of July 2008 – June 2009, there were 273 youths (18 years and under) arrested within Birkenhead and Tranmere Ward and table 8 below examines the reasons for youth arrest.



Table 8



Within the Birkenhead and Tranmere Ward between July 2008 – June 2009 over a quarter, 28% of all youth arrests were contained within two offence types.

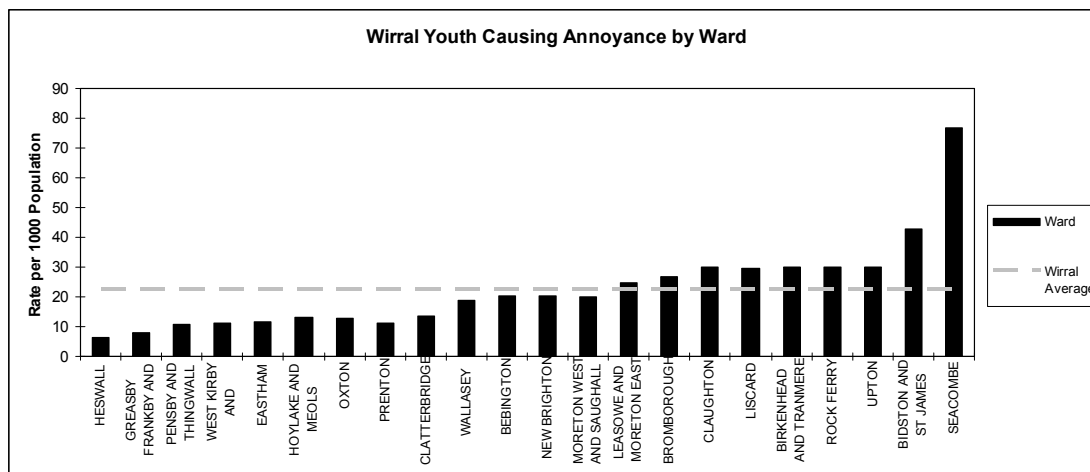
- 15% were arrested for Theft from shops
- 13% for Drunk and Disorderly in a Public Place

### Incidents of Anti Social Behaviour involving Young People

Between July 2008 – June 2009 on Wirral there were 7,088 incidents of youth related anti social behaviour reported to the Police. This represents a **21% decrease** when compared to 8,860 reported incidents in the same period last year (July 2007 – June 2008).

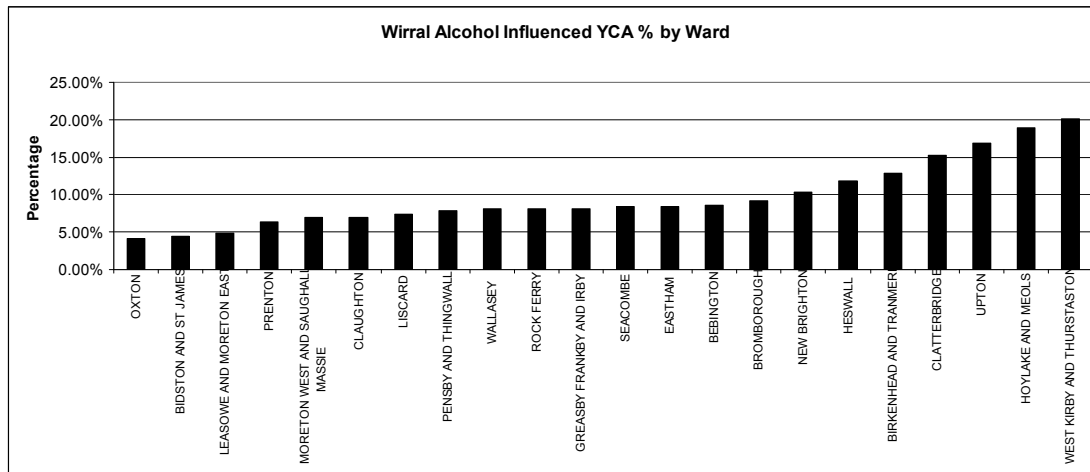
Analysis of the 22 Wards on Wirral included in table 9 below illustrates that, 9 Wards were above Wirral average. Among all the 22 wards, Seacombe Ward recorded the highest number of such calls (Four times higher than the Wirral average), followed by Bidston and St. James Ward (Twice the Wirral average).

Table 9



Further analysis has been completed to indicate how many of the incidents of anti social behaviour included the young person’s inappropriate use of alcohol. Table 10 below includes this analysis.

Table 10



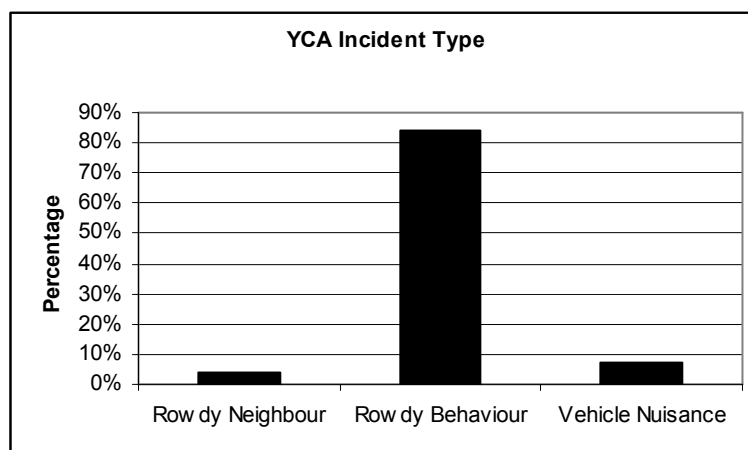
### Seacombe Ward

Analysis has been completed regarding Seacombe which suffers the highest number of reported incidents of youth anti social behaviour.

Reported Youth Causing Annoyance within Seacombe Ward has shown a **1% increase** during the period July 2008 – June 2009 when compared to same period previous year (July 2007 – June 2008).

In terms of incident types, table 11 illustrates that within the Seacombe Ward rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour has contributed 84% of all reported youth causing annoyance incidents, followed by Vehicle nuisance / Inappropriate Use 8% and Rowdy Neighbour 4%.

Table 11



## 5.0 FORMS OF ENFORCEMENT ACTION BEING TAKEN AGAINST YOUNG PEOPLE

### Police Disposals

The Crime and Disorder Act, 1998 rationalised the range of disposal actions available for use against young people who are arrested. There are aggravating and mitigating

factors which influence the disposal decision taken by Police Officers dealing with young people in custody suites but as a general rule the following applies.

**2008 – 2009 statistics:**

First offence.	Reprimand	279 issued on Wirral.
Second offence	Final warning	87 issued on Wirral.
Third and subsequent offences	Charge	348 issued on Wirral.

During 2008 – 2009 there were 1578 young people who entered the criminal justice system for the first time.

Fixed Penalty Notices have been used as a means of enforcement with a total of 206 being issued to young people during 2008 – 2009. The notices were issued for a variety of offences;

- 87 Notices issued for Theft from a shop
- 62 Notices issued for Violence
- 53 Notices issued for Damage
- 2 Notices issued for Interfering with a Motor Vehicle
- 2 Notices issued for Affray

Summonses are also used as a means of enforcement but remain at consistently low levels with a total of only 13 summonses being issued to young people on Wirral over the last 4 years.

**Anti Social Behaviour Orders and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts**

Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO) were introduced by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. These Orders issued by a Court clearly define what the recipient is prohibited by order of the Court from doing. These prohibitions must relate to the criminal or anti social behaviour before the Court and the aim is to prohibit the types of behaviour which impact upon the quality of life of others in the community. The Order can last for a minimum period of 2 years, reviewable after one year for juveniles, and an indefinite maximum period. The Order can only state what a recipient will NOT do and cannot order what a person shall do. However, Individual Support Orders (ISO) are available to stand alongside an ASBO issued to young people. The ISO will last for up to 6 months and contains positive obligations relevant to that young person's behaviour, such as attending an anger management course.

Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, (ABC's) are the same as an ASBO except that they are a voluntary agreement between the young person, their parent or guardian and an enforcement agency generally the Police or Anti Social Behaviour Team. They are not legally enforceable but are often used as a precursor to an ASBO application with the failure to comply with the voluntary agreement included as evidence of the need for a Court Order, ASBO.

During 2008 – 2009 nine ASBO's and 43 ABC's were obtained/agreed to for young people on Wirral.

## 6.0 RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR

### Truancing

Monthly Truancy Sweeps take place on Wirral involving Police and Education Welfare services. In the first quarter of 2009 – 2010 62 children of school age were stopped by the joint patrols and 54 of those young people returned to school or in cases of exclusion to their parents.

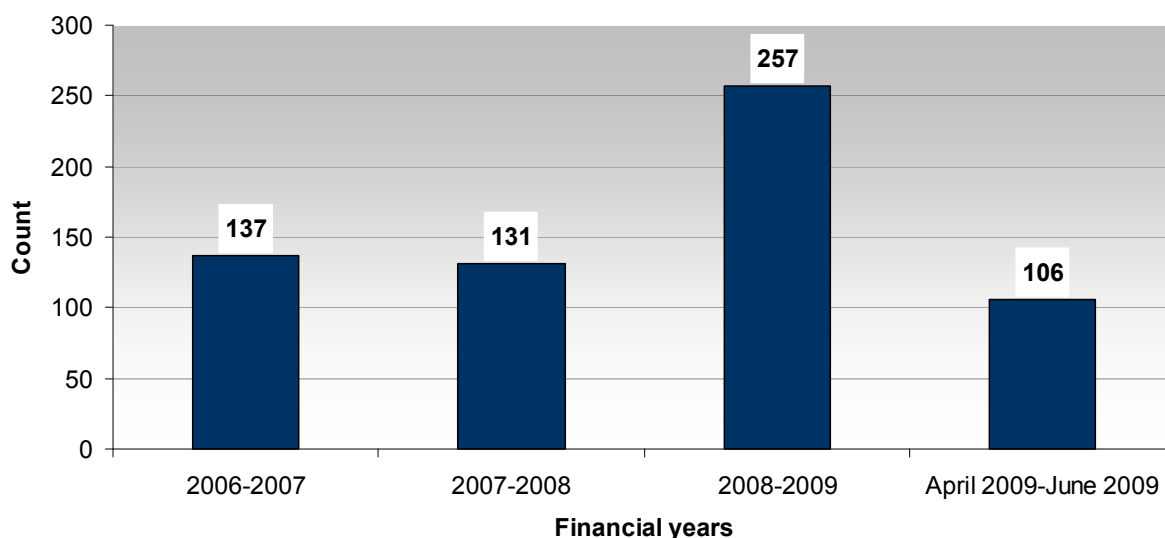
Additionally analysis is being undertaken every month by the Joint Community Safety Team to identify young people who are arrested at times when school is open and they should be in attendance. Measurement is taken of young people who are arrested between the hours of 08.30hrs – 15.30hrs on school days during school term time. During the period 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009 a total of 357 arrests were made by Police during these key hours. This information is passed monthly to the Education Welfare Officer who adds this information to ongoing action.

Though too soon to provide any meaningful analysis the Joint Community Safety Team are also analysing the feedback from Education Welfare Officers surrounding such young people to find other patterns surrounding schools and other aspects which will be shared with the Children and Young Peoples Department.

### Inappropriate use of alcohol.

It is possible to identify the number of young people who arresting and custody suite officers believe are under the influence of alcohol. This information is not confined to drunkenness offences, for example drunk and disorderly behaviour. Table 12 below indicates the number of young people who have been arrested where alcohol has been an influencing factor in that arrest.

Table 12



An innovative approach which the Joint Community Safety Team have developed in partnership with the Response Service, (Youth Workers trained to provide advice and interventions to young people regarding alcohol) is the Young Persons Alcohol Intervention Programme (YPAIP). This initiative has from 2009 – 2010 been financially supported for the next four years by the PCT.

YPAIP provides a bridge between enforcement action taken by the Police and support services to prevent or reduce the risk of a repeat of such behaviour.

- Young People who have alcohol seized from them on the street are referred to the Response Service and in the first quarter of 2009 – 2010 57 such referrals have been made.
- Young People who are arrested also have their details referred to Response for a different level of intervention and this has happened on 93 occasions during the first quarter of this year.
- The final element of the programme provides support for parents of children who are referred and 35 parents have received a service of support and guidance from response.

To date the majority of referrals into the YPAIP have been males with an average age for those young people stopped on the street in possession of alcohol of 15 years and an average age for those arrested of 16 years. Females are referred onto the scheme and these are shown to have a lower average age, 14 years compared to the males.

On average the time taken between being stopped and being referred onto the scheme is 14 days and for young people arrested 5 days.

In developing the priorities for inclusion within the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy the Joint Community Safety Team ask the communities of Wirral what they believe the priorities should be. For the last two years the public have identified their desire that young people should be separated from the inappropriate use of alcohol.

In 2008 – 2009 the Police recorded 1725 incidents reported by the public of young people causing annoyance to other residents where alcohol was involved.

### **Illegal use of drugs**

The Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) records show that in 2008 - 2009 there were 183 young people in treatment as a consequence of the illegal use of drugs.

Of those accessing treatment the main substance reported was cannabis, 89 individuals. The ages of young people in contact with treatment services ranged from 9 to 17 with the majority of young people aged 16, 28% and 17, 39%.

## **7.0 SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

This section of the report confines itself to elements of support directly related to the subject of young people and community safety.

There are a range of interventions available to young people individually and also a range which includes the whole family in the intervention.

**Family Intervention Programme (FIP).** Family Intervention projects bring together the assertive delivery of support services with sanctions and possible enforcement action to increase a families motivation to change their anti social behaviour. The work of FIP on Wirral has recently been changed so that the original focus upon anti social behaviour has been extended to include families with children aged 0 – 5 years where substance misuse or domestic violence is present within the family.

Since 2007 the FIP has worked with 44 families on Wirral on issues ranging from anti social behaviour, poor school attendance, and low level criminal behaviour. Amongst the families who have been engaged with FIP reports of anti social behaviour related to them have fallen by 80% and school attendance has improved.

Work is underway within the Children and Young Peoples Department to develop the governance structures required for the domestic violence and substance misuse elements of the programme.

**Multi Systemic Therapy programme (MST).**

Launched on 4th June, 2009, on Wirral MST is an intensive family and community based treatment that addresses multiple aspects of serious anti social behaviour in adolescents. MST views an individual’s behaviour as being influenced by the “systems” around them ie. family, peers, schools and their neighbourhood.

**Parenting programmes.**

Parenting programmes take a number of forms, ranging from one to one support, parenting groups held on a 6 and 12 weeks basis, telephone support and drop in sessions.

Attendance on programmes to assist parenting improve their parenting skills can be made compulsory by order of a Court or entered into voluntarily by way of a contract between the support service and the parent. During 2008 – 2009 a total of four Parenting Orders were made by Courts on Wirral and 93 Parenting Contracts were entered into. A breakdown of were these interventions are being managed is included in table 13 below.

Table 13

<b>Managing agent</b>	<b>Parenting Order</b>	<b>Parenting Contract</b>
Anti Social Behaviour Team	0	2
Education Welfare	0	91
YOS	4	0

**Challenge & Support Program.**

A Central Government initiative this program has been operating on Wirral since 9 September 2008 and figures to the end of June 2009 show that 277 cases have been referred by agencies onto it.

The aim of the program is to place alongside any enforcement action which is being taken against the young person and package of support specific to their needs and identified through use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) forms.

Challenge and Support covers the whole of Wirral and is managed through three geographically arranged multi agency panels who consider referrals made on a monthly basis. The majority of young people dealt with through Challenge and Support are male, 220 males, 57 females and predominantly aged between 13 – 16 years.

The type of behavior being challenged ranges from young people being checked by Police because of their anti social behavior, underage drinking, anti-social behavior at school, to young people arrested for a variety of offences.

There are a range of specific interventions delivered by the Youth Offending Service (YOS) and these include:

**Bail Supervision**

The court may be in doubt about granting bail and therefore there will be a risk (depending on the young person’s age, the seriousness of the offence, the young

person's personal circumstances) of the young person being remanded to local authority accommodation or custody. In these circumstances the Youth Offending Service has a Bail Support Scheme which can be offered to support a young person on bail. This support given by the Bail Support Worker can be in the form of ensuring court attendance, assistance with employment, benefits, education, accommodation and appropriate use of leisure time.

### **Referral Orders**

Since 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2002 when a young person appears before the Court for the first time and pleads guilty the Court unless they are considering giving young person an absolute discharge or a custodial sentence must make a Referral Order. The Court will make the Order for between 3 – 12 months. The young person will then be required to attend a Youth Offender Panel [normally with their parent(s)/carer(s)]. This meeting will also involve 2 community volunteers trained by the YOS and a YOS worker one of the volunteers will chair the meeting. The victim of the offence may also attend if they wish. The purpose of the meeting will be for all parties to discuss what has happened and what the young person may be expected to do to make up for or address what they have done. This will form the basis of a contract the young person will be required to adhere to whilst on the Order. There will be further meetings at regular intervals to check how the young person is progressing whilst on the Order.

The work done with the young person would well be very similar to any work they may do on a Reparation, Action Plan or Supervision Order. Reparation Orders can be made for up to 24 hours but locally are rarely longer than 12 hours. The young person will undertake short term focused work around making amends for their offence either directly or indirectly to the victim of the offence eg by written apology. They may also be required to undertake reparation to their community known as Community Payback.

### **Action Plan Orders**

These are short-term highly focused orders which last 3 months. They are aimed at preventing re-offending by addressing the major issues which have contributed to the young person's offending. Requirements are included in the Order which can eg require the young person to undertake offence-focused work with a YOS Worker, attend the Attendance Centre, address issues around education, employment, and drug/alcohol misuse.

### **Supervision Order**

It may be that the Court decides that longer term intervention is required and will place the young person on a Supervision Order. If a young person is placed on such an order they will be allocated a YOS Worker. It will be the role of this worker to "advise, assist and befriend" the young person which means:

Work with the young person will be carried out to address their offending by eg exercises examining alternative strategies to avoid peer group pressure, looking at the consequences of offending for young people, their families and their communities, help them to understand the criminal justice system and what will happen to them if they continue to offend.

As well as work on offending the YOS worker will assist with welfare based issues related to their offending which may include education, employment, access to benefits, accommodation, drug/alcohol misuse, family-related issues – in fact any issue which is deemed to have relevance to their offending.

Supervision Orders are available for young people between 10 – 17 years old.

### **Community Rehabilitation Order**

For 16 – 17 year olds the Court can decide a Community Rehabilitation Order is more appropriate. The content of the order is likely to be identical. Contact with young people on Supervision Orders is more intensive than for Community Rehabilitation Orders. In any case all such orders are operated in accordance with National Standards for the Supervision of Offenders in the Community which stipulate levels of contact and the consequences for young people should they fail to comply with an Order?

### **ISSP**

The ISSP programme provides a more intensive level of intervention combined with an element of surveillance with the small group of most prolific young offenders locally.

The scheme has clear eligibility criteria and can be offered as a condition of bail (to avoid a remand to a secure unit or custody) as part of a Supervision order or Community Rehabilitation Order on sentence, or as part of the DTO supervision licence when a young person is released from custody. The scheme lasts for up to 6 months. The first 3 months are the most intensive where the young person must be supervised by the ISSP team at least 25 hours per week and be subject to a voice verification surveillance system which monitors the young person's whereabouts at given times. The scheme offers a range of activities offence-focused programmes, numeracy and literacy help to find training/employment, education and social skills work.

## **8.0 PREVENTATIVE INTERVENTIONS.**

### **Joint Community Safety Team**

#### **Section 30 Dispersal Orders**

Section 30 of the Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003 empowers Police Officers to seek agreement of the Council in designating an area where there is a persistent problem of anti social behaviour with groups causing intimidation to residents. Designation of the area can last for a maximum of 6 months and enables Police Officers and PCSO's to disperse groups and return young people under the age of 16 years to their home after 9pm at night if they are either at risk or vulnerable from anti social behaviour or crime or they are causing or at risk of causing anti social behaviour.

This legislation is not confined to young people but generally Section 30 Orders are only applied to problems of young people behaving anti socially. In 2008 – 2009 there were two Orders obtained on Wirral and there are now currently four dispersal orders in operation. (Borough Road area between 2<sup>nd</sup> January – 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009, St Pauls Road area between 9<sup>th</sup> January – 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2009). Analysis of their impact shows a reduction in anti social behaviour during the period of the Order with a return to previous levels experienced 2 – 3 months after the end of the Order. There are also signs that displacement of anti social behaviour takes place into adjoining communities.

#### **Mobile diversionary sports activity**

Deployed intelligently a "Transit type" van equipped with a wide variety of sports equipment and lighting, provides Sports Instructors (Community Sports Development Unit) to deliver sessions together with Youth Respect Workers (Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team) delivering key messages about ASB and respect.



### **Respect Programme for Primary Schools.**

Aimed at Year 5 and 6 pupils this seven-week interactive programme is delivered in primary schools by the Joint Community Safety Team. The programme is aimed at making pupils aware of what ASB is and the possible consequences arising out of such behaviour. The programme lead by an Education Social Worker and Police Officer seconded to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team includes a number of classroom sessions and location-based activities, including a trip to a decommissioned courtroom where the pupils take part in a mock courtroom trial. Other agencies involved in the delivery of the programme include Arriva, Merseyrail, Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service, HM Courts Service, Tranmere Rovers FC and the Council's Dog Wardens

### **Youth outreach.**

Funded by Central Government a team of youth workers are employed within the Joint Community Safety Team to deliver targeted youth work in areas which have been identified as suffering high levels of anti social behaviour. The work of this group also takes place during the unsocial hours Friday and Saturday evenings when the anti social behaviour is at its height.

### **Youth Offending Service prevention projects**

#### **Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP)**

The Youth Inclusion Support Panel has been running since April 2004 and is available to young people aged 5 to 17 throughout the Wirral. Criteria for referrals are that the young person is likely to become in the future, involved in Anti Social Behaviour and or Youth Crime; the Youth Inclusion Support Panel cannot accept referrals for young people who have already been involved in the Court system and received a Statutory Order.

Youth Inclusion Support Panel referrals can be made by anyone, we have in the past, received referrals from Parents, Young People and other Professionals. Once the criteria are met and the referral is accepted, a YISP key worker will complete a home visit and complete an Onset assessment with the family. When the key worker has identified the issues with the family a Multi Agency meeting were possible is set up and a YISP Integrated Support Plan is drawn up, the plan includes behaviour at home, school, parenting and community issues. All interested parties identify roles and responsibilities for themselves within the plan, this includes the young person and their family, meaning that the whole process is fully inclusive to all involved. This leads to empowerment with the family unit. The plan is then monitored and the YISP key worker ensures that all involved are completing their responsibilities. The plan is then reviewed at an appropriate time. Within this time the YISP key worker will complete one to one sessions with the young person on various issues such as anger management, peer pressure and self esteem. The YISP key worker intervention is time limited to usually 12 weeks dependent on issues raised within the assessments. When the time comes to close the case the key worker will ensure that the young person and their family have been sign posted to other agencies who can continue to offer support if necessary.

### **Mentoring**

Mentoring has been within the Youth Offending Service since 2000, referrals are accepted within the service only due to capacity. Once a young person has been identified as benefiting from a mentor the process begins.

The young person is interviewed to ensure that their likes and dislikes are ascertained and that they themselves understand what Mentoring can do for them and if they are suitable. All the Mentors within the service are volunteers from the community and all

undertake a strict and well-established training course. They begin with a 4 day Core Training programme run usually on a weekly basis dependent on volunteers specific needs this is run throughout the service and once they have decided that it is mentoring that would like to participate in they continue and complete a further 3 day course specifically dealing with issues around mentoring. After this has been completed and they have been interviewed all relevant CRB checks and Criteria checks are undertaken. Once the mentor is actively working, progress is monitored through monthly Supervision.

### **Restorative Justice and Family Group Meetings**

Family Group Meetings have been in operation since March 2006. Family Group Meetings are offered to all YISP families. This then requires an assessment around suitability for the meeting, once all the relevant paperwork is complete and all involved are well versed on what a family group meeting will establish, then the meeting will take place and will be closely monitored and reviewed under a time scale.

At present there is a dedicated RJ Co-ordinator whose role is to facilitate policy and procedures within the Youth Offending Service. Their role is also to co-ordinate conferences within the service to ensure that Victim and Offender conferences are run appropriately and efficiently. Another role of the co-ordinator is to train Local Authority Staff who work within Wirral Children's Homes in running Restorative Justice Conferences to reduce the amount of young people entering the Criminal Justice System.

### **Junior Youth Inclusion Programme**

The Junior Youth Inclusion Programme has been running since March 2004. Its main aim is to engage young people aged 8yrs to 12yrs in diversionary activities through the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund \ Super Output areas on the Wirral. JYIP as it is known works with approximately 45 young people at any one time, completing activities, which increase self-esteem and build positive relationships with peers and family. The programmes key workers also complete one to one work with the young people they have identified as being "high risk". This work is identified through assessment and could range from anger management, peer pressure and anti social behaviour. JYIP's Prevention Programme on the Wirral is time limited; the time allocated to working with a young person is 12 weeks, although this is often exceeded because of need.

### **Youth Inclusion Programme**

The Youth Inclusion Programme is the longest running Prevention Programme on the Wirral. The YIP programme as it is known has been running since 2001. It runs on the same principle as JYIP, by offering diversionary activities to young people who are a high risk of offending. The YIP programme identify the top 50 young people who live in the 5 Neighbourhood Renewal Fund \ Super Output Areas on the Wirral, this is completed through a multi agency approach with Schools, Police, Social Care, Health, Housing and Connexions referring to the programme. Although the YIP target their work with a top 50 they also work with approximately 15/20 other young people who are classed as "participants", these can be friends/peers of the Top 50.

### **Positive Activities for Young People**

Is a Youth Justice Board initiative, which is co-ordinated through the local authority. The aim of the Programme is to engage young people who are deemed to be at risk of offending, anti social behaviour, through the School holiday periods.

The Youth Offending Service bids to the local authority for funding to run a programme to cater for all young people involved with its services. We offer a range of diversionary \

educational activities to young people through every school holiday period throughout the year. This programme has been proven to reduce reports of anti social behaviour \ youths causing annoyance (YCA) in the local communities.

## **9.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- Youth arrests during the period July 2008 – July 2009 fell by 20% compared to the same period in 2007 – 2008.
- Young people are the victims as well as sometimes being the perpetrators of crime. There are slightly fewer young people who are victims of crime than young adults who form the largest cohort of victims.
- Older people are the least likely to be the victims of crime.
- Overall the risk of a YP becoming a victim of crime is 30 per 1,000 young people.
- As victims, young people tend to suffer from crimes against the person.
- As perpetrators, the most common offences committed by young people are assaults and criminal damage offences.
- Only 2% of Wirral young people are known offenders; this compares with 2.4% in parts of England and Wales who are our statistical neighbors and 2.3% nationally
- We know that particularly effective strategies in preventing YP becoming involved in ASB are preventative work highlighting the consequences of engaging in ASB; early intervention for young people at risk of engaging in ASB or engaged in low level ASB; a twin-track approach of both challenge & support and a 'whole family' approach to dealing with the underlying causes of the behaviour.
- Once involved, we know that particularly effective strategies in preventing repeat offending are tackling assessed risk factors, such as substance misuse, lack of family role models and boundary setting. This coupled with work to enhance protective factors such as positive parenting and inclusion in Education, Training or Employment.
- Our evidence about Wirral citizen's fear of crime and ASB by Young People is that when questioned the communities of Wirral believe that CDRP priorities should include;
  - Reducing young peoples access to alcohol
  - Anti social behaviour caused by young people.

## **10.0 FINANCIAL & STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 Finance to deliver the range of work detailed within this report comes from a variety of sources. Mainstream resources are provided by the Council, (Joint Community Safety Team, Children and Young Peoples Department, Regeneration Department) Police and Primary Care Trust.

External grant funding supports the work of the Joint Community Safety Team, Youth Offending Service and Children and Young Peoples Department. Specifically the Family Intervention Programme, Respect Program, parenting interventions, Challenge and Support programme.

## **11.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 All programs and initiatives detailed within this report as subject to the Councils policy on completion of Equality Impact Assessments.

## **12.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are no local agenda 21 implications arising from this report.

## **13.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 There are no local Member support implications arising from this report.

## **14.0 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

14.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

## **15.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

15.1 There is a direct impact upon the communities of Wirral arising from young peoples involvement in community safety related matters including young people as victims of crime or by other members of the community having their quality of life disturbed by forms of youth related anti social behaviour.

There may also be a direct health and personal cost to the young people involved in crime and anti social behaviour when the behaviour directly involves some elements of risk taking detailed earlier within this report.

## **16.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

16.1 There are no planning implications arising from this report.

## **17.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

17.1 There are no background papers to this report.

## **18.0 RECOMMENDATION**

18.1 That Members note the contents of this report.

Alan Stennard  
Director of Regeneration

**This report was prepared by Steve McGilvray who can be contacted on 606 5485.**

## **Appendix A**

Young People and Community Safety

Related Strategies, Performance Indicators and Targets.

Strategies.

### **Local Area Agreement 2009 – 2012**

Local Indicator number 4206 – Reduce the level of anti social behaviour.

### **Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership 2009 - 2012**

NI 17 Percentage of people with high level of perceived anti-social behaviour (ASB) ('the seven strand measure')

NI 21 People who agree that the police and local councils are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime that matter in their area

NI 27 People who agree that the police and local councils seek their views on anti-social behaviour and crime in their area

NI 41 Percentage of people who perceive people being drunk or rowdy in public places to be a problem in their local area.

NI 33a Number of primary fires per 10,000 population

NI 33b Number of secondary deliberate fires per 10,000 population

Local Indicator number 4206 – Reduce the level of anti social behaviour.

### **Youth Offending Service Plan**

NI 10 Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders aged 10-17

NI 45 Young offenders - engagement in suitable education, training and employment.

NI 46 Young offenders access to suitable accommodation

NI 111 First time entrants into the YJS aged 10 - 17

### **Children and Young Peoples Plan**

NI 69 Children who have experienced school bullying

NI 70 105 School age assessment

NI 114 Rate of permanent exclusions from school

NI 115 Substance misuse by young people

NI 116 The proportion of Children in Poverty

NI 117 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)

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## WIRRAL COUNCIL

### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009

#### REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

#### THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2008-2013 ANNUAL REPORT

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the production of the Children and Young People's Plan Annual Report.

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is a statutory document developed by the Local Authority and its partners (Section 17 of the Children Act 2004). It is an overarching strategic plan for all organisations providing services for the children and young people of Wirral. The CYPP must be reviewed each year.
- 1.2 In April 2008 Wirral published its three year CYPP 2008-2011. The plan covers all the services for children and young people in the Borough and brings together all the strategic and operational plans to improve their lives and enable them to achieve their potential. It covers every aspect of children and young people's lives from before birth to their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday and beyond that if they have a disability or have been in care.
- 1.3 The CYPP annual review was carried out by multi-agency strategic groups linked to the five Every Child Matters Outcomes. The groups consist of representatives from all agencies working with children and young people in Wirral. In addition, consultation was carried out with a range of children and young people. A range of information and performance data was reviewed and through needs analysis identified emerging areas for focusing activity around priority areas.
- 1.4 The annual report is both a review of progress in the first year of the CYPP (2008/09) and an opportunity to refresh the priorities in order to be responsive to national and local change. The report is produced in two sections. Part 1 is an overview report and Part 2 is a detailed delivery plan outlining progress in year one and how refreshed priorities for the next two years will be delivered.
- 1.5 A comprehensive equality impact assessment has been carried out with this plan review. The outcome of the comprehensive equality impact assessment highlights how the implementation of the children and young peoples plan will have a significant impact on improving equality of opportunity for children and young people. The complete list of potential negative impacts has been developed into an equality action plan. The progress of the implementation of the action plan will be monitored by Wirral Children's Trust Executive and the activities will be actioned by the strategy groups.

#### 2. Financial Implications

There are none arising from this report.

### **3. Staffing Implications**

There are none arising from this report.

### **4. Equal Opportunities Implications**

The equality impact assessment highlights how the implementation of the CYPP will have a significant impact on improving equality of opportunity for children and young people.

### **5. Community Safety Implications**

The implementation of the CYPP in particular the Staying Safe section will have impact on improving the safety of children and young people.

### **6. Local Agenda 21 Implications**

There are none arising from this report.

### **7. Planning Implications**

There are none arising from this report.

### **8. Anti-poverty Implications**

The implementation of the CYPP will have impact on improving outcomes for children, young people and families which are related to the impact of poverty.

### **9. Social Inclusion Implications**

The implementation of the CYPP will have a significant impact on improving social inclusion and quality of opportunity for children, young people and families.

### **10. Local Member Support Implications**

There are none arising from this report.

### **11. Background Papers**

11.1 Children and Young People's Plan Year 1 Annual Report – Part 1 Overview

11.2 Children and Young People's Plan Year 1 Annual Report – Part 2 Delivery Plan

11.3 Children and Young People's Plan Equality Impact Assessment

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1) That the Committee note the Children and Young People's Plan Annual Review.

**Howard Cooper**  
**Director of Children's Services**



# children and young people's plan 2008 - 2011

## 2008 - 2009 annual report - part 1 overview





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# vision for children and young people

Children and young people are society's future and with them rest our hopes and aspirations. Supporting their interests and welfare is paramount. Our most important principle is that we will secure an active partnership of parents, carers and services, working together to deliver the best outcomes for all our children and young people and thus enabling them to fulfil their potential.



**Councillor Phil Davies**

Cabinet Member for  
Children's Services & Lifelong  
Learning  
Chair of Wirral Children's  
Trust Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P.L. Davies".



**Howard Cooper**

Director of Children's  
Services, Children and Young  
People's Department

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard Cooper".

*“Our vision is to enable Wirral’s children, young people and families to access services quickly in order to be secure, healthy, have fun and achieve their full potential.”*



# introduction

**In April 2008 Wirral published its three year Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) 2008 – 2011, an overarching strategic plan for all organisations providing services for the children and young people of Wirral.**

The plan covers all the services for children and young people in the borough and brings together all the strategic and operational plans we have to improve their lives and enable them to achieve their potential. It covers every aspect of children and young people’s lives from before birth to their 19th birthday and beyond that if they have a disability or have been in care.

Wirral is home to almost 78, 000 children and young people aged 0-19. Wirral is a good place to grow up and most children and young people will fulfil the aspirations that we and their parents and carers have for them.

However there are disparities in Wirral related to economic and social wellbeing and some children and young people experience real disadvantage and hardship. Figure 1 illustrates some of the differences in outcomes for children and young people living in different Wirral districts.

Wirral Children’s Trust aims to make sure that all children are safe, healthy, enjoy life, can achieve to their full potential and are prepared for adult life and work. Thorough needs

assessment ensures the work of partners is focused on those areas that are the most urgent to address, and we continue to take every opportunity to work with disadvantaged children and to find ways to improve their life chances.

Through our multi-agency strategic groups all agencies working with children and young people in Wirral have contributed to this review. The views of service users contribute to a continuous assessment of our services. Consultation with a range of children and young people has been carried out to find out their views on our success in achieving our aims and what should be our priority areas for the future. We have reviewed our information and performance data and through needs analysis identified emerging areas for focusing activity around our priority areas.

We have been working hard to make progress in achieving the targets we set out in our plan to deliver continuous improvement for our children, young people and families. We are only one year into the plan and we know we still have much to do, however through strong partnership working we can rise to the challenges presented.

This Annual Report is both a review of our progress in the first year of our CYPP 2008/09 and an opportunity to refresh the priorities in order to be responsive to national and local change. This document is Part 1 of our Annual Report. If you would like to find out more about our progress in year one and how we will deliver our refreshed priorities for the next two years detailed information is published in Part 2 of this Annual Report.

*“Wirral Children’s Trust aims to make sure that all children are safe, healthy, enjoy life, can achieve to their full potential and are prepared for adult life and work”*



**Wirral West**

Population of children 0 – 17 16624  
 % Key Stage 2 L4+ inc Eng & Ma 83  
 % 5+ GCSEs at A\*-C inc Eng & Ma 65.3  
 Permanent School Exclusions per 10,000 2  
 % Eligible for Free School Meals 12.3  
 Pregnancies in under 18s per 10,000 23  
 Children In Need per 10,000 280  
 Children with Protection plan per 10,000 35  
 Children in care per 10,000 28

**Wallasey**

Population of children 0 – 17 19924  
 % Key Stage 2 L4+ inc Eng & Ma 73.8  
 % 5+ GCSEs at A\*-C inc Eng & Ma 41.9  
 Permanent School Exclusions per 10,000 4  
 % Eligible for Free School Meals 27.2  
 Pregnancies in under 18s per 10,000 36  
 Children In Need per 10,000 604  
 Children with Protection plan per 10,000 54  
 Children in care per 10,000 80

**Birkenhead**

Population of children 0 – 17 19784  
 % Key Stage 2 L4+ inc Eng & Ma 68.9  
 % 5+ GCSEs at A\*-C inc Eng & Ma 38.2  
 Permanent School Exclusions per 10,000 9  
 % Eligible for Free School Meals 38.5  
 Pregnancies in under 18s per 10,000 49  
 Children In Need per 10,000 985  
 Children with Protection plan per 10,000 96  
 Children in care per 10,000 173

**Wirral South**

Population of children 0 – 17 11973  
 % Key Stage 2 L4+ inc Eng & Ma 75.6  
 % 5+ GCSEs at A\*-C inc Eng & Ma 59.6  
 Permanent School Exclusions per 10,000 7  
 % Eligible for Free School Meals 14.5  
 Pregnancies in under 18s per 10,000 18  
 Children In Need per 10,000 307  
 Children with Protection plan per 10,000 22  
 Children in care per 10,000 35

**Wirral**

- Population of children 0 – 17 (2006) 68305
- % of pupils attaining L4+ inc Eng & Ma at Key Stage 2 (2008) in schools maintained by Wirral 75
- % of pupils attaining 5+ GCSEs at grade A\*-C inc Eng & Ma (2008) in schools maintained by Wirral 50.2
- Permanent school exclusions (2007/08) per 10,000 5
- % Eligible for Free school meals from January 2008 Census (excluding part time pupils) 24.3
- Pregnancies in under 18 year olds (2007) per 10,000 33
- Children In Need (2008/2009) per 10,000 583
- Children with a Child Protection Plan (2008/09) per 10,000 56
- Children in care (2008/09) per 10,000 91

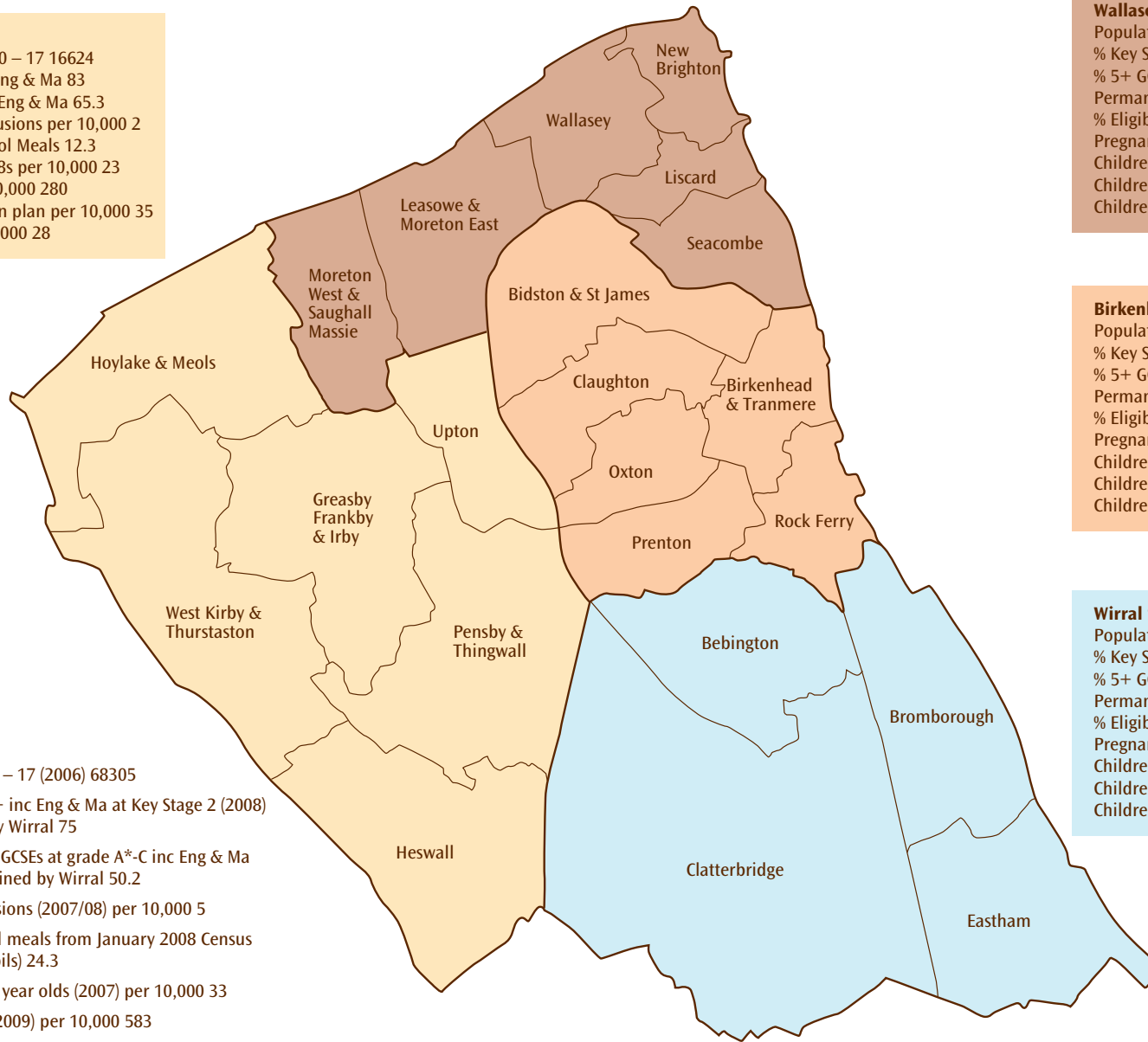


Figure 1: A snapshot of Wirral

# children's services

**Wirral Children's Services are delivered by a number of agencies working together through a shared vision and values.**

We organise our work around children and young people; what they say, where they are and what they need. We value every child equally and strive for positive outcomes for all of them.

Children's Services is governed by the following principles as described in the 2008 – 2011 CYPP:

- Every child matters
- Keeping our children safe through effective safeguarding
- Improving outcomes for children, young people and their families
- Organising around children and young people
- Operating across the partnership as a single integrated Children's Service

- Continuing to build on excellent partnership working
- Integrated strategy and governance
- Integrated delivery and processes
- Equal value and common standards
- Fitness for purpose utilising new approaches and technology to improve our efficiency and service
- Responsibility and accountability.

*“We value every child equally and strive for positive outcomes for all of them.”*



# safeguarding

**Protecting our children and young people from harm is a key priority for the whole partnership and is led by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).**

Protecting our children and young people from harm is a key priority for the whole partnership and is led by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

The LSCB has a clear vision that places safeguarding at the centre of the Children's Trust's overall commitment to supporting children and the families it serves. The Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services have clear roles and responsibilities as champions for children, young people and their families. The Director reports directly to the Council Chief Executive.

The board promotes high standards in safeguarding work across the partnership and has the responsibility to hold organisations to account to ensure these standards are met. The LSCB Business Plan is integrated with the Children and Young People's Plan through the work of the Staying Safe Strategy Group.

Key areas of work completed in 2008/09 included:

- A comprehensive multi-agency LSCB training strategy and training pathway is in place and routinely delivered to all levels of staff.
- A Child Death Overview Panel was established and a rapid response procedure is embedded in partnership processes.
- Strengthening prevention by learning lessons from Serious Case Reviews (SCR) and Critical Incidents. In 2008/09 two SCRs were undertaken. The results of the reviews were positive with the first being marked as 'good' by Ofsted. The second is 'adequate'.
- Increase in partner agency contribution to the LSCB budget has increased to allow for the establishment of an LSCB Manager, a LADO and an interim Common Assessment Framework (CAF) officer.
- Collaboration across Merseyside with other LSCBs and Merseyside Police to ensure joint learning and improve consistency.

Key areas for development for 2009/10 include:

- LSCB will review the DCSF 'Effectiveness of the New Local Safeguarding Children Boards' (June 2009) research report to make any necessary changes.
- LSCB capacity will be further reviewed to allow for the effect of national requirements, notably the statutory guidance for Directors of Children's Services and Lead Members.
- Implementation of the action plan developed from an appraisal of the referral procedures in response to Lord Laming's report.
- The establishment and induction of an Independent Chair for the LSCB and for independent leadership of the Serious Case Review Panel.
- Development of a revised training plan for GP's following action from a SCR which will alter contracts and make child protection training compulsory.



# integration of services

**Wirral's Children's Trust supports Lord Laming's view that:**

**"I am in no doubt that effective support for children and families cannot be achieved by a single agency acting alone. It depends on agencies working together. It is a multi-disciplinary task."**

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In order to be responsive to local need Wirral has organised services linked to district and areas with the development of area teams. Co-location of the services of different partners within this area design to provide a range of services in one place has been successful in Well Lane Primary School. Benefits of this approach include positive outcomes for service users, enhanced processes of professionals working together and synergy of service delivery leading to greater efficiency and effectiveness. In 2009/10 six additional co-located hubs will be developed supported by the successful award of a national co-location grant of £927,000.

A good start in life is essential if children are to fulfil their potential and provision of integrated high quality early years provision and family support services is a priority for Wirral. Currently 19 Children's Centres have been established and by 2010 21 centres aligned to community boundaries will be developed ensuring all parents and carers with children under five years old can access integrated services that are responsive to local need. To ensure consistent development of provision across the borough 'Wirral's Children First' Strategic Board ensures sharing of good practice and coherent policies across

the centres. The co-location project will amplify the effectiveness of the centres through the extension of their offering.

The extended services agenda through schools is also being developed. The 2008/09 deadlines for meeting the full core offer have been met and 85% of schools are offering extended services for the children, families and communities they serve, the highest in the region. Over the life of this plan we aim for every school to meet the core offer in providing access to childcare, parenting support, health and other services determined by local need.

Wirral has a wide range of activities available for children and young people delivered through the work of services such as the Youth Service, the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCF) and Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service. A range of youth outreach is also delivered through an integrated approach with teams such as the youth Respect team, Response and the Youth Service Outreach team, supporting young people and families to tackle issues such as anti-social behaviour, alcohol and drug use.

In 2008/09 a full review has driven a re-organisation of provision which will take place in 2009/10. This ambitious undertaking will integrate existing central services and teams, re-structure existing youth provision and commission organisations to deliver improved service. The impact will be better facilities and activities for young people with improved locations and opening times and more effective outreach services available to the community.

Effective workforce development underpins our integrated approach. We lead the Greater Merseyside Learn Together Partnership in developing innovative training in multi-disciplinary working with local universities. In 2009/10 this approach will be further developed through our Wirral Children's Workforce Strategy. Within the strategy a commitment for a programme of workforce development and integrated working for staff of all Wirral Children's Trust partners will be delivered. Our aim is that by 2011 all staff will have a common core of skills and specialist knowledge relevant to their professional practice.

*“The impact will be better facilities and activities for young people with improved locations and opening times and more effective outreach services available to the community”*

# integrated processes

**All partners agree that the implementation of integrated processes is crucial to address unmet needs and help children access the right services earlier.**

Wirral's Integrated Processes in Social Care have been in place since February 2005. In April 2009 Wirral's Team around the Child (TAC) was formally incorporated into the Integrated Working Guidance, replacing the Child Concern Model. By March 2009 over 600 practitioners from a variety of disciplines had been trained to use the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and to undertake the role of the Lead Professional. Development of the Lead Professional role across the partnership is working to reduce overlap and inconsistency in the services received by children and families.

The Lead Professional acts as single point of contact for the child or family and co-ordinates the delivery of agreed actions. Robust and effective processes are now in place to collect, monitor and quality assure CAF activity across the partnership. Feedback on the use of the framework is that CAF and the TAC process helps practitioners to understand and respond to the needs of the child and their family and allows a preventative approach through early identification of additional needs.

ContactPoint aims to make services better for children and young people by providing practitioners who work with them a

quick way to find out who else is working with the same child. This means they won't waste time trying to find out this simple information, or doing work already being done by other services, which means professionals can spend more time working with and helping children and young people.

All agencies working with children and young people are involved in aligning their existing procedures with those required by ContactPoint. This will enable them to become accredited partners with the target of launching ContactPoint in Wirral during late 2009 and early 2010. In addition information sharing protocols are in place and where appropriate data is securely shared with partners to improve service planning and outcomes for children and young people.

Joint commissioning of services is underpinned by a clear understanding of local needs. All planning and commissioning decision making is informed by needs analysis, prevention priorities and performance and risk analysis. To further develop commissioning in Wirral in 2009/10 an evaluation will be carried to refresh the commissioning framework and identify areas for activity. In addition a partnership training and support

programme will be implemented. The Children's Trust Board will carry out an annual review of commissioning and evaluate how outcomes and services have been improved through the alignment and pooling of resources and jointly agreed priorities.

In 2009/10 a review of the structure and governance of the Children's Trust and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board will be carried out to strengthen our partnership working and to provide an effective and transparent framework and clarity of roles and responsibilities to sustain and improve outcomes for all our children and young people.





# resources

**This plan identifies the priorities for improving the lives of children and young people in Wirral and provides a clear focus for all who work in this field.**

The partnership continues to work towards greater budget co-ordination and wherever possible supplement resources through bidding opportunities. Effective value for money and efficient use of resources is a key activity for the Wirral partnership in order to effectively deliver our priorities and create better outcomes for children and young people.

### **Budget Information**

Currently not all partners are able to disaggregate their expenditure on children's services from their whole budgets. This is an area of ongoing work for Wirral Children's Trust.

### **The PCT**

NHS Wirral currently spends approximately £51m on children's services including mental health and maternity services. This includes planned new investment of £1.9m.

### **Children and Young Peoples Department: 2 year Budget**

	<b>2009-10</b>	<b>2010-11</b>
Money spent in educating Wirral children	£235, 062	£241, 343
Money spent in supporting the care of vulnerable children	£88, 546	£90, 862



# performance management

**Multi-agency strategy groups have been established to deal with each ECM outcome area and three cross cutting groups support this structure to oversee the strategies for looked after children and for children with learning difficulties and disabilities.**

All CYPP priorities are owned by the multi-agency strategy groups and are performance managed by the Children's Trust Executive. In 2008 the Council performance management system PIMS was developed and can now be accessed by partner organisations to regularly update information and to facilitate streamlined reporting.

Performance on outcomes is regularly reported to the Children's Trust Board. The Board's role is to support practitioners in delivering outstanding performance and to challenge under-performance. Wherever the information suggests that action needs to be taken to ensure progress is maintained against our priorities the Children's Trust Board will see that this is done.

In addition to the CYPP there are many detailed plans and projects underlying the CYPP priorities. The Children's Trust Board can focus special attention and debate on a specific theme or area such as 'teenage pregnancy' The board will analyse the relevant data presented and where appropriate make recommendations or facilitate activity related to that work area.

Robust monitoring arrangements are also place to report against the LAA priorities to the Children's Trust Board and the Local

Strategic Partnership Board (LSP). The LSP will ensure that we are held to account as a partnership and that the support of all partners is available to achieve the progress we have agreed to be necessary. Performance is also reported on a quarterly basis to Wirral Council Cabinet. One of the five strategic objectives in the Council's Corporate Plan is "to raise the aspirations of young people".

The Director of Children's Services reports to each meeting of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee where quarterly performance management is reported. In 2008/09 the Committee has also carried out an in depth studies on Youth Outreach reported in November 2008 the recommendations are integrated into the 2009/10 review of youth support. The report on literacy levels at Key Stage 2 will be reported in September 2009.

Our progress against the priorities in this plan will also be challenged by our regulators through the Comprehensive Area Assessment including Ofsted, and by the Government Office for the North West. Findings from the Audit Commission performance management review due in 2009/10 will be reviewed to further improve processes across the partnership.



# equality and diversity

**Wirral Children's Trust has a commitment to ensuring that in relation to the equalities agenda any barriers to services are removed and diversity is supported.**

A comprehensive equality impact assessment has been carried out with this plan review. This approach ensures that children's services meet the requirements under all of the six strands of the equality standard of: race, disability, gender, sexuality, age and religion.

The five Every Child Matters strategy groups undertook assessment of their areas. This involved managers from all agencies and professions who work with children and young people across Wirral. Workshops evaluated positive and negative impacts on the six equality groups for each of the priority outcomes from the plan and drew upon consultation information from service users to inform the process. A group of young people, representing the different equality strands, undertook their own equality impact assessment which was included in the overall equality impact assessment.

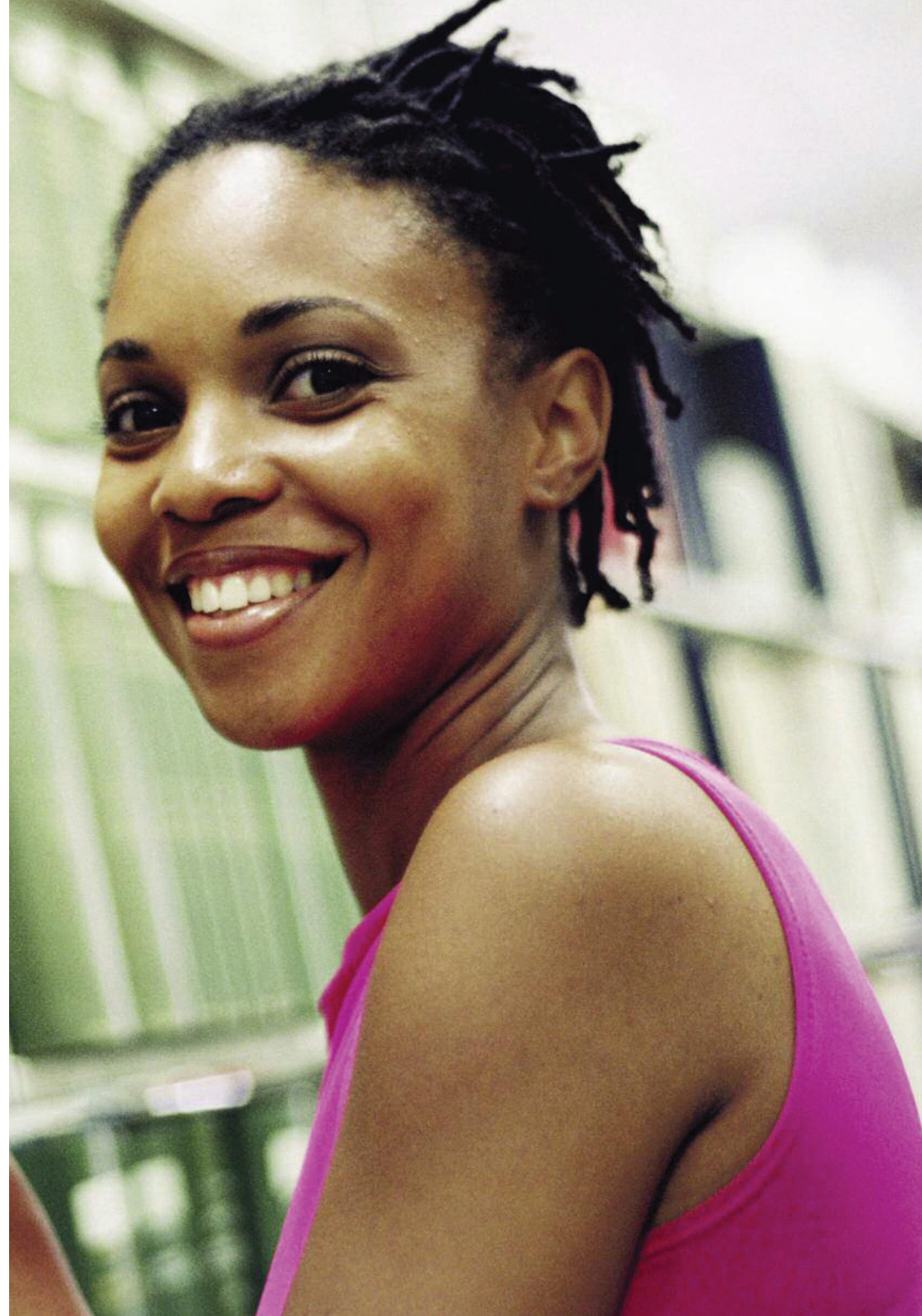
The outcome of the comprehensive equality impact assessment highlighted how the implementation of the children and young peoples plan will have a significant impact on improving equality of opportunity for children and young people including:

- The targeting of traditionally excluded groups such as youth offenders, children in care, care leavers, children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), teenage parents (particularly fathers).
- Services such as Children's Centres, play facilities, extended services in schools specifically promoting inclusion, creating community cohesion and removing barriers to participation.
- The strategies to tackle offending and anti-social behaviour of young people, assisting in reducing hate crime, harassment and discrimination against all the equality groups and creating greater understanding amongst young people through the restorative justice process. These strategies will also create a more positive image of young people which will assist in reducing fear amongst older people.
- Initiatives to support parents, such as children's centres, play opportunities, and extended schools improving job opportunities and careers for both men and women.
- A general focus in the plan on engaging with families in areas of poverty and deprivation and providing services in these areas.

Some potential negative impacts were identified including:

- Not all services being culturally sensitive.
- Physical barriers existing for inclusive services for disabled children, young people and parents.
- Cultural barriers may exist for some equality groups accessing services.
- Resistance to some of the proposed changes from some communities and young people themselves.

The complete list of potential negative impacts has been developed into an equality action plan. The progress of the implementation of the action plan will be monitored by Wirral Children's Trust Executive and the activities will be actioned by the ECM five outcome areas strategy groups.



# 1. being healthy

**There are five every child matters outcome areas...**

**Annual Performance Assessment 2008: “The contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people in this aspect is good”.**

In 2008/09 all Wirral schools are engaged in the National Healthy Schools Programme with 93% of schools having achieved National Healthy School Status with 100% anticipated by the end of July 2009. Being active is an excellent way to maintain a healthy lifestyle and we have invested in the development of a range of play opportunities across the borough. We have encouraged schools to offer high quality PE and sport and this is an area for further development in 2009/10.

We know our children and young people are concerned about obesity and we are closely monitoring the implementation of our Child Obesity Action Plan. The latest figures for 2008/09 recorded 9.6% of Reception and 19.1% of Year 6 schoolchildren as obese and 13.1% of Reception and 15.1% Year 6 schoolchildren as overweight. When compared to 2007/08 this shows 0.5% increase for obese and a 1% decrease of overweight children for reception aged children and 0.6% decrease of obese and no change of overweight children in Year 6.

This area is a priority for us as reflected by targets being included in our Local Area Agreement (LAA).

Wirral Young Persons Alcohol Intervention Project is a multi-agency approach to reduce the number of alcohol-related admissions to hospital for underage drinkers. Hospital admissions for alcohol for age 0-17 reduced by 11% between 2006/07 and 2007/08, and for 2008/09 the rolling 12 month figure shows a further decrease of 5.3% on 2007/08 figures.

The Young Peoples Substance Misuse commissioning process has been revised to integrate the new Alcohol Strategy to ensure more efficient and effective delivery of services and further preventative investment has funded several research projects to ensure effective delivery of key outcomes in a refreshed and combined Substance Misuse and Alcohol Plan.

Being healthy covers both physical and mental health and Wirral Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) has built on its Beacon status and offers a comprehensive access to advice and support through strong partnership arrangements.

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A range of initiatives have been developed to work with schools to promote children's emotional wellbeing.

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We are working with young people to ensure they have access to the kind of sexual health and relationship advice they want. We have introduced a range of initiatives to tackle unwanted or unintended teenage conceptions which although reducing are high by national standards. This high priority area is reflected by the setting of challenging targets to reduce teenage pregnancy in our LAA.

In 2009/10 we will further develop the range of health services available for communities through our local Children's Centres.

*“Being active is an excellent way to maintain a healthy lifestyle and we have invested in the development of a range of play opportunities across the borough”*

## 2. staying safe

**There are five every child matters outcome areas...**

**Annual Performance Assessment 2008: “The contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people in this aspect is adequate”.**

In general Wirral is a safe place in which to grow up. In 2008/09 a multi-agency approach has led to improvements in the number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents. The incidence of bullying is relatively low and there is good support in place for children and young people to address incidents of bullying. There is an effective multi-agency approach to preventative work with families to keep children safe at home and effectively help to address issues such as domestic violence and drug and alcohol abuse.

In 2008/09 through the Staying Safe Strategy Group there has been continued focus on improving systems and processes to respond to children in need and to improve the quality of care, and care planning provided to children in care to support them to be safe and achieve good outcomes in all the five domains. Our integrated area based teams have a common set of tools to support them in their work. The Team Around the Child model is underpinned by the CAF and Lead Professional initiatives

which deliver a structured consistent way of working.

The number of children in care is high and safely reducing the number is a priority area in the LAA with sustained activity in addressing this concern. Activity to support more children in the community, those who are on the edge of care and progression of plans for more children to achieve permanence is overseen by the multi-agency Turning the Curve Group. In 2008/09 work has been particularly effective in supporting children to achieve permanence through special guardianship and assisted residence orders. Arrangements for the review of care plans of children in care and the proportion of looked after children who are fostered and placed for adoption are both good compared to statistical neighbour and national figures. In 2008 inspections of the Fostering Service were rated by Ofsted as ‘good’ and the adoption service ‘satisfactory’.

Plans are in place for a restructure of the Children’s Social Care Branch in 2009/10 with additional capacity targeted in areas of increased need. This will strengthen working and ensure sustainability of all services to assess and meet children’s needs effectively.





# 3. enjoying and achieving

**There are five every child matters outcome areas...**

**Annual Performance Assessment 2008: “The contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people in this aspect is good”.**

Educational standards for students of all ages in Wirral are high and are consistently in line with or better than national and statistical neighbour figures. According to Ofsted the profile of inspections for primary, secondary and special schools indicates that there is high quality educational provision for the children and young people in Wirral. The profile for secondary and special schools is particularly good with 86% of secondary schools and 92% of special schools gaining ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ inspections.

Improved educational standards are dependent on many factors including behaviour and attendance and through a co-ordinated approach we can report an increase in attendance and a reduction in permanent exclusions in secondary schools in 2008/09. Support for families is crucial to children and young people enjoying and achieving and we continue to develop this through the range of services offered through children’s centres and the extended services programme through schools. Wirral leads Merseyside on Leadership and Management

programmes for schools and 95% of our schools have engaged in the Leadership and Management programme as part of our Succession Planning Strategy to ensure that high standards will be maintained in the future.

Effective progress has been made in reducing surplus places through a rolling phased review. Through a series of primary school closures and amalgamations over 1700 places have been removed. Approximately £1.5 m of savings has been returned to the schools budget to be distributed to the remaining schools and a £2.62m capital receipt has been reinvested through the Council’s Capital programme. The programme of surplus places removal is continuing with a further primary review and secondary re-organisation including an option to close three schools and create two new Academy schools in September 2010. If implemented, this will reduce the number of secondary schools and make more effective use of resources which contributes towards raising standards. Our special school children and their families tell us they would like more choice particularly post 16 and plans are in development in partnership with local colleges to re-organise special school provision ensuring a focus on post 16 courses.

Wirral is an area of great disparities in wealth in particular there are high levels of poverty on the Mersey side of the peninsula and in the more affluent areas pockets of deprivation. Poverty has an impact upon children's lives and their development and narrowing the gap in attainment between those affected and other children in Wirral is a high priority for us. We are also focusing additional support to reduce the achievement gap for vulnerable groups of children such as those with special educational needs and children in care.

*“Educational standards for children of all ages in Wirral are high and are consistently in line with or better than national and statistical neighbour figures”*



# 4. positive contribution

**There are five every child matters outcome areas...**

**Annual Performance Assessment 2008: “The contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people in this aspect is outstanding”.**

Wirral has a successful record of positive engagement with children and young people, from Beacon status in positive youth engagement in 2006-07 to a Grade 4 ‘outstanding’ for positive contribution in the 2008 Annual Performance Assessment. The views of children and young people are integral to the planning and management of services and activities in Wirral and they are actively encouraged to influence decisions that will have an impact on their lives.

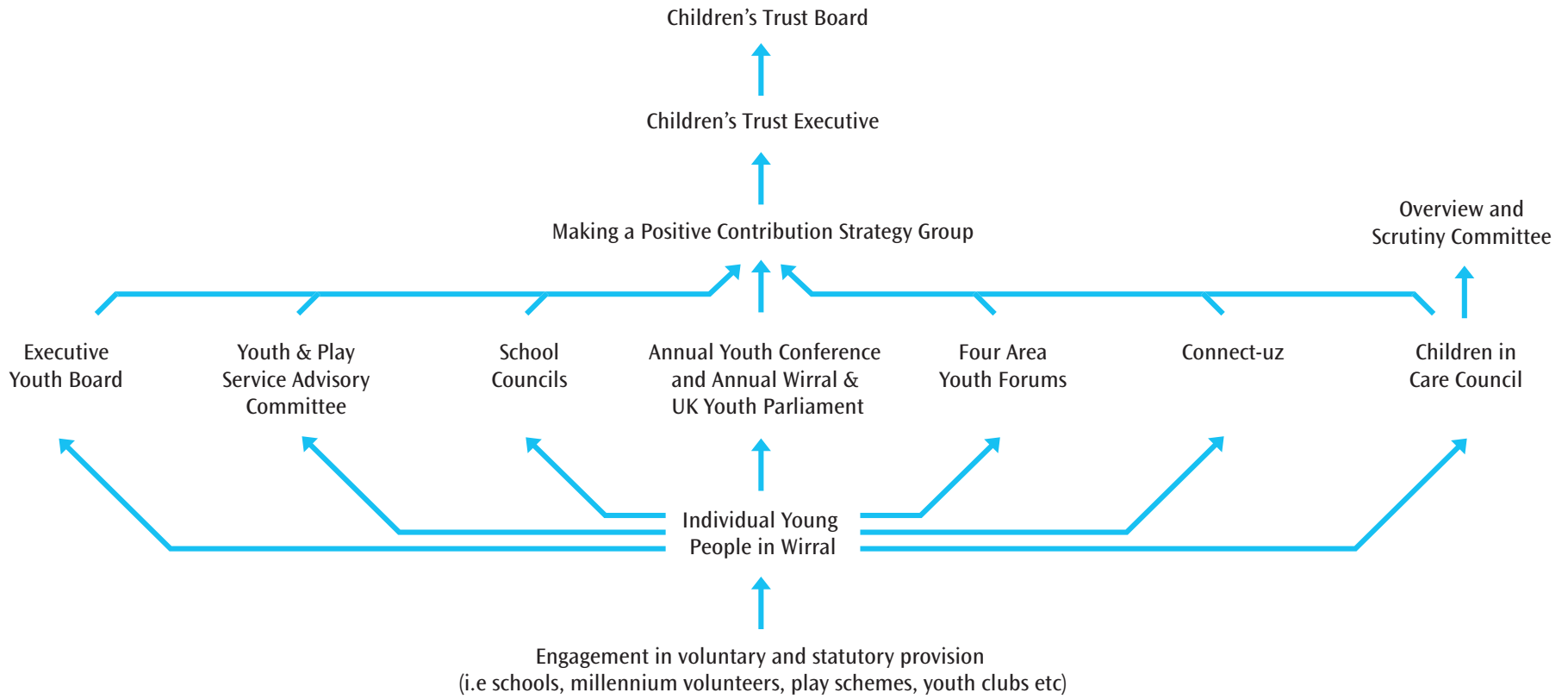
There is access to a wide engagement agenda for individual children and young people. School Councils are active helping to shape strategy within schools and the area through the Annual Youth Parliament. Four area youth forums ensure local needs for children and young people are addressed. In 2009/10 the views of children and young people will be integral to the restructure of youth outreach to improve and extend provision across the borough. Figure 2 illustrates the wider engagement with universal services and Youth Participation Groups.

Throughout 2008/09 work has been ongoing led by children in care to establish a new Children in Care Council (CICC) which is now operational. The views of approximately 100 of Wirral’s children in care informed the development of the CICC which is chaired by a young person in care and the Director of Children’s Services. Service managers can be called upon to outline improvements in the outcomes for children against targets set out in the Children and Young People’s Plan and the Council will make recommendations about key changes that will strengthen the resilience of children in care. The CICC will report to the Council’s Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and have a formal relationship with the Children’s Trust Board and the Virtual School Governing Body. An annual report will be produced on the effectiveness of the way Wirral Council members and employees listen to and involve children and young people in key decisions about them.

A challenge is ensuring a reduction in the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system. The Local Strategic Partnership has identified this as a key priority within the Local Area Agreement and partnership activity led by the Youth Offending Service and the Police will continue in 2009/10.



Figure 2: Wirral young people engagement structure



## Tellus Survey

The annual national Tellus survey provides the views of children and young people in each of the Every Child Matters outcome areas. In 2008 the Tellus3 survey was carried out. In Wirral the general view was positive with the majority of responses not significantly different to national results. In a number of areas the views were significantly better than national figures in particular:

- 61% of children and young people reported they had never been bullied compared to 56% nationally.
- 18% thought it was very easy to get help from teachers at school when they needed it compared to 14% nationally.
- 15% thought their views were listened to a great deal in the running of their school compared to 12% nationally.
- 29% thought their views were listened to a fair amount in decisions about the local area compared to 22% nationally.

However significantly below national figures:

- 18% eat 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day compared to 23% nationally.
- 25% have never been drunk compared to 35% nationally.
- 48% hoped to go to university after school compared to 54% nationally.

The results of the survey form part of the needs analysis and feed directly into identifying priority areas in the CYPP.



### **Consultation**

In the preparation of the three year CYPP a consultation exercise involving children young people and families helped inform the three year priorities. For this review young people were asked for their views on our progress towards achieving our outcomes and what new areas should be future priorities.

The consultation was held with a range of groups in different areas of the borough including: youth clubs, the Executive Youth Board, Young Advisers, Children in Care, Connect-uz and Duke of Edinburgh participants. 220 young people were involved in the feedback. It is not possible to do justice to the richness of all the ideas we received in this document but some key points can be outlined.

Area	High Priorities for Young People	Wirral Young People Want
Being Healthy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to support and information leading to informed choices.</li> <li>• Weight issues were a concern and access to healthy food and activities were highlighted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “I would like free activities for young people such as swimming and the gym”</li> <li>• “better sex and relationship education, with more focus on relationships, young people are informed on sexually transmitted diseases but not how to have healthy relationships”</li> <li>• “healthy food in schools which is cheap”</li> </ul>
Staying Safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They wanted more children to be able to grow up in stable families.</li> <li>• Reducing risk taking behaviour and bullying.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “there should be more help for children to reduce risk and antisocial behaviour”</li> <li>• “there should be more sessions in school with presentations on risk which tell young people the truth”</li> <li>• “better relationships between young people and the police, they should be more visible”</li> </ul>
Enjoy & Achieve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their highest priority was to ensure that the gap was reduced where poverty affects achievement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “there should be extra help for pupils who aren’t doing well, on a one to one basis, it doesn’t have to be the school that’s failing, you need to find out why a pupil isn’t doing well”</li> <li>• “more opportunities to access different courses, especially for those who do not want to stay in school”</li> <li>• “there should be the same opportunities in all schools as those at grammar schools”</li> </ul>
Positive Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people wanted more variety in activities.</li> <li>• They want to be involved in making decisions which concern them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “better access for young people on public transport so that young people can go to activities across Wirral”</li> <li>• “I would like more activities to do at my youth club”</li> <li>• “provide more opportunities for young people to show they are not a threat to people”</li> </ul>
Social & Economic wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring equality in the provision of education and training.</li> <li>• Access to good advice about further education and jobs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “schemes to help young people to learn how to be mechanics and help to find jobs”</li> <li>• “I would like fair access to Education Maintenance Allowance – more people may stay on in school or college if everyone was equal”</li> <li>• “there should be more chances to meet people who do certain jobs who can tell you the reality of careers”.</li> </ul>



# 5. social and economic wellbeing

**There are five every child matters outcome areas...**

**Annual Performance Assessment 2008: “The contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people in this aspect is good”.**

We have made good progress in developing the 14-19 agenda with new Diploma qualifications delivery to start in September 2009. Aimhigher Superstars, in collaboration with University of Liverpool, targeting care leavers has been delivered and there are currently 4 Wirral Care Leavers in Higher Education.

In 2010 the Local Authority will take over responsibility from the Learning and Skills Council for ensuring the right provision for 16-19 year olds is available. Key local partnerships involving schools, colleges, employers and work-based learning providers are working well together to ensure the needs of young learners are addressed and a new Apprenticeships programme is being rolled out in 2009. Despite continued work the proportion of our 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET) remains above the average for similar councils. The LSP has identified this as a key priority within the LAA.

The current recession can potentially affect the lives and employment prospects of many young people. Some young people experiencing financial difficulty may drop out of education and training and into the NEET group while seeking employment. The reported drop in consumer spending will reduce the availability of part-time work in industries which typically employ young people such as retail, hospitality and catering sectors, and clerical work. Small enterprises are a main source of ‘entry level’ jobs for young people in the 16 - 19 age range and redundancies will add to the NEET group either as NEET ‘churn’ if there are sufficient suitable opportunities to facilitate re-entry to employment, or long term NEET if general unemployment rises. A relatively high number of young people are recruited into the construction industry in craft trades as apprentices and general labourers.

The impact of the economic climate may mean there is no guarantee of the progression to employment that would allow them to complete training or stay in the industry. Graduate recruitment in 2009 is expected to be down by 5.4% compared with 2008 resulting in new graduates competing for non-graduate jobs with 16 – 19 year olds.

The full impact of the recession on Wirral's young people and their families is not readily quantifiable, however all available research is being considered in determining how best to support them through the period of the recession.

The proportion of our young people living in low income households is 23% against the national position of 20% and within Wirral there are great disparities in wealth in different areas with some in excess of the national average. A multi-agency approach to tackling poverty has focused on a 'whole family' approach to tackling worklessness including improving outreach of children's centres to vulnerable families. A range of initiatives have led to focused action being successful in reducing the devastating impact of homelessness on young people.

*“Key local partnerships are working well together to ensure the needs of young learners are addressed”*



# annual review

## Annual Review of progress against priorities 2008/09

Since the launch of the CYPP much has been achieved to improve the outcomes for Wirral's children and young people with significant improvements in key areas, including:

- A SMART Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Action Plan with accountable leads for each strategic area and teenage pregnancy champions who have taken ownership and their share of responsibility across the Children's Trust to reduce the number of teenage conceptions.
- 93% of Wirral schools achieved the national Healthy Schools status against a target of 75%.
- A Health and Wellbeing Charter was launched across the Children's Trust to introduce Health Services in Wirral Secondary Schools.
- A childhood obesity care pathway and new weight management services for overweight children provide specialist support and advice around physical activity and nutrition to children and families.
- A routine HPV immunisation programme in schools is on course for achieving over 90% uptake of the course of 3 vaccinations.
- Significant reduction in children and young people involved in road traffic accidents.
- Kooth.com enables services to react quickly and effectively to what children and young people tell us.
- Wirral's fostering service was rated Good by Ofsted across all domains.
- Robust and effective processes are in place to collect and quality assure Common Assessment Framework activity across the partnership.
- The profile of inspections for primary, secondary and special schools indicates that there is high quality educational provision for the children and young people in Wirral. At the time of this review there were no schools in an OFSTED category and the proportion of schools gaining 'good' or better is high, the profile for secondary and special schools is particularly positive. Standards in schools are in line with or better than national or statistical neighbours.
- Good progress has been made with primary, secondary and special school reviews of surplus places.
- Establishment of First for Families has created an integrated system of support for early years children and their families.
- 85% of schools are meeting the Full Core Offer for Extended Services, the highest proportion in the North West.

- 95% of schools have engaged in the Leadership and Management programme as part of our Succession Planning Strategy.
- 100% of young offenders are screened for substance misuse.
- The use of Restorative Justice has contributed to a reduction in school exclusions.
- 1287 children participated in the Play Lottery projects against a target of 400.
- The Executive Youth Board was established.
- The Youth Opportunity Fund & Youth Capital Fund Grant panel allocated £100,000 for work with vulnerable groups of young people.
- Delivery of the AimHigher Superstars programme and 4 care leavers progressing to Higher Education.
- Delivery of the September Guarantee in Wirral with 95% of 2008 Year 11 leavers receiving an offer of learning.
- Development of the 'Wirral Apprentice' programme which will result in a minimum of 100 new Apprentice opportunities.
- Publication of the Wirral Homeless Strategy incorporating the Homelessness review.

We also recognise that there are key areas that continue to be a challenge, these include:

- Reducing teenage conception rates with an aim to achieve very challenging national targets.
- Sustaining effective recruitment and retention of social workers, and ensuring recruitment of social work managers.
- Safely reducing the number of children in care, and also the number of children in care placed in independent sector children's homes.
- Reducing the number of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System.
- Reducing the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).
- The impact of the recession creates an uncertain financial climate in which to plan future services.



# refreshed priorities

The priorities for Wirral have been refreshed in response to the activities undertaken in the first year of the plan and national and local changes.

## Priority

### Be Healthy

- Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour.
- Reduction in the prevalence of overweight children and obesity in children.
- Implement the Child Health Strategy. (NEW)
- Inequalities in the health of children and young people are reduced.

### Staying Safe

- More children grow up in secure, stable families where they belong, either through receiving timely, earlier intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families.
- Reduce the incidence of anti social, risk taking and harmful behaviour experienced by children and young people.
- More children are safe at home, at school and in the community, including reducing road traffic accidents and bullying.
- Children in care are safe and supported.
- Implement the government action plan in response to Lord Laming review of the protection of children in England. (NEW)

### Enjoy and Achieve

- Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools.
- Young children and families are well supported, especially the most vulnerable, through the network of Children's Centres.
- Children and families are supported with their social and emotional development. (NEW)
- Extended Services, delivered through schools and partners working in clusters, impact upon the outcomes for children and families.
- Continue to raise standards in schools and settings by continuing to improve the quality of leadership and management, curriculum, assessment and learning, thereby ensuring none fall into an OFSTED category.
- Close the attainment gap where poverty and disadvantage affect achievement.

### Positive Contribution

- Fewer children and young people are involved in offending and anti social behaviour.
- Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play and developmental opportunities which meets their needs.
- Children and young people are actively engaged in community and democratic decision making process.

### Social and Economic wellbeing

- Increase the number of young people who are participating and achieving their potential.
- Reduce numbers of 16-18 vulnerable young people NEET in line with LAA targets and the PSA 2010 trajectory.
- Contribute to the reduction in levels of child poverty and minimise the number of children and young people living in poor housing.



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# children and young people's plan 2008 - 2011

## 2008 - 2009 annual report - part 2 delivery plan





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# annual review

## Annual review of progress against priorities 2008/09

Since the launch of the CYPP much has been achieved to improve the outcomes for Wirral's children and young people with significant improvements in key areas, including:

- A SMART Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Action Plan with accountable leads for each strategic area and teenage pregnancy champions who have taken ownership and their share of responsibility across the Children's Trust to reduce the number of teenage conceptions.
- 93% of Wirral schools achieved the national Healthy Schools status against a target of 75%.
- A Health and Wellbeing Charter was launched across the Children's Trust to introduce Health Services in Wirral Secondary Schools.
- A childhood obesity care pathway and new weight management services for overweight children provide specialist support and advice around physical activity and nutrition to children and families.
- A routine HPV immunisation programme in schools is on course for achieving over 90% uptake of the course of 3 vaccinations.
- Significant reduction in children and young people involved in road traffic accidents.
- Kooth.com enables services to react quickly and effectively to what children and young people tell us.
- Wirral's fostering service was rated 'Good' by Ofsted across all domains.
- Robust and effective processes are in place to collect and quality assure Common Assessment Framework activity across the partnership.
- The profile of inspections for primary, secondary and special schools indicates that there is high quality education provision for the children and young people in Wirral. At the time of this review there were no schools in an OFSTED category and the proportion of schools gaining 'Good' or better is high, the profile for secondary and special schools is particularly positive. Standards in schools are in line with or better than national or statistical neighbours.
- Good progress has been made with primary, secondary and special school reviews of surplus places.
- Establishment of First for Families has created an integrated system of support for early years children and their families.
- 85% of schools are meeting the Full Core Offer for Extended Services, the highest proportion in the North West.

- 95% of schools have engaged in the Leadership and Management programme as part of our Succession Planning Strategy.
- 100% of young offenders are screened for substance misuse.
- The use of Restorative Justice has contributed to a reduction in school exclusions.
- 1287 children participated in the Play Lottery projects against a target of 400.
- The Executive Youth Board was established.
- The Youth Opportunity Fund & Youth Capital Fund Grant panel allocated £100,000 for work with vulnerable groups of young people.
- Delivery of the AimHigher Superstars programme and 4 care leavers progressing to Higher Education.
- Delivery of the September Guarantee in Wirral with 95% of 2008 Year 11 leavers receiving an offer of learning.
- Development of the 'Wirral Apprentice' programme which will result in a minimum of 100 new Apprentice opportunities.
- Publication of the Wirral Homeless Strategy incorporating the homelessness review.

We also recognise that there are key areas that continue to be a challenge, these include:

- Reducing teenage conception rates with an aim to achieve very challenging national targets.
- Sustaining effective recruitment and retention of social workers, and ensuring recruitment of social work managers.
- Safely reducing the number of children in care, and also the number of children in care placed in independent sector children's homes.
- Reducing the number of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System.
- Reducing the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).
- The impact of the recession creates an uncertain financial climate in which to plan future services.

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**outcome area:**  
**being healthy**

*“We want to improve the health of all children and narrow the gap in health outcomes experienced by our most disadvantaged children.”*

## Priority: Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Implement the Children and Young People's (CYP) Substance Misuse Plan which addresses issues around drugs and alcohol.	<p>1. The following actions from the CYP Substance Misuse Plan were completed during the period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioning process revised to integrate new Alcohol Strategy to ensure more efficient and effective delivery.</li> <li>• Refreshed substance misuse plan submitted to National Treatment Agency, considered exemplar plan.</li> <li>• Commissioned several research projects to ensure effective delivery of appropriate Young Peoples Services.</li> <li>• Delivery mechanism reviewed to ensure streamlined and relevant service provision across substance misuse programme.</li> <li>• Secured additional investment from Wirral NHS which will enhance existing prevention initiatives.</li> <li>• Devised action plan to ensure compliance to NICE guidance in relation to vulnerable young people affected by substance misuse.</li> </ul> <p>93% of Wirral schools report that they deliver drugs education and have a 'Managing Drugs Incidence Policy'.</p>	In progress on track
2. Implement the Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Action Plan.	<p>2. Wirral has seen a 6.7% decrease in teenage conceptions for 2007 (decrease in number of conceptions from 312 to 303) which goes against the national trend. Accountable Leads have been identified, and provide updates on progress to the Steering Group meetings, for the following areas of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Action Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic</li> <li>• Data</li> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Contraceptive and Sexual Health Services</li> <li>• SRE and PSHE</li> <li>• Targeted Support</li> <li>• Workforce Development and Training</li> <li>• Supporting Teenage Parents</li> <li>• Children in Care</li> </ul>	In progress on track
3. Implement the Sexual Health Plan including increasing the proportion of eligible young people screened for Chlamydia.	<p>3. Lead officers have been identified across the Children's Trust Partnership to take responsibility for implementing the plan. The policy has been embedded within the joint sexual health training and is to be implemented through the Wirral wide condom distribution scheme to commence 2009/10.</p> <p>Chlamydia screening target of 17% was exceeded with 21.1 % of eligible young people being screened (second highest in North West).</p> <p>93% of Wirral schools report that they have a Sex and Relationship (SRE) Policy. The Healthy Schools Team appointed an SRE Policy and Curriculum Lead to take up post during 2009 and a Key Stage 1 and 2 SRE curriculum has been purchased for embedding across all primary schools. Two Wirral secondary schools participated in the North West Key Stage 3 SRE pilot during the period.</p>	In progress on track

*Priority: Reduction in the prevalence of overweight children and obesity in children.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>1. Implement the Child Obesity Action Plan which includes action on physical activity, food and drink, breast feeding and Healthy Schools and pre schools.</p>	<p>The data for 2008/09 recorded 9.6% of Reception and 19.1% of Year 6 schoolchildren as obese and 13.1% of Reception and 15.1% Year 6 schoolchildren as overweight. When compared to 2007/08 this shows 0.5% increase for obese and a 1% decrease of overweight children for reception aged children and 0.6% decrease of obese and no change of overweight children in Year 6.</p> <p>A childhood obesity care pathway and guidance document has been produced to explain the steps within the pathway and new weight management services for overweight children have been commissioned to provide specialist support and advice around physical activity and nutrition to children and families.</p> <p>100% of Wirral schools are engaged in the National Healthy Schools Programme with 93% of schools having achieved National Healthy School Status and 93% of Wirral schools have a Whole Day Food and Nutrition Policy. A Healthy Lifestyles Policy and Curriculum Lead has been appointed to the Healthy Schools Team, to take up post in 2009 in order to embed this element further within the programme.</p>	<p>In progress on track</p>

*Priority: Health and wellbeing services, support and information are easily accessible by children, young people and their families.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Carry out a needs assessment of Health and wellbeing services for young people.	1. JMU were commissioned to conduct a Sexual Health Needs Assessment for young people across Wirral to be delivered during 2009/10 and the findings will be used to inform a comprehensive plan for the provision of accessible services on issues defined as important to children and young people.	In progress on track
2. Implement a comprehensive plan for the provision of accessible sexual health and relationship services for young people as defined in the needs assessment.	2. The Health Services in Schools Programme was developed during 2008/09 to be implemented during 2009/10 in twelve of the twenty seven secondary schools across Wirral, to provide holistic health services to all children aged 11 to 19 years.	In progress milestone rescheduled
3. Promote and evaluate the provision of information and support for children and young people on issues defined as important to them.	3. This is to be embedded throughout the Being Healthy Plan 2009/10.	Deleted
4. Monitor the effective provision of CAMHS.	4. A workforce review is planned in this area for 2009/10.	In progress milestone rescheduled



*Priority: Inequalities in the health of children and young people are reduced.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>1. Develop, implement and evaluate a children’s health promotion strategic action plan which includes action on dental health, Healthy Schools, pre schools and youth settings, parenting, smoking and immunisations.</p>	<p>1. Following review, the Being Healthy Strategic Action Plan was revised during 2008/09 with specific actions to be implemented and evaluated during 2009/10.</p> <p>Routine HPV immunisation programme implemented in schools – on course for achieving over 90% uptake of the course of 3 vaccinations. Additional cohort HPV immunisation cohort programme implemented through GP practices.</p> <p>An action plan was developed to increase and maintain high uptake of childhood immunisations.</p> <p>Implemented a pilot system of alerting practices to children approaching their 2nd /5th birthday who have not completed their immunisations.</p>	<p>In progress on track</p>



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**outcome area:**  
**staying safe**

*“We want to support children earlier, closer to their communities and wherever possible by supporting families.”*

*Priority: More children grow up in secure, stable families where they belong, either through receiving timely, earlier intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Implement improved system and process underpinning the child concern model, which measures and supports CAF and child concern activity.	1. Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) recruited a CAF Quality Assurance (QA) Manager in August 2008. System to measure CAF activity developed and piloted in Rockferry / Tranmere Area Team, now implemented across Wirral. Child Concern Model renamed Team Around the Child; Integrated Guide refreshed and re-launched. New CAF QA group meets for the first time in May 2009.	In progress on track
2. Strategic plan to support the coherent and joined up development of Area Teams / Children's Centres and Extended Schools.	2. Integrated Services Working Group meets bi-monthly with clear focus on joining up activity at front line practitioner level. Further work required to ensure area team alignment with extended schools and children's centres.	In progress milestone rescheduled
3. Provide credible programmes for courts to consider as alternatives to custody, for 'prolific and serious' offenders.	3. YOS have a wide range of programmes that are seen as credible alternatives by the Court. This includes the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme for the most serious and prolific offenders. A number of programmes are offered to deter a custodial sentence which includes a Violent Offender Programme, Car Offender Programme, Victim Empathy Programme, Race Hate Crime and Diversity work programmes in place, some of which are delivered through the accredited programmes "Teen Talk" and "Jigsaw". In addition a Restorative Justice Project involving victim and offender to try and repair some of the harm caused to the victim by the perpetrator is available.	In progress on track
4. Implement the findings of the Area Team Review, including co-locating Area Teams.	4. Area Team Leader (ATL) role reviewed and resulting report to extend capacity including team based information co-ordinators approved by Cabinet in March 2009. Four Areas to have full time ATL's due to level of social stress. Developments informed by learning from the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) remodelling, bid submitted to collocation fund.	In progress on track
5. Commission services in accordance with the Parenting Strategy.	5. 0-19 Parenting commissioning process completed with NHS Wirral and CYPD budgets aligned. Contracts to start July 2009 / 2011.	In progress on track

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>6. Implement Integrating Youth Support Strategy (IYSS) / extend Adolescent Crisis Support activity / Family Group Meetings / respite and shared care.</p>	<p>6. A number of preventative initiatives are currently in progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of IYSS and Targeted Youth Support (TYS) on track, further co-location of services planned.</li> <li>• Adolescent Crisis Team has improved its focus and structured approach through alignment with CAMHS children in need team.</li> <li>• Family group meetings targeted work with children in care and with child protection plans, preventative work developed through Children Fund initiative.</li> <li>• Aiming High for Disabled Children Plan readiness criteria met. Initiation will increase volume and choice of short break provision.</li> </ul>	<p>In progress on track</p>
<p>7. More timely progression of plans, for more children to be adopted or achieve permanence through Special Guardianship, Residence Orders, where this will best meet their needs.</p>	<p>7. Improvement in timescales for children placed for adoption 61% in 2008/09 compared with 56% in 2007/08 however this is still below national and statistical neighbour figures. Percentage of children in care adopted or under special guardianship reduced from 2007/08 indicating that timeliness of plan progression requires improvement.</p>	<p>In progress on track</p>
<p>8. Implement the multi-agency 'Turning the Curve' (TTC) action plan to safely reduce the numbers of children in care, incorporating measures to be implemented through the Children in Care Act.</p>	<p>8. Numbers of children in care increased during 2008/9 from 607 to 622. The TTC group has been refocused to give sharper targets and a strengthened focus on discharging Care Orders for children placed with parents and permanency training. Targeted Multi Systemic Therapy Scheme approved for 2009/10 delivery focusing on children on the edge of care or custody.</p>	<p>In progress milestone rescheduled</p>
<p>9. Implement and sustain improved processes for contact, referral and assessment – the 'front door' into social care.</p>	<p>9. Central Advice and Duty Team (CADT) activity and operation monitored and reviewed on a weekly basis. Dedicated CADT Team Manager agreed in February 2009. Increased numbers of referrals, post Baby Peter (2007/08 413 per 10, 000 to 2008/09 465 per 10, 000). However a positive reduction in repeat referrals from 27.6% to 25.1% was achieved with further reduction targeted.</p>	<p>In progress on track</p>

*Priority: Reduce the incidence of anti social, risk taking and harmful behaviour experienced by children and young people.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Strengthen joint working between the Children and Young People's Department (CYPD), Primary Care Trust (PCT) and Wirral Family Safety Unit to further reduce the incidence of domestic violence and repeat occurrences.	<p>1. The following measures have been implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Domestic Abuse Senior Practitioner with administrative support is in place within the Family Safety Unit (FSU) dealing with all cases involving children, providing support and guidance on safeguarding. All cases are reviewed to ensure all support and safety needs are met.</li> <li>• Social workers have been trained in safety planning with parents who are experiencing domestic abuse to minimise risk to them and their children. CYPD team based training also focused on the effective implementation of Wirral's Domestic Abuse Practice Guidance.</li> <li>• Negotiations are ongoing with NHS Wirral to reduce the age range of victims of domestic violence which the FSU deals with from 16-18 years of age. All cases of domestic abuse involving a child under 5 are shared with Health Visitors (HV). Joint working with HV and Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVA) to support parents and children at relevant plans for children is underway.</li> <li>• Additional training regarding the dynamics of domestic abuse has been carried out with HV and FSU. Referrals of domestic abuse cases from HV have increased.</li> <li>• NHS Wirral now refers drug and alcohol dependent parents who are also experiencing domestic abuse to FSU to support them and their children. Representatives now sit on Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) from Cheshire West NHS.</li> </ul>	In progress on track
2. More consistent targeting of services for children at risk of offending, through early identification systems triggering Youth Offending Service (YOS) input.	2. Wirral YOS work closely with the Challenge and Support Project and other Agencies to identify young people who are engaged in Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) or at risk of engaging in ASB. YOS provide young people with mechanisms that both challenge and support them in changing their behaviour via referral to the Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP) and Youth Inclusion Projects (JYIP SYIP) substance misuse intervention; counselling, mediation and parenting programmes. Assessments are undertaken by YOS staff.	In progress on track
3. Review Merseyside Protocol and further develop services for children identified as missing from home / care, and/or involved in sexual exploitation.	3. Protocol reviewed in line with national guidance and activity reported to the LSCB in December 2008. Readiness assessment of introduction of NI 71 locally assessed as good.	In progress on track

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
4. Embed children's accident and emergency referral pathway, and reduce incidence of children presenting following excessive alcohol consumption / substance misuse.	4. The Alcohol Pathway is embedded and links with the AIP (Alcohol Intervention Project). Children and young people presenting at A&E undergo direct referral to a range of appropriate agencies. Figures indicate a 5.3% decrease on alcohol admissions to A&E for young people from 2007/08 to 2008/09. Wirral DAAT has received funding to undertake research into alcohol use in young people.	In progress on track
5. Promote, develop and deliver parental guidance and awareness raising strategies to keep children safe.	5. Child safety information leaflet in use by Health Visitor at birth visit, 6-8 week check and 9-12 month review to raise awareness of accident prevention in the home. Leaflet for 2-4 years in development. Free child safety equipment scheme continues for families of 0-4yrs in receipt of Healthy Start benefits.	In progress on track
6. Implement comprehensive LSCB training plan for all staff, level 1-4 and Section 11 Audit and Action plan by all LSCB Board members.	6. Multi-agency Training Strategy and Training Pathway in place covering all levels of staff.	In progress on track
7. Continuously review and ensure clarity of thresholds for intervention across the child care economy.	7. Weekly review of referrals at meeting of senior and operational managers. Threshold workshop held in 2009 with all lead agencies resulting reports to be presented to LSCB. Child protection plan registrations monitored monthly. Children subject to a child protection plan increased from 16.5 per 10, 000 (2007/8) to 33.1 (2008/9); more in line with statistical neighbours. This rise in part due to increased national media coverage. NI 65 (repeat registrations) – reduced from 14.5% to 11.2%, and children subject to a children protection plan for 2 plus years remained low at 4.8% (2008/09) compared to 3.4% (2007/8).	In progress on track

*Priority: More children are safe at home, at school and in the community, including reducing road traffic accidents and bullying.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Implement the road safety strategy for children through the Road Safety partnership.	<p>1. From the original 1999 Government set base period child death and serious injury (KSI) casualty reduction towards the 2010 national target progressed well, however child KSI casualties during the 4 years 2001 to 2005 rose notably. Analysis of casualty statistics and enforcement activities revealed that previous roads policing activity had been reduced following re-organisation of resources within Merseyside Police. In addition, the staffing level of road safety Education, Training &amp; Publicity (ETP) areas within Wirral Council had fallen below nationally recommended levels.</p> <p>In response a cross-agency Action Plan was produced to focus activity on interventions likely to have greatest impact. Significant additional resources have been directed to this key area. Child KSI's have responded well to these actions since 2005 road casualties involving death or serious injury have decreased by 37.8% from 37 in 2005 to 14 in 2008. All child KSI road user groups have demonstrated improvement during 2008. The partners have updated their Action Plan for 2009/10 which has been presented to the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).</p>	In progress on track
2. Extend and develop opportunities for children and young people to tell us what makes them feel unsafe, and deliver programmes to improve their safety and resilience.	2. A range of opportunities are in place through SHARP, Kooth.com, the Tellus survey, Bullybusters and PASS. These provide support such as counselling or referrals and inform service delivery.	In progress on track
3. Review and develop anti-bullying strategies in schools, on school transport, and in community facilities;	3. Action regarding school transport and community facilities was deferred pending the publication of new DCSF guidance Safe from Bullying (a suite of guidance to complement Safe to Learn, advice to schools). Anti Bullying Week (November 2008) was used to share good practice across all schools and to develop skills and practices with professionals.	In progress milestone rescheduled
4. Implement and evidence learning from Child Death Overview Panels (CDOP).	4. CDOP implemented in line with statutory guidance and annual report produced in March 2009 for the LSCB.	In progress on track



## Priority: Children in care are safe and supported.

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Complete a review of residential respite and community services for children with learning disabilities and complex health needs.	1. Aiming High for Disabled Children agenda introduced in 2008/09, progressing well with project manager in place and review of residential and family based services in progress.	In progress on track
2. Improve the quality of transition arrangements for children in care with learning disabilities and / or mental health issues.	2. 100% of young people who are Fair Access to Care Services eligible have support. Transition protocol in place and transition service is in development.	In progress on track
3. Ensure good or excellent standards of care in all directly provided residential care, foster care and commissioned services.	3. Good rating given by Ofsted for Fostering Services, satisfactory for Adoption Service with a clear active plan to address recommendations and a redesigned Adoption Taskforce. Management arrangements for residential services reviewed to strengthen performance management in those settings.	In progress on track
4. Improve the quality and choice of provision for children becoming looked after.	4. The number of foster carers has remained constant with 264 in 2007/08 and 263 in 2008/09. Future marketing strategies are being developed to target recruitment. Improvements in placement stability: NI 62 reduced from 12% to 10.2% (three or more moves within one year). More children are in longer term placements achieving stability, NI 63 increased from 62.6% to 67.8%.	In progress on track
5. Maintain a full complement of trained and skilled social workers, so that all children in care have a qualified and suitably trained social worker to meet their needs in a timely way.	Full complement of social workers retained until November 2008. The impact of Baby Peter resulted in increased referral activity (735 referrals in the first quarter of 2008/09 compared to 1034 in the last quarter). A staffing restructure approved by Cabinet in March 2009 to increase number of social workers, improve management and supervision and recruit to additional staff development and training posts.	In progress on track



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**outcome area:**  
**enjoy and achieve**

*“We want to raise the achievement of all our young people and to narrow the gap in attainment experienced by our most disadvantaged children.”*

*Priority: Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>1. Remove surplus capacity in Primary &amp; Secondary Schools through phased reviews of provision across the Borough.</p>	<p>1. Activity has focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First four phases of the Primary Places Review now complete.</li> <li>• Between 2006 and 2009, the Review process removed more than 1,600 surplus primary places. At 13%, overall surplus places remain higher than Audit Commission guidance of 5-10%, but had the review not been carried out, surplus places would be 18%. The reduction was largely been achieved by the closure of six schools, and the amalgamation of three pairs of schools.</li> <li>• The Review continues with Phase 5, covering Birkenhead primary schools.</li> <li>• Over the same time period, surplus places in secondary schools have more than doubled from 7% in 2005 to 15% in 2009. A two phase Review for Secondary schools is underway, with the first phase comprising schools in the Birkenhead and South Wirral districts. Options agreed to go to consultation include the closure of three schools in order to establish two Academy schools.</li> <li>• Birkenhead High School for Girls transfers from independent to Academy status from September 2009 and the impact on surplus places will be monitored.</li> </ul>	<p>In progress on track</p>

*Priority: Young children and families are well supported, especially the most vulnerable, through the network of Children's Centres.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Implement new governance and scrutiny function of 'Wirral's Children First' Strategic Board; report to Children & Young People's Management Board on termly basis. Develop sharing of good practice and ensuring consistency of policy and approach across Children's Centres in all their work.	1. The "Wirral's First Strategic Board" has been established with multi agency representation and parents. Children's Centres representatives prepare and present reports to the board including good practice case studies.	In progress and on track
2. Ensure priority is given to improving the outcomes for vulnerable families in the 5 Every Child Matters (ECM) themes, via continuous data analysis, regular reports to the board, development of case studies of good practice.	2. E-start (Capita) has been purchased to improve the data collection and analysis in order to further evaluate impact and to ensure that the right families are receiving targeted support. All Children's Centre managers have been invited to attend Together for Children Tracker training.	In progress and on track
3. Use of tighter performance management structures and common agendas across children's centres; develop integrated multi-agency networks across areas and districts.	3. First for Families has been established. This is a newly created integrated system of assessment and information sharing across agencies for children in the Early Years putting the child and family needs at the heart of service delivery and involving: engagement with partners; establishment of a virtual multi-agency team for children with additional needs aged 0-5 years; use of Team Around the Child (TAC) working model; establishment of a 'plan do review' cycle of assessment and intervention.	In progress and on track
4. Ensure priority is also given to work with vulnerable families on emotional and social development, e.g. via Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) programmes, Family Works, and nurturing training provided by Special Education Support Service (SESS).	4. Activity has focused on the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All primary schools have been offered support from a SEAL specialist teacher to help them review and monitor SEAL progress, identify evidence for their SEF and produce an action plan to support SEAL development.</li> <li>• Secondary SEAL has been introduced into 14 secondary schools and 4 secondary special schools. All of these schools are being supported. Action plans are place and SEAL is in School Improvement Plans.</li> <li>• Family Works (Family SEAL) has been embedded into 42 primary schools. A further 20 primary schools are currently being supported to run their first Family Works Programme. 11 primary schools have been allocated places on Family Works Train the Trainer programme in June 2009. 11 secondary schools, including special have undertaken Family Welcome training. Three of these schools have embedded Family Welcome.</li> <li>• "Nurturing Every Child Matters" is a joint training programme provided by Educational Psychologists / Family Co-ordination in consultation with CHICC and Healthy Schools and is being delivered Nov 2008 - June 2009 to PVI settings. Further roll-out and evaluation of impact of training will take place autumn term 2009.</li> <li>• 11 secondary, 6 primary and 6 special schools have received Restorative Justice training. Permanent exclusions in secondary schools have reduced considerably from 31 to 25 and the Managed Moves protocol has been a significant factor in this improvement.</li> </ul>	In progress and on track

## Priority: Children and families are supported by Extended Schools working in clusters.

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>1. Implement the Extended Schools Action Plan which followed self evaluation process in summer 2007.</p>	<p>1. Activity has focused on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training Programme has been delivered. Training for Governors has been arranged. Parent Support Advisors training has taken place and clusters have implemented this element into their plans. ESRA has delivered training to SIPs, SESS, and other Local Authority workers.</li> <li>• The Subsidy Grant pilot programme has been launched and rated as Green by TDA for readiness to deliver.</li> <li>• The TDA Toolkit for School Improvement has been delivered to all clusters.</li> <li>• Extended Services development officer is in post.</li> <li>• Links with other agencies have been developed; joint training has taken place. Jointly funded projects have been delivered with Health, Youth Workers, Aim Higher for Disabled Pupils and the diocese co-ordinator.</li> <li>• Clear links with Children's Centres have been developed. Area co-ordinators where possible are located in Children's Centres.</li> <li>• Special Schools have had input at their 2009 Spring Conference regarding meeting the Full Core Offer and good practice.</li> </ul>	<p>In progress and on track</p>
<p>2. Priorities for 2008-09: a) provide advice on governance structures, HR issues, systems in place to support swift and easy access to specialised services, study support, and ensuring sustainability; b) meeting Training Development Agency (TDA) targets on the core offer.</p>	<p>2. Guidance document has been completed and regular briefings are provided on Extended Services developments. Information on budgets and available funding is distributed to all schools. The 2008 and 2009 deadlines for schools meeting the full core offer have been met and the termly evaluation by the TDA is rated as Green.</p>	<p>In progress and on track</p>

## Priority: Ensure there are no schools in Ofsted categories.

What we said we would do	What we did	Status																																													
1. Put revised School Improvement Policy into practice; provide appropriate briefings of councillors, governors and headteachers.	1. A School Improvement Policy was developed in 2007 and implemented over 2007-2009. The strategy is being further refined. Councillors, governors and headteachers were briefed on the original policy and have been briefed regarding the further revision/refinement.	In progress and on track																																													
2. Ensure remaining primary schools in an OFSTED category make sufficient progress to come out of category in the shortest possible time.	2. All primary schools that were in Special Measures came out of this category prior to the 2008 academic year. The remaining 'Notice to Improve' school was judged to be satisfactory in May 2009 and came out of Ofsted category in 14 months. There are no secondary schools in OFSTED categories. From inspections over 2008-2009, 3 secondary schools were graded satisfactory, 6 good and 13 outstanding for overall effectiveness.	Completed																																													
3. Identify underachieving and underperforming schools, subjects and groups within schools (including underperforming vulnerable learners) through analysis of data.	<p>3. In 2008 performance was:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2007</th> <th>2008</th> <th>FFTB</th> <th>FFTD</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>KS2: % achieving L4+ in En &amp; Ma</td> <td>72</td> <td>74.9</td> <td>71</td> <td>77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KS2: % making 2 levels progress in En</td> <td>81</td> <td>83.8</td> <td>81</td> <td>86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KS2: % making 2 levels progress in Ma</td> <td>74</td> <td>76.2</td> <td>76</td> <td>83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KS2: % on FSM achieving L4+ in En &amp; Ma</td> <td>55.8</td> <td>59.5</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KS2: % on FSM making 2 levels progress in En</td> <td>77.1</td> <td>81.8</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KS2: % on FSM making 2 levels progress in Ma</td> <td>66.6</td> <td>68.7</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KS4: % getting 5+ A*-C inc En &amp; Ma</td> <td>48.4</td> <td>49.9</td> <td>51</td> <td>55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KS4: % on FSM getting 5+ A*-C inc En &amp; Ma</td> <td>21.8</td> <td>22.0</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At all Key Stages, performance is thoroughly analysed; underperformance is identified, schools are categorised and prioritised for support. Performance, including the progress of vulnerable learners, is monitored by School Improvement Partners (SIPs).</li> <li>In secondary, six National Challenge schools and two Gaining Ground schools have been identified with targeted support. The National Challenge schools are on target to achieve at least 30% 5A*-C including English and maths by 2011.</li> <li>The consulting cycle has been revised in secondary for 2009/10.</li> </ul>		2007	2008	FFTB	FFTD	KS2: % achieving L4+ in En & Ma	72	74.9	71	77	KS2: % making 2 levels progress in En	81	83.8	81	86	KS2: % making 2 levels progress in Ma	74	76.2	76	83	KS2: % on FSM achieving L4+ in En & Ma	55.8	59.5	n/a	n/a	KS2: % on FSM making 2 levels progress in En	77.1	81.8	n/a	n/a	KS2: % on FSM making 2 levels progress in Ma	66.6	68.7	n/a	n/a	KS4: % getting 5+ A*-C inc En & Ma	48.4	49.9	51	55	KS4: % on FSM getting 5+ A*-C inc En & Ma	21.8	22.0	n/a	n/a	In progress and on track
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4. Ensure early intervention in potential schools causing concern.	4. As 3 above. In addition schools below the benchmark (14%) received targeted support. Long standing Hard to Shift Schools (x3) continue to receive intensive support and SIPs identify schools in lowest bands including schools causing concern. Focussed reviews have been carried out in schools of particular concern or who need ongoing intensive support.	In progress and on track																																													

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
5. Measure impact of support provided.	5. The impact of support is monitored and evaluated through quality assured SIPs and full LA school reviews. Outcomes establish a benchmark for support. Evaluation of impact indicate positive improvement where support has focussed intensively on standards of achievement, progress, leadership and management and the quality of teaching and learning. Termly RAG rating meetings with National Strategies also provide a measure of impact and indicate that our progress and support is good.	In progress and on track
6. Increase accuracy of assessment and consistency of moderation at transition points.	6. Primary Assessment networks have been established. Through a series of meetings they determine the timetable for assessment and moderation between infant and junior schools. This has all resulted in greater accuracy of assessment/moderation at transition points. The networks were further developed during 2008-2009 to include KS2 to KS3 transition.	In progress and on track
7. Ensure priority is given to ISP and WISP in primary schools; and coordinated, targeted support in secondary schools. Focus in particular on raising standards in English and Maths.	7. ISP and WISP programmes operate in lowest performing 10% of Primary schools and/or those schools being monitored as part of their Exit Strategy. English and maths support continue to be prioritised through categorisation process. The impact is demonstrable through raised standards at KS2. There was an impact on the overall Wirral LA rankings against national results in 2007: in English, the Wirral ranking rose from 41st to 23rd; in maths, it rose from 65 to 53.	In progress and on track
8. Develop strategy for succession planning in schools as part of enriched Leadership and Management programme.	8. Strategy in place involving a comprehensive programme for all leaders and managers from Headteachers down to NQTs. Governor training has also taken place and the profile of succession planning has been significantly raised.	Completed
9. Identify models of excellent leadership and management within our schools; provide a community of learning for all headteachers to influence the raising of standards and achievement, and meeting the challenges of the ECM agenda.	9. A community of enquiry project was set up for three years which led to an effective community of learning for leaders. This has been used as a Case Study by TDA. Hard and soft data, available at this stage, has been collected from schools involved. This has led to on-going work through the Leadership and Management Programme to support the work of all aspects identified in 8. These are underpinned by a model of enquiry and coaching.	Completed



## Priority: Close the attainment gap where poverty affects achievement.

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Improve outreach of all Children's Centres to vulnerable families.	<p>1. Activity has focused on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each Children's Centre footprint has been reviewed to ensure that each centre caters for 800 - 1200 children 0-5.</li> <li>• A new data base has been purchased to support centres target the vulnerable families.</li> <li>• In 2008 49% of all children achieved a total of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) in line with the national picture.</li> <li>• For 2009, Wirral is on track to improve on the 2008 outcomes.</li> <li>• Wirral was successful in narrowing the gap to 31.5%. This is a significant improvement on the national average of 36% and once again Wirral is on track to decrease the gap further.</li> </ul>	In progress and on track
2. In collaboration with Speech and Language Team from PCT, initiate training programme for TAs, and Voluntary, Community and Faith sector (VCF), in Hanen approaches to language development, in order to narrow gaps at EYFS.	2. A cross-department and cross-agency strategic group has been set up to address and implement elements of the Bercow Plan (Better Communication) and SLCN on the Wirral. The remit will incorporate the training agenda including CLLD, ECAT (Every Child a Talker) and IDP (Inclusion Development Programme).	In progress and on track
3. Implement training programme re data, including neighbourhood data, on effects of poverty on achievement, to all relevant professionals in schools, across the partnership, and in VCF sector.	3. Various Narrowing the Gap projects targeted at areas of deprivation were supported over 2008-2009. A Narrowing the Gap Steering Group of Head teachers has been established. Training is being provided on "Turning the Curve" approaches. Resources were targeted.	In progress and on track
4. Develop the use of range of intervention strategies to support under-achieving and under-attaining groups of pupils, e.g. via dissemination of Action Research findings of EPs.	4. Currently a cycle of training has been set up (Accelerated/ Accellewrite) in: use of the intervention; establishing baseline data and post intervention assessment. Future work will include holding a plenary event to discuss the programme and measures to evaluate the intervention which will then be reported.	In progress and on track
5. Ensure all schools know the extent of their attainment gap; monitor schools on their ability to 'close the gap' for children on FSM and other vulnerable groups. Report progress in narrowing the gap to Children & Young People's Strategic Management Board, and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	5. SIPs received full training; school data pack and agenda produced for discussion based upon analyses of results prior to Autumn Term visit. Vulnerable groups prioritised. Schools prioritised for intervention and support. In Primary, 10 ISP and WISP schools receive support.	In progress and on track



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**outcome area:**  
**positive contribution**

*“We want to engage all young people more fully in issues affecting their lives and particularly those at risk of disaffection.”*

## Priority: Fewer children and young people are involved in offending and anti social behaviour.

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Quarterly analysis of First Time Entrants (FTE) data to ensure targeted prevention resources to reduce numbers entering the youth justice system.	<p>1. Targeted prevention activities carried out included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified at risk young people accessed targeted support from the Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) programme. In 2008/09 343 individual young people accesses PAYP provision, the FTE target was 131 the number achieved was 155.</li> <li>• Ensured Key Workers were available during holiday periods.</li> <li>• Additional positive diversionary activities were provided on Friday and Saturday nights in designated hot spot areas. 1670 young people took part in diversionary activities in 2008/09.</li> <li>• Ensured young people at risk have been referred to the Challenge and Support team for additional appropriate support. 72 young people from the Youth Sports Nights were referred to the Drug And Alcohol Team (DAAT) for advice and support.</li> <li>• Ensured the Activity Agreement Programme was targeted at young offenders and this has contributed to a reduction in the number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System.</li> <li>• On Wirral 70% of participants including Young Offenders taking part in the Activity agreement Programme have progressed into Education, Employment and Training (EET) or a personal development opportunity.</li> </ul>	In progress on track
2. Expansion of the Restorative Justice (RJ) Protocol to ensure RJ principles are followed effectively and that all young people entering the youth justice system for the first time are considered for RJ as an alternative to prosecution.	2. Restorative Justice is now used on a weekly basis at the final warning stage. A protocol between Merseyside Police, Children and Young people's Department and the Crown Prosecution Service has been implemented to ensure the children and young people in care do not enter the Criminal justice system unnecessarily.	In progress on track
3. Increase use of Restorative Practice in schools to reduce exclusions.	3. The use of RJ in schools has been extended and this has contributed to a reduction in the number of school exclusions. 11 secondary, 6 primary and 6 special schools have received training. Permanent exclusions in secondary schools have reduced considerably from 31 to 25.	In progress on track

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
4. Ensure all young people are assessed at the point of entry to Youth Offending Service (YOS) and that Education, Employment and Training (EET) needs are addressed in intervention planning.	4. All young people are assessed on entry to the Youth Offending Service. In 2008/09 an average of 50% of 16-18 year old young offenders were in Education, Employment and Training (EET).	In progress on track
5. EET mentors recruited and trained to support young people accessing EET.	5. 7 EET mentors were trained in January 2009 although due to the voluntary nature of the work there is an issue with availability. Referrals are made to mentors and Connexions Personal Advisors for appropriate support and referral to ensure to ensure successful EET progression. The referral rate is 100%.	In progress on track
6. Work with current providers to ensure an increase in accommodation available for young people whose previous convictions or behaviour might otherwise prevent them from being accommodated.	6. Additional contact worker resource was funded from the Local Area Agreement budget to improve information sharing arrangement between YOS and Connexions. YOS secured for 98% of young people completing community interventions or on release from the secure estate, access to suitable accommodation. This exceeds the agreed target of 95%.	In progress on track
7. Substance Misuse Strategy supports early intervention to reduce harm in children and young people.	7. All young people on statutory orders at the Youth Offending Service are screened via Asset assessment tool (100%). Any with specialist need are referred the Tier 3 Workers for intervention and harm reduction work is completed by the case manager.	In progress on track

*Priority: Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play opportunities which meets their needs.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Co-ordinate summer play provision with extended schools, summer holiday play schemes and full-time play centres.	1. Open Access play provision promoted via the Extended Schools.	Completed
2. Outreach play sessions planned in areas of identified need.	2. Ensured 30 Outreach Play sessions were provided in areas of identified need.	Completed
3. Promote play opportunities for children and young people on quarterly basis in conjunction with extended school cluster groups.	3. 13 Play staff have been recruited and appointed to deliver the Big Lottery programme from March 2009. Play opportunities promoted on a quarterly basis in conjunction with extended school cluster groups.	In progress on track
4. Collate baseline data to establish how children and young people feel about playing out.	4. Planning for baseline collection in place by March 2009 surveys planned for June 2009.	In progress on track
5. Prepare action plan to address areas of concern raised by children and young people.	5. Analysis of this area has been completed. Action plan to be developed in 2009/10.	In progress on track
6. Train staff to understand and manage areas of concern.	6. Training programme developed and initial staff training in progress. Further development in 2009/10.	In progress on track
7. Children and young people participate in planning activities with play Practitioners.	7. All localities and activities have been agreed, planned and promoted. Play opportunities have been delivered in five areas from March 2009.	Completed
8. Children and young people make presentation to Wirral Play Partnership.	8. Scheduled for October 2009.	In progress on track
9. Consult with children and young people on four equipped play areas.	9. Children and young people have been involved in designing play opportunities, 140 children in the first development. One play area is now fully equipped and operational.	In progress on track

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
10. Develop good practice models to include elements of adventure, risk and natural play.	10. Due to re-prioritisation of project this will not take place.	Deleted
11. Monitor and evaluate play provision.	11. Ensured all Play Provision was monitored against agreed standards which demonstrated that all targets were met or exceeded in the first quarter of operation.	Completed
12. Include Older People's Parliament representative on Wirral Play partnership.	12. Due to re-prioritisation of project this will not take place.	Deleted
13. Identify with Older People's Parliament and children and young people appropriate activities to promote intergenerational understanding- Jan 09.	13. Due to re-prioritisation of project this will not take place.	Deleted
14. Membership of Play Partnership or commissioned organisation is dependent on signing up to Play Strategy Implementation Plan.	14. Ensured through monitoring that all organisations commissioned to deliver play activities plan their work in line with the Charter of Participation.	In progress on track
15. Extended schools co-ordinator will provide information to cluster groups and voluntary organisations on "Safe Places to Be"	15. Pilot of "Safe place to be" has been completed. Information gathered will be used to develop Hub provision in the Districts.	In progress on track
16. The invigor8 programme will be part of menu of AAP programmes on offer to young people.	16. Young people are actively involved in the assessment of Personal Advisors.	Completed

*Priority: Children & Young People are actively engaged in community and democratic decision making process.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Promote Executive Youth Board (EYB) to children and young people via publicity and briefings to schools, youth forums, and websites.	1. The Executive Youth Board includes representation from the four districts and priority groups.	Completed
2. Timetable established for recruitment and training of young people.	2. Timetable completed and actioned in August 2008.	Completed
3. Recruitment and selection of young people.	3. Executive Youth Board members were recruited and subsequently trained on their roles and expectations of the year ahead by 31 August 2008. Additional training needs were identified and training on managing meetings provided in February/ March 2009.	Completed
4. EYB will prepare an action plan and progress will be reported to schools, youth organisations through Schools Councils, Youth Forums, Connect-uz.	4. Action plan has been prepared to take account of issues raised at Youth Parliament. Follow up briefing with schools/ youth forums is required.	In progress on track
5. Opportunities to participate in Annual Youth Parliament will be advertised to schools in July and followed up in September.	5. Ensured all schools were informed of the forthcoming Youth Parliament and Youth Voice Conference. A special school attended for the first time and two training providers were also involved.	Completed
6. EYB meets with representatives of Older People's Parliament to identify appropriate structures for co-working to address community cohesion concerns.	6. This activity has been included on the action plan for 2009/10.	In progress milestone re-scheduled

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
7. Organisations receiving grant aid or other funding allocations will be required to adopt the Charter of participation.	7. All organisations being commissioned describe how they comply with the Charter of Participation.	Completed
8. Young people will be trained in recruitment and selection procedures. Four young people will be trained in 2008/09 and eight young people in 2009/10 and twelve young people in 2010/2011.	8. Young people are regularly involved in the recruitment of staff in the Children and Young People's Department. Four were trained in 2008/09.	In progress on track
9. Consultation on Extended Schools/ Services will be organised through primary and secondary schools councils' in summer term 2008.	9. This activity has been included on the action plan for 2009/10.	In progress milestone re-scheduled
10. All young people who access the AAP programme will complete a questionnaire to gather their views on provision accessed. These views will feed into the commissioning and direct purchase of future provision	10. All young people's evaluations were anonymised and logged. The direct purchase of provision was selected as a result of view of young people. The provision that has produced positive outcomes for young people has been selected.	Completed



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**outcome area:**  
**social and economic wellbeing**

*“We want to equip our young people better for adult life and particularly to narrow the gap experienced by our most disadvantaged young people in their prospects.”*

## Priority: Increase the number of young people who are participating and achieving their potential.

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
1. Provide a whole range of opportunities for post 16 Education, Employment and Training (EET) and courses of high quality.	1. Activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress towards the development of a School Sixth Form monitoring and evaluation framework has been made. The model will be piloted during 09/10.</li> <li>• European Social Fund (ESF) funding has been secured to promote participation, progression and attainment.</li> <li>• Prospectus and Common Application process is in place.</li> <li>• Wirral Futures and Diplomas Road Show events have taken.</li> <li>• Curriculum mapping and analysis to identify gaps in post 16 provision.</li> </ul>	In progress on track
2. Improve accessibility to post 16 learning through the implementation of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14-19 Education Plan.</li> <li>• Learning and Skills Council (LSC) Quality Assurance Framework post-16.</li> </ul>	2. The Diploma Implementation Plan is in place and on track for Diploma delivery to start in September 2009. Foundation Learning Tier Test and Trial programme is in place and cited as a model of good practice by Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA).	In progress on track
3. Increase post 16 participation and achievement through the implementation of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough EET Strategy.</li> <li>• Integrated Youth Support (IYS) strategy.</li> </ul>	3. The Borough EET Action Plan is in place which outlines partner responsibilities and contributions to achieving the NEET target. This will be reviewed and refreshed during autumn 2009 in the light of the current economic climate. The Activity Agreement Pilot continues to bear fruit with clear evaluation demonstrating improved progression rates, increased employability and reduced time spent Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) (on average 70% progressing into EET - a significant achievement with some of the most marginalised young people). The Wirral Wise Programme, supported by ESF, is now embedding, with 3 strands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn Wise - preventative actions for young people in KS4.</li> <li>• Stay Wise - preventative actions for young people in post 16 education and training.</li> <li>• Work Wise - interventions targeted at young people who are NEET, aimed at progression via placements</li> </ul> 100 Apprenticeships, supported by Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) will be offered to young people from September. IYS Strategy completed - currently undergoing refresh.	In progress on track
4. Support Wirral Care Leavers to access HE and achieve academic success.	4. Aim higher Superstars, in collaboration with University of Liverpool, programme targeting care leavers has been delivered. There are currently 4 Wirral Care Leavers in Higher Education.	In progress on track
5. Provide young people with confidence and skills to use public transport.	5. Wirral Council has set up travel training programme for 16+ to allow one to one training to use public transport to travel independently. We work with our partners in Merseytravel through their Community Links team to target young people to educate them about the public transport system and how to use it effectively and safely.	In progress on track

*Priority: Reduce numbers of 16-18 vulnerable young people NEET in line with Local Area Agreement targets and the Public Service Agreement 2010 trajectory.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>1. Implement the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough Education, Employment and Training (EET) Strategy</li> <li>• Integrated Youth Support (IYS) Strategy</li> <li>• 14-19 Education Plan</li> </ul> <p>With a specific focus and monitoring of the progress of vulnerable groups and appropriate preventative and targeted intervention including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looked After Children</li> <li>• Teenage mothers</li> <li>• Young Offenders</li> <li>• Young People with SEN/LDD</li> <li>• Those with substance misuse issues</li> </ul>	<p>1. The Borough EET Action Plan is in place which outlines partner responsibilities and contributions to achieving the NEET target. This will be reviewed and refreshed during autumn 2009 in the light of the economic climate. IYS Strategy in place and currently undergoing refresh. TYS pilot running. At a time when we might well expect outcomes for many of the most vulnerable young people to be worsening they are improving in some cases. Targeted interventions are having a demonstrably positive effect and in particular outcomes for 16-18 year old Teenage Mothers are improving. The EET rate amongst this group is the highest on record at this time of year though we have some way to go to achieve the national benchmark of 31%.</p>	<p>In progress on track</p>
<p>2. Deliver the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'What Next' NEET Hot Spot Project</li> <li>• Activity Agreement Pilot</li> <li>• Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) programmes.</li> </ul>	<p>2. The activity includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEET Hotspots project had been delivered and outcomes reported through the 14-19 Strategic Partnership. IEF funding has been sourced and secured to promote participation, progression and attainment. Good practice has been adopted from outcomes achieved through the NEET Hotspots programme.</li> <li>• The Activity Agreement Pilot continues to bear fruit with clear evaluation demonstrating improved progression rates, increased employability and reduced time spent NEET (on average 70% progressing into EET which is a significant achievement with some of the most marginalised young people).</li> <li>• PAYP funding has been delivered effectively and funding is currently under review.</li> </ul>	<p>Completed</p> <p>In progress on track</p> <p>In progress on track</p>

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>3. Develop Borough Strategy and implementation plan for the local application of the National standards for Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG).</p>	<p>3. IAG Self assessment exercise against the National Standards has been rolled to Wirral schools. Action plan has been approved by the Wirral 14-19 Strategic Partnership. A Wirral model for monitoring progress towards achieving institutional IAG development plans will start in the summer term 2009. The self assessment exercise to be rolled out to all other post 16 learning providers including Birkenhead Sixth Form College, Wirral Metropolitan College, and work-based learning providers. The process would follow the school model with the materials being adapted. The documents to be amended during summer term 2009 assessment completion during school holidays with WBL and completion during autumn term 2009. A staff development programme is in development which enables schools to meet all of the standards. The aim is to build the capacity of the IAG workforce (teaching/ non teaching). A partnership agreement has been signed between Connexions and all Learning Providers to ensure all young people have access to quality assured IAG. Plans are underway to enrol schools to achieve the local Career Education Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) Quality Award which recognises excellence and will contribute to the IAG standards and to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Write a Local Authority statement of the need for providers to meet the IAG standards.</li> <li>2. Develop an IAG Code of Practice to be adopted by all schools.</li> <li>3. Finalise strategy re developing ILPs and support schools as necessary.</li> <li>4. Develop online resources.</li> <li>5. Develop a curriculum model to enable young people to develop the skills to access IAG.</li> </ol>	<p>In progress on track</p>
<p>4. Extend the employability programmes for NEET Young people and specifically vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>4. The September Guarantee thresholds were met in Wirral, with 94.95% of Year 11 leavers having a recorded offer of a place in Education, Employment or Training and 80.51% of 17 year olds identified for the Guarantee (including young people on one year programmes, those on Entry2Employment (E2E) and those young people who are NEET in April, May and June) having a recorded offer of a place in Education, Employment and Training. Targeted action with vulnerable young people and within NEET hotspot areas continues. The annual Activity Survey of Year 11 leavers indicates over 90% of the cohort in learning. Teenagers can now receive text alerts for job vacancies for registering for the job scan service via <a href="http://www.connexionslive.com">www.connexionslive.com</a> As noted above the apprenticeships and Wirral Wise programmes are place.</p>	<p>In progress on track</p>

*Priority: Contribute to the reduction in levels of child poverty and minimise the number of children and young people living in poor housing.*

What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>1. Implementation of the CES Employment Strategy, WEDS priorities and Borough EET Strategy including the ‘whole family’ approach to addressing worklessness.</p>	<p>1. The focus of the Greater Merseyside CES is to tackle worklessness in the 62 designated Disadvantaged Area Fund (DAF) wards (taken from the 2001 Census) in each of the 6 Local Authorities. In these DAF wards over a quarter (28.1%) of residents are claiming a workless benefit. Current Performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater Merseyside CES as a whole is currently on course to meet target 1, with 292 more claimants coming off the workless benefits than anticipated.</li> <li>• However, it is likely that it will prove more difficult to continue to reduce the claimant rate at the same pace, as benefit claimants get harder to reach.</li> <li>• Across the sub-region as a whole there are a further 10,301 claimants required to come off Job Seekers Allowance, Incapacity Benefit or Income Support by May '09 to meet this target.</li> </ul>	<p>In progress milestones rescheduled</p>
<p>2. Improve access to life opportunities such as education, employment or training, healthcare and social/recreational opportunities by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work wise (scooters, cycles and travel cards)</li> <li>• Dial a link (DRT bus service)</li> <li>• Travel Team (travel advice and journey planning)</li> <li>• Travel Training</li> </ul>	<p>2. Access to opportunities was improved through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WorkWise project successfully operated during 08/09 – providing young people with the opportunity to apply for scooters, cycles or travel cards to assist them to access training, education and employment.</li> <li>• DRT bus service operated until December 2008 although take up was not as positive as expected.</li> <li>• Wirral Travel Team work with Wirral Met Colleges as part of open day events and also on going to provide information about public transport.</li> </ul>	<p>In progress on track</p>

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What we said we would do	What we did	Status
<p>3. Support young people including care leavers to access and maintain accommodation where needed by developing and progressing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of housing advisors who work with key agencies and staff to improve understanding of access to accommodation services.</li> <li>• Provision of Floating Tenancy Support Services available across the borough delivered via a number of Perl's.</li> <li>• Review of existing Housing and Employment Link Service which is funded via Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) to develop options for mainstreaming post March 2008 (this post is NRF funded).</li> <li>• Increase the number of households containing children and young people that are referred to power Health through Warmth for heating and insulation grants, thereby reducing fuel poverty amongst this group.</li> <li>• Monitor support/accommodation provided to lone teenage parents.</li> <li>• Explore opportunities to engage with young people to look specifically at options for accommodation and housing related support.</li> <li>• Review the findings of Wirral's Strategic Housing Market Assessment to ensure that the accommodation needs of all groups are identified and developed where appropriate.</li> <li>• Review and develop the findings of the homelessness review to form the basis of the new Wirral Homelessness Strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>3. Support and access was improved through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Options team in place, enabling focus on the promotion of housing options and prevention of homelessness, to improve outcomes for vulnerable households at risk of homelessness and reduce the number of households living in temporary accommodation.</li> <li>• Tenancy support within re-housing services includes private sector tenancy support, and support for people in temporary accommodation, and housing options team able to signpost to a range of floating support agencies.</li> <li>• Supporting People team are in the process of tendering for 5 generic floating tenancy support services, one of which will cover young people (18-25yrs) Delivery anticipated early 2010.</li> <li>• 29 households containing children and young people were referred into Health Through Warmth in 08/09, a 61% increase on the baseline.</li> <li>• Wirralhomes data is monitored and provided to Teenage Parent co-ordinator on an annual basis. The young persons housing options booklet was completed in conjunction with young people to identify the opportunities available to them for accommodation. Leaflets have also been published which indicate the availability of accommodation across the borough through Wirralhomes.</li> <li>• The SHMA has been completed and has informed the development of a draft affordable housing policy which will be consulted upon during 2009 identifying a need for a significant amount of new affordable housing provision within the borough. The needs of specific client groups who require specific support have been identified in Wirral Supported and Special Needs Housing Strategy.</li> <li>• The Wirral Homeless Strategy has been published and has taken on board the findings of the homelessness review. A Strategic homeless Group has been established with responsibility for monitoring the associated action plan.</li> </ul>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>In progress on track In progress on track In progress on track</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>
<p>4. A Housing Priority Panel has been established to assist vulnerable clients including young people to access general needs housing through assessment and referral to appropriate re-housing options, supported by a resettlement worker.</p>	<p>4 The Housing priority Panel has been mainstreamed as part of the overall Supporting People administration framework.</p>	<p>Completed</p>





# refreshed priorities

*The priorities for Wirral have been refreshed in response to the activities undertaken in the first year of the plan and national and local changes.*

## Priority

### Be Healthy

- Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour.
- Reduction in the prevalence of overweight children and obesity in children.
- Implement the Child Health Strategy. (NEW)
- Inequalities in the health of children and young people are reduced.

### Staying Safe

- More children grow up in secure, stable families where they belong, either through receiving timely, earlier intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families.
- Reduce the incidence of anti social, risk taking and harmful behaviour experienced by children and young people.
- More children are safe at home, at school and in the community, including reducing road traffic accidents and bullying.
- Children in care are safe and supported.
- Implement the government action plan in response to Lord Laming review of the protection of children in England. (NEW)

### Enjoy and Achieve

- Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools.
- Young children and families are well supported, especially the most vulnerable, through the network of Children's Centres.
- Children and families are supported with their social and emotional development. (NEW)
- Extended Services, delivered through schools and partners working in clusters, impact upon the outcomes for children and families.
- Continue to raise standards in schools and settings by continuing to improve the quality of leadership and management, curriculum, assessment and learning, thereby ensuring none fall into an OFSTED category.
- Close the attainment gap where poverty and disadvantage affect achievement.

### Positive Contribution

- Fewer children and young people are involved in offending and anti social behaviour.
- Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play and developmental opportunities which meets their needs.
- Children and young people are actively engaged in community and democratic decision making process.

### Social and Economic wellbeing

- Increase the number of young people who are participating and achieving their potential.
- Reduce numbers of 16-18 vulnerable young people NEET in line with LAA targets and the PSA 2010 trajectory.
- Contribute to the reduction in levels of child poverty and minimise the number of children and young people living in poor housing.

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**outcome area:**  
**being healthy**

*“We want to improve all children’s health and to narrow the gap in health outcomes experienced by our most disadvantaged children.”*

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implement the Children and Young People's Substance Misuse Plan which addresses issues around drugs and alcohol. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a package of interventions for families at risk of substance misuse to improve parenting skills.</li> <li>• Refresh pathways to reduce the number of Hospital Admissions, including A&amp;E attendance and improve links to Young Peoples Services.</li> <li>• Support the expansion of the Young Persons Alcohol Intervention Project through recurring funding to 2013.</li> <li>• Develop and deliver a Wirral wide social marketing campaign in relation to young people and parents/carers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Implement the Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Action Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase strategic leadership and direction through appointment of teenage pregnancy strategy champions.</li> <li>• Implement and support 'The Family Nurse Partnership' across Wirral for vulnerable first time teenage parents.</li> <li>• Enhance provision and support available to children in care to recognise their vulnerability to teenage pregnancy.</li> <li>• Embed support for teenage parents in targeted youth support agenda, including the development of the Joseph Paxton Site.</li> <li>• Review YAIP pathways to include EHC service for young people.</li> <li>• Monitor the effectiveness of the Young Woman's Antenatal Group run through Children's Centres.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate targeted support for teenage parents delivered by Children's Centres, e.g. Beacon Babes / Girls Aloud.</li> <li>• Ensure Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan and Parenting strategy are joined up to reflect role of parents in reducing conceptions and raising aspirations.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>NI 115 Substance misuse by young people (reported through positive contribution).</p> <p>NICE PH004 Interventions to reduce substance misuse among vulnerable young people.</p> <p>NI 39 Alcohol harm-related hospital admission rates.</p> <p>NI 112 Under 18 conception rate. VSB08 Teenage Pregnancy.</p> <p>PSA 11 Narrow the gap in educational achievement between children from low income and disadvantaged backgrounds and their peers.</p>

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Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour (continued).</p>	<p>3. Implement the Sexual Health Plan including increasing the proportion of eligible young people screened for Chlamydia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase Chlamydia screening sites by 25% through implementation of HSIS within Schools and Colleges and across Children’s Centres.</li> <li>• Increase availability and access to young people friendly sexual health and contraceptive services through HSIS and EHC in Pharmacies.</li> <li>• Formally launch the Sexual Health Policy and Guidance across Children’s services and include in training for all staff.</li> <li>• Establish robust Condom Distribution scheme across Wirral using accessible and user friendly settings for young people to comply where possible with You’re Welcome Quality Criteria.</li> </ul> <p>4. Increase the take up of Kooth.com.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate within the Healthy Schools Action Plan.</li> </ul> <p>5. Develop and deliver actions to prevent accidents within and outside of the home environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an action plan including actions for each Children’s Centre aimed at reducing local accidental injury rates.</li> </ul>	<p>SB13 Chlamydia Prevalence.</p> <p>NI 113 Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 20 year olds.</p> <p>NICE PH 003 One to one interventions to reduce the transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including HIV, and to reduce the rate of under 18 conceptions, especially among vulnerable and at risk groups.</p> <p>NI 50 Emotional health of children.</p> <p>NI 51 Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services.</p> <p>NI 70 Reduce emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people (Also reported through Staying Safe).</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Reduction in the prevalence of overweight children and obesity in children.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implement the Child Obesity Action Plan incorporating the care pathways for children 0-2yrs, 2-4yrs and 4-16yrs, which includes action on physical activity, food and drink, breast feeding and Healthy Schools, Pre-Schools and Children's Centres. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) to include staff training, production of appropriate resources and providing feedback to parents.</li> <li>• Commission additional providers to target weight management in early years.</li> <li>• Monitor existing contract with MEND and Lifestyle and Weight Management service to ensure referral targets met.</li> <li>• Ensure access to relevant activity sessions for 0-5 year olds in Children's Centres, e.g. Top Tots, Active Tots, Fizzy Tots and that Active Tots resources are incorporated into the Healthy Child Programme.</li> <li>• Ensure school children aged 5 – 16 have weekly access to 2 hours of high quality PE and Sport in school and a further 3 hours outside school hours. To be monitored through the School Sport Partnership Programme.</li> <li>• Implement the Active Families Sport England &amp; Physical Activity Alliance Project for 0 – 17 year olds and their families.</li> <li>• Implement Sport England's Free Swim programme for under 18's across Wirral Leisure Centres.</li> <li>• Ensure Obesity Action Plan and Parenting Strategy are joined up to reflect role of parents in reducing obesity.</li> <li>• Ensure BMI data from childhood screening programme (aged 2-2½ years) is collated and used as a measure to inform appropriate commissioning of services.</li> <li>• Implement 'Wirral's Taste for Healthy Food Policy', including specific guidance on public venues and residential settings.</li> <li>• Deliver the Breastfeeding Strategic Action plan to increase initiation and prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks, to include roll out of BOAT integrated ante natal programme across Wirral, recruiting an Advanced Practitioner for Infant Feeding, implementing UNICEF Baby Friendly standards in the hospital and the community, maintain Baby Friendly Status in Children's Centres and developing a peer support programme and an effective communication strategy.</li> <li>• Deliver Healthy Eating Groups to parents with very young children through Children's Centres, together with advice on choosing healthier lifestyles based on the 'Change 4 Life' programme.</li> <li>• Ensure the Henry Programme is accessed by all Children's Centres and Early Years practitioners.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>NI 55 Obesity among primary school age children in Reception Year.</p> <p>NI 56 Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6.</p> <p>NI 57 Children and young people's participation in high quality PE and sport.</p> <p>PH017 - Promoting physical activity for children and young people.</p> <p>NICE PH008 Guidance on the promotion and creation of physical environments that support increased levels of physical activity.</p> <p>NI 53 Prevalence of breast feeding at 6 – 8 weeks from birth.</p> <p>VSB09 Childhood Obesity.</p> <p>VSB11 Prevalence of breast feeding at 6-8 weeks.</p> <p>NICE PH011 Guidance for midwives, health visitors, pharmacists and other primary care services to improve the nutrition of pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and children in low income households.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Implement the Child Health Strategy.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implement the Healthy Child Programme, in partnership with Children’s Centres, to include targeted and universal care packages and incorporating support from the Family Nurse Partnership Programme for vulnerable and hard to reach families.</li> <li>2. Monitor the effective provision of CAMHS including the embedding of the CHICC project and design and implement a workforce development strategy and implement recommendations arising from the plan.</li> <li>3. Early Years and Teen Life Check programmes available and easily accessible to parents and young people and offered through a range of services, to include HSIS, and Children’s Centres.</li> <li>4. Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Health Promoting Early Years Programme.</li> <li>5. Monitor and evaluate the BOAT Project within Children’s Centres.</li> <li>6. Implement the Healthy Schools Action Plan arising from the Self Evaluation Toolkit to ensure that 10% of schools are engaged in the ‘Enhanced Healthy Schools Programme’ by 2010 and ensure nutrition and oral health training is provided to 50% of all Wirral schools throughout 2009/10.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 55 Obesity among primary school age children in Reception Year</p> <p>NI 50 Emotional health of children.</p> <p>NI51 Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services.</p> <p>You’re Welcome Quality Framework</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Inequalities in the health of children and young people are reduced.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure Actions relating to Children and Young People (CYP) in the Health Inequalities Plan are included in the Being Healthy Strategic Action Plan. Monitor and evaluate the plan throughout the period to ensure outcomes are being met to reduce health inequalities.</li> <li>2. Develop specific actions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of dental caries through the Fluoride Milk Programme, the Bright Smiles Programme and the Dental Bus.</li> <li>• Reduce the proportion of women who continue to smoke throughout pregnancy.</li> <li>• Ensure all Children’s Centres have fully integrated plans on smoking cessation, obesity, breast feeding, oral health and services for disabled children including access to relevant specialist agencies and ensure these plans are fully aligned with complimentary service plans and activities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Implement actions to increase (and maintain) the take up of childhood vaccinations and immunisation programme. Implement new vaccination programmes effectively ensuring high uptake from inception.</li> <li>4. Develop and implement actions to reduce the number of infant mortalities.</li> <li>5. Implement and start to embed the TaMHS (Targeted Mental Health in Schools) project in Wirral.</li> <li>6. Develop CAMHS to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint commissioning of mental health promotion and early intervention support.</li> <li>• Enhanced service for CYP with Learning Disabilities.</li> <li>• Appropriate accommodation for 16-17 year olds who require in patient placements.</li> <li>• 24 hour cover in partnership with the Acute Hospital.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>DMFT (5 year olds). (decayed, missing and filled teeth).</p> <p>DMFT (12 and 14 year olds). (decayed, missing and filled teeth).</p> <p>Proportion of women who continue to smoke throughout pregnancy.</p> <p>VSB 10 Individuals who complete immunisation by recommended ages.</p> <p>Infant mortality rate.</p> <p>NI51 Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services.</p>



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**outcome area:**  
**staying safe**

*“We want to support children earlier, closer to their communities and wherever possible by supporting families.”*

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>More children grow up in secure, stable families where they belong, either through receiving timely, earlier intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Embed improved system and process underpinning the child concern model, which measures and supports CAF and TAC.</li> <li>2. Review and improve systems and processes to support and deliver timely multi-agency plans for children in need.</li> <li>3. Implement the strategic plan to support the coherent and joined up development of Area Teams / Children's Centres and Extended Schools.</li> <li>4. Continue to provide credible programmes for courts to consider as alternatives to custody, for 'prolific and serious' offenders including implementation of Multi-Systemic Therapy.</li> <li>5. Implement the Area Team development plan, which includes co-locating Area Teams.</li> <li>6. Review and refresh the Parenting Strategy; implement PEIP; monitor the impact on improved outcomes delivered by commissioned services.</li> <li>7. Implement plans to further develop and co-located services to deliver IYSS / TYS.</li> <li>8. Support more children and adolescents with their families through developing the work of the Adolescent Support Team. Extend capacity to deliver more family group meetings, and increase short break provision to support more children and adolescents with their family in the community.</li> <li>9. More timely progression of plans, for more children to be adopted or achieve permanence through adoption, Special Guardianship and Residence Orders, where this will best meet their needs.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 59 Initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral.</p> <p>NI 60 Core assessments for children's social care carried out within 35 working days of their commencement.</p> <p>NI 61 Stability of looked after children adopted following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption.</p> <p>NI 63 Stability of placements: length of placement.</p> <p>NI 68 Referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment.</p>

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Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>More children grow up in secure, stable families where they belong, either through receiving timely, earlier intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families (continued).</p>	<p>10. Implement the multi-agency ‘Turning the Curve’ action plan to safely reduce the numbers of children in care, particularly focusing on reducing the number of children in care placed at home with parents.</p> <p>11. Sustain improved processes for contact, referral and assessment – the ‘front door’ into social care.</p> <p>12. Provide strong organisational and operational links between Children’s Centres and fieldwork services, focussing on safeguarding systems and training to meet assessed needs.</p> <p>13. Develop the appropriate involvement of children’s centres in the delivery of support to all children 0-5 subject to a child protection plan.</p> <p>14. Implement early intervention and planning of services to families with children under five involving midwives, health visitors, children’s centre outreach workers and social care professionals with a focus on the needs of the reach population of the centre.</p> <p>15. Improve consistency of response, in accordance with regulation to children living with Private Foster Carers.</p> <p>16. Implement the Children’s Social Care and Safeguarding restructure, to increase the number of social workers, increase capacity to deliver improved management and performance oversight, and expansion of Local Safeguarding Children’s Board (LSCB) activity.</p>	<p>NI 59 Initial assessments for children’s social care carried out within 7 working days of referral.</p> <p>NI 60 Core assessments for children’s social care carried out within 35 working days of their commencement.</p> <p>NI 61 Stability of looked after children adopted following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption.</p> <p>NI 63 Stability of placements: length of placement.</p> <p>NI 68 Referrals to children’s social care going on to initial assessment.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Reduce the incidence of anti social, risk taking and harmful behaviour experienced by children and young people.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sustain and strengthen joint working between the CYPD, NHS Wirral and Wirral Family Safety Unit to further reduce the incidence of domestic violence and repeat occurrences.</li> <li>2. Continue to develop more consistent targeting of services for children at risk of offending, through early identification systems triggering YOS input.</li> <li>3. Review Merseyside Protocol and further develop services for children identified as missing from home / care, and / or involved in sexual exploitation.</li> <li>4. Monitor and review children's accident and emergency referral pathway, to continue to reduce the incidence of children presenting following excessive alcohol consumption / substance misuse.</li> <li>5. Jointly deliver Operation Stay Safe, and monitor the impact upon reduced incidence of young people's excessive consumption of alcohol.</li> <li>6. Promote, develop and deliver parental guidance and awareness raising strategies to keep children safe, including the co-sleeping awareness campaign.</li> <li>7. Continue to deliver comprehensive LSCB training plan for all staff, level 1-4 and refresh Section 11 Audit and Action plan by all LSCB Board members.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 32 Repeat incidents of domestic violence.</p> <p>NI 43 Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody.</p> <p>N19 Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders.</p> <p>NI 111 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System age 10-17 (reported through Positive Contribution).</p> <p>NI 64 Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more.</p> <p>NI 65 Children becoming the subject of a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time.</p> <p>NI 67 Child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales.</p> <p>NI 70 Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people.</p> <p>NI 71 Children who have run away from home / care overnight. (Measured from 2009 onwards).</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>More children are safe at home, at school and in the community, including reducing road traffic accidents and bullying.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implement the road safety strategy for children through the Road Safety partnership.</li> <li>2. Extend and develop opportunities for children and young people to tell us what makes them feel unsafe, and deliver programmes to improve their safety and resilience.</li> <li>3. Continue to support the development of anti-bullying strategies in schools, on school transport, and in community facilities. Develop and disseminate an LA Anti Bullying Policy; raise awareness among parents of bullying – specifically e-safety and cyber-bullying [in line with the national focus for 2009].</li> <li>4. Implement and evidence learning from Child Death Overview Panels.</li> <li>5. Children’s centres to develop action plans and activities designed to reduce the rate of emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children aged 0 – 5 resident in the reach area of the centre.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 69 Children who have experienced bullying.</p> <p>NI 48 Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Children in care are safe and supported.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete the review of residential short break and community services for children with learning disabilities and complex health needs in accordance with Aiming High for Disabled Children Strategy.</li> <li>2. Improve the quality of multi-agency transition arrangements for children in care with learning disabilities and/or mental health issues.</li> <li>3. Ensure good or excellent standards of care in all directly provided residential care, foster care and commissioned services.</li> <li>4. Improve the quality and choice of provision for children becoming looked after, particularly in Local Authority fostering provision and reduce the number of children living in out of borough independent sector residential placements.</li> <li>5. Maintain a full complement of trained and skilled social workers, so that all children in care have a qualified and suitably trained social worker to meet their needs in a timely way.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 62 Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves.</p> <p>NI 63 Stability of placements: length of placement.</p> <p>NI 66 Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales.</p> <p>NI 58 Emotional and behavioural health of children in care. (Reported through Being Healthy).</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Implement the government action plan in response to Lord Laming review of protection of children in England.</p>	<p>Delivery plan outlined in the Local Safeguarding Children Board Business plan.</p>	<p>Review completed and implemented.</p>

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**outcome area:**  
**enjoy and achieve**

*“We want to raise the achievement of all our young people and to narrow the gap in attainment experienced by our most disadvantaged children.”*

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools.	1. Remove surplus capacity in Primary & Secondary Schools through phased reviews of provision across the borough.	% of surplus places in primary schools. % of surplus places in secondary schools.

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
Young children and families are well supported, especially the most vulnerable, through the network of Children's Centres.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Further develop the governance and scrutiny function of 'Wirral's Children First' Strategic Board. Develop sharing of good practice and ensuring consistency of policy and approach across Children's Centres in all their work.</li> <li>2. Ensure priority is given to improving the outcomes for vulnerable families in the 5 ECM themes, via continuous data analysis, regular reports to the board, development of case studies of good practice.</li> <li>3. Use of tighter performance management structures and common agendas across children's centres; develop integrated multi-agency networks across areas and districts.</li> <li>4. Create robust information sharing protocols and systems across all partners.</li> <li>5. Develop and pilot the role of Portage as key workers to some families. Integrate early support into the First for Families model and explore locality-based delivery through Children's Centres.</li> <li>6. Publication of the Childcare Sufficiency Audit.</li> <li>7. Launch of Information System for Parents and providers.</li> <li>8. Completion of Phase 3 Children's Centre developments.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 118 Take up of formal childcare by low income working families.</p> <p>NI 109 Number of Children's Centres.</p> <p>Numbers of children and families accessing services and the proportion from vulnerable/disadvantaged backgrounds.</p>



Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
Children and families are supported with their social and emotional development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure priority is also given to work with vulnerable families on emotional and social development, e.g. via SEAL programmes, Family Works, and nurturing training provided by SESS.</li> <li>2. Further embed the Managed Moves protocol in secondary and primary schools especially in order to further reduce the levels of exclusion.</li> <li>3. Continue to roll out Restorative Practices training.</li> </ol>	<p>Number of children excluded from school (fixed and permanent exclusions).</p> <p>Numbers of schools engaged with the SEAL programmes.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
Extended Services, delivered through schools and partners working in clusters, impact upon the outcomes for children and families.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to implement the Extended Services Action Plan.</li> <li>2. Priorities for 2009-2010 are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. All clusters to have robust plans clearly targeted using allocated resources effectively.</li> <li>b. Improve measurement of impact.</li> <li>c. Implement training programme for ACES, governors, chairs of clusters.</li> <li>d. Further training on School Improvement Toolkit.</li> <li>e. Develop extended Services around Special Schools.</li> <li>f. Achieve the Full Core Offer across all schools by 2010.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>NI 88 Number of extended Schools.</p> <p>RAG rating by Extended Services Regional Team.</p> <p>Number of children accessing services.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Raise standards in schools and settings by continuing to improve the quality of leadership and management, curriculum, assessment and learning, thereby ensuring none fall into an OFSTED category.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Put revised School Improvement Policy into practice; provide appropriate briefings of councillors, governors and headteachers.</li> <li>2. Ensure primary schools causing concern or in an Ofsted category make sufficient progress to be removed in the shortest possible time.</li> <li>3. Identify underachieving and underperforming schools, subjects and groups within schools (including underperforming vulnerable learners) through analysis of data. This includes ensuring through the National Challenge and Gaining Ground programmes that by Summer 2011 no secondary school is below 30% for 5+A*-C grades (including English and maths).</li> <li>4. Ensure early intervention in potential schools causing concern.</li> <li>5. Measure impact of support provided.</li> <li>6. Increase accuracy of assessment and consistency of moderation at transition points.</li> <li>7. Ensure priority is given to ISP and WISP in primary schools; and coordinated, targeted support in secondary schools. Focus in particular on raising standards in English and maths.</li> <li>8. Implement curriculum changes in line with the 21st Century School programme and the review of the Primary Curriculum.</li> <li>9. Develop a high quality e-learning community that supports an improving and developing curriculum and encourages collaboration.</li> <li>10. Support the implementation of the new Framework for the inspection of schools in England from September 2009.</li> <li>11. Embed APP across English, mathematics, science and ICT teaching.</li> <li>12. Further develop effective teaching and learning strategies and the sharing of good practice to raise the quality of learning.</li> <li>13. Implement the next phase of 1-1 tuition extending from KS2 to KS3 and KS4; identify and support schools.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 89 Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category</p> <p>All DCSF attainment targets and linked NI's will be measured.</p> <p>NI 78 Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and maths</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Close the attainment gap where poverty and disadvantage affect achievement.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve outreach of all Children’s Centres to vulnerable families.</li> <li>2. In collaboration with Speech and Language Team from PCT, initiate training programme for TAs, and VCF sector, in Hanen approaches to language development, in order to narrow gaps at Early Years Foundation Stage.</li> <li>3. Implement data training programme, including neighbourhood data, on effects of poverty on achievement across the partnership.</li> <li>4. Develop the use of range of intervention strategies to support under-achieving and under-attaining groups of pupils, e.g. via dissemination of Action Research findings of Educational Psychologists.</li> <li>5. Ensure all schools know the extent of their attainment gap; monitor schools on their ability to ‘close the gap’ for children on free school meals and other vulnerable groups. Report progress in narrowing the gap to Children &amp; Young People’s Strategic Management Board, and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Promote and develop the implementation of the National Strategies Inclusion Development Programme in all Wirral schools to improve the overall quality of Quality First Teaching.</li> <li>6. Promote and develop the implementation of the National Strategies Inclusion Development Programme in all Wirral schools to improve the overall quality of Quality First Teaching.</li> <li>7. Improve the progress of the lowest attaining 20% of pupils in mainstream schools and narrow the SEN/non-SEN achievement gaps at KS2 in English and maths and increase the number of SEN/LDD pupils achieving A*-C GCSE English and maths.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 92 narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in Early Years Foundation Stage profile and the rest.</p> <p>NI 102 Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at KS2 and 4.</p> <p>NI 87 proportion of pupils who are Persistently Absent in secondary schools.</p> <p>Proportion of Children In Care who miss 25 days or more of school.</p> <p>NI 99 Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2</p> <p>NI 100 Children in care reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2</p> <p>NI 101 Looked After Children achieving 5 A*-C GCSE’s</p> <p>NI 148 % care leavers in education, employment or training at age 19</p>

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Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
Close the attainment gap where poverty and disadvantage affect achievement (continued).	<p>8. Make effective use of the new progression guidance (2009-2010) to set accurate and challenging core subject targets for the lowest attaining pupils in the borough.</p> <p>9. Work with schools to reduce the level of persistent absence in primary schools and secondary schools.</p> <p>10. Work with the Virtual School to improve the school attendance of Children in Care.</p> <p>11. Improve the outcomes for children who have English as an additional language.</p> <p>12. Reduce child poverty by supporting families experiencing unemployment through family, adult and employability programmes.</p> <p>13. Raise standards of Children in Care so their outcomes are comparable to their peers.</p> <p>14. Ensure that the educational needs of Children in Care are identified at an early stage and appropriate support put in place which tracks attainment and progress and increases levels of attainment.</p>	See previous page.

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**outcome area:**  
**positive contribution**

*“We want to engage all young people more fully in issues affecting their lives and particularly those at risk of disaffection.”*

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Fewer children and young people are involved in offending and anti social behaviour.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quarterly analysis of FTE data to ensure targeted prevention resources to reduce numbers entering the youth justice system.</li> <li>2. Expansion of the Restorative Justice Protocol to ensure RJ principles are followed effectively and that all young people entering the youth justice system for the first time are considered for RJ as an alternative to prosecution.</li> <li>3. Increase use of Restorative Practice in schools to reduce exclusions.</li> <li>4. Ensure all young people are assessed at the point of entry to YOS and that ETE needs are addressed in intervention planning.</li> <li>5. Annual Partnership Agreement between Connexions and YOS reviewed and refreshed to sustain positive partnership working as cited during recent Ofsted ETE inspection.</li> <li>6. Connexions Personal Adviser support to YOS reconfigured to include Activity Agreement Advisor enabling direct access to the programme for Young Offenders.</li> <li>7. ETE mentors recruited and trained to support young people accessing ETE.</li> <li>8. Work with current providers to ensure an increase in accommodation available for young people whose previous convictions or behaviour might otherwise prevent them from being accommodated.</li> <li>9. Substance Misuse Strategy supports early intervention to reduce harm in children and young people.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 111 First-time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10 – 17.</p> <p>NI 86 Number of secondary schools judged as having Outstanding Behaviour.</p> <p>NI 45 Young offender’s engagement in suitable education employment and training.</p> <p>NI 46 Young offenders access to suitable accommodation.</p> <p>NI 115 Tellus Survey, the total number of young people reporting either frequent use of drugs, or alcohol or both.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play and developmental opportunities which meets their needs.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Commissioning of Hubs to provide a focus for District planning to make youth service provision available over six nights a week.</li> <li>2. The Youth Opportunity Fund/ Youth Capital Fund will be used to commission access to leisure facilities for young people aged 13-19.</li> <li>3. The District Activity Fund will be used to commission in specialist support organisations to ensure there is engagement with young people from vulnerable groups.</li> <li>4. The District Activity Fund will be used to commission additional activities to enhance the District Youth Offer and to engage with a broader range of young people.</li> <li>5. Young carers will be taking part in a twelve week programme, designed by young carers. The programme seeks to provide opportunities to explore areas of concern and also to provide fun and challenging activities.</li> <li>6. All young carers will receive a pack which contains information on activities available in their areas, health guidelines, useful phone numbers and Young Carers Project update.</li> <li>7. We will continue to ensure that Children in Care are able to access leisure activity programmes during the holiday periods.</li> <li>8. Promote play opportunities for children and young people on quarterly basis in conjunction with extended school cluster groups.</li> <li>9. Collate baseline data to establish how children and young people feel about playing out.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 57 Children and young people's participation in high quality PE and sport.</p> <p>NI 110 Young People's participation in positive activities.</p>

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Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play and developmental opportunities which meets their needs (continued).</p>	<p>10. Complete action plan to address areas of concern raised by October 2009.</p> <p>11. Play Staff will be trained to manage areas of concern with training undertaken in January 2010.</p> <p>12. Complete “Feel Safe, Play Safe” action plan by March 2010.</p> <p>13. Children and young people make presentation to Wirral Play Partnership</p> <p>14. Consult with children and young people on four equipped play areas.</p> <p>15. Membership of Play Partnership or commissioned organisation is dependent on signing up to Play Strategy Implementation plan.</p>	<p>NI 57 Children and young people’s participation in high quality PE and sport.</p> <p>NI 110 Young People’s participation in positive activities.</p>



Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Children and Young People are actively engaged in community and democratic decision making process.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Executive Youth Board (EYB) will review its annual progress and make recommendations for future activity.</li> <li>2. EYB will prepare an action plan and progress will be reported to schools, youth organisations through Schools Councils, Youth Forums, Connect-uz.</li> <li>3. Arrangements are in place to consult with children and young people on the priorities and actions included in the Children and Young People's Plan.</li> <li>4. EYB meets with representatives of Older People's Parliament to identify appropriate structures for co-working to address community cohesion concerns.</li> <li>5. Young people will be trained in recruitment and selection procedures. Eight young people in 2009/10 and twelve young people in 2010/11.</li> <li>6. Four young carers will be trained in recruitment and selection in 2009/10 and they will then be involved in the recruitment of staff within the Young Carers project.</li> <li>7. All children and young people who come into the care of the local authority will be directly contacted.</li> <li>8. All young people who access the AAP programme will complete a questionnaire to gather their views on provision accessed. These views will feed into the commissioning and direct purchase of future provision.</li> <li>9. For 2009/10 a young people's grant panel have been established to distribute the Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund. The young people identified two priority areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic commissioning (£293,220) to improve young people's access to transport and leisure facilities.</li> <li>• General fund (£100,000) applications which specifically address priority areas identified by children and young people will be given priority. (Areas include: reducing teenage pregnancy; substance and alcohol misuse; homelessness; music, arts and media projects for young people; environmental projects which benefit the community).</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>NI110 Young People's participation in positive activities.</p> <p>95% of schools on Wirral achieve Healthy Schools Status - December 2009.</p> <p>Representatives from 4 districts involved with the Executive Youth Board.</p>



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**outcome area:**  
**social and economic wellbeing**

*“We want to equip our young people better for adult life and particularly to narrow the gap experienced by our most disadvantaged young people in their prospects.”*

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Increase the number of young people who are participating and achieving their potential.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to progress the 14-19 reform agenda and to provide a range of opportunities and course of high quality through the implementation of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14-19 Plan.</li> <li>• LSC Quality Assurance Framework post-16.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Increase post 16 participation and achievement through the implementation of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough EET Strategy.</li> <li>• IYS Strategy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Support Wirral Care Leavers to access HE and achieve academic success.</li> <li>4. Provide young people with confidence and skills, and information to travel independently using public transport, or by walking or cycling.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 90 Take up of 14-19 learning diplomas.</p> <p>NI 79 Achievement of a level 2 qualification by the age of 19.</p> <p>NI 80 Achievement of a level 3 qualification by the age of 19.</p> <p>NI 117 Reduce the percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education employment or training (NEET).</p> <p>NI 91 Participation of 17 year olds in education or training.</p> <p>NI 148 Care leavers in Education, employment and training.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Reduce numbers of 16-18 vulnerable young people NEET in line with LAA targets and the PSA 2010 trajectory.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In recognition of the current economic climate and global recession we will refresh the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough EET Strategy</li> <li>• IYS Strategy</li> <li>• 14-19 Plan</li> </ul> <p>With a specific focus and monitoring of the progress of vulnerable groups and appropriate preventative and targeted intervention including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children in care</li> <li>• Teenage mothers</li> <li>• Young Offenders</li> <li>• Young People with SEN/LDD</li> <li>• Those with substance misuse issues</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Deliver the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity Agreement Pilot</li> <li>• Positive Activities for Young People programmes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Develop Borough Strategy and implementation plan for the local application of the National standards for information, Advice and Guidance.</li> <li>4. Extend the employability programmes for NEET Young people and specifically vulnerable groups and implement the Wirral Apprenticeship Programme.</li> </ol>	<p>NI 117 16-18 year olds not in education employment or training (NEET).</p> <p>N148 Care leavers in Education, employment and training.</p> <p>NI 45 Young Offenders engagement in suitable education employment and training.</p>

Priority	How we will deliver	How we will be judged
<p>Contribute to the reduction in levels of child poverty and minimise the number of children and young people living in poor housing.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implementation of the CES Employment Strategy, WEDS priorities and Borough EET Strategy including the ‘whole family’ approach to addressing worklessness acknowledging the current economic climate and impact of the recession.</li> <li>2. Improve access to life opportunities such as education, employment or training, healthcare and social/recreational opportunities by providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work wise (scooters, cycles and travel cards)</li> <li>• Dial a link (DRT bus service)</li> <li>• Travel Team (travel advice and journey planning)</li> <li>• Travel Training.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Support young people including care leavers to access and maintain accommodation where needed by developing and progressing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of households containing children and young people that are referred to power Health through Warmth for heating and insulation grants, thereby reducing fuel poverty amongst this group.</li> <li>• Monitor support and accommodation provided to lone teenage parents.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>NI 116 Proportion of children in poverty.</p> <p>NI 176 Working age people with access to employment by public transport (and other specified modes).</p> <p>NI 118 Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families.</p> <p>NI 45 Young offenders access to suitable accommodation.</p> <p>NI 147 Care leavers in suitable accommodation.</p>

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# outcome framework performance indicators

National Indicator		Actual			Targets			Good performance
		2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	
NI 43	Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	4.8%	3.8%	4.0%	< 5.0%	< 5.0%	< 5.0%	Lower is Better
NI 44	Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals	-1.0	0.31	Awaiting Data	0.0	0.0	0.0	Higher is Better
NI 45	Young offenders' engagement in suitable education training and employment	69.9%	79.2%	82.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	Higher is Better
NI 46	Young Offenders' access to suitable accommodation	98.0%	98.5%	98.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Higher is Better
NI 50	Emotional health of children	N/A	N/A	62.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services	15	15	16	16	16	16	Higher is Better
NI 52	Take up of school lunches	N/A	N/A	N/A	Baseline 2009/10	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 53	Prevalence of breast feeding	N/A	N/A	29.0%	29.9%	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 54	Services for disabled children	N/A	N/A	N/A	Baseline 2009/10	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 55	Obesity in primary school age children in Reception	N/A	9.13%	9.57%	9.23%	9.37%	9.50%	Lower is Better
NI 56	Obesity in primary school age children in Year 6	N/A	19.74%	19.11%	20.4%	20.9%	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 57	Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Baseline 2009/10	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better



National Indicator	Actual			Targets			Good performance
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	
NI 58 Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children	N/A	N/A	15.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	
NI 59 Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral	81.6%	79.0%	77.4%	82.0%	84.0%	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 60 Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement.	82.4%	90.0%	79.1%	82.0%	84.0%	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 61 Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	76.2%	55.6%	64.7%	68%	68%	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 62 Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	9.8%	12.0%	10.2%	10.0%	10.0%	N/A	Lower is better
NI 63 Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	62.3%	62.2%	65.5%	63.0%	63.0%	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 64 Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	7.7%	3.0%	4.8%	< 5.0%	< 5.0%	< 5.0%	Lower is better
NI 65 Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	10.0%	14.5%	11.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is better
NI 66 Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales	89.8%	95.0%	96.3%	100%	100%	100%	Higher is better
NI 67 Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	100%	Higher is better
NI 68 Referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	40.50%	66.0%	64.3%	72%	75%	N/A	Higher is better
NI 69 Children who have experienced bullying	N/A	N/A	42.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better

National Indicator		Actual			Targets			Good performance
		2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	
NI 70	Reduce emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people	161.1	159.6	123.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 71	Children who have run away from home/care	N/A	N/A	N/A	Baseline 2009/10	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage	45%	46%	49%	56%	TBC	TBC	Higher is Better
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and maths at Key Stage 2	72%	72%	75%	78%	TBC	TBC	Higher is Better
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths	46.3%	48.4%	50.2%	55.2%	TBC	TBC	Higher is Better
NI 76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 65% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and maths at KS2	16	11	8	16	TBC	TBC	Lower is Better
NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and maths	6	6	4	0	0	0	Lower is Better
NI 79	Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	69.2%	70.8%	74.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	44.4%	43.9%	48.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 81	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	32.4%	33.1%	32.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 82	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	50.8%	51.0%	59.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 84	Achievement of 2 or more A*- C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent	50.8%	54.5%	53.4%	58.7%	60.6%	N/A	Higher is Better

National Indicator	Actual			Targets			Good performance
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	
NI 85a Post-16 participation in physical sciences - A Level Physics	N/A	N/A	128	134	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 85b Post-16 participation in physical sciences - A Level Chemistry	N/A	N/A	246	258	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 85c Post-16 participation in physical sciences - A Level Maths	N/A	N/A	276	290	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 86 Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour	82%	86%	86%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 87 Secondary school persistent absence rate	8.0%	7.1%	4.9%	6.4%	5.5%	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 88 Percentage of schools providing access to extended services	N/A	N/A	65.9%	85.3%	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 89a Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category - Number of schools in special measures	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	Lower is Better
NI 89b Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category - Average time in Special Measures	N/A	N/A	23.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 90 Uptake of learning diploma	N/A	N/A	N/A	Baseline 2009/10	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 91 Participation of 17 year-olds in education or training	76.2%	78.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 92 Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	37.4%	34.3%	31.9%	30.2%	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 93 Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	80.5%	83.8%	85.4%	86.0%	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better

National Indicator	Actual			Targets			Good performance
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	
NI 94 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	73.7%	74.8%	78.9%	79.0%	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 99 Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	36%	41%	62%	44%	53%	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 100 Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2	36%	52%	62%	44%	56%	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 101 Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and maths)	N/A	7.9%	10.5%	7.4%	6.3%	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 102a Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2 and 4 - Key Stage 2 Gap	25.0%	23.0%	21.8%	21.0%	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 102b Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2 and 4 - Key Stage 4 Gap	38.4%	36.5%	37.4%	35.8%	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 103a Statements issued within 26 weeks excluding exceptions	N/A	N/A	97.1%	98.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Higher is Better
NI 103b Statements issued within 26 weeks	N/A	N/A	90.7%	92.0%	94.0%	96.0%	Higher is Better
NI 104 The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap - achieving Key Stage 2 English and maths threshold	56%	56%	51.2%	52.0%	50.0%	49.0%	Lower is Better
NI 105 The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap - achieving 5 A*- C GCSE including English and maths	43.7%	44.1%	46.4%	42.0%	41.0%	40.0%	Lower is Better
NI 106 Young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education	29.5%	31.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 109 Delivery of Sure Start Children's Centres	N/A	N/A	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Higher is Better

National Indicator	Actual			Targets			Good performance
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	
NI 109 Delivery of Sure Start Children's Centres	N/A	N/A	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Higher is Better
NI 110 Positive activities for young people	N/A	N/A	71.10%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 111 First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17	N/A	1600	N/A	1570	1500	N/A	Lower is better
NI 112 Percentage reduction in under 18 conception rate	-5.60%	-6.7%	N/A	-28%	-39%	-50%	Lower is Better
NI 113 Screening for prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds	N/A	17.0%	17.0%	17.0%	17.0%	N/A	Lower is better
NI 114 Rate of permanent exclusion from school	0.10%	0.10%	0.08%	0.07%	0.07%	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 115 Substance misuse by young people	N/A	N/A	13.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 116 Proportion of children in poverty	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 117 16-18 year olds who are not in education training or employment (NEET)	10.0%	9.5%	9.1%	7.1%	6.9%	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 118 Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families	19.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lower is Better
NI 147 Care leavers in suitable accommodation	80.5%	91.1%	91.40%	95.0%	96.0%	97.0%	Higher is Better
NI 148 Care leavers in education employment or training	56.1%	40.0%	55.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 161 Number of Level 1 qualifications in literacy (including ESOL) achieved	N/A	1345	1767	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better
NI 162 Number of Entry Level qualifications in numeracy achieved	N/A	172	240	N/A	N/A	N/A	Higher is Better





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## Wirral Children and Young People's Plan 2008 - 2011

### Equality Impact Assessment



**Wirral Children and Young People’s Plan 2008 – 2011**

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## Summary

This equality impact assessment represents the work of the five Every Child Matters strategy groups of the Wirral Children and Young Peoples Partnership Board, now the Wirral Children's Trust. The partners included Wirral Council, Connexions, Wirral Metropolitan College, Job Centre Plus, NHS Wirral, Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust, Wirral Hospital Trust, Powerhouse, Tranmere Alliance, Brook, PSS (young carers), WIRED, Forum Housing, schools (including special educational needs and School for Deaf), Link Forum, voluntary and community sector and parent representatives.

The participation involved a variety of professionals including: public health, midwifery, Drug and Alcohol Action Team, school nurse, health visitor, clinical psychologist, paediatrician, named nurse (child protection), CAMHS, head teachers regeneration, housing, Wirral Lifelong and Family Learning, Response, Children's Centres, healthy schools, special education support services, choice advisor, WiSCH, anti-social behaviour team, health promotion, Education Social Welfare Service, Family Safety Unit, road safety, youth service, libraries, teenage pregnancy co-ordinator, Youth Offending Service, extended schools, community safety, play service, children's social care, school inspectors, and managers in Wirral Children and Young People's Department

In addition a group of young people (10 young people in total, 6 male, 4 female, 2 with disabilities and 1 black/racial minority person) undertook their own equality impact assessment (see appendix 1), and their comments have been included in the overall equality action plan.



..... 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009..... (date)

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## Contact Details

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## Introduction

Equality impact assessment is a tool to assist public bodies to look at the potential positive and negative impacts of their work with regards to promoting equality of opportunity, and removing any unlawful discrimination. It is about removing barriers to our services and actively promoting and support diversity. The tool looks at six specific areas of equality:

Age  
Disability  
Race  
Religion or Belief  
Gender  
Sexual Orientation

## What was assessed?

The Wirral Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011 was assessed by carrying out an individual equality impact assessment for each of the priority areas listed below.

### **Being healthy**

Reduce the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour  
Reduce the prevalence of overweight and obesity in children  
Health and well-being services, support and information are easily accessible by children and young people.  
Inequalities in the health of children are being reduced

### **Staying safe**

Reduce the incidence of anti-social, risk taking and harmful  
Children in care are safe and supported  
More children grow up in secure, stable families, where they belong, either through receiving timely, early intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families  
More children are safe at home, at school and in the community, including reducing road traffic accidents and bullying

### **Enjoy and achieve**

Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools  
Young children and families are well supported, especially the most vulnerable through the network of Children's Centres  
Children and families are supported with their social and emotional development  
Extended services delivered through schools and partners working in clusters impact upon the outcomes for children and families.  
Raise standards in schools and settings by continuing to improve the quality of leadership and management, curriculum, assessment and learning, thereby ensuring none fall into an OFSTED category  
Close the attainment gap where poverty and disadvantage affect achievement

### **Making a positive contribution**

Fewer children and young people are involved in offending and anti-social behaviour

Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play opportunities which meet their needs

Children and young people are engaged in community and democratic decision making

**Achieving social and economic well-being**

Reduce the number of 16-18 vulnerable young people in NEET in line with LAA targets and the PSA 2010 trajectory

Increase the number of young people who are participating and achieving their potential

Contribute to the reduction in levels of child poverty and minimise the number of children and young people living in poor housing

The detailed actions in the plan were not assessed as it was assumed that the equality impact assessments would be completed for the specific service areas implementing the plan or be covered by equality impact assessments for specific policies and procedures.

## **The process and engagement**

The equality impact assessment process was initiated at a development day for the strategy group members and then followed up through separate meetings for each of the five every child matters outcome area strategy groups. Participants from different agencies and professions in workshops looked at the positive and negative impacts for each of the equality groups for each of the priority areas. The process took place during the first year of the implementation of the children and young people's plan (April 08 to March 09) and the outcomes of this equality impact assessment have fed into the review of the plan after one year.

As no high negative impacts were identified an initial assessment only was required. However the process involved some of the elements of undertaking a full equality impact assessment.

## **The equality impact assessment**

Below is a summary of the positive impacts from consideration of the impact of each priority area of the plan on disabled, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, black, racial minority older, and younger people, women, men and people from different religious and faith groups and other excluded groups.

- All the priorities are about improving the outcomes for children and young people.
- Young people's voices, including young people from the various equality groups, are being heard and influencing policy.
- Many of the priorities are specifically targeting excluded groups such as youth offenders, children in care, care leavers, learning disabled children and young people, young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), teenage parents.

- Better use of public money will result in targeting of resources that can improve outcomes for some children from the various equality groups such as disabled children.
- Many of the services that are being developed or improved are specifically promoting inclusion, creating community cohesion and removing barriers to participation such as Children's Centres, play activities.
- Initiatives to support parents, such as children's centres, play opportunities, and extended schools will improve job opportunities and careers for both men and women.
- There is a general focus on engaging with families in areas of poverty and deprivation and providing services in these areas.
- The strategies to tackle offending and anti-social behaviour of young people will reduce hate crime, harassment and discrimination against all the equality groups and will create greater understanding amongst young people through the restorative justice process. It will also assist in reducing fear amongst older people and create a more positive image of young people.
- Many of the activities being proposed will improve intergenerational understanding.
- Processes are in place that ensure when children are taken into care their cultural and religious needs are met by the substitute family.
- The highway infrastructure is being improved to make improvements for disabled people.
- Education programmes about driving and road traffic accidents are targeting the different needs of young men and women.

The assessment undertaken by young people identified all positive impacts, except one, for all the priority areas. They were positive that the actions to tackle risk taking behaviour would assist in reducing domestic violence, sexual promiscuity, teenage pregnancies, mental illness, substance abuse; and that all equality groups will feel more confident, feel safer, be more understood and accepted and have a sense of well being through many of the priority outcome areas.

The following areas were identified by the strategy groups as potential negative impacts or where the priorities may not ensure equality of access.

- A focus on tackling obesity could result in an increase in discrimination against some disabled children and increase in anorexia amongst young women.
- Disabled children, young people and parents may not be able to access all community planned activities because of physical barriers. For some people with complex needs the activities and services, such as play facilities, may continue to be provided as specialist services rather than inclusive community services.
- External providers may not provide fully accessible services.
- Mild anxiety or challenging behaviour may be unrecognised as being disabled and a possible cause of anti-social behaviour. Also they may not meet eligibility criteria for receiving appropriate services.
- Exclusionary practice may exist amongst staff.
- Current methods of communication may create barriers to engagement by concentrating on mothers rather than fathers, parents rather than the wider community, have a white British approach (diet, visual representation), only use

English written language (not applicable to people whose first language not English, visually impaired, people with poor literacy skills).

- Barriers may exist for some communities to access services and be involved such as black and racial minority communities, religious and faith groups, areas of poverty and deprivation, disabled people and fathers. Services may not be culturally sensitive (for example at the wrong time of day, women cannot attend mixed groups, cannot eat during Ramadan, issues of sexual health), or they would feel socially isolated or different. Transport, finance and lack of education can all be issues.
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people may fear disclosure about sexuality and gender identity and as a consequence may be reluctant to engage and access some services.
- Social care practitioners may have a negative view of single parents' ability to parent.
- There may be resistance to some of the proposed changes from some groups such as disabled people, black and racial minority communities and older people and young people themselves may be reluctant to taken on board the changes.
- Potential school closures would reduce the amount of choice which would impact on specific cultural needs of some people from black and racial minority and faith communities. It could increase the amount of travel for young people and have a negative effect on their outcomes. Women as staff are more likely to lose jobs.
- Focus on underachieving boys may mean girls are overlooked.
- Older people, especially grandparents, that have permanent care of grandchildren may receive inconsistent support and face financial difficulties.
- The priority for an individual child's needs may come into conflict with an individual's religious beliefs.
- Substitute carers may not be able to meet the needs of unaccompanied asylum seeking children.
- Insufficient social accommodation for under 25 year olds.
- Fathers ignored as positive parents and more difficult to engage.
- A lack of effective monitoring and expertise may reduce the opportunities for some vulnerable groups.
- Family commitments may exclude some staff from training opportunities.

The group of young people only identified one negative impact which related to the potential of a gender bias in the participation of young people.

None of the above was considered to have a high potential negative impact.

## **Equality Action Plan**

An equality plan has been developed for each of the five every child matters strategy groups in order to implement changes resulting from the potential negative impacts. The positive impacts are also recorded on the plan to highlight the potential improvements for equality of opportunity, access to services and removal of discrimination. The implementation of the action plan will be monitored by Wirral Children's Trust Executive.

**Action Plan**

Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<b>Being Healthy</b>					
<b>Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour</b>	Awareness raised amongst all equality groups about risk taking behaviours such as substance misuse, teenage pregnancy, sexual promiscuity, domestic violence, and sexually transmitted diseases. Will reduce potential harassment and mental illness.	Limited forums.	Ensure appropriate representation at all relevant forums	Deborah Williams	Oct 2009
		Sexual health services may not be culturally sensitive	Launch Sexual Health Policy	Deborah Williams	Oct 2009
		Some services may run counter to certain faiths.	Initiate dialogue to allay fears	Anne Tattersall	Oct 2009
		Refugee and asylum seekers are potentially excluded from services through lack of information.	Audit of access to information	Being Health Group	Oct 2009
		Young people reluctant to take on board the messages	Provide the message in a format that will appeal to young people and engage young people in the design and delivery		
<b>Reduction in the prevalence of overweight and obesity in children</b>	Support for disabled children that may be overweight.	Possibility of increased discrimination and bullying of overweight children and particularly disabled children.	Embed into Anti bullying strategy and Healthy Schools programme	Trish Barnes	Oct 2009
		Potential for disabled children being excluded from planned activities.	Ensure schools provide appropriate activities for disabled children to participate	Bob Saunders	Oct 2009

Notes: the areas highlighted in blue are the additions from children and young people



Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
	Positive for women with resources being provided to mothers through the child obesity action plan, and promoting breast feeding.	Young women could become prone to eating disorders	Emphasis on healthy eating and exercise. Link with positive parenting strategy	Bob Saunders	Oct 2009
	Will focus on children and young people generally and in particular children in areas of poverty and exclusion,	Promotional material may focus on mothers and not the role of fathers, not be available in different languages or suit the cultural needs of different communities. Activities may not encourage involvement of young women from certain cultures (ie need to be women only)	Literature and services to target parent not just mother. Use of Social Marketing tools to eliminate risk and target use of appropriate promotional material	Deb Lowe	Oct 2009
<b>Health and well-being services, support and information are easily accessible by children and young people.</b>	Needs assessment, will identify any gaps in service	Children and young people with mild anxiety problems may go unrecognised and not be able to access services. Physical and mental barriers may prevent disabled children accessing services. LGB&T young people may feel unable to access services.	Need publicity via specific services, e.g. Kooth.com, disabled children's groups, LG and B group and website (Brook) and TransWirral group 'Mermaids'.		Oct 2009

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Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<b>Health and well-being services, support and information are easily accessible by children and young people.</b>	Monitoring of CAMHS provision will ensure equality of access	Young people will not access user friendly services	Design and implement workforce development strategy. Introduction of the You're Welcome criteria	Rosemary Curtis	Oct 2009
	Needs assessment ensures equality of access to sexual health services	Language and cultural barriers may prevent some BRM and faith groups from accessing sexual health and relationship services. Children and young people in areas of deprivation experience barriers to service such as lack of education, transport and confidence.	Sexual Health service redesign following the outcome of the JMU WiSHing survey	Deborah Williams	Oct 2009
<b>Inequalities in the health of children are being reduced</b>	Focus is reducing inequalities for all children and young people	Disabled children resistant to change to healthier behaviours	Services to include outreach aspect and follow You're Welcome criteria	Wendy Nulty	Oct 2009
		LGBT may not feel safe accessing youth groups	Provide the message in a format that will appeal to young people and engage young people in the design and delivery		
		Language barriers for some BRM communities	Widely publicise Brook group and website – 'Unsure – Work it Out' to increase resilience	Harriet	Oct 2009
			Service planning to include resource allocation for promotional materials in range of medium	All	Oct 2009

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Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<b>Staying safe</b> Reduce the incidence of anti-social, risk taking and harmful	Focus of support for all equality groups. Reduces stereotyping.	Information is not available to evidence positive impact.	Determine impact through better information from young people	Steve Pimblett	October 2009
	Positive promotion of reducing anti-social behaviour, reducing fear, general feeling of safety in the community and greater integration	Negative stereotyping of children and young people.	To be included in ASB strategy for 2009 - 2012	Steve Pimblett/Ca roline Laing	August 2009
<b>Children in care are safe and supported</b> <b>And more children grow up in secure, stable families, where they belong, either through receiving timely, early intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families</b>	Focus within priority for learning disabled children and children with mental health issues. Disabled people will feel more confident about themselves.	Promotional material does not visibly include disabled children	Review all existing promotional material	Simon Garner	April 2010
	LGB, BRM people are included in promotional material as potential carers. LGB&T people will more confident, increase sense of well-being and confidence in their choices. BRM people will feel more integrated into the community and a confidence in themselves	Lack of awareness of issues surrounding transgender people.	Include transgender issues in anti-bullying work	Julia Hassall	April 2010
		Men can be neglected as positive parents.	Ensure that the parenting strategy includes fathers	Janice Monty	April 2009

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Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<p><b>Children in care are safe and supported</b></p> <p><b>And more children grow up in secure, stable families, where they belong, either through receiving timely, early intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families</b></p>	<p>Older people have the opportunity to be substitute families</p>	<p>Can be focus on single mothers ability to parent</p> <p>Physical (ie health and frailty) and financial barriers exist for older people to care for children long term</p> <p>Practice is not consistent when children are 'placed' or go to live with grandparents.</p>	<p>Include in staff training</p> <p>Permanency, and family and friends policy and procedure are agreed and briefed to staff</p>	<p>Caroline McKenna</p> <p>Simon Garner</p>	<p>January 2010</p> <p>April 2009</p>
	<p>Young people's voices are being heard.</p> <p>All children and young people from equality groups feel more understood and accepted, able to gain confidence and sense can achieve things.</p>	<p>Service planning does not include children's wishes and feelings. Children are therefore not placed appropriately</p>	<p>Children in Care Council to review children and young peoples plan with each of the 5 outcome area groups who will be required to demonstrate their consultation process.</p>	<p>Caroline McKenna</p>	<p>April 09</p>
	<p>Matching processes for placing children with substitute carers ensures that children's cultural and religious needs are met.</p>	<p>A child's needs are the focus of the priority which can sometimes come into conflict with an individual's religion, faith or culture.</p>	<p>Engage with faith and community groups about child protection process</p>	<p>Julia Hassall</p>	<p>January 2010</p>
		<p>The matching for placement of asylum seeking children does not always meet the child's needs.</p>	<p>Develop the skills of carers to meet the needs of asylum seeking children.</p>	<p>Simon Garner</p>	<p>January 2010</p>

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Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<p><b>More children are safe at home, at school and in the community, including reducing road traffic accidents and bullying</b></p>	<p>Reduces specific bullying in relation to difference and diversity.  <b>All feel safer.</b>                      Young men are being targeted in anti-bullying strategies.                      Reduces prejudice and stereotyping.</p>		No action required		
	<p>Improving highway infrastructure specifically for disabled people.  <b>Feeling of greater confidence</b>                      Education process aimed at disabled people.</p>		No action required		
	<p>Education process is informing young women of potential risks as passengers and drivers.                      Young men and boys are being targeted in education process as higher incidence of involvement in RTAs.</p>		No action required		
<b>Enjoy and Achieve</b>					
<p><b>Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools</b></p>	<p>Improved outcomes for all children and young people through better use of resources</p>	<p>Increased journey time and changes of school routes lead to longer school day and increased travel</p>	<p>Liaise with transport providers</p>	<p>David Armstrong and Sally Gibb</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Notes: the areas highlighted in blue are the additions from children and young people

Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<b>Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools</b>	Better facilities for disabled children and more specialist provision  Improvements in working environments	Fewer schools means greater distance for pupils to travel, reduces capacity for independent travel  School closures could have disproportionate impact on women who make up majority of workforce.	Each review should include an analysis of potential implications for LDD students  Apply redeployment Expand training opportunities	David Armstrong and Sally Gibb  Peter Bishop Chair workforce develop	Ongoing  Ongoing
<b>Young children and families are well supported, especially the most vulnerable through the network of Children's Centres</b>	Children's centres promote inclusion and provide early intervention to all children and families from 0-5 year olds  Signposting of services will support the full range of families and especially single mothers/carers	School closures reduce BRM & faith communities ability to choose school that meet their cultural needs  BRM communities may be unwilling to engage  Fathers may be unwilling to engage	Each review should include an analysis of potential implications for BME students  Engage with community leaders  Develop programmes specifically designed to attract fathers and meet their needs	Children's Centre Managers	Ongoing
<b>Children and families are supported with their social and emotional development</b>	All children regardless of their background are enabled to develop socially and emotionally	Single mothers/carers may be unwilling to engage or difficult to reach  Prejudice and stereotypes may mean that some children and families are still not fully reached, engaged or have their needs met	Develop programmes specifically designed to attract single mothers/carers  Develop programmes specifically designed to meet the needs of all children and families	Centre managers  Educational psychology/ family support workers	31/3/09  April 2010

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Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
		Lack of understanding by staff may mean that LGB&T young people are not fully supported	Train schools and staff to be more aware of the barriers that LGB&T people may face	All staff	April 2010
		Potential problems with access for hearing/sight impaired or those with LDD	Ensure that all communications are checked so they meet the needs of those with disabilities. Continue to design programmes to meet the needs of children with LDD	Extended Services team and schools	April 2010
<b>Extended Services, delivered through schools and partners working in clusters, impact upon the outcomes for children and families</b>	Information about the range of support for children and families and the range of activities for children is readily available to all groups	As communication is mainly through schools and families LGB&T family members and children may not have access. Barriers exist to involvement as LGB&T may fear disclosing sexuality within the community and fear the potential impact on young person	Train schools and staff to be more aware of the barriers that LGB&T people may face	All schools and clusters	April 2010
		Some BRM groups may find it harder to engage through cultural/language difficulties, particularly amongst women, Asian families, Chinese families and those involved in family businesses.	Promote full engagement with local communities by schools and clusters	All staff, schools and clusters	April 2010

Notes: the areas highlighted in blue are the additions from children and young people

Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<p><b>Extended Services, delivered through schools and partners working in clusters, impact upon the outcomes for children and families</b></p> <p><b>Raise standards in schools and settings by continuing to improve the quality of leadership and management, curriculum, assessment and learning, thereby ensuring none fall into OFSTED category</b></p>		<p>Some men may still feel inhibited to engage. Timing of events may not suit men who work</p> <p>Unemployed men may feel that if they get involved in extended schools others may question why not working.</p>	<p>Develop programmes specifically designed to attract men and fathers and meet their needs</p>	<p>All staff, schools and clusters</p>	<p>April 2010</p>
	<p>Focused support for boys' literacy</p>	<p>Female learners may be overlooked</p>	<p>Ensure girls' literacy needs are also met in training and LA support</p>	<p>Bridie Sharkey</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Effective analysis of data, monitoring and tracking of pupil progress, should enable all children to achieve their potential</p>	<p>Lack of effective monitoring and tracking, or lack of expertise, may mean that some groups such as LDD and BME do not make the progress that they should</p>	<p>Provide ongoing monitoring, challenge and support for schools. Ensure that there is a focus on vulnerable groups through monitoring and in training</p>	<p>Strategic Service Managers</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Improve the skills of staff Children's Services and in schools by ongoing training</p>	<p>Some staff may not be able to access training due to family commitments Expectation that NQTs do a Masters qualification may impact on older staff</p>	<p>Ensure that CPD programmes are designed and their times/venues take account of equality and diversity issues/needs</p>	<p>All staff</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
		<p>The needs of some staff and some young people such as LGB&amp;T may not be met due to lack of understanding of staff or non inclusion in</p>	<p>Provide training in raising the awareness of the barriers faced by LGB&amp;T staff and young people</p>	<p>All staff</p>	<p>April 2010</p>

Notes: the areas highlighted in blue are the additions from children and young people



Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts programmes	Action	Lead	Timescale
<b>Close the attainment gap where poverty and disadvantage affect achievement</b>	Focus on poverty will impact positively on all areas of equality.	Staff may not be aware of the full nature of poverty or the barriers that those in poverty face. Therefore they may not fully provide as effective support as possible.	Provide training in poverty awareness and include as part of that an awareness of the links with equality and diversity issues	Strategy leads for E&A	April 2010
<b>Make a positive contribution</b>					
<b>Fewer children and young people are involved in offending and anti-social behaviour</b>	Positive impact for all equality groups. Reduces the number of victims from equality groups. <b>Reduces discrimination and abuse.</b> Restorative justice will assist in building understanding	Vulnerable young disabled people may not be known or under threshold for services.  Greater potential for lack of understanding about LGB & transgender people	Data on vulnerable young people to be shared.  Raise awareness of hate crimes and their impact. Implementation of restorative justice	Steve Pimblett	October 2009
	Parenting strategies support family cohesion  Enables women and men as parents to pursue jobs and careers during holidays		No action required  No action required		
<b>Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play opportunities which meet their needs</b>	Play is being used to explore other cultures to develop greater racial, religious and cultural understanding. Children playing together creates greater community	Lack of engagement with all communities	Introduce a system for monitoring for all equality groups accessing play facilities. Develop partnership working with 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector to tackle barriers to	Steve Chan	Ongoing/ quarterly  Hear in June 09

Notes: the areas highlighted in blue are the additions from children and young people

Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
	<p>cohesion. Pay workers receiving 'play workers against racism' training</p>		<p>participation Ensure information is available and accessible to all community groups.</p>		To start April 09
<p><b>Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play opportunities which meet their needs</b></p>	<p>Improving current position to ensure disabled children can access play facilities.</p>	<p>Children with more complex needs may still have to access play through specialist facilities rather than general community facilities</p>	<p>Introduce system for monitoring for all equality groups accessing play facilities.</p>	Steve Chan	End April 09
	<p>Reduces fear for older people of young people causing a nuisance</p>		No action required		
	<p>Schemes are focused on areas of social deprivation. All provision is free.</p>		No action required		
<p><b>Children and young people are engaged in community and democratic decision making</b></p>	<p>Raising awareness of issues faced by disabled, LGB, transgender, BRM, older people and different faiths through involvement. Voices of these groups being heard and influencing policy</p>	<p>Risk of exclusionary practice occurring</p>	<p>Involve 3<sup>rd</sup> sector to encourage involvement</p>	Maureen McDaid	Work commissioned by Sept 09
			<p>Monitor review and evaluate involvement of all equality groups. Develop monitoring forms</p>		Dec 08

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Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<b>Achieve economic well-being</b>					
<b>Reduce the number of 16-18 vulnerable young people in NEET in line with LAA targets and the PSA 2010 trajectory</b>	Will improve participation of LDD, young parents, care leavers, youth offenders through targeted interventions.  Monitoring ensures effective participation of BRM people		Borough EET Strategy. Updates to LAA prog Board and CYP/SMB  Connexions report on ethnicity, as described by young people, via balanced scorecard, for the 13-19 population. For Dec 08 less than 1% of the populations ethnicity hadn't been recorded (0.66%)	Sheila Lynch	Nov 2010
<b>Increase the number of young people who are participating and achieving their potential</b>	Supports participation of 13-19 year olds with LDD, teenage parents, children in care, care leavers. Monitoring ensures effective participation of BRM people.  Allows disabled, LG&B people to socialise and increase confidence.	Not all providers may have full access arrangements in place for disabled people, and teenage parents.  Focus on teenage parents tends to be on mums not dads  If too many females are encouraged to participate it could result in sexist representation.	Application of equal opps legislation/policies for providers  Support providers to provide crèche facilities  Raise awareness about issues for dads.	LA  LSC  Partnership	Ongoing  Ongoing  ongoing
	Housing Priority Panel increases access for a range of clients including young people to suitable	There continues to be insufficient social accommodation for the under-25 demographic and	Housing panel will: (a)continue to facilitate access to housing and co-ordinate the provision of	Andy Parker (Supporting People)	Ongoing

Notes: the areas highlighted in blue are the additions from children and young people

Priority	Positive impacts	Negative impacts	Action	Lead	Timescale
<p><b>Contribute to the reduction in levels of child poverty and minimise the number of children and young people living in poor housing</b></p>	<p>housing and co-ordinates appropriate support packages to assist vulnerable people in sustaining their independence.</p>	<p>private-rented accommodation remains inaccessible to a large number of young people due to the prohibitively high initial costs</p>	<p>support for vulnerable people.                      (b) continue to collate statistics on the availability of social accommodation for young people and raise this as part of the Wirralhomes review.                      (c) continue to work in partnership with the Council's Tenancy Deposit Scheme to increase access to the private rented sector for young people</p>		
	<p>NPower Health through Warmth reduces the number of disabled people, young people and children with cold/damp related health conditions living in non decent housing</p>	<p>Young people are difficult to engage with on matters of energy efficiency therefore it is difficult to encourage grant take up</p>	<p>Arrange meeting with C&amp;YP Dept staff who can facilitate improvements in communication with young people on energy efficiency</p>	Ed Kingsley	March 09
	<p>Greater monitoring of support and accommodation for teenage parents will lead to improved services</p>	<p>Mapping is difficult due to confidentiality.                      Young parents may feel targeted</p>	<p>Keep to first four sections of postcode</p>	Lisa Farrington	Ongoing annually

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**APPENDIX 1 Children and young people's comments on the Children and Young People's Plan**

The following is the work of 10 children (6 male, 4 female, 2 with disabilities and 1 BME)

**ECM OUTCOME – BEING HEALTHLY**

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
Reduction in the harmful consequences of risk taking behaviour	Disabled People	Reduction in mental illnesses If women don't take abusive substances when pregnant then the chances of a disability are decreased. More appreciative of surroundings.	
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people	Substance abuse can be a common escape for denial of sexuality therefore by discouraging allows them to be true to themselves.	
	Women	Less teenage pregnancies, decreases vulnerability, less likely to act violently towards others, particularly children, decrease in domestic violence. Less one night stands.	
	Men	Less likely to act violently towards others, particularly children. Decrease in domestic violence. Less one night stands. Reduces STI's	
	Transgendered people	Drugs/alcohol can make people focus their energy on embarrassing trans people. Without this trans people can be more accepted in society.	
Reduction in the prevalence of overweight and obesity in children	Black & Racial Minority People	As above	
	Disabled, Transgender, Black & Racial. Minority People.	No comment	

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people Women	Remove the negative connections of sexuality. Reduce the need for bullying obese young people Less weight related diseases. PE could be a more enjoyable subject for older young people	
	Men	Less weight related diseases. PE could be a more enjoyable subject for older young people.	
Health and well-being services, support and information are easily accessible by children and young people and families	Disabled, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial. Minority People.		No comment
Inequalities in the health of children and young people are reduced	Disabled, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority		No comment

**ECM OUTCOME – Staying Safe**

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
More children grow up in secure, stable families where they belong, either through receiving timely, earlier intervention and support within their communities, or through belonging to permanent, substitute families.	Disabled People	Will feel more confident about themselves	
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people	Will feel comfortable with their sexuality	
	Women	Will become confident	
	Men	Increased confidence	
	Transgendered people	An increased sense of well being and confidence in their choices	
	Black & Racial Minority People	More integrated into the community and a confidence in themselves	

Appendix 1 Children and Young People's comments

DRAFT

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
Reduce the incidence of anti social, risk taking and harmful behaviour experienced by children and young people.	Disabled People	Feel safe when in community	
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority People	Feel more integrated With community Feel safer in community	
More children are safe at home, at school and in the community by reducing road traffic accidents and bullying	Disabled People	Feel confident	
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority People,	Feel safer	
Children in care are safe and supported.	Disabled People	Feel more understood and accepted	
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people	Feel more understood will gain confidence	
	Women	Become confident about their abilities	
	Men	Confidence in themselves	
	Transgendered people	Comfortable with themselves and a confidence in the community	
	Black & Racial Minority People	Confidence and a sense they can achieve things	

ECM OUTCOME – Enjoying and Achieving

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
Public money is spent to maximum effect in all our schools	Disabled People, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people, Men, Women, Transgender.	Yes No Direct Impact	

Appendix 1 Children and Young People's comments

**DRAFT**

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
	Black & Racial Minority People	No Direct Impact No Obvious Impact	
Young children and families are well supported, especially the most vulnerable, through the network of Children's Centres.	Disabled People, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority People		No comment
Children and families are supported by Extended Schools working in clusters.	Disabled People Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority People		No comment
Ensure there are no schools in Ofsted categories	Disabled People, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority People		No comment
Close the attainment gap where poverty affects achievement	Disabled People, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual, Women, Men, Transgender Black & Racial Minority People		No comments



**ECM OUTCOME – Making A Positive Contribution**

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
Fewer children and young people are involved in offending and anti social behaviour	Disabled People	Less subjected to discrimination and abuse.	
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people	Suffer less than stereotypical abuse.	
	Women	Parents, both men and women, will have an easier job when raising their children	
	Men	(as above)	
	Transgendered people	Subjected to less abuse.	
	Black & Racial Minority People	As above	
Children and young people have access to a range of appropriate play opportunities which meets their needs.	Disabled people	Increased opportunities for disabled people	
	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people	No comment	
	Women	Yes	
	Men	No Impact	No comment
	Transgendered people	No Impact	
Children and Young People are actively engaged in community and democratic decision making process.	Black & Racial Minority People	No Impact	
	Disabled, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority People		No comment

**ECM OUTCOME – Achieving Social and Economic Well-Being**

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
Increase the number of young people who are participating	Disabled People	It will allow disabled people to socialise whilst increasing their confidence, also enable them to be	

Appendix 1 Children and Young People's comments

DRAFT

PRIORITY	EQUALITY STANDARD	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT
and achieving their potential.	Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual people	part of society. It will help them to socialise with people of the same views and/or maybe the same sexual orientation.	
	Women		Could cause sexist representation in participation if too many females are encouraged
	Men		It may help the men in society become better role models to the younger generation of today
	Transgendered people	Yes	
	Black & Racial Minority People	Yes it could offer support.	
Reduce numbers of 16-18 vulnerable young people NEET in line with LAA targets and the PSA 2010 trajectory.	Disabled, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual, Women, Men, Transgender people, Black & Racial Minority People		No comments
Contribute to the reduction in levels of child poverty and minimise the number of children and young people living in poor housing.	Disabled, Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual, Women, Men, Transgender, Black & Racial Minority People		No comments

**Youth and Play Service Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009**  
**Room 3, Town Hall, Wallasey**

**Present**

Chair	Cllr. T. Harney
Councillors	Cllr. S. Clarke, MBE Cllr. C. Meaden Cllr. C. Povall
Council Officers	Lindsay Davidson, (Acting Head of Youth & Play Service) Terry Hall (Deputy Head, Field Support) Steve Chan (Deputy Head, Play). John Davies (Acting Deputy Head, Youth) Debbie McCabe (Senior Youth Worker – Engagement) Sue Aubusson (“TeenWirral” Website)
Executive Youth Board	Ellis Palmer Trefor Parr Rebecca McCartney Steph Lockwood

**Apologies**

Cllr. K. Hayes  
Cllr. S. Quinn  
Peter Edmondson (Head of Participation and Inclusion Branch)

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- Minute 64 - Minutes of the last Meeting held on 7th May 2009
- Minute 65 - Matters Arising
- Minute 66 - Head of Service’s Report
- Minute 67 - Re-configuration of Youth Service, Hubs and the District Youth Offer
- Minute 68 - Summer Holiday Playscheme Report 2009
- Minute 69 - 'Teen Wirral' - Positive Activities for Young People Website
- Minute 70 - Executive Youth Board Update
- Minute 71 - Big Lottery Children’s Play Programme Report 2009
- Minute 72 - Any Other Business
- Minute 73 - Date of Next Meeting (Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010)

**Minute 63 - Welcome and Apologies**

The chair welcomed everyone and took apologies for absence.

**Minute 64 - Minutes of the last Meeting held on 7th May 2009**

The minutes were checked for accuracy, and no corrections were needed:

**Resolved:**

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 7th May 2009, be accepted as a true record.

**Minute 65 - Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**Minute 66 - Head of Service's Report**

The Acting Head of Service, Lindsay Davidson, presented the report of the service's recent activities, and drew the Committee's attention to the following:

- a) Sue Aubusson was introduced as officer with responsibility for developing the website for young people, in accordance with the Local Youth offer;
- b) Val Wilson had recently retired after 28 years service with the Youth Service;
- c) A recent arson attack had put Charing Cross YC out of action. An incendiary had been put through a roof light causing damage to electrical systems. The centre was hoping to reopen on 11<sup>th</sup> December, in time for Christmas;
- d) The Youth Outreach Team had been engaging with an Indie group in Birkenhead, and successfully directed them to be part of the activities at Grange Baptists;
- e) The Virtual Baby project (*ref. Minute 57, Y&PSAC, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2009*) was continuing and expanding;
- f) The Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) in collaboration with the Youth Outreach Team in Seacombe was proving successful;
- g) The Wirral Youth Theatre (WYT) "Swings & Roundabouts" Project (*ref. Minute 56, Y&PSAC, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2009*) had been extended thank to

support from Merseyside Police. WYT are looking to develop break dancing, following funding from the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) and pupils from Foxfield and Meadowside Schools were working towards their Bronze Arts Awards;

- h) "Response's" STOP GAP programme for supporting homeless young people continues meet its targets, and funding for the project to continue through 2010 is being sought. On the drug front, alcohol and cannabis are still at the top of the list, despite new usage trends. The Alcohol Worker reported engaging with 747 young people for advice and information;
- i) The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) was inspected by the Adventure Activity Licensing Authority (AALA), and has been awarded a licence to operate for the next two years. E-DofE is now up and running, providing integrated on-line access for participants, leaders, parents and operating authorities;
- j) This year's international exchange with Hong Kong was now complete and had been successful. Exchanges with Hong Kong began in 1992;
- k) The partnership with Wirral Metropolitan College for NVQs for Youth Support Workers continues, and on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009 the last cohort were presented with their City & Guilds Certificates by the Vice-Principal of the College;
- l) The Youth Participation Agenda continues to develop. Recent events include a Residential at Trafford Hall where young people resolved to support and strengthen the District Youth Forums; the 4<sup>th</sup> Youth Parliament; a debate with Elected Members in the Council Chamber on the perceptions of young people and four young people had been to the Old Trafford Football Stadium to meet the Secretary of State, Rt. Hon. Ed Balls. There they were able to question him over Post 16 options, Advice and Guidance, the future of Connexions and Apprenticeships;
- m) A sub-group of the YOF/YCF Grant Panel were looking into ways to support and ease travel for young people;
- n) "Mischiev Fortnight" (i.e. half term holidays at the same time as Hallowe'en and Bonfire/Guy Fakes Night) was about to start, and youth service had been liaising other agencies such as Merseyside Fire & Rescue.

Members expressed concern at the large number of young people involved in alcohol, but were pleased at the level of interventions by youth service.

Members were pleased that there was so much positive and successful activity, and felt it should be better promoted by press releases.

**Resolved:**

- i) That Val Wilson be thanked for her service and accept the Committee's best wishes in her retirement;
- ii) That the issue of more press releases to promote young people positively be investigated; and
- iii) That the Head of Service be thanked for her report.

**Minute 67 - Re-configuration of Youth Service, Hubs and the District Youth Offer**

The Youth Service Officers spoke to a visual presentation to bring the Committee up to date with progress towards establishing the District Hubs and Clubs, and the opportunities for young people. The primary purpose is to strive towards the best possible services for young people.

The key themes were the active involvement of young people, relationships with the community, and partnerships with other agencies in both the statutory and voluntary sectors.

The officers also described quality assurance processes, lines of accountability and expected outcomes.

Members enquired about some pockets of South Wirral which did not appear to be as well served as other areas. Youth Service and the Commissioners were aware of the gaps, the major ones being resources and transport, and were seeking to address them. In South Wirral, the YOF/YCF Grant Panel are looking to promote activities via the Voluntary and Independent sector, which is also under-represented in that area.

**Resolved:**

The Officers be thanked for their report.

**Minute 68 - Summer Holiday Playscheme Report 2009**

The Acting Deputy Head of Service, Steve Chan presented the report of the Summer Holiday Playscheme activities, and drew the Committee's attention to the following:

- a) There had been 19 playschemes across the Borough over the summer, attracting over 2,700 unique individuals. This was highest figure for 8 years;
- b) Recruitment for the summer 2010 playschemes will begin before Easter and it is hoped that a large number of trained and experienced staff will return;

- c) Changes in the OFSTED “Early Years Registration” criteria meant that the youngest children could not be accommodated. This is hoped to be addressed for 2010;
- d) The Play Day, held on 5<sup>th</sup> August in Birkenhead Park attracted almost 1,000 children and their families and helped to raise the profile of play. 2 Play Days are being considered for 2010.

Members congratulated the Play Service for a successful Summer.

**Resolved:**

That the Play Service be thanked for their report.

**Minute 69 - 'Teen Wirral' - Positive Activities for Young People Website.**

The Web Technical Officer, Sue Aubusson, explained that she had been appointed to develop a website targeted at 13-19 year olds in Wirral in accordance with the “Aiming High for Young People” requirement that young people can easily find out about local things to do and places to go. The provisional launch date is early 2010. A version for use on a mobile phone is also being considered.

Initially, the activities on offer would be provided by the local authority and would then expand to include opportunities offered by the voluntary sector and then the private sector. Partner agencies, such as Connexions and Health Service, would also be contributing. A video clip of a previous Y&PSAC Meeting could easily be uploaded.

Young people had had a big input into the design of the site, and they had looked at other authorities sites for ideas. Images of what the site could look like had been on display at the Youth Voice Conference. It was hoped to reach a wide audience, which would include parents, other professionals and Elected Members.

The site will seek to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), making websites accessible to and usable by disabled people

A marketing strategy was being developed to ensure young people and those working with young people know about the site, and policies for using social networking sites (SNS) were being developed.

Feedback from user was essential to gauge the effectiveness of the site, numbers likely to attend an activity and young people’s views on the activities.

**Resolved:**

- i) That the Web Technical Officer be thanked for her report; and
- ii) That a demonstration of website be shown at the next meeting, if possible.

**Minute 70 - Executive Youth Board Update**

The Youth Voice Conference and Youth Parliament had been held in the Town Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009. 120 young people attended the conference where they had the opportunity to discuss policy and practice with leading figures from the Local Authority, Transport and the Press. 60 young people met with Elected Members in the Council Chamber over the issue of the public perception of young people.

The evaluation of the day is not yet complete, but initial conclusions are that young people valued the experience and learned a great deal.

On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November, Wirral will be hosting the NorthWest Regional UKYP Young People's Conference, again in the Town Hall.

The Executive Youth Board (EYB) are seeking to strengthen the District Youth Forums, and the Grant Panel will be meeting in November to examine applications to the YOF/YCF.

Dialogue continues between the EYB and Elected Members, and a route for the EYB to engage with the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee is being sought.

Members indicated that the EYB could seek feedback from Elected Members re: their experience of the Youth Voice Conference and Youth Parliament.

**Resolved:**

That everyone involved be thanked.

**Minute 71 - Big Lottery Children's Play Programme Report 2009**

The Big Lottery Children's Play Programme has been running now for seven months. It is on track and meeting interim targets.

On the revenue side, all staff bar one have been appointed – recruitment is under way for the final post. Now that winter has arrived, there is a shift from outdoor to indoor activity.



On the capital side, new equipment is being exceptionally well used. A big slide and swings are being installed off Harrison Drive, which is proving exciting for the children.

Promotion of the programme has been good, with quality photos in the press and coverage by BBC Radio Merseyside.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted

**Minute 72 - Any Other Business**

The Chair drew the Committee's attention to two issues which need to be on future agendas. They concerned homelessness and housing issues for young people and positively promoting the achievement of young people.

**Resolved:**

- i. that the next YAPSAC meeting be devoted to positively promoting the image/achievements of young people and that representatives from the public relations department and media be invited to this meeting.
- ii. That a future meeting be devoted to young people's housing issues and that the Director of Regeneration be invited to this meeting.

**Minute 73 - Date of Next Meeting**

The next will be held at 5:30 pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010, in Committee Room 3 of the Town Hall.

As previously agreed, this meeting is to be chaired by representatives from the Executive Youth Board.

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**UPDATE ON WORK PROGRAMME: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OSC –**  
**16 November 2009**

It was agreed by the Scrutiny Chairs Group in September 2008 to use the following reports to monitor the work programme for each Scrutiny Committee. The last item on each Scrutiny Committee agenda should be 'Review of the Committee Work Programme'.

**Report 1 - Monitoring Report for Scrutiny Committee Work Programme**

This report will list all items that have been selected by the Committee for inclusion on the work programme for the current year.

For each item on the work programme, the report will give a description, an indication of how the item will be dealt with, a relative timescale for the work and brief comments on progress.

**Report 2 - Suggestions for Additions to Work Programme**

The Work Programme for the Committee should be reviewed at each meeting. This will include members having the opportunity to ask for new Items to be added to the programme. This report will list any newly suggested items. Committee will then have the opportunity to agree (or not) for them to be added to the programme.

**Report 3 - Proposed Outline Meeting Schedule for the Municipal Year**

The report will, for each scheduled Committee meeting, list those items which are likely to be on the meeting agenda. This will give the opportunity for Committee members to take a greater lead in organising their work programme.

**Report 4 - Progress Report on In-Depth Panel Reviews**

This report will give a very brief update on progress / timescales for in-depth panel reviews which are in the 'ownership' of the Committee.

# REPORT 1

## MONITORING REPORT FOR SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 2009 / 2010**

<b>Date of New item</b>	<b>Topic Description</b>	<b>How the topic will be dealt with</b>	<b>Estimated Complete Date</b>	<b>Comments on Progress</b>	<b>Complete/ Review date</b>
2006	Report on the Support Given to Schools Pre- and Post-Ofsted Inspections	Panel Review		Final Report produced April 2007. Implementation of recommendations to be monitored by Standards sub-committee.	Complete
2006	Fostering Service Review	Panel Review		Final Report produced March 2008. Report discussed by Cabinet on 10th December. Implementation of recommendations to be monitored at a later date.	16 Nov 2009
Oct 2007	Youth Outreach Review	Panel Review	Report agreed Nov 2008	Final Report to Scrutiny Committee on 11th Nov. Report discussed by Cabinet on 10th December 08.	16 March 2010
July 2008	Update on Special Schools	Officer reports		Report to Committee 11th Nov. OSC members to visit schools.	
July 2008	Transition from Children's to Adult Social Services	Officer Report		Report to Committee 16th March. Item deferred until meeting in June 2009	21 Jan 2010
July 2008	NEET rates - in particular, what has been the impact of specific projects aimed at NEETs?	Officer Report		Report to Committee 13th Jan 2009. OSC to receive further report on preventative measure at key stage 4 and Knowsley apprentice programme	
July 2008	Behavioural Issues and Exclusions	Officer Report		Report noted at OSC – 11 Nov 08	Nov

Date of New item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete/ Review date
July 2008	School Funding	To be agreed		Notice has been given that the Committee intend to scrutinize School Funding during the 2009 / 10 municipal year.	
Oct 2008	Wirral Music Service	Officer Report		Committee requested a further report during a budget savings debate on the Wirral Music Service on 28.10.08. At OSC on 13.01.09 a request for further statistics was made. An Annual report has been requested.	. 16 March 2010
Nov 2008	Early Years Education	Officer Report		Item requested by Sheila Clarke (11th Nov meeting). Report noted at OSC 16.3.09	Complete
Nov 2008	Private Fostering	Officer report		Item discussed by OSC on 11th Nov 2008. Members requested another report in one year's time. As a result of the Ofsted Annual Performance Letter, it was agreed on 13/01/09 that a report would be produced for the March meeting. However, this report will now be deferred until a future meeting.	16 Nov 09
Nov 2008	Wirral Adoption Service	Officer Report		Item discussed by OSC on 11th Nov 2008. Further reports to be produced on the Adoption service in the future, including <b>Special Guardianship</b> .	16 Nov 09 16 Nov 09

Date of new item	Topic Description	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Complete Date	Comments on Progress	Complete/ Review date
Jan 2009	Teenage Pregnancy	Panel Review?		Item requested by Sheila Clarke (13 <sup>th</sup> Jan meeting). The OSC meeting on 16/03/09 agreed to receive an officer report at the June meeting. (A similar report will go to Cabinet on 09/04/09).	16 Nov 09
March 2009	Proposed Children in Care Council	Officer report		A future progress report will be produced on the Children in Care Council (CCC) and reps from CCC are to be invited in 12 months time	16 March 2010
	Aiming High	Officer report		Officer report presented at Sept 09 OSC – Committee a further report in the future with an invitation to parents.	
	Members visit to Eddison Learning in Essex	Report by Cllr Harney		Members report to OSC on 17.9.09	17. Sept.09
	LINK Forum review of Procurement process for Parenting and Prevention Commissioning			Officer report at 21 Jan 2010	21 Jan 2010
	Members visit to Children Homes	Issue discussed at 02.06.09		Lead officer presented options for member visits at OSC 17.09.09 – Future Member visits to submitted to OSC for information.	Complete

# REPORT 2

## SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONS TO WORK PROGRAMME

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 16/11/09

Topic Description	Topic suggested by	How the topic will be dealt with	Estimated Completion Date
The identification of deprivation and the impact on learning outcomes	Cllr Harney and supported by OSC meeting on 16/03/09	Consider for inclusion on the work programme for the 2009/10 municipal year	
Impact of alcohol on children	Cllr Doyle and supported by OSC meeting on 16/03/09	Possible joint scrutiny work with Social Care and Health Scrutiny Committee	
Surplus in school budgets (held by some schools)	Cllr Smith	Consider for inclusion on the work programme for the 2009/10 municipal year	
One to one tuition			
LINK Forum review of the Procurement process for Parenting and Prevention Commissioning.	Agreed by the Children Services OSC meeting to discuss Call-In on 20/04/09	A report will be presented to a future meeting – poss 21 Jan 2010	21 Jan 2010
Children's Centres	Cllr Doyle	Proposed at 17.09.09 OSC – poss panel review	

## REPORT 3

# PROPOSED OUTLINE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 16/11/09

NB - not in agenda order

Meeting Date	Topic Description
16 Nov 2009	Literacy Levels at Key stage 2 (Scrutiny Panel review 09/10) – final report
	Q2 performance monitoring – Officer report
	Financial monitoring report – Officer report
	Special Guardianship – Officer report
	Private Fostering - Officer report
	Fostering Service Review (Scrutiny Panel review 06/07)– Recommendations progress report
	Teenage Pregnancy – Officer report
	Crime and Young People Report – STATUTORY
	YAPSAC – standing item – officer report

Meeting Date	Topic Description
21 Jan 2010	Committee Structure and Guidance
	LINK Forum – commissioning process – Peter Edmonson
	Parenting Strategy – Officer report
	Transition from children’s to Adult Social Services – Officer progress report
	Q3 performance monitoring – Officer report
	Child protection – Officer report
	YAPSAC – standing item – officer report
	Financial monitoring report – Officer report

Meeting Date	Topic Description
16 March 2010	Youth Outreach (Scrutiny panel review 09/10) – Recommendations progress report
	Children in Care Council – Officer progress report and CCC representatives to attend
	Music Service – Officer report
	Q4 performance monitoring – Officer report
	YAPSAC – standing item – Officer report
	Financial monitoring report – Officer report



# REPORT 4

## PROGRESS REPORT ON IN-DEPTH PANEL REVIEWS

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 16/11/09

Title of Review	Members of Panel	Progress to Date	Date Due to report to Committee
Literacy Levels at Key Stage 2	Sheila Clarke (chair) Frank Doyle Tony Smith	Draft scope agreed at OSC meeting on 11th Nov. Data gathering has commenced. Visits to three primary schools have taken place; one further visit is due to take place later in March. 'Interviews' with key officers have also commenced; others are due to take place during March / April. Report finalised during July/August 09	16 <sup>th</sup> November 09
"Narrowing the gap" – Impact of deprivation funding review	Shelia Clarke (Chair) Frank Doyle Tony Smith Tom Harney Cherry Povall Paul Hayes	Draft scope agreed 17.09.09. Invitations to join review panel have been issued and initial meeting to be arranged.	

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