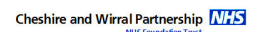


Monday, 22 November 2010 commencing at 9.00 am
Professional Excellence Centre, Acre Lane, Bromborough

1. **09:00 APOLOGIES**
2. **09:00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **09:05 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Pages 1 - 10)**
4. **09:10 CONTACT POINT**
5. **09:20 CHILD POVERTY (Pages 11 - 18)**
6. **09:35 HEALTH SERVICES IN SCHOOLS**
7. **10:00 COMMISSIONING UPDATE**
10:25 BREAK
8. **10:40 YOUNG PEOPLE NOT IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION OR TRAINING UPDATE**
9. **11:05 ENJOY AND ACHIEVE ANNUAL REPORT (Pages 19 - 32)**
10. **11:30 CHILDREN FIRST STRATEGIC BOARD MEMBERSHIP (Pages 33 - 38)**
11. **11:40 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT 2010/11 QUARTER 2 (Pages 39 - 48)**
12. **11:45 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2010/11 QUARTER 2 (Pages 49 - 56)**
13. **11:50 HOUSING STRATEGY CONSULTATION**
14. **11:55 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
15. **12:00 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 14 JANUARY 2010, 09:00 - 12:00**



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WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, 24 September 2010

<u>Present:</u>	Councillor	Sheila Clarke (Chair)
	Councillor	Chris Meadon Debbie Mayor Phil Sheridan Jill Billinge Bev Morgan Hazel Thompson Howard Cooper Jane Owens Emma Dodd Ngaire Waine (representing Area Commander John Martin) Richard Longster Shanila Roohi Kathryn Podmore
<u>In attendance:</u>	Officers	Nancy Clarkson Peter Wong Mark Parkinson Ros Free Rose Boylan

1 09:00 APOLOGIES

Councillor Tom Harney
Marie Armitage
Peter Brandrick
Sue Brown
Area Commander John Martin
Gillian Thomas
Andy Styring
Adrian Hughes

2 09:00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Meaden has a daughter who works in the Children and Young People's Department.

Councillor Sheila Clarke noted that it was Hazel Thompson's last meeting representing the Link Forum and on behalf of the board wished her every success for the future.

Howard Cooper also stated that it was a pleasure work with Hazel and that her input had been invaluable.

Hazel Thompson thanked the Board and noted the big strides made through multi-agency working over the last few years.

Councillor Sheila Clarke welcomed Superintendent Ngaire Waine to the Board representing Area Commander John Martin and noted that with the departure of Bob Gittins it was very pleasing that Police commitment will be continued at such a high level.

3 09:05 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

4 09:10 PROPOSED GOVERNMENT CHANGES FOR CHILDREN'S TRUSTS

Nancy Clarkson introduced the report regarding government plans to amend the current legislation regarding Children's Trusts. The changes would remove the duty on schools to co-operate and the requirements to have a Children's Trust Board and to publish a joint Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).

Jill Billinge asked if the role of the headteacher was to represent themselves or their wider community.

Howard Cooper responded that as the Chair of the Primary Heads Consultation Group and Wirral Association of Secondary Headteachers they were representing Primary and Secondary headteachers and that a commitment would be made to go back to their groups to communicate but also being headteachers they would have their own views. He noted that having headteacher representatives on the Board strengthened the Board and could only be of benefit to all children's services to have engagement of all parties.

Phil Sheridan asked what biggest concern was if schools do not co-operate.

Howard Cooper noted that the Council remains deeply committed to the five Every Child Matters outcomes for children and that schools are integral partners to deliver these successfully. Over the past 3 to 4 years schools have been increasingly involved in effective working with partner agencies which has had significant impact on outcomes for children and young people. It is important that schools remain engaged with the whole community in order to improve outcomes for all children and young people. More specifically in the area of safeguarding schools are the biggest initiators of the Team Around the Child. This links to early intervention and prevention and schools are at the heart of that.

Howard Cooper noted that the major barrier to children and young people's learning was what happened in the home, and that partnership collaboration would enhance schools knowledge in this area.

When the duty to co-operate is abolished there is a risk that schools disengage with wider agenda; this will be at the detriment to children and young people and communities. The duty is a strong signal of the importance and benefits of working together.

Phil Sheridan noted that although schools are competitive the clear message for them is that when addressing outcomes for all children and young people it is important to focus Wirral wide.

Jane Owens noted the positive effects of joint working and that sharing information with school governors could only strengthen this as more governors ask more questions and become more aware of the full ECM agenda to the benefit of children and young people.

Howard Cooper noted that the Police view of the reduction in First Time Entrants in to the Youth Justice System was linked to the volume of embedded officers in schools. Howard Cooper believes that embedding services in school can lead to marked improvements for all children and young people and their communities.

Resolved: The Board agreed the continuation of Wirral Children's Trust arrangements in their current form.

Resolved: That the continuation of the involvement of schools is endorsed by the Board and the Director of Children's Services in collaboration with school representatives communicate with schools regarding their continued participation.

5 09:20 PROPOSALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN

Nancy Clarkson introduced the report which in which the Children's Trust Executive proposed the production of a one year plan to take account of the impact of proposed budget cuts and organisational changes.

Richard Longster noted the difficulties in producing a long term plan under the current proposed large scale government changes. He agreed the Board must be sure it can deliver on any plan produced and ensure engagement is maintained in the development of the plan.

Howard Cooper agreed that the significant changes in health and also the Council regarding how services could be delivered in the future would impact on any plan produced. The changes would not be known before the production deadline of the new plan at 1st April.

Councillor Sheila Clarke agreed that producing a one-year plan would mitigate the risk of the changes whilst maintaining a focus for multi-agency priorities and improved outcomes.

Resolved: That if the regulations for the production of a new Children and Young People's Plan are amended and there is no requirement to publish a

three-year plan, the Board approved the production of a refreshed one-year Children and Young People's Plan for 2011-12.

Resolved: That the Board agreed to review the development of a future Children and Young People's Plan in 2011.

6 09:30 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT 2010/11 QUARTER 1

Nancy Clarkson introduced the performance report. In Quarter one a reduced amount of information is available with data for only for 23 indicators. There were discussions regarding a number of indicators.

NI 53 Breastfeeding rates. Bev Morgan noted that the Peer Support Programme supported 400 mothers. The project is working well through agency collaboration. The results of the initiative should feed through into the statistics in Quarter 2 resulting in an improvement.

NI 63 Stability of placements for Looked After Children. Jane Owens noted that there were a high proportion of Looked After Children placed with parents.

Howard Cooper noted that LAC numbers were still high and in terms of numbers LAC per 10,000 are high compared to other comparator authorities. There are also a high number of older young people aged 14-16 who have been in care for longer.

There are a range of placement options including being placed with parents although they are still looked after by the Local Authority. Over the past 6-9 months the Children and Young People's Department have been reviewing the placed with parent LAC in order to ensure best placements for the children. Such active management impacts on the stability of this indicator which is expected to fluctuate whilst the detailed review of the Care Plans was ongoing.

Jill Billinge noted that kinship cases without social care intervention in place were reviewed by schools to ensure appropriate support was provided where needed.

Howard Cooper also noted that private fostering occurred where a child is looked after by not a close relative or friends. The LA only knows about this if it is reported to them. This includes visiting children from other countries. Private foster carers are not on a register. The LA has been active in this area in the last two years but it can be difficult to identify every private fosterer.

Ngaire Waine noted the antisocial behaviour governance meeting has now moved to monthly. Recent data indicates that Quarter 2 targets will be met. Operations are planned for specific nights and the half-term week. Ngaire Waine recognised that the work of the ASB Team has impacted positively on ASB in the borough.

Howard Cooper also noted that although ASB is reducing there are also risks in this area. Of the ASB Team funding 80% is grant or contract based funding; the team is vulnerable to reductions in funding.

Councillor Sheila Clarke noted the importance of this work and the benefits gained from multi-agency approach.

Councillor Meaden asked for more detail on the percentage of incidents linked to children and young people.

Ngaire Waine noted it was difficult to know the ages of the perpetrators unless the perpetrators are stopped at the scene, which does not always occur although the incident will be recorded. There is also practice work in place through problem solving groups to address areas where there are persistent reports. This was an area for consideration as there are different degrees of tolerance for different types of behaviour and this must be taken on board.

Councillor Sheila Clarke requested that a brief note to be circulated to the board be produced regarding children and young people's involvement in ASB.

Howard Cooper noted the improvements in attainment made by Wirral Schools across the borough.

Phil Sheridan noted that his school (Pensby High School for Boys) was part of the National Challenge Programme (NC). He congratulated all the National Challenge schools as their direction of travel has been outstanding. These schools also include Rock Ferry High School, Wallasey School, Park High School and The Oldershaw School. The education value they have added to the children and young people is significant. Pensby High School for Boys is the most improved school for 5+A*-C including English and maths in the North West; an outstanding achievement. Phil Sheridan also reported that National Challenge support was very challenging but exceptional. At Pensby High School for Boys the exceptional results were a tribute to the staff in the school in particular subject areas English and maths where leadership is very strong.

Resolved: That the report be noted and a note regarding young people's involvement in Anti-Social Behaviour be circulated to the Board.

7 09:45 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2010/11 QUARTER 1

Nancy Clarkson presented the Quarter 1 Local Area Agreement (LAA) report outlining progress of the LAA indicators.

Jane Owens requested further information regarding NEET and the role of Connexions.

Howard Cooper noted that 8.2% young people NEET in a recession is outstanding. This is a result of a number of initiatives including Wirral Apprenticeships, with over 150 now in place; Future Jobs Fund over 100 young people employed; Wirral Metropolitan College have rolling enrolment to allow young people to enrol at different times.

The population has enormous churn so the 'dwell time' for NEET is an average of 12 weeks. The number of NEET for 20 weeks or more is low.

The NEET Tiger Team was formed to tightly focus on this area and has had an impact. The current economic climate will have an impact on 18-19 year olds due to the employment situation.

Howard Cooper reported on the involvement of Connexions in working with young people who are NEET and that the national role of Connexions is being reviewed.

Shanila Roohi asked about targeted information and families of NEET. Howard Cooper noted that NEET is analysed to street level to identify and target areas for particular support as well as individual support for young people.

Jane Owens noted that a large number of initiatives were underway in schools to develop aspiration for children and young people and there were excellent programmes in place in many schools.

Jill Billinge noted that the 'Ignition Programme' in Primary Schools was excellent in supporting aspiration for children and young people.

Councillor Sheila Clarke suggested that as there was such interest and discussion in this area a NEET report could be presented at the next Board. The Board members were in agreement regarding this.

Resolved: The Board noted the report and requested a NEET report for the next meeting to scrutinise this area further.

8 10:00 SAFEGUARDING 2010/11 QUARTER 1

Howard Cooper presented the report.

Two Serious Case Reviews are underway. MW case is approaching completion with an extended timescale. The B case does qualify for a Special Case Review but is unusual as there was not multi-agency involvement in this area. This is in the Criminal Justice System notification is required from the Crown Prosecution Service to commence the work.

Resolved: The Board noted the report.

9 10:30 COMMISSIONING UPDATE

Peter Wong presented a report outlining the NHS Consultation underway. A Consultation document from the Department of Health (DOH) has been published. This report outlines areas of specific interest to the Children's Trust Board.

The responsibilities for GP Consortia were outlined. The consortia themselves will differ across the country and probably the borough. The expectations of the operation of the consortia are outlined with no actual indication of how it will occur from government. There are particular consultation questions, all individuals can respond.

The report recommends the Children's Trust Board respond to the DOH consultation and also submits a collective response for NHS to feed into the work in progress shaping the GP consortia.

Richard Longster agreed with this view particularly as joint commissioning is of benefit for children and young people and it should be high on the GP agenda.

Debbie Mayor noted the opportunity to influence the thinking now before the arrangements are made.

The timescale is 11th October for responses to the national consultation. Peter Wong offered to produce a paper and collate responses from the Board.

Howard Cooper noted the different organisations on the Board and their views on a group response.

Ngaire Waine noted that the Police would have specific requirements and that core business requirements may be slightly different.

Richard Longster noted the importance of not diluting the response, as a collective response should be more powerful, it could be done with specific inputs from different agencies.

Councillor Chris Meaden noted the complexities of potentially dealing with a number of consortia with a different agenda.

Howard Cooper suggested that the Trust Board could do a response based on the role of the Board and common areas of concern to the Board. A number were outlined:

- The under-representation of children and young people in priority setting in the NHS.
- The benefit of early prevention should be prioritised.
- The importance of the definition of what should be included in public health and what in GP consortia such as health visiting and school nursing.
- For planning prospects the Children's Trust footprint is the whole of Wirral, the more agencies are fragmented the more difficult it would be to commission services effectively.

Ngaire Waine noted that health inequalities focus should also be included.

Howard Cooper also noted how multi-agency working has had a significant impact on outcomes for children and young people.

Richard Longster noted that the Board should ensure its views are provided to influence the process.

Bev Morgan noted the complexity application process for commissioning Smoke Free Families that made it difficult for VCF agencies to apply. Peter Wong will discuss this with Public Health and contact Bev Morgan.

Howard Cooper noted Joint Director of Public Health Marie Armitage retires today and new Joint Director Fiona Johnstone will commence on 27th September. She will be invited to join the Board. The importance of Public Health to the Children's Trust was stressed.

It was agreed that Peter Wong would draft collective responses to both the NHS Consultation and the NHS Wirral process. These will be shared with the Board for comment before submission.

Resolved: That the Board submits a collective response to the Department of Health consultation.

Resolved: That the Board submits a collective response to NHS Wirral with the purpose of being fed into the shaping of the emerging GP Consortia.

10 10:50 NARROWING THE GAP ACTION RESEARCH IN SCHOOLS

Mark Parkinson and Ros Free introduced the report. Mark Parkinson noted Narrowing the Gap was a priority area and that gaps were evident in a range of groups such as LAC, Young People in Youth Justice System, SEN and Deprivation (free school meal proxy).

A range of initiatives in place in schools, with additional input from the Local Authority and National Strategies. The Schools Forum has a working party and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee have projects to review this area.

Work is currently underway on the academic year 2009/10 data analysis at a pupil level. Wirral is involved in National Project led by National Strategies; the evidence from this is that Wirral is undertaking the right initiatives.

A number of action research projects were also initiated in collaboration with schools. Good practice would then be shared across schools. Funding was provided to schools to initiate these. A steering group of headteachers targeted the funding at specific initiatives.

Ros Free noted the importance of changing practice and the purpose of the initiatives was to embed this at all levels in schools.

Areas tackled included aspiration raising projects, the 'Ignition' and 'Professor Fluffy' projects. The very positive feedback led to schools now using their own funding to continue these projects and some school clusters are collaborating.

Communication friendly spaces to impact on boys interest in reading and speaking and listening.

Growing to learn has been rolled out to all primary schools to improve children's engagement in learning. This involves collaborative learning and communication. Feedback from teachers is overwhelmingly positive.

Tranmere Rovers journalism programme was specifically targeted at groups of young people.

Richard Longster noted that it was fantastic to hear this report as it was very valuable to understand the extent of the positive work that was ongoing and the innovation and dynamism.

Mark Parkinson noted that the 3-year programme was coming to an end and information would be produced to share the projects and their impact. The action research approach with schools driving the programme has led to its success.

Kathryn Podmore note the funding cuts would impact on this.

Mark Parkinson agreed but noted that schools could fund themselves on their projects of particular value to them. The programme was designed to be self sustaining, with minimal costs shared wherever possible.

Councillor Sheila Clarke asked Mark Parkinson and Ros Free to pass on thanks to everyone involved in these innovative projects with their significant impact on Wirral children and young people.

Resolved: The Board noted the report.

11 11:15 MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Emma Dodd presented the report. Merseyside Fire and Rescue is a non-statutory partner that works collaboratively with a range of agencies. A large number of projects are developed and run involving children and young people. They have currently expressed an interest in the new government initiative The National Citizen Scheme.

A PFI project is in place in a number of Fire Stations and state of the art buildings will be developed. There is opportunity for co-location and joint working. There is a designated Youth Engagement Officer and three Fire Liaison Officers will be working one day a week with schools.

Howard Cooper noted the positive beacon status work carried out by the Merseyside Fire and Rescue service.

The Council is involved in the National Citizen Scheme project and would like to work with the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service on this.

Wallasey Youth Hub is situated in Wallasey Fire Station and has had a very positive start. Similar discussions are ongoing regarding a Birkenhead site with voluntary sector and private provider 'Onside'.

Resolved: The Board noted the report.

12 11:35 'WIRRAL'S FUTURE' CONSULTATION PROCESS

Rose Boylan introduced the Wirral Future Consultation programme which aims to involve Wirral residents in planning for the future.

The process is Task Force based with four task forces, independently chaired including key stakeholders in an advisory capacity. Public consultation started on 13th September for six weeks. Task forces then reconvene to review the findings.

There is also staff consultation ongoing. All material is online and there are a wide range of methods through which people can consult.

Jane Owens asked who wrote the consultation questions and noted that they were not child friendly.

Councillor Sheila Clarke noted that consultation with children and young people would occur through the Youth Voice Conference which would address this and there would be other events. She noted the questions did not directly come through the Task Force Group.

Rose Boylan responded that the questions were drafted from the options paper.

Councillor Chris Meaden noted the questionnaire was very time consuming to fill in and the questions were poorly worded.

Ngairé Waine noted that she had not seen questionnaires and what was the process for partner involvement.

Rose Boylan requested that questionnaires were filled in online.

Hazel Thompson noted that she was the Acting Chief Executive of WMO and that although she had requested them the questionnaires had not arrived.

Phil Sheridan reported that Wirral Association of Secondary Headteachers had noted the size of the questionnaire and that they had requested headteachers signpost young people to events rather than completing full questionnaire.

Richard Longster asked how the responses would be analysed.

Rose Boylan note the survey online tool would be used which allows cross referencing analysis to aid interpretation of the data.

Rose Boylan noted the issues raised and agreed to provide a response back to the Board members regarding their queries.

Resolved: The presentation was noted and Rose Boylan would provide a written response to the queries raised by the Board.

13 **11:55 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

14 **12:00 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 22 NOVEMBER 2010, 09:00 - 12:00**

WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD – 19th NOVEMBER 2010

CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY STRATEGY FOR WIRRAL

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The paper updates Partnership Members on developments with tackling Child and Family Poverty. The following aspects are covered:

- The National position: the scope of the 2010 Child Poverty Act and the Coalition Government's commitment to ending child poverty by 2020
- The Liverpool City Region's framework for developing a Child and Family Poverty Strategy and related activities
- The governance and strategy arrangements for tackling Child and Family Poverty in Wirral
- Key dates and next steps

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Children's Trust Panel are requested to:

- Note the approach and progress to date in developing a Child and Family Poverty Strategy for Wirral.
- Consider how the panel wishes to participate in the processes of developing, assuring and approving Wirral's Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment.
- Continue to receive updates on progress in developing the Child and Family Poverty Strategy prior to its adoption in April 2011.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1.1 The Child and Poverty Agenda is being progressed nationally, across the Liverpool City Region and within the Local Authority district of Wirral.

4 The National Picture

4.1 The Child Poverty Bill received Royal Assent and became an Act of Parliament on 25th March 2010. The Act establishes national targets to end Child Poverty in the UK by 2020 and places a number of duties on local authorities and other local delivery partners to work together to tackle child poverty. These duties are to:

- **Cooperate** to put in place arrangements to work to reduce and mitigate the effects of child poverty in their local area
- Prepare and publish a **local child poverty needs assessment** to highlight the drivers of child poverty in the local area and the characteristics of those living in poverty.
- Prepare a **joint child poverty strategy** setting out measures that the local authority and each named partner propose to take to reduce and mitigate the effects of child poverty in their local area.
- Take tackling child poverty into account when preparing or revising **Sustainable Community Strategies**.

- 4.2 In *'The Coalition: our programme for government'*, the Coalition Government iterated the commitment to ending child poverty in the UK by 2020.
- 4.3 A 'National Review of Poverty and Life Chances' has been charged with studying the extent of poverty in the UK and making recommendations to help less affluent families. This review is being headed by Frank Field MP and is due to report in December 2010.
- 4.4 The Coalition Government has revoked a previous deadline for Local Authorities to complete a Needs Assessments and produce a Child Poverty Strategy for their district. This confirms that there will be neither formal statutory guidance issued nor regulations laid detailing the requirements of local child poverty needs assessments. Wirral and the broader Liverpool City Region are continuing to work towards completing a Needs Assessment of the area by December 2010 and a Child and Family Strategy by April 2011.

5 Liverpool City Region

- 5.1 The City Employment Strategy (CES) of the Liverpool City Region has commissioned the development of a Liverpool City Region Child and Family Poverty Framework.
- 5.2 The creation of a City Region Child and Family Poverty Commission has been endorsed by the City Region Cabinet. Cllr Andrew Hodson, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning Strategy, has been nominated to represent Wirral on the Commission. Plans are progressing to finalise membership of the Commission and appoint an independent chair. The Member of Parliament for Birkenhead, Frank Field has agreed to take on the role of the independent chair.
- 5.3 This development will help the Commission's immediate priority to establish links with the independent National Review of Poverty and Life Chances that is also being led by Frank Field MP and will ensure that the Liverpool City Region has a strong voice with which to inform and shape the national agenda.
- 5.4 A Child and Family Poverty Advisory Group will also be established to inform the City Region Commission with representation from each local authority area. This group will be responsible for identifying gaps in data and analysis and raising issues specific to their field of expertise and / or local area.
- 5.5 There are a number of City Region activities in place to ensure that the statutory requirements set out in the Child Poverty Act will be met. These include a child poverty data project and a series of consultation events that were held over the summer. These activities will contribute to the requirement to produce needs assessments for the City Region and for individual local authority areas.
- 5.6 One of the key barriers to developing effective approaches to reducing child poverty has been the availability of data and intelligence. Mott MacDonald was commissioned through Merseyside Information Services (MIS) to assist with the data requirements that will inform the needs assessment. The data project is well underway and a City Region data group has been convened consisting of representatives from all six local authorities.

6 Wirral's Approach

- 6.1 The duty to co-operate recognises that, whilst the local authority should play a lead role in coordinating local partners, it cannot tackle child poverty alone and that a range of other partners must play their role. A number of agencies are named as partner authorities in the Bill:
- The police, youth offending teams, and probation service
 - Transport authorities
 - Primary Care Trust and Strategic Health Authorities
 - Jobcentre Plus
- 6.2 Many other organisations are also mentioned in the Bill that can play a critical role in child and family poverty such as private and third sector service providers, charities, community groups, the housing sector and employers.
- 6.3 In line with the City Region timetable, Wirral is planning to develop and approve a Child and Family Poverty Strategy to be in place by April 2011. It will outline how co-ordinated services will tackle child and family poverty up to 2020 and will be reviewed every three years. There will be an opportunity in future years to integrate the Child and Family Poverty Strategy with the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 6.4 Mapping of the data and information has illustrated that there is already much in place in Wirral that is addressing the causes of child and family poverty through wide ranging activities such as, financial support and advice for business, employment and training advice services for individuals, Children's Centres, and housing, education and health services. Wirral's Sustainable Community Strategy recognises and explores many of the issues linked to child poverty in its clear focus on tackling inequality and deprivation through increasing prosperity. The development of Wirral's Child and Family Poverty Strategy will build on this approach.
- 6.5 Wirral is currently developing its Needs Analysis document. Appendix 1 shows the type of data that will be included in Wirral's Needs Analysis.
- 6.6 Wirral's Child Poverty partner consultation event was held in August where a number of key partners and stakeholders attended. Outcomes from the event will inform the needs assessment and subsequent Strategy.
- 6.7 The Council has recently nominated Councillor Andrew Hodson to be Wirral's representative on the City Region Child Poverty Commission.
- 6.8 The Director of Corporate Services and Director of Children's Services are jointly accountable for the delivery of the duties set out in the Child Poverty Act in conjunction with key partners. The Head of Policy and Performance is the Council's lead officer for this work.
- 6.9 The Local Strategic Partnership's Executive Board has confirmed that the Management Group will oversee the development and delivery of the Strategy in tandem with the Liverpool City Region approach outlined above. Development of the Strategy would then be within an existing partnership structure. It is intended

that these arrangements are formalised through reports to the Local Strategic Partnership Executive Board and to Cabinet.

- 6.10 The City Region and local needs assessments will provide a rich source of information for the Council and partners in any future review of priorities within the Sustainable Community Strategy.

7 LATEST POSITION AND NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 The work towards a child poverty strategy for LCR and Wirral is continuing throughout the year in respect of the development and publication of LCR and local needs assessments.
- 7.2 Further updates on progress with the needs assessment and Strategy will be provided to Cabinet prior to adoption of the Strategy, April 2011.

8 KEY DATES

Needs Assessment development and approval

Date	Activity	Responsibility
22/11/10	Children's Trust Update	Head of Policy and Performance
3/11/10	WEDS Update	Head of Policy and Performance
22/11/10	Wirral Needs Assessment prepared	Head of Policy and Performance
9/12/10	Wirral Needs Assessment agreed by Cabinet	Head of Policy and Performance
5/1/11	LCR Needs Assessment prepared	City Employment Strategy [EXTERNAL]
14/1/11	LCR Needs Assessment approved by City Region Chief Executives	City Employment Strategy [EXTERNAL]
28/1/11	LCR Needs Assessment approved by City Region Cabinet	City Employment Strategy [EXTERNAL]

Child and Family Poverty Strategy Development and Approval

Date	Activity	Responsibility
31/3/11	Develop Wirral Child and Family Poverty Strategy	Head of Policy and Performance
31/3/11	Develop Liverpool City Region Child and Family Poverty Strategy	City Employment Strategy [EXTERNAL]

External Milestones

Date	Activity	Responsibility
November 2010	Inaugural meeting of the LCR Child and Family Poverty Commission.	City Employment Strategy [EXTERNAL]
December 2010	National Review of Poverty and Life Chances' published	Frank Field MP [EXTERNAL]
April 2011	First national child poverty strategy to be published	Child Poverty Unit [EXTERNAL]

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The Board are requested to:

- Note the approach and progress to date in developing a Child Poverty Strategy for Wirral.
- Consider how Wirral Children's Trust wishes to participate in the processes of developing, assuring and approving Wirral's Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment.
- Continue to receive updates on progress in developing the Child and Family Poverty Strategy prior to its adoption in April 2011.

10 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Child Poverty Act 2010

City Region Child and Family Poverty Framework Analysis Report, A Brighter Future; working together to tackle child and family poverty.

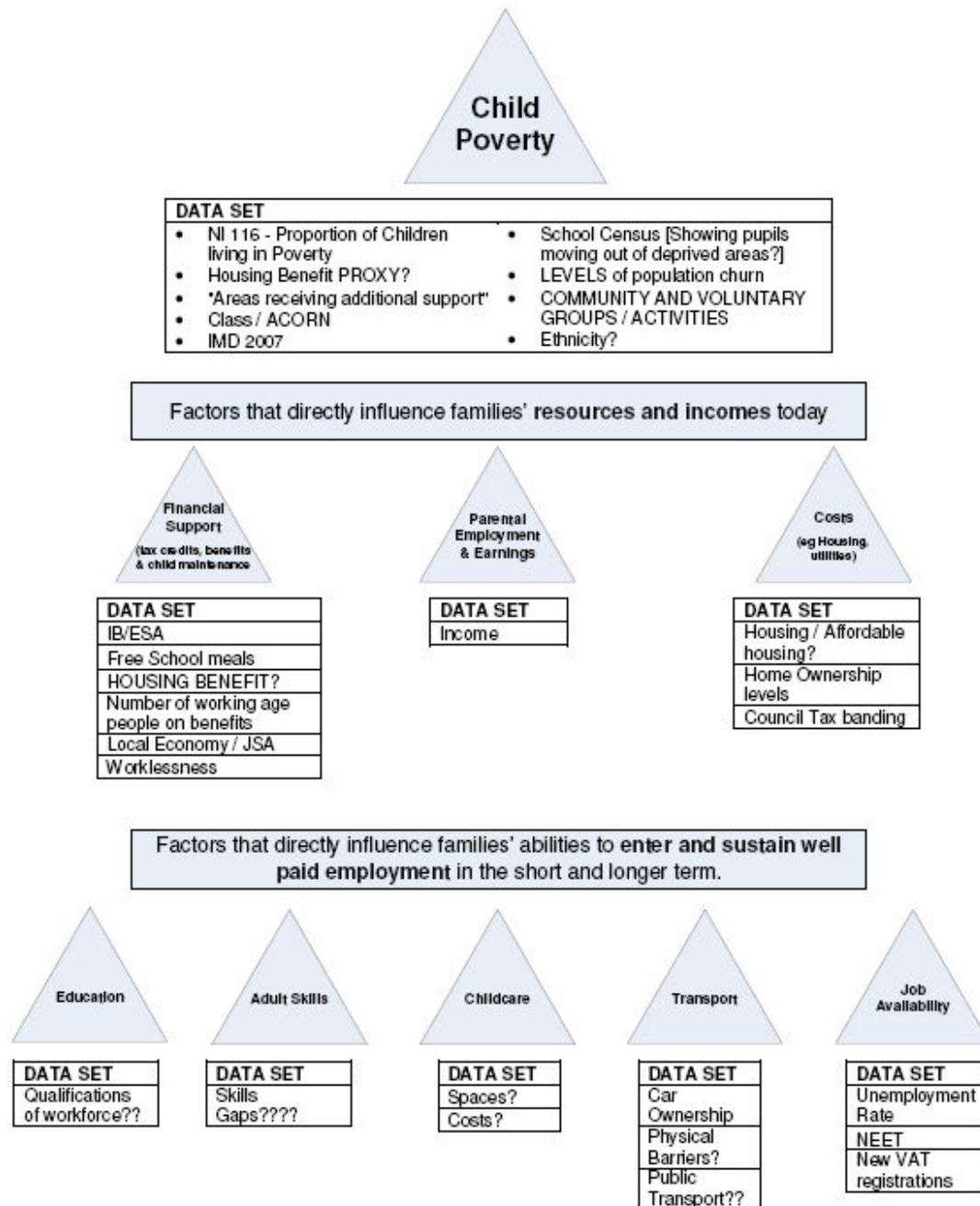
Wirral DRAFT Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment.

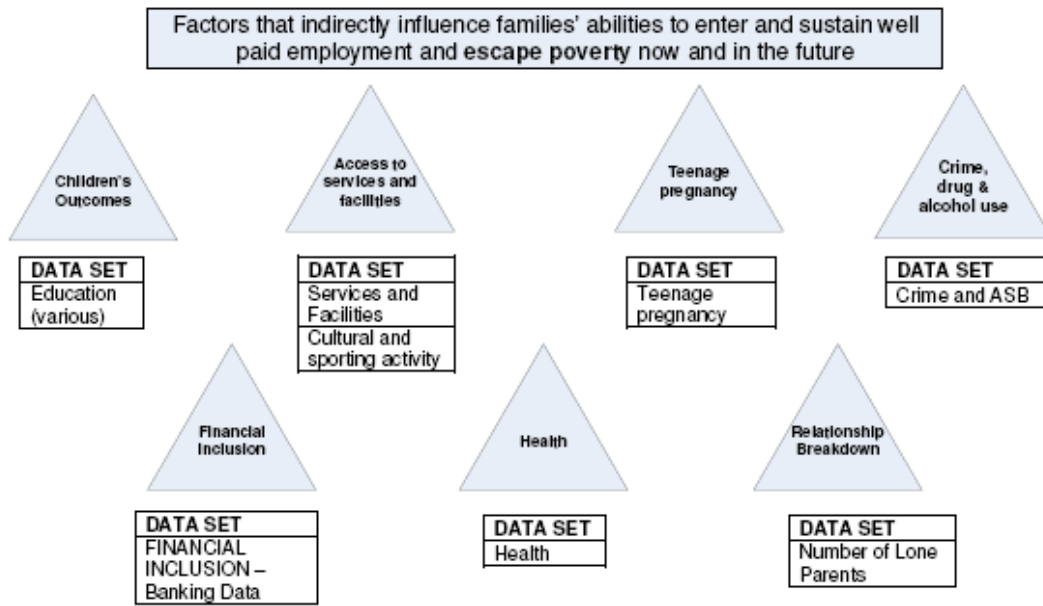
Kevin Adderley
Interim Director of Corporate Services

This report was prepared by Carolyn Curr, Head of Policy and Performance and Gareth Latham, Research and Information Officer, 0151 691 8030

Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment

The diagram below illustrates the themes and their respective datasets that the Wirral and LCR Needs Assessment documents will explore.





ENJOY AND ACHIEVE STRATEGY GROUP REPORT TO THE BOARD

1.0 Background

1.1 The Enjoy and Achieve outcome area within the ECM Framework has the following aims and goals:

Aims

- Ready for school
- Attend and enjoy school
- Achieve stretching national educational standards at primary school
- Achieve personal and social development and enjoy recreation
- Achieve stretching national educational standards at secondary school

Goals

- Every child ready for secondary school, with at least 90 per cent achieving at or above the expected level in both English and mathematics by age 11.
- Every young person with the skills for adult life and further study with at least 90 per cent achieving the equivalent of five higher level GCSEs by age 19; and at least 70 per cent achieving the equivalent of two A levels by age 19.

1.2 The Enjoy and Achieve Strategy group brings together key leaders and managers from across the partners within the Children's Trust, including representatives from schools, in order to analyse our outcomes in this area, identify key priorities and actions and monitor and evaluate our progress against our targets.

2.0 Progress 2009-2010

Key recent achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued progress with both Primary and Secondary Review of school places. • Improvements in performance in Early Years. Targets for children attaining 78+ scale points and level 6+ points in CLL & PSE were exceeded. The attainment for children in the lowest quintile improved thereby narrowing the attainment gap. • Attainment in Mathematics at L3+ has improved by 3% but attainment is still below the national average. • At KS2, attainment at L4+ in Maths showed an increase on last year and is above national average and FFTB. Attainment at L5+ in Maths stayed the same as last year and is above national averages. The percentage of pupils making 2 levels progress in Mathematics increased by 4% and is above the national average. • Attainment in English at L4+ and L5+ are above the national average. The percentage of pupils making 2 levels progress is above the national average and showed an increase on last year. • At Key Stage 4, the provisional results for 5+ A*-C GCSE or equivalent grades including English and Maths indicate that they have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exceeded national averages and national gains ○ Met FFT 'D' estimates ○ Exceeded statutory targets set
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provisional results for 5+ A*-C GCSE or equivalent grades indicate that they have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exceeded national averages and national gains ○ Exceeded FFT 'D' estimates • Improvements in performance in National Challenge schools are at a higher rate; only 1 school is now below the Key Stage 4 threshold of 30% 5+ A*-C GCSE or equivalent grades including English and Maths with the other 5 National Challenge schools sustainably above. • Outcomes of secondary OFSTED reports have over half outstanding. • All schools are meeting the Extended Schools Full Core Offer. • Successful implementation of Children's Centres OFSTED framework following statutory designation • Development of performance management framework for Children's Centres building on learning from successful OFSTED inspection. • Implementation of e-Start database to support monitoring and evaluation of Children's Centres. • Implementation of Early Years Quality Improvement Support Programme with private, voluntary and independent providers of early education and care • Implementation of the extended free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds to 15 hours per week. • Increased opportunity available for parents to take free entitlement more flexibly. • Capital funding made available through the Quality Improvement Grant has so far enabled 114 PVI settings to improve outdoor learning environments, IT provision and resources to implement quality in EYFS. A further 5 PVI settings based on school sites have benefitted from having their premises replaced or refurbished. • Successful 2 year old funding initiative with case study evidence of impact. • Successful Every Child a Talker Cohort 1 with demonstrable impact and successful introduction of programme to Cohort 2. Wirral rated as Outstanding in most recent ECaT RAG meeting. • All schools inspected during the Autumn term 2010 have been graded as good or better by OFSTED. • The Local Authority's Leadership & Management programme has been used nationally as an example of best practice. • SEAL and Family Works programmes demonstrating impact. • Only 1 school in an OFSTED category. • Successful implementation of 1-1 tuition. • Continued improvement of attendance figures and especially in Persistent Absence schools. • Good performance of LAC at Key Stage 2 and at Key Stage 4 (relative to expected progress based on prior attainment). • Foundation Learning programmes at Key Stage 4 are starting to show demonstrable impact. • Ten Diploma lines are running with 148 learners on these programmes.
Key issues and areas for further development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving towards implementation for Primary Review Phase 6 and Secondary Review Phase 1. • Very ambitious Early Years targets; closing the gap in Early Years. • Measuring impact of Children's Centres and ensuring vulnerable children and families are being targeted.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of new Early Years funding formula (postponed nationally until April 2011). • Delayed migration of Family Information Directory data from current software platform to upgraded programme. • At Key Stage 1, attainment in Mathematics at L2+ has decreased by 1% and is below the national average with a decrease in boys' performance. Boys' attainment has decreased at 2b+ so the development foci are transition from FS2 to Year 1 to ensure progression in early mathematical understanding and challenge for the more able pupils. • At Key Stage 1, attainment in both reading and writing at L2+ is below the national average. Boys' attainment in writing from F2 through to the end of the Key Stage 2 needs to be a development focus to narrow the gender gap. • At Key Stage 1, attainment at L2b+ in reading is static and is below the national average. • Attainment of more able pupils in Mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2 needs further improvement. • At Key Stage 2, increase the number of pupils making 2 levels progress in either English or Mathematics so that it is higher than FFTB. • At Key Stage 2, increase the number of pupils attaining Level 4+ in English and Mathematics • Continued implementation of e-learning strategy and VLE • Continued implementation of Assessment for Learning and Assessment of Pupil Progress so there is even more impact on standards. • Review target setting and assessment procedures at all key stages. • Narrowing the gap between SEN/non-SEN pupils at KS2. • Continue to improve the performance of LAC. • Improve performance post-16. • Embed Foundation Learning at Key Stage 4. • Clarity over the strategic commissioning role of LA for post-16 in the light of changes to the funding mechanisms. • Moving further towards implementation of Raising the Participation Age. • Improve the % of schools and PVI settings offering the free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds flexibly. Further support PVI settings to improve the number getting OFSTED reports of good or better.
<p>Key challenges ahead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implications of the Schools White Paper. • Ending of National Strategies programmes, changes to LA roles and responsibilities and reduction of capacity to deliver school improvement work. • Managing expectations with reduced capacity. • Funding going direct to schools with various grant funding streams ceasing and the movement of school improvement into traded services. • Schools to take greater lead and ownership of school improvement in their area. Developing an effective School Improvement Strategy in that context. • Collaborative service delivery approach with neighbouring local authorities. • Extended schools agenda not continuing as grant ends. • Impact of budget challenges.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued need to Narrow the Gap. A new National Commissioning Framework for post-16 provision.
Risks to outcome delivery and proposed actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in staff. Implications of budget challenges. Implications of Schools White Paper. HR issues – managing staff changes. ICT infrastructure and support.
Areas requiring further partnership involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efficiencies across partners in response to budget challenges. Continued implementation of multi-agency working and clarity with schools and their role. Delivery of Narrowing the Gap. Retaining Partnership momentum in a 14-19 policy vacuum.
Equalities impact assessment areas for development and progress made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good progress made with the actions in the EIA plan. Further improve outcomes for some specific groups. Need to continue to raise awareness of the needs of some specific groups.
Areas for promotion /publicity / communication / engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended schools. 1-1 tuition and other personalised support. Early Years and Sure Start activity. 14-19 reforms. Families Information Service

3.0 Case Studies of Good Practice

3.1 Early Language Intervention Programmes: Communication, Language and Literacy Development (CLLD) and Every Child a Talker (ECaT)

CLLD is a quality first teaching programme linked closely with and complementary to other key national strategies: Early Years Foundation Stage, Every Child a Talker and the Literacy framework. The alignment has provided consistent and cohesive guidance to leaders and managers, teachers and practitioners. Outcomes should be clear and detailed, with evidence of children's progress and achievement at the end of the EYFS and improved outcomes at the end of key stage 1, in terms of both reading and writing.

Wirral became a funded Local Authority in 2008; 10 schools and 3 PVI settings were invited to participate, identified on the basis of low baseline on entry, low FSP scores across the four aspects of CLL scale points and free school meals.

- September 2008: on entry 96% of children in the programme were at Phase 1 in Foundation 2 and 1% of children on entry to KS1 were at Phase 5.
- July 2009: 53% of children in the programme were at Phase 3 at the end of Foundation 2 and 39% were at Phase 5 at end of Y1 in KS1

The national expectations are that:

- 80% of children secure at Phase 2 at the end of F2
- 85% of children secure at Phase 5 at the end of Yr1

In 2009, a further 12 schools were participating in the programme, giving a total of 25 schools.

By July 2010:

- 50% of targeted schools have more than 75% of children secure at Phase 3.
- 31% of targeted schools have children secure at Phase 5.

The 2010 Early Years Foundation Stage Profile data indicates that:

- CLLD schools show an average 18% increase in children attaining 6+ across all aspects of CLL.
- 1 school showed 54% increase in children attaining 6+ across all the aspects of CLL.

By way of comparison, non-CLLD schools show an average 0.8% increase in children attaining 6+ across all aspects of CLL.

In 2010 the universal offer of the CLLD programme provided schools with the opportunity to engage in a proven approach to impact on children's speaking, listening, reading and writing attainment. 33 schools accepted the offer of the training package addressing the four aspects of CLL, cluster group meetings, funding for staff release/resources, telephone and email support. 17 target schools access the training package, funding for staff release/resources, dedicated release time for a lead person to support colleagues and monitor programme throughout the school. Dedicated consultant support and bespoke training is available to schools. Termly data submission and analysis with electronic tracking systems identify potential vulnerable groups. Termly cluster group meetings held.

In 2010 10 schools exited the programme to become self sustaining. Funding had been made available to release the CLLD lead to maintain and sustain the impact through the monitoring and evaluation of the programme. There is continued access to training for additional staff and termly network meetings to share good practice

3.2 Foundation Learning (Test and Trial 2008-10)

Jay

Jay is 15 years old and struggles with learning in a formal setting. His family represents several generations of unemployment and there is little support for his learning in school. Out of school he is regularly involved in drug, and other risk taking behaviours.

His initial assessment showed the following:

KS2 outcomes were levels 2c in English, Maths and Science

Y7 Reading Age: 6 years 8 months

Y7 Spelling Age: 6 years 10 months

Y8 Reading Age: 9 years

Y8 Spelling Age: 8 years 10 months

KS3 outcomes were level 4 in English, level 3 in Maths and Science

Y9 CATS test results were: Verbal 66, Quantitative 60, Non-verbal 75

KS3 attendance was 68%

Jay was entitled to Free School Meals

He was identified as SEN (as outlined on IEP) include strategies for dealing with BESD and MLD

As a result of initial assessment, Jay was identified as working predominantly at Entry Level, with the potential to achieve level 1 and therefore Foundation Learning was the appropriate pathway for Jay.

Throughout KS3, attendance was erratic and there was significant involvement by the Education Social Welfare Service. This clearly impacted upon his achievements. It was felt that he was at risk of disengagement, and high risk of NEET. Jay began an in-house Foundation Learning programme leading to a NOCN Step-Up Diploma, targeted at children with MLD. However he became disruptive which was having an impact on the progress of other students in the group.

During a review meeting, Jay expressed a keen interest in cars and, in particular, Motor Vehicle Maintenance. It was felt that he was mature enough to be able to respond to the motivational aspects of off-site learning, with the intention of providing a clear progression route into employment in the future. Indeed in Year 10 attendance improved from 68% to 88.7%.

Foundation Learning Programme

In order to equip Jay with qualifications for the workplace, two days were spent at an off-site training provider in both Years 10 and 11. In addition there was one day work experience in Year 11.

Off-site he began work towards the NOCN Step-Up Diploma at Level 1 (500/3830/8), which included the credits he had achieved through the in-house FL programme. In addition he worked towards a non-QCF qualification City and Guilds 4041 in MVM (now C&G LI Diploma in Vehicle Systems Maintenance (QCF) 500/8862/2).

In-school he worked towards the PSD units, Functional Skills and the core curriculum programme. The school and off-site training provider liaise closely so that Jay gained accreditation for the PSD work completed in school as an integral part of the NOCN Diploma. In addition the off-site provider seeks to embed Functional Skills within the vocational context, in order to provide opportunities for application and practice of these essential skills for the workplace.

Qualifications and credits achieved

	Credits	SCAAT pts
NOCN Step Up Diploma Level I (including PSD units)	39	100
WJEC Functional Skills English E3	5	7
WJEC Functional Skills Maths LI	5	12.5
Edexcel Functional Skills ICT LI	5	12.5

Overall attainment

In addition Jay gained the following non-QCF qualifications delivered alongside the Foundation Learning programme

	Grade	Pts
City & Guilds 4041 Motor Vehicle Maintenance		75
GCSE English	G	16
Maths	F	22
Science	G	16
RE	U	

Jay's expected capped AAT (as used in CVA measure) was 207.7. Jay actually achieved 261 pts and therefore exceeded the predicted potential and achieved the level I threshold.

Progression routes

Jay's work experience placement was very successful. He demonstrated commitment and reliability. He responded well to instructions and worked well as part of a team and as a result, Jay was offered an apprenticeship in Motor Vehicle Maintenance at the Garage. He can now build upon the Foundation Learning qualifications at level II in his chosen career.

Chloe

Background

Chloe transferred to secondary school having had a very unsettled primary school education due to her poor behaviour and difficult home life. She was taken into care during the first year at the school and spent the following four years in several foster homes, which impacted on her education and personal and social development.

Throughout KS3 Chloe benefitted from:

- PAYP (Positive Activities for Young People) throughout the school holidays. This included personal development and social skills
- Support from a Key Worker

- Advice and support from the school nurse
- Anger management and social development courses offered by the Learning Mentor.

During Year 9 and following further assessment, it was recognised that Chloe needed additional support with literacy and numeracy and significant support in personal and social skills. It was felt that she would benefit from a personalised Foundation Learning programme at KS4. Chloe had expressed an interest in working in the Fire and Rescue Service and the school wanted to exploit this motivation.

At KS4 the Foundation Learning programme included:

- Functional Skills in English, Maths and ICT, all at Entry 3 and progressing to Level I.
- a two day programme off-site working at a local training provider, where she had the opportunity to apply the Functional Skills and acquire vocational knowledge and skills
- an individualised PSD programme which included the development of employability skills, further anger management, motivational workshops and a 'Time-Out' card to alleviate her stress

The Foundation Learning programme complemented a core programme in school which included Science, PE, CEIAG and Work Related Learning, also Citizenship/RE/Philosophy. In addition she continued to benefit from whole school activities such as Enterprise Days.

She was supported by a Key Worker throughout this period and began to engage with the tutors after an initial rocky start. The PSD programme began to impact positively and she responded well to the regular reviews of her Individual Learning Plan

In Year 11 Chloe became more positive and wanted to achieve more qualifications, recognising these as a stepping stone to a positive future. She had already gained some credits towards Foundation Learning qualifications e.g. NCFE Entry to Uniformed Services and NOCN Step-Up Diploma. Tutors gave extra tuition in Functional Skills English and Maths and her goal was to achieve level I threshold to enable her to progress to a first full level II qualification, this time in Health and Social Care

However, Chloe became homeless and was placed in independent living accommodation (MAP). This caused depression and a sense of worthlessness. At age 15 she was not ready for Independent living and financial worries exacerbated the situation. The PSD programme was amended to include:

- managing personal finances (including accessing a bank account)
- further personal hygiene and independent living skills
- motivational rewards
- a work experience placement where she was comfortable and happy
- voluntary work during school holidays to raise self-esteem and confidence.

As a result Chloe achieved has now achieved:

- NCFE Entry to Uniformed Services LII (184 pts)
- NCFE Certificate in Sports Coaching LII (46 pts)
- C&G Certificate in Employability and Personal Development LI (25 pts)
- Functional Skills English LI (12.5 pts)
- GCSE English grade D (34 pts)
- Functional Skills Maths E3 (7 pts)
- GCSE Maths grade D (34 pts)
- Functional Skills ICT LI (12.5 pts)
- NOCN Step Up Certificate at Level I (25 points) including units such as Healthy lifestyles; Personal budgeting and money management; Using cooking skills in a domestic kitchen and Understanding stress & stress management techniques

Progression

Chloe exceeded the threshold for level I and has progressed to BTEC First Diploma in Health and Social Care and is working towards Functional Skills at LII. She has developed a positive outlook and is well motivated, wanting to progress to a career in Social Work in the future.

3.3 The Short Term Impact of Free Early Learning and Childcare Offer for Two Year Olds in Wirral

The information provided by the baseline data and end data shows that there has been a significant change in the children who have accessed Early Learning and Childcare for 2 year-olds in Wirral. It is expected that by the age of 2 a child will be functioning within the 22- 36 month age bracket. Consideration is given to the fact that all children develop at different rates. However with the children whose data was contributed to the study 72% were functioning below this level, with 27% showing considerable delay across the 6 areas of the EYFS. This indicates a delay of between 4 and 16 months, a delay which without intense support could seriously damage the life chances for these children.

There has been a change from 72% of the children functioning at an age below expected age range to 65% functioning at the appropriate age range with 5.5% exceeding expectations at the age of 36 months.

However the research suggests that 12.5% of the children are functioning between 16 - 26 months, 6.9% below 20 months and 5.5% functioning between birth and eleven months at around their 3rd birthday. This would indicate that the children have a serious developmental delay. Unfortunately information on disability was not gathered in this study. However, reports from the focus group confirms that there have been a large number of children referred for additional assessment and support due to developmental delay, disabilities, behaviour or social and emotional issues since they started at the childcare settings. Reports back from the nursery settings and professionals indicate that there have been a high percentage of children with developmental delay many of which have only been recognised during their time within the setting.

All parents taking part in the survey could demonstrate that their child had made progress in key areas such as with 100% reporting improved speech and language acquisition, in addition to improvements in self confidence and self esteem, social skills and physical development. These areas relied on the parents' subjective view of their child's development. 42% of the families taking part reported that their child had no established sleep routine prior to nursery, 79% claim that this is now in place 85% saying their child cooperates at bedtime.

There has also been a change to the number of children who are eating with their family from 25% to 79% with parents reporting up to 85% of the children now eating a variety of foods. The evidence from the professionals working with the families also point to the quality of food on offer at these family meals improving significantly.

27% of parents' attending the Children's Centre, adult learning and voluntary work have started doing so since their child has attended the funded childcare. While 42% care for another child and regularly use Children's Centres.

Extract from "A Review of the Assessment Criteria and Short Term Impact of Free Early Learning and Childcare Offer for Two Year Olds in Wirral" by Helen Richards, Dissertation for MA in Multidisciplinary Leadership, University of Chester

3.4 Narrowing the Attainment Gap at Key Stage 4

Please see Appendix 1 attached.

4.0 Brief SWOT Analysis of the Outcome Area

Strengths	Weaknesses:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement in E1 and Foundation Stage Profile • KS2 Maths • KS4 performance including National Challenge • Performance of LAC v. National at KS4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of LAV v. their peers • Difference in performance of children on FSM v. non-FSM and SEN v. Non-SEN • Boys writing at EY, KS1 and KS2. • Performance at Post-16
Opportunities:	Threats:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools White Paper • Service redesign • Localism and greater freedoms under national policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget constraints and capacity • Impact of economic climate • People's well-being

5.0 Summary

Across the Enjoy and Achieve Outcome area we are making good progress in most areas. Standards and outcomes are high for most children. We need to maintain and further develop that but with a particular focus at all phases on improving outcomes of vulnerable groups and narrowing the gap. We need to ensure that all are aware of which children fall into this category and harness the benefits of multi-agency working to impact on these children and families.

6.0 Recommendations:

That Wirral Children's Trust Board endorse the report.

Report Author:

Name: Mark Parkinson
Title: Head of Branch
Learning & Achievement

Contact:

Phone: 0151 666 4297
Email: markparkinson@wirral.gov.uk

Narrowing the Attainment Gap at Key Stage 4

NI 102

PSA 11

Summary of Key issues

Nationally, in 2009 the attainment at 5+ A*-C including English and maths of pupils on free school meals (FSM) was 27% lower than non-free school meals (non-FSM). The corresponding gap on Wirral was 37%. This places Wirral in the bottom 10 authorities in the country with the widest gap for this key National Indicator. 2010 national data is not yet available for this indicator.

Background

Nationally, in 2009 the attainment at 5+ A*-C including English and maths of pupils on free school meals (FSM) was 27% lower than non-free school meals (non-FSM). The corresponding gap on Wirral was 37%.

Aim

To reduce Wirral's gap from its current level of 37% by at least 5% by 2011.

Actions taken so far

Change the formula for funding to schools

The local authority changed its formula for funding to schools, increasing significantly the element attached to deprivation.

Below is evidence that this step may already have had an impact on the relative progress made by FSM pupils.

5+ A*-C including English and maths CVA

		2007	2008	2009	2010	Change 2008-2010
Higher funded schools	All pupils	3.6%	3.9%	5.6%	8.3%	4.4%
	Non-FSM	5.1%	7.4%	7.4%	9.6%	2.2%
	FSM	2.1%	0.3%	3.6%	6.9%	6.6%
Other Schools	All pupils	2.9%	3.5%	2.0%	3.3%	-0.2%
	Non-FSM	3.0%	3.8%	2.3%	3.3%	-0.5%
	FSM	2.6%	1.9%	0.8%	2.9%	1.0%
Difference (higher funded schools CVA minus other schools CVA)	All pupils	0.6%	0.4%	3.6%	5.0%	4.6%
	Non-FSM	2.1%	3.6%	5.1%	6.2%	2.7%
	FSM	-0.6%	-1.6%	2.8%	4.0%	5.6%

N.B. Higher funded schools are those whose per-pupil deprivation element increased by the greatest amount under the new formula.

Conduct thorough data analysis

A key question posed when conducting the analysis was "Why is Wirral's gap so much larger than the national average?" This was crucial to understanding the gap and then making informed decisions on the planned actions. The key findings of this in-depth data analysis are outlined in Appendix 1.

Pilot school-based strategies to narrow the gap

Pilot programmes to test strategies for narrowing gaps ran in 2009/10. Ten Wirral secondary schools involved were required to share with all schools the evaluations of their year-long projects.

Train key people in the understanding and use of data

A programme of training for governors, senior leaders and middle leaders was undertaken by the local authority to allow them to identify the issues in their own schools around the gap. This programme is still running.

Target other funding at the issue

The targeted element of the standards fund grant 1.8, approximately £500,000 for 2010/11, has been devolved to secondary schools according to a formula based on the forecast attainment of FSM pupils in each school.

Target individual tuition

The 1:1 Tuition grant, £622,000 for 2010/11, has been allocated according to a formula based around low attainment from the previous Key Stage – and analysis showed this to be linked very strongly to FSM entitlement. It is too early at this stage to determine the impact of 1:1 on the gap.

Actions under way to achieve short-term impact**Devolve additional funding to schools**

The local authority has identified a cohort of 100 FSM pupils (in the 2010/11 exam cohort) to receive additional support, either to ensure success at the threshold where it is considered likely or to boost additional FSM pupils who have lower chances.

Schools with significant numbers of FSM pupils have been allocated extra funding of approximately £1200 per pupil identified. This funding is in addition to all other grants devolved by the local authority, and corresponds roughly to 20 hours of 1:1 tuition. Schools have submitted outlines of what additional support the identified pupils will receive.

Schools are required to submit to the local authority half-termly progress data for the identified pupils in order that the virtual group's progress can be closely monitored during their Year 11.

Establish a Narrowing the Gap group

The local authority will co-ordinate representatives from each school and hold regular meetings to monitor general progress of FSM pupils, identify barriers and attempt to provide solutions, and to share practice that is being found to be effective. It is important to share the findings from all the strategies used in the pilot, even where impact has not been detected.

Actions planned to achieve long-term impact**Identify target group of FSM pupils currently in Years 7 and 8**

Schools will be asked to identify FSM pupils who are thought unlikely to achieve the threshold without support over and above that already planned for them.

We believe this approach has great potential for achieving improved outcomes for disadvantaged young people. Thorough understanding of the elements that contribute to the problem is essential if the correct diagnosis is to be made, and attempts to improve this understanding continue. Solutions that are generated by schools themselves are as at least as important as suggested approaches that come from outside agencies such as the National Strategies.

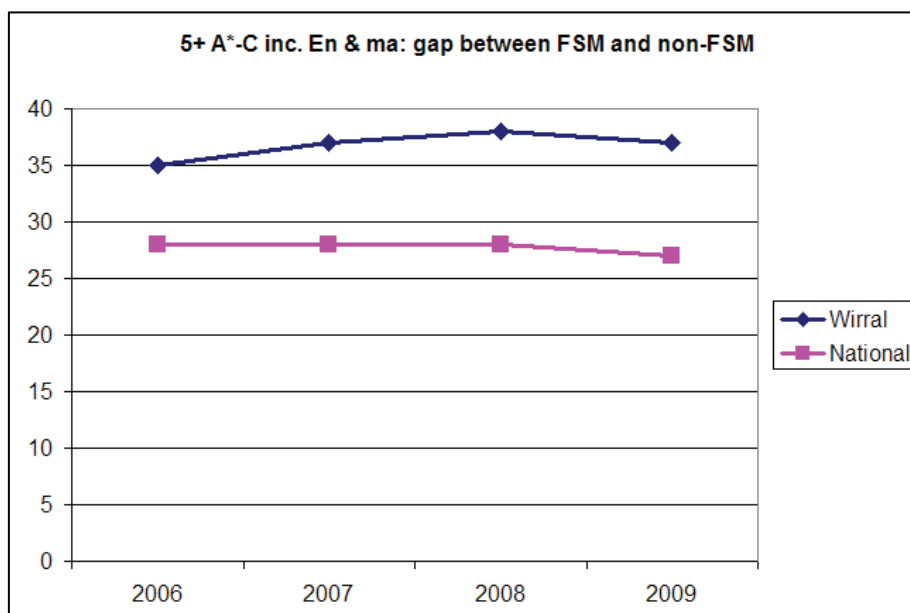
Appendix 1: Key findings of the data analysis

- At LA level, the greater the proportion of FSM pupils in an LA, the narrower the gap.
- At LA level, the greater the percentage of schools that are selective, the wider the gap.
- Wirral pupils who are classified as 'Wealthy Achievers' according to ACORN demographic classification perform significantly better than similar pupils nationally.
- Wirral's FSM pupils perform similarly to FSM pupils nationally.
- KS1-2 pupil-level CVAs for pupils entering selective schools are significantly higher than those for other pupils.

- This component suggests that preparation for the selection exam, including private tuition, may be a major factor in the elevated KS1-2 CVAs of pupils attending selective schools.
- The internal gaps within schools are generally much smaller than Wirral's gap. This outcome is counter-intuitive, but analysis shows it to be real.
- Initiatives aimed to raise attainment overall generally may do little to narrow the gap and could even widen it. Borderline pupils tend to be non-FSM pupils.
- Pupil-level target needs to take into account the effect it would have on the gap.
- If FSM pupils attained at FFT B the gap would close by 8%.

Appendix 2: Data

How Wirral's gap has changed since 2006, compared with the national gap. 2010 FSM national data is not yet available.



How Wirral's gap compared with individual school gaps in 2008. Note that Wirral's gap is greater than each school's gap.

School	2008 Gap
A	-25%
B	1%
C	-25%
B	-27%
C	-10%
B	-33%
C	-22%
B	-28%
C	-15%
B	-23%
C	-28%
B	-28%
C	-14%
B	-23%
C	-14%
B	-2%
C	-17%
B	-27%
C	-14%
B	-26%
C	1%
B	-29%
Wirral	-37%

Forecast performance of FSM cohort, if no significant improvement occurs, compared with Fischer Family Trust B estimates.

KS4 exam cohort	Forecast	B	Difference	No. of pupils this corresponds to
2011	28%	35%	7%	67
2012	31%	38%	7%	69

1.0 Background and Introduction

The Children First Strategic Board (CFSB) developed in October 2007 from a previous board that had originally been established to take a strategic view of the development of the SureStart and Children's Centre programmes. The Board recognised the need to include the broader aspects of early years provision including the Early Years Outcomes Duty and it operates as a partnership board, within the context of the Children's Trust, which would have oversight of all aspects of the Early Years Outcomes.

Initial membership of the CFSB drew from a wide range of partners. Over the years, the work has developed and national policy has changed. The board has recently been exploring whether the membership and terms of reference should be refined. This was discussed at the last meeting of the CFSB in October 2010.

2.0 Proposed Amended Membership and Terms of Reference

In the light of experience, the CFSB is proposing that the original terms of reference be amended to reflect the full breadth of the Early Years Outcomes Duties.

The CFSB is also proposing that the membership be amended to reflect the full breadth of the Early Years Outcomes Duties and that there are now 16 full Children's Centres and 3 satellite centres.

The suggested changes to the Terms of Reference and membership are attached.

The minutes of the CFSB are reported as a standing item to the Enjoy and Achieve Outcome Group and through that to the Children's Trust Executive.

3.0 Recommendation:

That Wirral Children's Trust Board approves the amendments to the Terms of Reference and to the membership of the Children First Strategic Board.

4.0 Appendices:

Appendix 1

Proposed Terms of Reference and membership of the Children First Strategic Board.

Report Author:

Name: Mark Parkinson
Title: Head of Branch
Learning & Achievement

Contact:

Phone: 0151 666 4297
Email: markparkinson@wirral.gov.uk

Wirral's Children First Strategic Board

Terms of Reference

- Consider policy in the light of the Local Authority functions under Part 1 of the Childcare Act 2006 and the Child Poverty Act 2010 in respect of services for children under 5 and their families.
- Set the strategic direction for universal services for children under 5
- To focus on key areas of work linked to the five Every Child Matters outcomes:
 - Implement a Performance Management Framework to drive improved outcomes for children under 5 and their families
 - Monitor performance to identify areas of achievement and address areas for development
 - Ensure consistency in relation to policy across all Children's Centres whilst still allowing for local flavour
 - Identify priority groups and services working to deliver on the ECM outcomes in order to maximise opportunities for funding in support of this agenda.
 - Ensure services target the most disadvantaged families and that there is a demonstrable impact.
 - Make services accessible with a clear focus on early intervention and prevention.
 - All partners working together to maximise the benefits for the most disadvantaged groups.
 - Ensure good practice relating to care and support for children under 5 and their families is shared across all providers.

Meetings and membership

The Children First Strategic Board meets 6 times per year

"Task and finish" groups to be convened as required for completion of specific tasks

Support for Board meetings and subsequent activity will be co-ordinated through the Wirral SureStart Support team.

Membership is drawn from the range of agencies, departments and other organisations that work with children under 5 and their families (Annexe 1)

Members are nominated by their agency/organisation and serve on the Board for a minimum period of 1 year.

For agencies/organisations that rotate membership, the maximum period that any single representative can attend Board meetings is 3 years.

Members may nominate a deputy to attend in their place. Ideally, this information should be noted to the Board administrator before the scheduled meeting.

Agencies/organisations will be contacted if any member misses 3 meetings in any one year and the organisation's continuing role on the Board discussed with the Chair of the Children First Strategic Board.

Members should undertake to report Board activity to the organisation/agency they are representing and agree to feed back the views of the agency/organisation into Board meetings.

Reporting arrangements

The Children First Strategic Board reports to the Children's Trust through the Chair of the Board.

Reports on Board activity will be prepared on a quarterly basis, together with information relating to performance management issues

"Task and finish" groups will report directly to the Board, making recommendations as appropriate.

Annexe 1

STRATEGIC BOARD - membership

Agency	Position of Representative	Current representative/Comments
Children and Young People's Department	Head of Branch, Learning and Achievement Strategic Service Manager, Early Years and Primary Strategic Service Manager, Children and Families Principal Manager, Early Years and Children's Centres Head of SESS/ Principal Educational Psychologist Children's Centres Team Leader Quality Assurance Manager Families Information Service Manager Principal Officer, Children's Financial Services Parenting Commissioning Aiming High for Disabled Children	Mark Parkinson Sue Talbot Tracey Coffey Catherine Kerr Yvonne Le Lorrain Kath Lloyd Janet Devine Sue Davies Jenny Harris Janice Monty Vacancy – new rep
Elected members	Lead Member for Children and Lifelong Learning SureStart Champion Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee Head of Integrated Children's Services (NHS Wirral)	Cllr Sheila Clarke Cllr Karen Hayes Cllr C Meaden Rose Curtis Dr. Adrian Hughes
Health	Clinical Director, Paediatrics, Women and Children's Division (Wirral University Teaching Hospital) Chair – Link Forum	Bev Morgan plus one other nominated through the Link Forum
Voluntary/ Faith/Community	Area Manager	Sheila Lynch – to be invited to specific meetings as appropriate.
Connexions	Childcare Partnership Manager	Stephanie Anderson
JobCentre Plus	Determined through Children's Centre Advisory Boards	Nicky Smith Ted Griffiths
Parents Representatives	Headteacher Headteacher (Children's Centre on site)	Vacancy Yvonne Body Nominations made through PHCG
Schools		

Centre Management/ Advisory Boards	1 representative from each of 3 Advisory Boards	Councillor Smith Councillor Davies Councillor Kenny
Children's Centre Managers Regeneration/ Libraries	1 Manager to attend on rota basis Head of Libraries and Halls	To be determined Sue Powell
EY non-maintained sector	Representatives from childminders, day nurseries, pre-school playgroups,	3 places (would require democratic process to select.)

Other representatives to be invited on ad hoc basis

Data Officer (Children's Centres and Extended Services)

Learning and Achievement Branch lead for Child Poverty

To receive minutes of meetings

Head of Branch, Children's Social Care

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SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT 2010/11

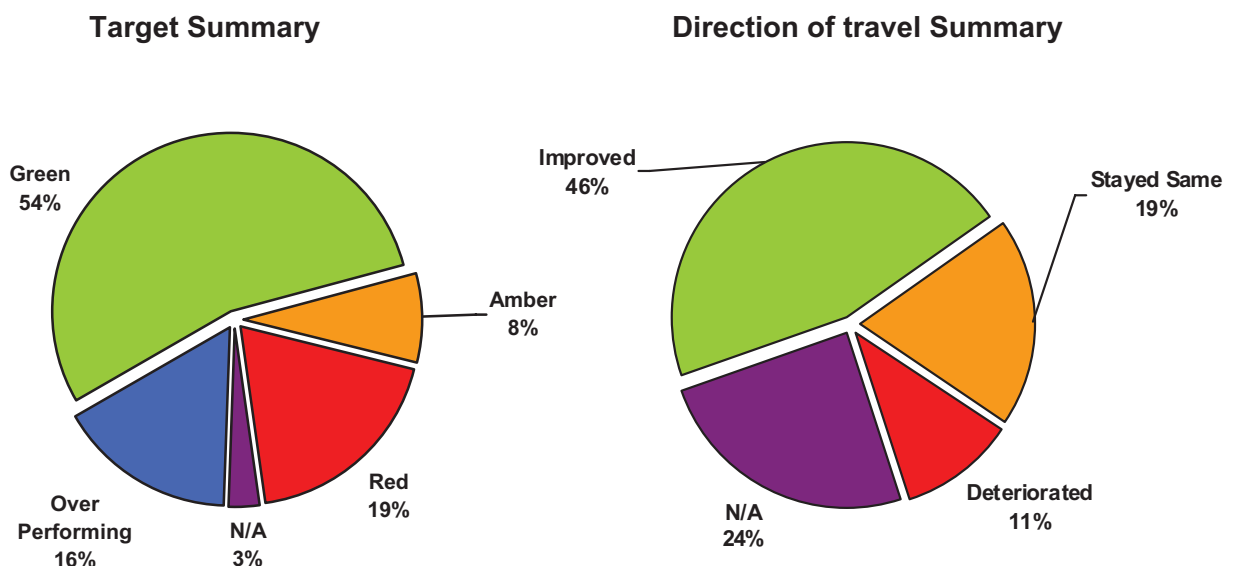
1.0 Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides an overview of progress made against Children's Services indicators for 2010/11 Quarter 2.

2.0 Performance Summary

2.1 The following charts provide a summary of performance at quarter two in relation to targets set and the direction of travel compared to prior year quarter two position.

2.2 There are 37 indicators that can be reported at the second quarter period.



Note: A number of attainment indicators have been reported on at quarter two in 2010/11 for the first time. As there is no corresponding quarter two data in 2009/10 the direction of travel is not available. Direction of travel for these indicators will be reported on at 2010/11 year end.

2.3 Appendix 1 provides the status of all indicators that can be reported to this scrutiny committee for quarter two.

3.0 Performance Analysis

3.1 Performance headlines for children's services include:

- Achievement at Foundation Stage Profile has improved significantly from the previous year and achieved the target set (NI 72).
- At Foundation Stage Profile level, the gap between the lowest achieving 20% and

the rest of the children has achieved the target set and decreased for the fifth successive year, indicating that improved achievement is spread across the cohort (NI 92).

- Progression of two levels between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in maths has achieved the target and improved for the fifth successive year (NI 94).
- Achievement at level four or above in both English and maths at Key Stage 2 has improved on the previous year (NI 73).
- Achievement of 5+A*-C including English and maths has improved for the fifth successive year.
- The number of pupils achieving two or more A*-C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent has improved significantly from the previous year and achieved the target set (NI 84).
- The number of looked after children achieving 5A*-C including English and maths GCSEs has improved on the previous year and exceeded the Wirral target (NI 75).
- The number of looked after children achieving Level 4 and above in maths at Key Stage 2 has improved on the previous year (from 50.0% to 55.6%) (NI 100).
- The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving 5+A*-C including English and maths has reduced and achieved the target set.

3.2 Performance Indicator Exceptions

The following indicators have not met the quarterly target by more than 10% and are therefore assessed as **red** or have missed the target by between 5% and 10% and are assessed as **amber**:

Data Key	
Actual	(A)
Estimate	(E)
Provisional	(P)

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 53	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth	35.1%	28.8% (E)	Red	Unchanged

Context: Wirral is below the average nationally (44.4%) and regionally (32.7%) at 6-8 weeks. Wirral figures have shown limited improvement over the last 10 years. The aim is to develop a breastfeeding culture through better partnership working with midwives, health visitors and children centre staff and to reignite an enthusiasm and commitment to breastfeeding. The breastfeeding peer support programme was commissioned at the end of 2009 and launched in April 2010 and the support volunteers are having an impact. An infant feeding co-ordinator is in place in the community and at the hospital. Wirral has worked with Sefton, Knowsley and Liverpool on a breastfeeding social marketing campaign which was launched in June 2010. Partnership working between health visitors and midwives is developing and they deliver joint training to a range of health professions. These targeted initiatives should lead to improvements in breastfeeding rates by the end of the year and the current position is better than Knowsley, Sefton and Liverpool.

Corrective action: The following have taken place to promote, support and improve breastfeeding rates:

- Stage one accreditation for Baby Friendly Initiative in the community submitted to UNICEF in July and audit took place in August 2010.
- Multidisciplinary task group set up and have drafted out a breastfeeding care pathway.

- Infant Feeding Specialist at the Hospital is now trained to deliver UNICEF breastfeeding training alongside the other local UNICEF trainers delivering the multidisciplinary training.
- Further one day breastfeeding update training delivered from the training schedule and further training dates have been set for the rest of this year and for 2011.
- The breastfeeding peer support programme have supported 293 mothers up to August which is ahead of their annual target of supporting 500 women and in the first quarter 54% of these women were still breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks
- Three briefing sessions were delivered to midwives about the social marketing campaign 'breast milk it's amazing' in July with 20 staff attending.
- A communication strategy has been devised between the participating four PCTs (Knowsley, Sefton, Liverpool, Wirral) for this social marketing campaign with each of the respective communication leads.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral.	76%	70.1% (P)	Amber	Improved

Context: This indicator is performing considerably better when compared to the same period during 2009/10. It should also be noted that the definition of this indicator is changing from 7 working days from referral to 10 working days in 2011/12. The 2010/11 quarter 2 figure for initial assessments carried out within 10 working days of referral is 82.9%.

Corrective action: With the induction of a new manager, there has been a refreshed and improved focus on work plans and development of new reports to support staff to help ensure time scales are met.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	80%	62.9% (P)	Red	Improved

Context: This indicator has improved following the circulation of good practice guidance notes to the teams with support from the data officers on electronic recording. However, there has been a large increase in the volume of work: 517 Core Assessments have taken place to date in 2010/11 compared with 449 at quarter 2 in 2009/10. Despite this there has been an improvement of 7% when compared with the same period in 2009/10.

Corrective action: Ongoing support to staff is being provided by the data officers recording information related to this indicator. All Social Workers and managers are undertaking refresher Child Protection training during October and November 2010 which will help staff focus in this area.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	80%	58.3% (P)	Red	Deteriorated

Context: Small numbers affect this indicator. 7 out of 12 children have been adopted within 12 months of the decision being made that the child should be placed for adoption. Some children are harder to place; these include 2 siblings, 2 further siblings with medical complexities and one older child who has experienced placement disruption.

Corrective action: There is continuous monthly monitoring of this indicator.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	72%	65.4% (P)	Amber	Deteriorated

Context: This indicator has moved from red at quarter 1 to amber at quarter 2 following corrective action identified and implemented at quarter 1.

Corrective action: Continuous activity to ensure placement stability of looked after children where appropriate. Statutory reviews of children in care placements are carried out at prescribed intervals. Increased rigour in the conduction of disruption meetings and learning lessons from past experiences. This indicator is monitored on a monthly basis.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.	14.0% Lower=Better	19.2% (P)	Red	Improved

Context: There are over 100 more children who have a child protection plan compared to the same period in 2009/10. However, performance in this indicator is an improvement at quarter 2 when compared to the same period in 2009/10.

Corrective action: Repeat registrations are to be scrutinised and referred to strategic service managers on a monthly basis.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales.	100%	91.0% (P)	Amber	Deteriorated

Context: There has been an increase in both children subject to a child protection plan and looked after children. The Independent Reviewing Officers are responsible for reviewing both sets of children which has impacted on workload.

Corrective action: Continued improvement in administrative functions. Quality assurance framework has also been reviewed to ensure consistency and stability.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 105	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap – achieving 5 A*-C GCSE inc. English and Maths	41% Lower=Better	52.3% (P)	Red	N/A

Context: The provisional data indicates that pupils who have been identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) have improved when compared with previous academic years. However, pupils who are not classified as having SEN have improved at a greater rate than those with SEN.

Corrective action: This data is still provisional. Consultation with English and Maths principal managers is taking place to analyse the data and establish cause of the increase in the gap between those on Special Educational Needs and those who are not. Challenging targets are to be set with a view to significantly

reducing the gap during the 2010/11 academic year. Targets to be shared with secondary schools and flagged as a priority area of improvement with Speech and Language Therapists, English/Maths leads and SEN coordinators.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	6.9% Lower=Better	8.9% (P)	Red	Improved

Context: Quarter 2 performance is an improvement when compared with the same period in 2009/10 which highlights the ongoing trend in the reduction of this indicator year on year. However there are many challenges ahead to achieving the target of 6.9% therefore a revised year end forecast of 8% has been set.

Corrective action: There is targeting of intervention and support via the NEET TIGER Team and Connexions tracking. Discussions are taking place within the 14-19 Strategic Partnership and with providers to ensure that 'offer' in Wirral is flexible in its responses. Forensic analysis of the NEET group is taking place to inform targeted intervention across the partnership.

Portfolio	PI no	Title	2010/2011 Q2 Target	2010/2011 Q2 Actual	On target	Direction of travel
Children's Services & Lifelong Learning	LOCA L 1400	Number of looked after children	565 Lower=Better	647 (P)	Red	Deteriorated

Context: The increase in children becoming looked after is a national trend, reported in the most recent Association of Director of Children's Services survey.

Corrective action: A thorough profiling of the Looked After Children population is to take place to enable more targeted interventions. The refreshed Looked After Children Review project submitted to the strategic change program will also impact on this indicator.

3.4 Risks

The implementation of potential Council budget savings and the proposed early voluntary retirement and severance schemes and changes in human resources procedures will have the potential to impact on the levels of service delivery across the Children and Young People's Department responsibilities. This will require careful management to minimise volatile service delivery, reduced Service Level Agreement take up and income from schools, reputational issues and to ensure continued focus on critical issues.

Regarding Academies risk continues with the Birkenhead University Academy project which is subject to national review. The need to review and re-state the relevant PFI contractual documentation in respect of the Birkenhead University Academy occupying the current Park High School is also a risk in respect of the turnaround required. Capital adjustments have impacted on programmes and every step is being taken to ensure commitments do not exceed revised allocation.

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) transfer of duties to the LA was successfully completed but new government guidance has been received. Funding for the Sixth Form College and Wirral Metropolitan College will now be managed by the Young

Persons Learning Organisation which has implications on the recent staffing transition. This will take place from September 2010.

5.0 Recommendations

That Wirral Children's Trust Board note the report.

This report was prepared by Nancy Clarkson who can be contacted on 666 4329.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Performance Indicator Summary

Performance Indicator Summary

Report: Wirral Children's Services Indicators Performance Report 2010/2011

Period: Quarterly - Q2

Report Date: 14/10/2010
















Direction of Travel Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
45.95%	17	Improved by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
10.81%	4	Deteriorated by more than 2.5% on previous year's performance
18.92%	7	Stayed within +/-2.5% of previous year's performance
24.32%	9	Not applicable
100.00%	37	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

Target Summary

% PIs	No. of PIs	
54.05%	20	Green (within +10/-5% of the target)
8.11%	3	Amber (missed target by between 5% and 10%)
18.92%	7	Red (missed target by more than 10%)
16.21%	6	Over-performing (more than 10% of the target)
2.70%	1	Target not set
100.00%	37	(Note: percentages rounded to 2 decimal places)

PI No.	Title	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) services	16	16 (A)	Green	↑
NI 53	Prevalence of breast-feeding at 6-8 wks from birth	35.1%	28.8% (E)	Red	↔
NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral.	76%	70.1% (A)	Amber	↑
NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	80%	62.9% (P)	Red	↑
NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	80%	58.3% (P)	Red	↓
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	9.0% (Lower is Better)	8.0% (P)	Over Performing	↑

PI No.	Title	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	72%	65.4% (P)	Amber	
NI 64	Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more	4.0% (Lower is Better)	3.3% (P)	Over Performing	
NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.	14.0% (Lower is Better)	19.2% (P)	Red	
NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales.	100%	91.0% (A)	Amber	
NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	100%	99.5% (P)	Green	
NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	75%	90.4% (P)	Over Performing	
NI 71	Children who have run away from home or care	15	15 (A)	Green	
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	57%	58% (A)	Green	
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	78%	75.0% (P)	Green	
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	57.0%	58.6% (P)	Green	
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	2 (Lower is Better)	1 (P)	Over Performing	n/a
NI 84	Achievement of 2 or more A*- C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent	60.6%	69.2% (P)	Over Performing	n/a
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	28.6% (Lower is Better)	27.6% (A)	Green	
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	87%	85% (P)	Green	
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	82%	84% (P)	Green	
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	53.1%	51.9% (P)	Green	n/a
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2	56.3%	55.6% (P)	Green	
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and maths)	6.3%	9.3% (P)	Over Performing	
NI 102a	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2	21% (Lower is Better)	21.6% (P)	Green	n/a

PI No.	Title	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 102b	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 4	35.8% (Lower is Better)	34.9% (P)	Green	n/a
NI 103a	Percentage of final SEN statements issued within 26 weeks (Excluding exceptions)	100%	95.6% (A)	Green	↓
NI 103b	Percentage of final SEN statements issued within 26 weeks (Including exceptions)	94.00%	94.8% (A)	Green	↓
NI 104	The Special Educational Needs SEN/non-SEN gap – achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold	50% (Lower is Better)	47.7% (P)	Green	n/a
NI 105	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap – achieving 5 A*- C GCSE inc. English and Maths	41% (Lower is Better)	52.3% (P)	Red	n/a
NI 107b	Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups (Any Other White Background)		83.3 (P)		n/a
NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 25 year olds	16% (Lower is Better)	15.5% (A)	Green	↓
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	6.9% (Lower is Better)	8.9% (P)	Red	↑
LOCAL 1112	Under 18 conception rate	-21.8% (Lower is Better)	-21.8% (A)	Green	n/a
LOCAL 1400	Number of looked after children	565 (Lower is Better)	647 (P)	Red	↓
LOCAL 1701	Number of reported incidents of anti-social behaviour	6974.50 (Lower is Better)	7259 (A)	Green	↑
LOCAL 1702	Reduce the level of vehicle nuisance	643 (Lower is Better)	649.00 (A)	Green	↑

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WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD – 19th NOVEMBER 2010

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2010/11 - QUARTER 2

1.0 Background

Wirral's Local Area Agreement (LAA) is monitored by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). Wirral Children's Trust represents the Children's Block of the LSP and is responsible for the delivery of LAA targets related to children and young people. Quarterly reports related to the LAA targets are presented to the Board for scrutiny. This report provides an update on progress towards targets, in addition information is provided to supply context to the indicators and to highlight any issues with reporting.

2.0 Reporting at Quarter 2



The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government wrote to Councils on 13 October 2010 to inform them that under section 109 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health act 2007, all designations of local improvement targets in the Local Area Agreement have been revoked with immediate effect. In addition, as part of the budget deficit reduction there will be no payments made for Performance Reward Grants against the 2008-11 LAA targets. As a result of these national changes the Council is now reviewing the indicators in the LAA and the targets set.

At quarter 2 there is limited data available and all of the Key Stage data is still provisional. For reporting purposes the LAA indicators can be separated into three groups:

1. Former reward indicators
2. Attainment indicators
3. Local indicators

3.0 Reporting

Former Reward Indicators

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	75%	85%	75%	90.4% (P)	Over Performing	
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	6.9% (Lower is Better)	8.0%	6.9%	8.9% (P)	Red	

For NI 68 significant improved performance in 2009/10 has been maintained in quarter 2. Current trajectory analysis indicates that the year end target will be exceeded. For NI 117 although there has been sustained improvement the current economic climate impacts heavily on this indicator. Continuing intervention work is underway and the direction of travel is improving however economic uncertainty makes achieving the 2010/11 target unlikely. A revised forecast of 8% has now been set.

Former reward indicators with no data at quarter 2

PI No.	Title	08/2009 Actual	09/2010 Actual	2010/2011 Actual	2010/2011 Target
NI 55	Obesity in primary school age children in Reception (lower is better)	9.57	9.3%		9.50%
NI 111	First time entrants into the YJS aged 10 – 17 (lower is better)	1578	N/A		1500
NI 112	Percentage reduction in the under 18 conception rate	-6.3	-21%		-39%

NI 55 is determined by an annual measurement programme. Wirral did achieve the 2010/11 target in 2009/10 however the expectation is for obesity to increase and the target set is to reduce this increase.

Data from the Youth Justice Board for NI 111 is not yet available. The impact of partnership intervention programmes particularly police involvement in restorative justice indicates that improvement on the 2008/09 figure will be possible.

For NI 112 although significant improvement was achieved in 2009/10 and intervention programmes are in place the 2010/11 year end target remains extremely challenging.

Provisional attainment indicators for 2009/10 academic year (2010/11 Financial Year)



PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	57%	58%	57%	58% (A)	Green	↑
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	78%	75.0%	78%	75.0% (P)	Green	↔
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	57.0%	57.4%	57.0%	58.6% (P)	Green	↑
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	28.6% (Lower is Better)	27.9%	28.6%	27.6% (A)	Green	↑
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	87%	85%	87%	85% (P)	Green	↑
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	82%	84%	82%	84% (P)	Green	↑
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	53.1%	51.9%	53.1%	51.9% (P)	Green	n/a
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2	56.3%	55.6%	56.3%	55.6% (P)	Green	↑
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and maths)	6.3%	9.3%	6.3%	9.3% (P)	Over Performing	↑

Attainment data for 2009/10 academic year is reported in the 2010/11 financial year. Provisional data for attainment indicators shows that although challenging DFE set targets have not been achieved for every indicator, the direction of travel is positive. Small numbers and cohort mobility of looked after children affect the indicators NI 99, 100 and 101.

Attainment indicators with no data at quarter 2

PI No.	Title	09/2010 Actual	2010/2011 Actual	2010/2011 Target
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	4.5%		5.5%

Local Indicators

PI No.	Title	Yr End Target	Yr End Forecast	Quarter 2 Target	Quarter 2 Actual	On Target	Direction of Travel
LOCAL 1400	Number of looked after children	565 (Lower is Better)	In development	565	647 (P)	Red	
LOCAL 1701	Number of reported incidents of anti-social behaviour	13949 (Lower is Better)	14518	6974.50	7259 (A)	Green	

Nationally the numbers of looked after children are increasing. Current trajectory indicates that the 2010/11 target for local indicator 1400 will not be met.

For local indicator 1701 the quarter 2 target was met. Although budget cuts and proposed government policy changes will impact on this indicator the current trajectory suggests that the year end target should be met.

Local Indicators with no data at quarter 2

PI No.	Title	09/2010 Actual	2010/2011 Actual	2010/2011 Target
LOCAL 1700a	Participation in and outcomes from youth work: Participation	18%		22%

In 2009/10 significant changes in the Youth Service including a restructure impacted on participation and the year end figure did not achieve the target set. Although the new youth hub structure is now in place, reduced budget proposals including 2010/11 in-year cuts to youth grants will impact significantly on this indicator.

Data source: PIMS Report, 22 October 2010

4.0 Additional Detail of Reward Indicators

Further detail regarding reward indicators that have data at quarter 2 and indicators that are red or amber are included in appendix 1.

5.0 Recommendations:

That Wirral Children's Trust Board note the report.

Report Author:

Simon Douglas
PO Performance and Assessment

Contact:

Phone: 666 4412
Email: simondouglas@wirral.gov.uk

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Local Area Agreement 2010/11 Quarter 2 Position

Appendix 1

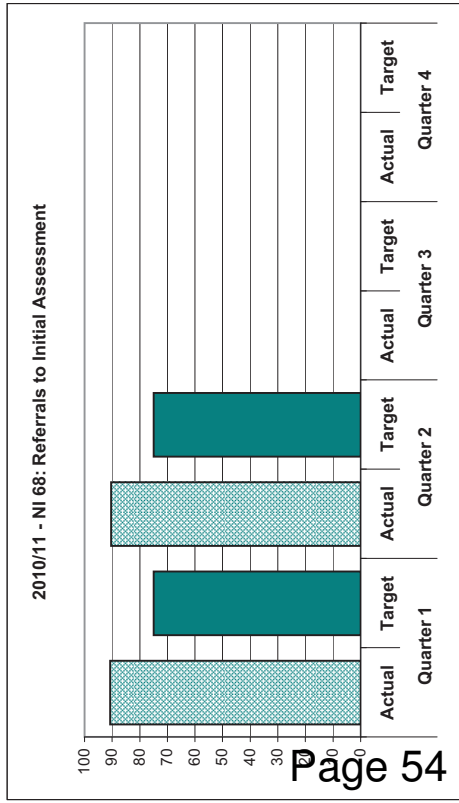
2010/11

Quarter 2: July - September

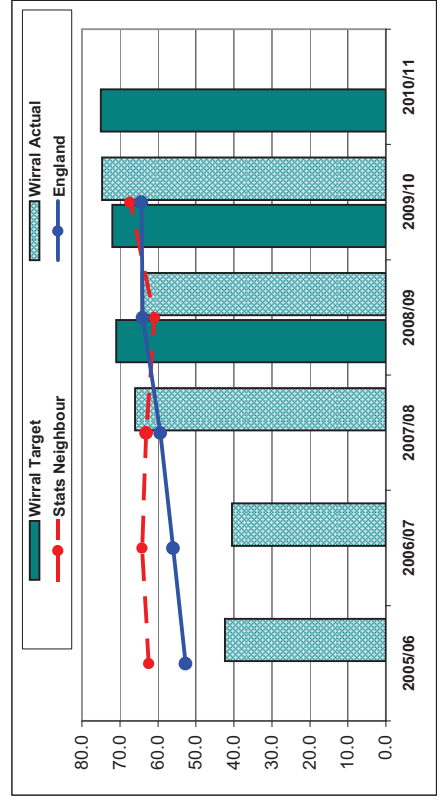
Wirral Children's Trust - Local Area Agreement Report 2009/10

LAA Improvement Priority	Safely Reducing the Number of Children Looked After
Performance Indicator	NI 68: Referrals to Initial Assessment
Sponsor	Howard Cooper
Lead Organisation	Children's Social Care
Service Area	Children and Young People's Department

		Improvement Direction: Up			
Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Actual	Target
Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
90.7	75	90.4	75	-	-



	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Wirral Target	-	-	-	71.0	72.0	75.0
Wirral Actual	42.4	40.5	66.0	64.3	74.7	-
Stats Neighbourhood	62.4	64.1	63.1	60.9	67.4	-
England	52.7	56.0	59.4	64.0	64.3	-



Context

There has been an improved understanding of the threshold for referrals going on to assessment across the multi-agency partnership.

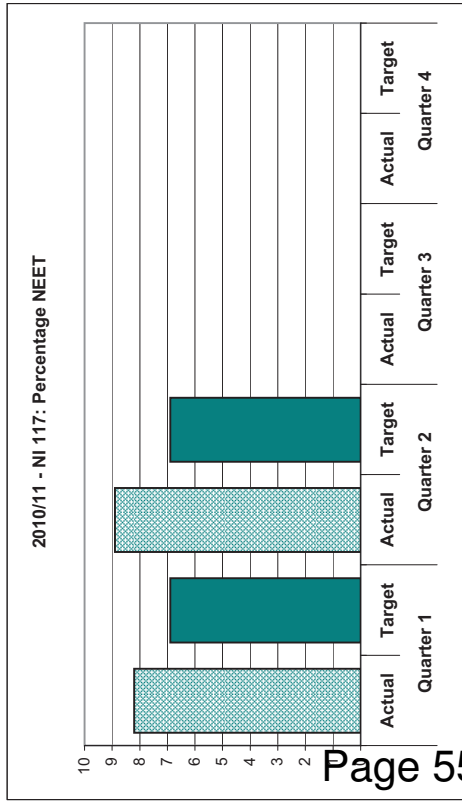
Position Statement

Quarter One	Green
Quarter Two	Green
Quarter Three	Green
Quarter Four	Green

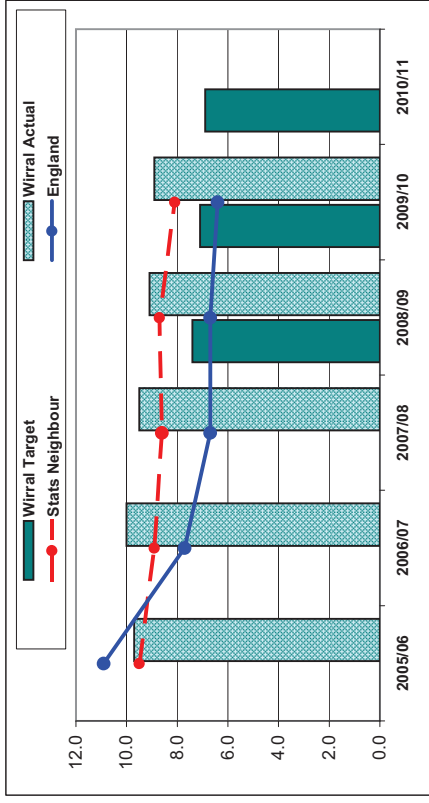
Wirral Children's Trust - Local Area Agreement Report 2009/10

LAA Improvement Priority	Reduction in the numbers of NEETs	
Performance Indicator	NI 117: Percentage NEET	
Sponsor	Sheila Lynch	
Lead Organisation	Connexions	
Service Area	Children and Young People's Department	

		Improvement Direction: Up			
		Quarter 2		Quarter 4	
Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
8.2	6.9	8.9	6.9	-	-



	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Wirral Target	-	-	-	7.4	7.1	6.9
Wirral Actual	9.7	10.0	9.5	9.1	8.9	
Stats Neighbourhood	9.5	8.9	8.6	8.7	8.1	
England	10.9	7.7	6.7	6.7	6.4	



Context

Quarter 2 performance is an improvement when compared with the same period in 2009/10 which highlights the ongoing trend in the reduction of this indicator year on year. However there are many challenges ahead to achieving the target of 6.9%, therefore a revised year end forecast of 8% has been set.

Position Statement

Quarter One

A range of initiatives through the Tiger Group are on going. Connexions and Jobcentre Plus advisers are working together to support 18 year olds into an opportunity that best meets their needs.

Quarter Two

There is targeting of intervention and support via the NEET TIGER Team and Connexions tracking. Discussions are taking place within the 14-19 Strategic Partnership and with providers to ensure that 'offer' in Wirral is flexible in its responses. Forensic analysis of the NEET group is taking place to inform targeted intervention across the partnership.

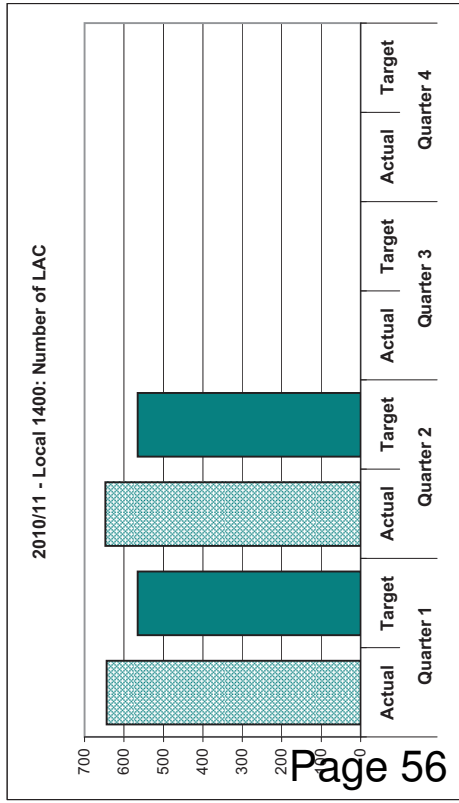
Quarter Three

Quarter Four

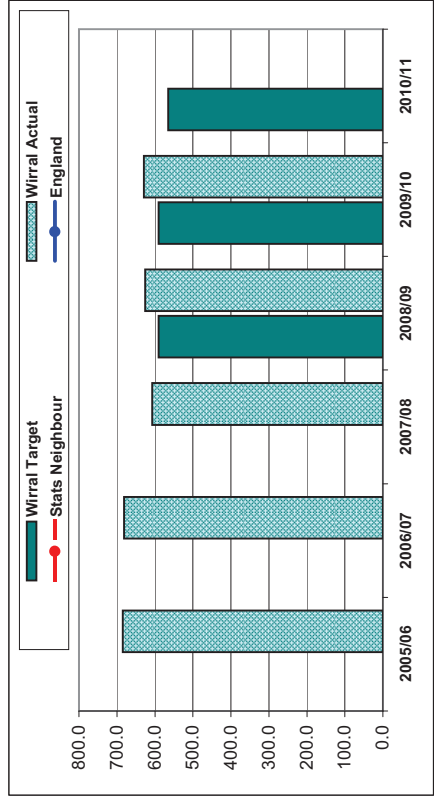
Wirral Children's Trust - Local Area Agreement Report 2009/10

LAA Improvement Priority	Safely Reducing the Number of Children Looked After	
Performance Indicator	Local 1400: Number of LAC	
Sponsor	Julia Hassall	
Lead Organisation	Children's Social Care	
Service Area	Children and Young People's Department	

		Improvement Direction: Down			
Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Actual	Target
Actual	644	565	-	-	-



	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Wirral Target	-	-	-	590.0	590.0	565.0
Wirral Actual	685.0	681.0	607.0	626.0	629.0	-
Stats Neighbourhood	-	-	-	-	-	-
England	-	-	-	-	-	-



Context

The increase in children becoming looked after is a national trend, reported in the most recent Association of Directors of Children's Services survey.

Position Statement

Quarter One **Red**
 Specific action to reduce the trajectory includes focused preventative activity, specifically multi-systemic therapy, increased family group conferencing capacity and refocusing the work of the Adolescent Crisis Team. The focus on improving permanence planning for children who cannot return home is strengthened by the recruitment to new management posts in the revised Social Care Branch structure.

Quarter Two

Red
 A thorough profiling of the Looked After Children population is to take place to enable more targeted interventions. The refreshed Looked After Children Review project submitted to the strategic change program will also impact on this indicator.

Quarter Three

Red

Quarter Four

Red