



## People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Thursday, 14 July 2016</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Committee Room 1 - Wallasey Town Hall</b>

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### AGENDA

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

Members are asked to consider whether they have any disclosable pecuniary interests and/or any other relevant interest in connection with any item(s) on this agenda and, if so, to declare them and state the nature of the interest.

Members are reminded that they should also declare whether they are subject to a party whip in connection with any item(s) to be considered and, if so, to declare it and state the nature of the whipping arrangement.

**2. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Performance - Families and Wellbeing Committee held on 8 March 2016 will be considered for approval at the Council meeting held on 12 July 2016.

**3. TRANSFORMING WIRRAL (Pages 1 - 6)**

**4. ELECTED MEMBERS AND THE QUALITY ASSURANCE OF CARE (Pages 7 - 12)**

**5. THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE MODERN SLAVERY ACT 2015**

This item is to follow.

**6. SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN SCRUTINY REVIEW - UPDATE  
(Pages 13 - 34)**

**7. PERFORMANCE MONITORING - END OF YEAR 2015/16 (Pages 35  
- 74)**

**8. WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR (Pages 75 - 80)**

**9. FEEDBACK FROM THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH & CARE  
PERFORMANCE PANEL HELD ON 16 MARCH 2016 (Pages 81 -  
86)**

To consider the report of the Chair from the meeting of the Health & Care Performance Panel held on 16 March 2016.

**10. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HEALTH & CARE PERFORMANCE  
PANEL FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR (Pages 87 - 92)**

**11. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CHILDREN SUB -COMMITTEE FOR  
THE MUNICIPAL YEAR (Pages 93 - 98)**

**12. POLICY INFORM BRIEFING PAPER (Pages 99 - 142)**



## People Overview and Scrutiny Committee THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<i>TRANSFORMING WIRRAL</i>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<i>Michele Duerden – Senior Manager Transformation &amp; Improvement</i>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides a proposed approach to pre-decision scrutiny of proposals for new business models.

New business models are being developed for Council Services to deliver Wirral's 20 pledges, respond to stakeholder views and provide the financial savings required.

A briefing session on alternative delivery will be available to all Members on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016. This session will provide an overview of the different types of alternative delivery models and their relevance and appropriateness to different services.

Pre-decision scrutiny of proposals for new business models enables Members to engage in reviewing transformation proposals in line with the need for Council to radically change the way services are delivered to secure 2020 outcomes.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

This is not a key decision.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

- a) The Committee includes pre-decision scrutiny of proposals for new business models as part of the scrutiny work programme as they become available;
- b) Committee to agree the appropriate scrutiny approach to review proposals as they are brought forward, providing pre-decision scrutiny against the agreed principles for service models.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 The Outline Transformation Approach (Item 5 - Cabinet 21st March 2016) sets out the principles of a new approach to transformation for the Council; which will ensure the organisation is best equipped to achieve the Pledges committed to in the Wirral Plan. The report sets out how the new transformation programme would be taken forward, including new models for service delivery.
- 1.2 Elected Member engagement in this programme is paramount. Pre-decision scrutiny of proposals for new service models enables Members to be fully engaged in reviewing transformation proposals ensuring that Elected Members are central to supporting, overseeing and promoting the Council's transformation agenda.
- 1.3 A briefing session will be facilitated on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016, open to all Members. This session will provide an overview of different delivery models and their appropriateness to different services. Awareness of the range of different delivery models will allow Members to provide an informed consideration of transformation proposals.
- 1.4 Proposals may be brought forward for pre-decision scrutiny throughout the year. It is recommended that the Committee retains sufficient flexibility in the work programme to scrutinise proposals as they arise.
- 1.5 Members should give consideration as to whether the delivery options developed for Council services embody quality, efficiency, local employment, equality and diversity. Each model will be individually developed and scrutinised. New models should be evaluated in line with the principles provided at Appendix 1.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 The Cabinet Member for Transformation and Leisure has identified the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny to be undertaken.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Wirral Plan sets out a vision for Wirral: a set of 20 Pledges which will be achieved over the next five years to improve the lives of Wirral residents. In order to achieve these ambitions, the Council needs to modernise and work in a completely different way, and ensure it has the right culture, abilities, skills and approach to deliver the 2020 vision for Wirral.
- 3.2 In order to deliver this plan Wirral has committed to delivering a modern public service and organising ourselves to deliver our aims. The Outline Transformation Approach (Item 5 - Cabinet 21st March 2016) report set out how the two core themes would be taken forward: (1) a new transformation programme, working to develop new models for service delivery and (2) the implementation of a new operating model. The themes are being developed and implemented concurrently, ensuring that the Council is able to deliver change at pace and continue to deliver positive outcomes to improve the quality of life for Wirral residents.
- 3.3 The transformation programme and the development of new models for service delivery have now commenced. In order to drive major improvements and efficiencies appropriate delivery options for a range of services are being designed, these will need to be negotiated and implemented in order to promote innovation and improve customer experience. As part of this work it is expected that some services will be re-organised and grouped with other services with shared outcomes.
- 3.4 A standard, robust and detailed approach to proposal development and options appraisal has been embedded ensuring any proposals for change are robustly evidenced and aligned to the agreed principles. Comprehensive programme management methodologies will ensure all transformation activities support the delivery of the 20 pledges.
- 3.5 New business models will enable long term sustainable services for Wirral. The delivery options which will be developed for Council services will embody quality, efficiency, local employment, equality and diversity. They will drive an efficient, commercial and value-driven approach to public services. One size will not fit all; each model will be individually developed and evaluated in line with these principles, which have been provided in full at Appendix 1, and will guide the organisation in our approach to the design of new models, as well as aid Members in their democratic engagement in the process.
- 3.6 It is proposed that as each model is developed pre-decision scrutiny is completed ensuring that Elected Members are fully engaged in supporting, overseeing and promoting the Council's transformation agenda

#### 4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

#### 5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

#### 6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

There are no resource implications relating to this report.

#### 7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

The Centre for Public Scrutiny highlights the need for scrutiny to engage in reviewing transformation proposals in line with the need for Councils to radically change the way services are delivered.

#### 8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

The Council is required to consult with the Trade Unions and affected staff on proposed changes to role and responsibilities, structures and services.

#### 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

No EIA has been undertaken relating to the subject of this report because there is no relevance to equality at this time.

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#### APPENDICES

*Appendix 1* – Principles for Service Models

#### REFERENCE MATERIAL

#### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

## APPENDIX 1 - PRINCIPLES FOR SERVICE MODELS – POLICY & ETHICAL

Principle	Evaluation
<b>Achieves the ambition and vision set out in the Wirral Plan and associated pledges</b>	Must be able to demonstrably deliver Wirral Plan pledges.
<b>Achieves improved outcomes for Wirral residents, businesses</b>	Measurable outcomes linked to the Pledges and Strategies
<b>Service design reflects the views of residents, businesses</b>	Appropriate level of consultation; use of published material e.g. customer insight
<b>Delivers savings or reduces the burden to the Council's net revenue funding</b>	Achieve savings / reduce operating costs for the Council / or reduce demand
<b>Council retains robust accountability and governance arrangements</b>	Appropriate governance/ contract management arrangements are in place.
<b>Resilience and flexibility to emerging issues in service delivery</b>	Ability to respond to changing statutory duties/ future opportunities for service delivery Ability to adjust in a timely manner to political direction/legislative or procedural changes.
<b>Partners and local businesses believe the Council is easy to do business with</b>	Regular engagement takes place with partners and local businesses to develop joined-up approach.
<b>Promotes equality and diversity</b>	Promotes equality and diversity amongst its residents and workforce through undertaking robust equality impact assessment.
<b>Impact on employment and the local economy</b>	Availability of training and development opportunities. Secures commitment to sustainable local employment.

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## PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JULY 2016

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<i>Elected Members and the Quality Assurance of Care</i>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<i>GRAHAM HODKINSON, DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES</i>

### REPORT SUMMARY

Report to explore models regarding how elected members can become more fully engaged with promoting the quality of care. Three models are introduced with the intention of stimulating further scrutiny work to define a preferred approach to elected member visits to care homes.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that the option identified in 3.3 **Member as a lay assessor** would best suit the development of this work. Committee is however invited to consider all three models or any hybrid of the three models to support the development of Elected Members in Promoting the Quality of Care in Wirral's care homes.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

It is felt that the **Member as a key assessor** would build upon the role of Healthwatch and the Council's Quality Assurance resources to significantly improve capacity for quality monitoring and feedback and to support elected members to be properly engaged, supported and trained to take part in the assessment of care quality.

### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Three potential options considered are detailed in the body of this report.

### **2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The quality of care delivered to people in Wirral is essential to their wellbeing. Elected Members, Commissioners, Council Officers and the wider public all have an interest in ensuring that people receive the best services that meet their needs, are safe and promote wellbeing.

In the past, Wirral ran its own care homes, and as such regular member visits were required to ensure the Councillors had a role in improving the quality of care, at the time the role was not extended to independent care homes. With the exception of a respite centre, Wirral now commissions all of its care from independent sector care homes. Councillors have been concerned about the quality of care and Council has asked for member visits to be re-instated. The challenge therefore is to find a system that will offer the appropriate tools and frameworks to enable elected members to add value to the quality assurance of care. There is no standard approach taken nationally, however three models have been explored that are in place elsewhere.

We have 100 care homes which is a significant number for Wirral's population. The size and relative quality of the establishments does vary. Some wards have 10 care homes whereas others have none. In addition, the size of the care home may need to be considered as some Wards have several homes with under 100 beds, whereas others have fewer care homes but they contain over 200 beds.

Families and Wellbeing scrutiny committee are invited to comment upon 3 models proposed for Elected Member involvement in promoting quality in the commissioned care provision in Wirral.

#### **2.1 Adopt a Care Home**

This is a model that allows a great deal of freedom to customise the role according to elected member choice and preferences. It avoids the one size fits all approach as the emphasis is on Elected Members acting in autonomy. In their role as representatives and community leaders the Elected Members can develop relationships in which they can help to champion the needs of older people living in care homes in the area as a whole.

There is a risk of fragmentation and lack of coherence in the model and visits would not form a formal part of our existing contract monitoring arrangements, would not fulfil a legislative requirement and are not compulsory for either the Member or the care home. They could, however create an important, though less formal way for Councillors to build relationships with people living in care homes, their families and with the care home itself. This offers the opportunity to promote good quality care by championing the needs, views and experiences of older people in Wirral.

- Strengths
  - Local to Wards
  - Building on existing relationships
  - Flexible
  
- Challenges
  - Uniformed
  - Difficult when issues arise/ conflict
  - Open to challenge around favouring of business provision
  - No consistent approach.
  - Possible gaps

## **2.2 Formal visits with Quality Assurance Team**

This Model proposes that Members expressing an interest could be supported to have involvement in the annual audit of process for the care homes across Wirral act on a rota basis rather than allocating via Ward. This annual audit process includes the development of confidential work programme and not only would it allow Elected Members to understand quality monitoring process but enable them to identify and support improvement in the care home.

The areas currently audited within each provision are continually being developed but broadly reviews five outcome areas: -

- People's experience of person centred support
- People's lived experience
- People being protected from harm
- People who use services are supported by competent staff
- Services are managed effectively

The role of the Elected Member would be to support QA officers in visits to ensure that the people who use services are at the heart of the audit. Their views, opinions, wishes, lived experiences and involvement in running the services provide key evidence about the quality of the care support. The methodology would be for Elected Members to have a role in the planned scheduled annual audit, to collect the information from the people who use the service and then subsequently, in those services identified as failing, to have continued involvement in developing improvements.

- Strengths
  - Building on Members already interested
  - Less subjective as part of a consistent approach
  - Adds support to existing RAG rating systems
  - Transparency across Ward
  - Shares workload across all wards.

- Supports Local Authority in public arena when dealing with failing providers
- Challenges
  - Dairy commitments
  - Not as flexible for members.
  - Does not necessarily add value as this element of the audit is covered by Healthwatch?

### **2.3 Member as a lay assessor**

Increasing number of authorities has successfully introduced a programme where Elected Members have undertaken training to becoming lay assessors who carry out visits to care homes. The main role of the assessor is to communicate with residents and understand their personal view of what it is like to live at the home.

This model proposes that the work of the Elected Member as a lay assessor supports the work of existing Local Authority and NHS monitoring and the work of Healthwatch as the champion of people that need care. By the very nature of quality improvement work, the need for QA officers to respond to safeguarding's and those care homes that are failing and require support to improve, means there is a risk those care homes that are currently seen a good/ excellent service not having their annual visit prioritised. This model would ensure that those services that Quality Assurance staff are not able to prioritise due to competing priorities, do not go without an audit for protracted periods of time. This would enable Elected Members to work closely with Healthwatch and to work alongside them in relation to arranging visits to care homes building on the Healthwatch statutory role. In addition, this could increase capacity to visit those homes that do not require intensive monitoring due to having a status of good or excellent.

A template for collection of views and detailed comments would be used and fed into the formal monitoring systems.

- Strengths
  - Formal timetable for allocation of visits
  - Flexible on dates for visits
  - Training for Elected Members
  - Regular reviews
  - Complimentary to QA process
  - Links closely to the role of Health-watch and adds capacity and value
- Challenges
  - Relative formality of role requires increased commitment.
  - Need to ensure strong linkages to formal QA system

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

### **4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

## 5.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

N/A

## 6.0 RELEVANT RISKS

No risks have been identified as those issues identified as a challenge would need to be managed and as such mitigate risk.

## 7.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

This report was requested by the Policy and Performance Committee following discussion between members at an earlier meeting.

## 8.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

N/A - no relevance to equality.

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## APPENDICES

N/A

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

N/A

## SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date

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## PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JULY 2016

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Safeguarding Children Scrutiny Review - Update</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Director of Children's Services</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

In response to the high profile of safeguarding issues at a national level, Members of the Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee were seeking reassurance that appropriate policies and practices were in place in Wirral. Members of the Committee agreed to undertake an in-depth scrutiny review to investigate the suitability of safeguarding procedures for children in Wirral. As a result, a scrutiny panel involving five Members held a range of meetings in order to obtain appropriate evidence.

It had been agreed that the scrutiny review would give members the opportunity to assure themselves that the Council and partners have adequate safeguarding mechanisms in place and that those processes work in practice. Scrutiny would also help the partnership to understand the experiences of families and recommend what may need to change to improve outcomes in safeguarding.

The Members of the Scrutiny Panel met a range of witnesses throughout the course of the review, including Council officers, representatives of partner organisations as well as a small number of families who had experience of safeguarding services.

This report 'Safeguarding Children in Wirral' was last presented to Cabinet on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016. The decision at Cabinet was:

That

- (1) the contents and recommendations of the Scrutiny Report, "Safeguarding Children in Wirral" be accepted; and
- (2) an update report regarding the impact of the recommendations be presented to the Families and Wellbeing Policy and Performance Committee, and subsequently Cabinet at its July 2016 meeting.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) Members are requested to consider and approve the actions set out in response to the recommendations of the scrutiny report, "Safeguarding Children in Wirral."

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1.1 Members to receive an update on how recommendations are being implemented.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 Elected members in Wirral have a successful history of undertaking scrutiny reviews, into specific topics which lead to a number of evidence based recommendations to improve outcomes for children and young people.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The report was written against a background of national focus on safeguarding and the need for continuous learning to improve the services which safeguard children. There is a continuous need to ask ourselves if it is safe to be a child in Wirral.

- 3.2 It is helpful to clarify that the description of 'Targeted Services' can include 'Early Help and Prevention Services' and the description of 'Specialist Services' can include 'Children's Social Care'. This is in line with developments nationally.

### **3.3 Summary of key issues and themes**

The key issues for the Review were:

- Agencies working with children need to understand and be effective in their contribution to protection plans.
- The child's voice should be at the heart of every plan they may be subject to.
- It is difficult for children and families to understand services and their relevance at each stage of involvement.
- There is a key role to be played by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), having the ability to address these issues and it needs to be effective in doing so.

The Review concluded with twenty recommendations, grouped under five headings:

- Organisational structure
- Procedures and Processes
- Partnership working
- Staffing issues
- Governance arrangements

In their Overview the Panel concluded that they gained great insight into the experience of receiving services from speaking to a small number of family

members; and through this information and other evidence, members concluded that, although there is confidence that policies and procedures are in place, the practical application requires all practitioners and managers to be on constant guard to ensure they are applied consistently.

The recommendations from this Review will be closely tracked and monitored until fully implemented by the Children's Services Strategic Leadership Team. Since this Review has taken place over a considerable period of time, a number of the recommendations have already been implemented.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are significant financial pressures within Children's Social Care Budgets. At this time there are no financial implications arising directly from this report or review.

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The requirement to safeguard children effectively is enshrined in legislation, especially the Children Act 1989; the Children Act 2004 and the Children and Families Act 2014. There is much regulation and guidance, but the most significant regulatory document informing safeguarding practice is Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

6.1 Implementing the Review's recommendations may have some resource implications for example in respect of staffing issues, resulting from carefully monitoring the size and complexity of social workers caseloads.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 This Review considers the challenging and complex nature of work to safeguard children and young people at risk of significant harm in Wirral. The recommendations under the five separate headings in this Review are designed to mitigate the impact of the risks identified.

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 This Review was undertaken through a process of engagement and consultation with people involved in delivering, managing or receiving services to safeguard children and young people.

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 An equality impact assessment has been completed.

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## **APPENDICES**

### **Safeguarding Scrutiny Review, Response to Report Recommendations**

## **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

### **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Families and Wellbeing Policy and Performance Committee</b>	<b>19.01.2016</b>
<b>Cabinet</b>	<b>21.03.2016</b>

# **Safeguarding Scrutiny Review**

## **Response to Report Recommendations**

**22/06/2016**

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Organisational structure *(Reference Section 7.1)*

#### **Recommendation 1 – Development of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)**

Progress made towards the establishment of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is welcomed. In order to further improve the communication and sharing of information between partners, the Director of Children Services is requested to continue to develop the MASH concept and explore opportunities to include additional partner organisations in the model.

The MASH concept has continued to be developed and opportunities explored to include additional partner organisations in the model by:

1. Partners co-located in the MASH include Children's Social Care, Early Help & Prevention, Adults Social Care, Police, Health, Family Safety Unit and Catch 22. MASH provides a consistent approach to triaging all new requests for help from children, families and professionals.
2. The MASH Board and the MASH Operational Group includes additional partners such as Probation (Community Rehabilitation Company) and housing representatives.
3. 8 workshops were held across the Children's partnership during March and April 2016 to clarify the role of the MASH and to confirm thresholds for accessing services. Approximately 500 people attended.
4. The role and function of the MASH is under constant review to ensure it is working as effectively as possible.

**Recommendation 2 – The front-door to social care**

The Director of Children Services (DCS) is requested to consider alternative operating models for the front door to Specialist and Targeted Services including those offering further integration, such as a combined Gateway and CADT (Central Advice and Duty Team).

Alternative operating models for the front door to Specialist (Children’s Social Care) and Targeted Services (Early Help and Prevention), including those offering further integration have been considered through:

- Staff from the Early Help & Prevention (Gateway) and Children’s Social Care (CADT) co-located within the MASH.
- A review of the operation of the ‘Gateway’ and CADT was completed to develop a revised model of a single front door for Children’s Services. A meeting of the MASH Board on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March confirmed the proposed arrangements, which were implemented on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016.
- The DCS commissioned a MASH Diagnostic which undertook a detailed review of the performance of the MASH. The specification for this work was presented and approved at the MASH board on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 and was completed on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016. This provided an assessment of current performance and areas for development.
- A multi-agency development day is planned for September 2016. This will build on and develop the current model of early help, working with schools, early years settings and partners to effectively and safely contribute to managing the demand for children’s social care services by intervening earlier when issues arise.. The role of the MASH will be embedded in this cross-partnership work, and it is likely to lead to further development of the model.

**Organisational structure** (Reference Section 7.1)

Recommendation 3 – Monitoring performance data

The Director of Children Services is requested to establish an effective mechanism to monitor the progress of children across different service provision and to provide regular performance data to monitor outcomes for young people and families who receive specialist or targeted services.

An effective mechanism to monitor the progress of children across different service provision is being established through:

A new “dashboard” of information was put in place in September 2015 which provides contemporary data on contacts, referrals, assessments and social worker caseloads.

- An effective performance data reporting function will be developed to provide accurate, timely reports.

**Recommendation 4 – Contact with individual family members**

The Director of Children Services is requested to ensure that opportunities are provided for individual family members, including the child, to provide information before and after a child protection conference.

To ensure that opportunities are provided for individual family members, including the child to provide information before and after a child protection conference the following steps are being taken:

- In response to what families have told us, case conferences are now held at a single venue that has been developed with good facilities to support families in being able to fully participate in the meeting. The Independent Reviewing Officers always meet with the family and the young person, if attending, to explain their role and what is going to happen in the conference, and there is a suitable private space available for them to do this.
- A Young Person’s Engagement Officer has been recruited to develop creative ways to secure the views of children and young people.
- The Wirral Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) has resolved to introduce a new model of child protection later this year, based on the Strengthening Families and Signs of Safety models.
- Child Protection Standards have been developed and implemented this year, in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.

**Recommendation 5 – Formal notification to family members**

The Director of Children Services is requested to ensure that the outcome of a child protection conference is reported to family members in a written format stating clearly the next steps which will follow and consider making available the opportunity for individual family members to discuss the outcome with a neutral contact.

- Families and professionals are now sent the outline child protection plan within 24 hours of the meeting. This plan sets out a family's strengths, areas for development and clear expectations in relation to ensuring the safety of children. The requirement to do this is included in the child protection standards.
- The model being developed for child protection will consider how individual family members are given the opportunity to discuss the outcome of conferences with a neutral contact. Parents who have had experience of child protection conferences and plans will inform this work, as they are part of the group developing the model.

### Procedures and processes (Reference Section 7.2)

<p><b>Recommendation 6 – Feedback from service users</b></p> <p>The Director of Children Services is requested to investigate the possibility of providing a mechanism for individuals to feedback experiences of the child protection conference process on a confidential basis, for example, by the use of a confidential phone number.</p>	<p>The provision of a mechanism for individuals to feedback experiences of the child protection conference process on a confidential basis is being progressed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families now being able to access improved information through the Wirral Children’s Safeguarding Board Website, launched in April 2016. This enables families to access information and advice about local Child Protection arrangements and will also provide opportunities for feedback on the individual experiences of children, young people and their families</li> <li>• The experiences of parents and young people informing development of the Wirral Signs of Safety and Strengthening Families based model for child protection services. The conference chair does invite feedback from the parents about their experience but a variety of ways to allow families to feedback their experiences are being built into the model.</li> </ul>
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### Procedures and processes (Reference Section 7.2)

<p><b>Recommendation 7 – ‘Closing the loop’</b></p> <p>The Director of Children Services is requested to consider the options for ensuring that the originator of a safeguarding concern is informed of the outcome.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is the role of the MASH manager to ensure feedback is provided to each person making a safeguarding referral. This is a requirement of national safeguarding standards and was reinforced by Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015. This requirement was tested through the MASH diagnostic.</li> <li>• A management instruction is in place to ensure feedback in every case takes place and practice will be audited on a continuous basis.</li> </ul>
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**Recommendation 8 – Definition of assessment threshold levels**

In order to address concerns relating to the understanding of thresholds among agencies and partners, the Director of Children Services (or LSCB) is requested to develop a training plan aimed at reinforcing the interpretation and application of the definition of the threshold levels for intervention. The training will equip responsible persons with the skills to identify levels of risk and take appropriate action.

Eight workshops were held during March and April 2016 to ensure partners clearly understood thresholds to access services. Over 485 professionals attended.

To support a better understanding and to ensure thresholds were consistently applied:

- The Integrated Working Guide was reissued in November 2015
- A Training Officer for the Safeguarding Board was appointed in May and will oversee and report attendance of professionals at the relevant multi agency training relating to the Guide.

A review of the 'Threshold of Need' is currently underway and is included in the WSCB Business Plan for 2016.

**Recommendation 9 – Special Guardianship Orders**

The Director of Children Services is requested to ensure that the processes in place to find Special Guardians are as robust as those for Foster Carers and Adopters so that all children placed under Special Guardianship Orders remain safe and are supported within that placement.

The safety of children placed with Special Guardians has been given greater prominence in the recently published Special Guardianship (amendment) Regulations 2016. In response to these changes and to ensure children are safe we have:

- Updated our procedure for Special Guardianship with associated practice guidance for Social Workers, which will be complete in September 2016. A report went to the Children’s Sub Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016.
- Held focus Groups in May 2016 with Special Guardians to consider the breadth of support needs required so that children remain safe and are supported. A number of developments are being taken forward as a consequence of these focus groups.
- Provided support through a dedicated Adoption and Special Guardianship Team. Whilst the majority of Special Guardians receive a level of financial support for the care of the child, we are working with them to look at what services and support they require to ensure they fully meet the needs of the children in their care.

**Partnership Working** (*Reference Section 7.3*)

**Recommendation 10 – Involving all partners in social work assessments**

The Director of Children Services is requested to ensure that all organisations involved with the child, including third sector organisations, are given the opportunity to provide information when social work assessments are being prepared.

All identified organisations working with children and families will be asked to contribute to the Social Work Assessment of Need being produced. Arrangements to support this include MASH, information sharing agreements and the new child protection model. A member of a third sector organisation has been co-opted on to the development group to ensure steps are taken for this recommendation is followed in order that partner agencies will be fully engaged in the assessment process

**Partnership Working** (Reference Section 7.3)

**Recommendation 11 – GPs and safeguarding**

The Director of Children Services is requested to work in conjunction with Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group to develop a mechanism to encourage GPs to provide relevant information to safeguarding investigations and formal meetings. This mechanism could include a training programme for GPs to enable a better understanding of thresholds for intervention.

GP's are required to share information on families subject to an initial child protection conference, in the form of a written report or attendance at the conference in person. To support GP's to understand the importance of this, the following has been put in place:

- A Safeguarding training programme for GPs is in place to enable them to have an understanding of the 'Thresholds of Need' and intervention.
- The Designated Safeguarding Nurse will ensure that training continues to be provided to GP's. The training will ensure that GP's continue to improve their understanding of the 'Threshold of Need' and the evidence required to support a referral.

**Partnership Working** (Reference Section 7.3)

**Recommendation 12 – Relationship between schools and MASH**

In order to make it easier for schools to engage with safeguarding processes, the Director of Children Services is requested to consider the provision of a reference point for schools within the MASH.

- There is currently no single dedicated person in this role within the MASH. Consideration will be given to how the engagement of schools in safeguarding children is made easier.
- MASH briefings have been held this year with Schools presenting case studies to help their understanding of thresholds and encourage early consultation with Children's Services staff.
- A schedule of Safeguarding training is provided across the partnership, supported by the WSCB. Training includes Common Assessment Framework (CAF) & Team Around the Family (TAF) training courses and the Working Together Training Course to order to ensure professionals have the skills to identify levels of risk and take appropriate action. These courses are highly valued and well attended by professionals.

**Recommendation 13 – Relationship between social care and schools**

The Director of Children Services is requested to consider ways in which stronger relationships can be developed between social workers and schools, in order to encourage all schools to become more integrated in the safeguarding process.

Stronger relationships are being developed between social workers and schools by:

- Having smaller social work teams since June 2015, to work with children in need of protection. It is recognised that relationships between Social Workers and schools needs to be strengthened. There are dedicated children looked after teams in each locality. This is intended to strengthen work with all partners in each locality including schools. Social Workers involved in Early Help and Prevention Services also work with schools, in respect of individual children about whom there may be concerns.
- Social Workers being based within the MASH to provide a consultation service for professionals who have concerns for a child or young person where they are unsure of the level of need.
- Providing Safeguarding Updates on a regular basis to the Heads of all schools including the independent sector. Schools have representation on the WSCB and its sub committees. The updates include briefings that are specific to safeguarding issues in schools.
- Termly meetings with the Primary Cluster Groups and Secondary Heads to discuss specific safeguarding concerns and updates are provided.
- Establishing a Head Teachers Reference Group to consider potential models for Safeguarding Supervision and a framework will be published in July 2016.

**Recommendation 14 – Access to safeguarding training**

The Director of Children Services is requested to develop a process to ensure that safeguarding training becomes more accessible especially to small organisations in the third sector.

Specific training for small organisations in the third sector is delivered in a number of ways:

- Specific Safeguarding training has been provided to voluntary organisations in 2015 which was well attended by 95 representatives. This training will be offered again in 2016; participants are being requested to register with VCAW in order that they receive Safeguarding briefings and updates as they are produced.
- The WSCB has delivered a safeguarding briefing to the network of voluntary community and faith sector organisations. It has promoted the programme of multi-agency training with them, and now supports ‘out of hours’ training sessions.
- The WSCB Website provides access to training courses for all agencies.
- Access to training has been improved by the introduction of a package of 50 e-learning safeguarding courses from April 2016. These courses are accessible to the network of voluntary community and faith sector organisations. This will be further supported by the use of Social Media such as Facebook and Twitter in order to make information more accessible to interested parties. In the past 12 months over 1,200 safeguarding ‘Tweets’ have been issued.
- The WSCB has representation from and strong links to the voluntary, community and faith sector through the Linked-Up network.

**Recommendation 15 – Child sexual exploitation training for front-line staff**

The Director of Children Services is requested to continue to encourage the uptake of additional training opportunities for front-line staff, including the police, regarding child sexual exploitation.

Additional Child Sexual Exploitation training opportunities for front line staff have been put in place in a number of different ways, as follows:

- 20 multi-agency and single agency awareness raising briefings were delivered during the year including social workers, taxi drivers, health staff (including dental practitioners), housing providers, Chairs of Governors of schools, and elected members.
- 700+ multi-agency professionals including elected members watched Chelsea's Choice along with 2,200 children and young people.
- 40 professional across the partnership attended two multi-agency sessions called CSE: Next Steps Training
- 40 front line professionals attended two multi-agency sessions on working with and supporting parents and cares affected by CSE. These sessions were delivered by PACE (Parent's Against Child Sexual Exploitation).
- 10 multi-agency CSE training sessions are being provided from April 16 to March 17. This provision will be supplemented by an e-learning CSE package due to be available in April 2016 to all partners across the children's workforce and adult safeguarding.
- "On One Condition" is an excellent new drama production developed with a local youth theatre which really captures the issues facing some young people. It gets to the heart and complexity of the problem and crosses all boundaries.
- Training undertaken to date has been evaluated and feedback received has informed the future delivery of training.

**Recommendation 16 – Social Care re-organisation: Follow-up investigation by members**

The Strategic Director of Transformation and Resources is requested to enable scrutiny members to arrange a follow-up session / workshop to evaluate the effectiveness of the re-organisation once the new Specialist Services social care teams are embedded. The review, which will include front-line staff and possibly parents and families, will also monitor the success of the plans to achieve improved retention of staff.

- Children’s Social Care was redesigned in order to better meet the needs of children, young people and families; this was implemented in June 2015. The teams have a specific focus on either Children in Need and Child Protection or Children in Care and Care Leavers. This has also been broadly welcomed as a way to reduce changes in social worker for children and their families. The move to smaller teams, with opportunities for increased management support and oversight has been welcomed by staff. A review of the redesign is underway to ensure it is meeting its intended aims.
- Wirral implemented an improved pay and grading structure for Social Workers, in January 2015, including clear progression routes based upon the Professional Capabilities Framework.
- In common with most North West authorities recruiting and retaining experienced Social Workers is a challenge, although recruitment of newly qualified Social workers is effective.
- A review of Social Worker pay, progression and retention is currently underway led by Human Resources.

**Recommendation 17 – Social worker caseloads**

The Director of Children Services is requested to develop a mechanism to monitor the caseloads of social workers with the aim of reducing the caseload to, at most, the national average.

Measures are in place to monitor caseloads of social workers:

- A caseload weighting system was implemented in September 2015 for Children’s Social Care. Protected caseloads are in place for Newly Qualified Social Workers (NQSW) who are completing their Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE) and this is included within the caseload weighting system.
- Caseloads both amongst teams and for individuals are monitored regularly and are included in discussions as part of the Director of Children’s Services Safeguarding meeting with Social Care Group Managers..
- Supervision is monitored both in terms of completion and quality via supervision audits. Supervision is valued by staff and managers and is undertaken regularly

There are a number of measures in place to reduce the overall caseloads in line with the national average:

- Children’s Social Care currently uses temporary agency Social Workers to provide cover for sickness absence, maternity and vacant Social Work posts. In this way Children’s Social Care seeks to maintain reasonable caseloads amongst staff.
- Monthly recruitment rounds for social workers are scheduled for the coming year
- A Social Work Induction Programme is being developed to ensure that all new staff have a consistent introduction to working in Wirral.

**Staffing Issues** (Reference Section 7.4)

**Recommendation 18 – Social worker support**

The Director of Children Services is requested to consider the options for increasing the availability of laptops for staff, such as social workers, who are regularly working off-site.

The Windows 7 equipment replacement project commenced in the Autumn of 2014 and for Children’s Service was completed in the Summer of 2015.

The Windows 7 project provided all Social Workers with new upgraded laptops.

**Governance Arrangements** (Reference Section 7.5)

**Recommendation 19 – Governance arrangements**

The Strategic Director for Families and Wellbeing is requested to undertake a review of the governance arrangements relating to safeguarding to ensure that remits of bodies, such as Children’s Trust Board, Corporate Parenting Group, Health & Wellbeing Board, Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), Safeguarding Reference Group and scrutiny, are clearly understood, the appropriate reporting lines are in place and that duplication of activity is avoided.

- A review of arrangements commenced in April 2016 and will be completed by September. The review has been asked to consider governance arrangements relating to safeguarding to ensure that the remit of the Children’s Trust, Corporate Parenting Group, Health & Wellbeing Board, Wirral Children’s Safeguarding Board, Safeguarding Reference Group and scrutiny is understood and that appropriate reporting lines are in place which avoid duplication.
- Internal Audit has been requested to perform a review of the inter-connectivity between these groups, the clarity of the different roles and the overall effectiveness of the working arrangements regarding safeguarding children. This work will be reported in June to the Strategic Director.

**Governance Arrangements** (*Reference Section 7.5*)

**Recommendation 20 – The role for scrutiny in safeguarding**

The Strategic Director of Transformation and Resources is requested to further examine the role of scrutiny in the safeguarding process by establishing a protocol of understanding with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

- As part of the review being undertaken in relation to recommendation 19, the role of scrutiny will be examined by establishing a protocol of understanding with the Wirral Children’s Safeguarding Board.
- A protocol was established in October 2014 between the Wirral Children’s Safeguarding Board, Health & Well Being Board and the Children’s Trust, which will be reviewed as part of this work.



## PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JULY 2016

<b>REPORT TITLE</b>	<b>2015/16 FAMILIES AND WELLBEING DIRECTORATE PLAN CLOSEDOWN REPORT</b>
<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR – FAMILIES &amp; WELLBEING</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report sets out the 2015/16 year-end position in relation to the Families and Wellbeing Directorate Plan Performance. As this is the end of the planning cycle for the 2015/16 Corporate and Directorate Plans, the report (included as Appendix 1) also acts as a closedown report for this Directorate Plan.

The report captures performance across a broad suite of performance indicators and directorate projects. At the beginning of the report, there is an overview which includes a summary analysis which also highlights the key achievements of the plan.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

- The People Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the contents of the Directorate Plan Closedown Report and highlights any areas requiring further clarification or action.

[Starting on a separate page]  
**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

1.1 To ensure Members of the Committee have the opportunity to review the delivery of the 2015/16 Families and Wellbeing Directorate Plan.

**2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

N/A

**3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

3.1 The Directorate Plan, developed in early 2015, was reported to the Families and Wellbeing Policy and Performance Committee on 23 March 2015. The Plan set out how the Families and Wellbeing Directorate supported the objectives of the Corporate Plan 2015/16. This included activities measured through a suite of performance indicators as well as a programme of Directorate Projects. The report, included as Appendix 1, sets out performance against these measures as at year end 31 March 2016.

3.2 Whilst the Corporate Plan 2015/16 (and supporting Directorate Plans) were superseded in-year by the Wirral Plan: A 2020 Vision, they have still formed the basis of the 2015/16 performance management framework. A new Performance Management Framework has been developed for the Wirral Plan effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016.

**4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

**6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

6.1 There are no implications arising from this report.

**7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

7.1 There are none arising from this report.

**8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

8.1 The report has been reviewed by the Families and Wellbeing Directorate Management Team.

## 9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The report is provided for information, there is no equality impact.

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## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – 2015/16 Families and Wellbeing Directorate Plan Closedown Report

## REFERENCE MATERIAL

### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

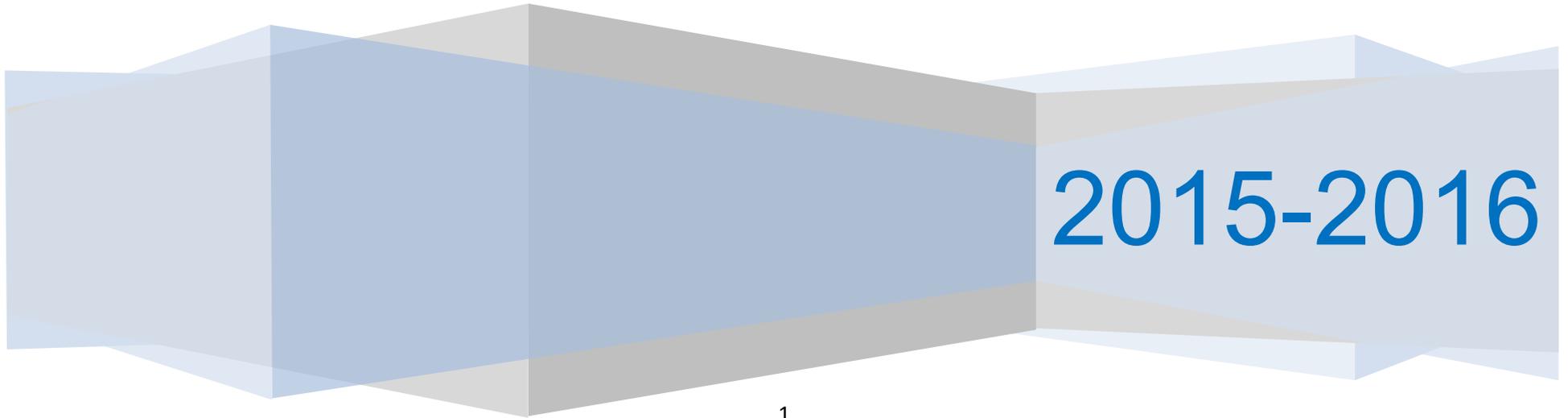
<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee	8 March 2016
Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee	1 December 2015
Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee	8 September 2015
Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee	23 March 2015

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# Families & Wellbeing Directorate Plan

Year End Closedown Report

Page 39



2015-2016

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## 2. Overview

2.1 Summary Analysis

2.2 Achievements

2.3 Challenges

## 3. Performance Reports

3.1 Performance Indicator Report

3.2 Projects Report

3.3 Financial Report

## 1. Introduction

This report sets out the year end position for the 2015/16 families and wellbeing directorate plan. As this is the final year in the planned cycle, the report also acts as a close down report for the Directorate Plan.

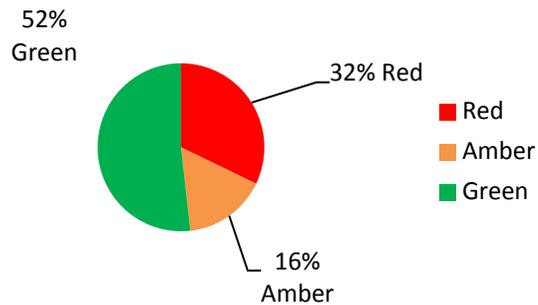
The report is written in the context continuing challenges for the directorate in terms of delivering ongoing budget reductions whilst working to manage rising demand on services due to demographic changes alongside societal and economic pressures. Our ability to deliver the priorities in the Plan are often heavily reliant on partnership and collaborative working. This often requires partners and providers from whom we commission services to make changes in their operating arrangements and behaviours, which in itself provides challenges. Despite this much has been achieved and we look forward to focusing on our priorities as set out in the Wirral plan.

The Directorate Plan sets out how the Families & Wellbeing Directorate supported the objectives of the 2015/16 Corporate Plan. This included activities measured through a suite of 56 performance indicators as well as a programme of 40 Directorate Projects. This reports sets out performance against these measures as at year end 31 March 2016. For the performance indicators, a detailed commentary is only provided against those indicators rated red or amber setting out the reasons for under-performance and what is being done to address it.

## 2. Overview

### 2.1 Summary Analysis

#### Performance Data - RAG Ratings

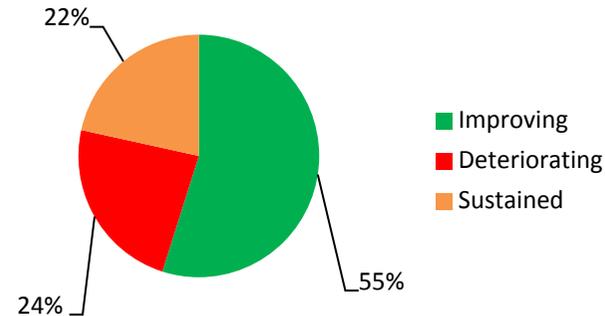


Ratings of the 56 reportable indicators:

- 29 Green
- 9 Amber
- 18 Red

For indicators rated Amber and Red, the responsible officer has indicated action taken to get performance back on track within the Year-end statement.

#### PI's - Direction of Travel

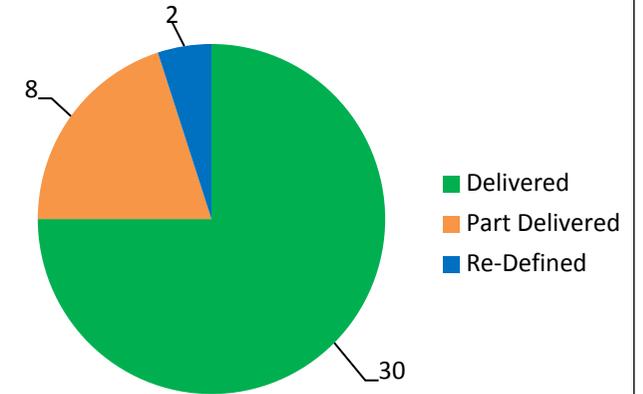


Of the 51 measures where it is possible to indicate the Direction of Travel:

- 28 Improving
- 12 Deteriorating
- 11 Sustained

Details of future monitoring of performance indicators have been included within the Year-end statement.

#### Project Status



Status for the 40 Projects:

- 30 Delivered
- 8 Part Delivered
- 2 Re-defined

The outcomes achieved as a result of the projects, together with continued monitoring of on-going projects has been included within project progress updates.

## 2.2 Achievements

### Children and Young People

- The Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) figure for 16-18 year olds has achieved its lowest ever figure for Wirral at 4%.
- 71% of participants from the 2015 Get Real programme for young people leaving care progressed to employment/apprenticeship opportunities following internship. This was also an increase on the 2014 figure of 70%.
- 69.7% of children achieved the early years Good Level of Development measure. This compares favorably to the national figure of 66.3%

### Adults

- New requests into social services resolved by advice and information is greater than expected, with a result of 61% compared to a target of 50%. The percentage of requests resulting in long term support is significantly lower than expected with a result of 3.6% compared to a target of 10%— this demonstrates the success of our ongoing preventative agenda, including the reablement service
- There has been a significant reduction in the rate of unplanned hospital admissions compared the previous financial year. In 2014-15 there was a 3.7% increase in admissions, improving to a 4.5% decrease in 2015-16. This also demonstrates success of early intervention and preventative services, delivered alongside our key partners.

### Public Health

- There has been a significant reduction in the rate of attendance at Accident and Emergency departments in Wirral for assault and injury where alcohol was a factor, with a result of 668.7 in 2015-16 compared to 808.42 in the previous financial year
- The rate of women smoking at the time their baby is delivered has reduced from a rate of 11.4% in 2014-15 to 10.4% in 2015-16
- Both Takeaway for a Change and Reducing the Strength campaigns have performed well in 2015-16 and will continue to be delivered in 2016-17 with an ambition for wider coverage across the borough for both schemes. These schemes are now key deliverables for the Healthy Lives pledge.

## 2.3 Challenges

### Children and Young People

- The Family Intervention Service claimed for 37 positive outcomes in 15/16 against a target of 400. Underperformance has been largely due to a review of the service and not having a data team in place during the time when the Government payment window was open. This has now been resolved and claims will be made retrospectively and no money will be lost to the Local Authority.
- The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving Level 4+ (Reading, Writing & Maths) at Key Stage 2 increased by 3% to 21% in 15/16. Locality Boards have scrutinised data to determine priorities and schools which underperform have been identified with targeted training programmes started in December 2015.
- 74% of families with a child under 5 living in the most deprived areas were registered with a Children's Centre in 15/16 which fell short of the 90% target for this indicator. This was an ambitious target and performance was impacted by the service area being under review and not in a position to consistently collect data due to key staff leaving. The new service was launched on 1st April 2016 and resources are now targeted more effectively and data collection is stabilising.

### Adults

- Average monthly bed days lost due to delayed transfers of care per 100,000 population has increased from 79.3 days in 2014-15 to 93.6 days in 2015-16. However, Wirral does remain 3<sup>rd</sup> best in the Northwest region in terms of delayed transfers of care. Work continues through the Urgent Care Board to review the systems and processes to achieve more timely and appropriate discharges. Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH) has had two SAFER events run by the NHS Emergency Care Improvement Programme. The aim of these events is to support local providers to identify patients who can be safely discharged from acute care in a safe and timely way. A twice weekly teleconference is now in place to discuss complex patients with senior managers.

### Public Health

- The indicators for the percentage of people attending opiate and non-opiate drug treatment programmes who do not re-present in 6 months are both below target for 2015-16. This is due to the disruption to the service caused by the transition to a new provider. Data for February, March and April 2016 demonstrate increasing numbers successfully completing treatment and that there has been a substantial reduction in the percentage re-presenting, indicating that the hard work of 2015 is now beginning to bear fruit, however this will not be demonstrated in the rolling 12 month data until later in 2016. The PH team will continue to monitor this monthly activity very closely, and work with the provider to maximise the effects of the actions targeted at driving up this performance.

### 3. Performance Reports

#### 3.1 Performance Indicator Report

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16				Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	
CSC001	Rate of Referrals to Children's Social Care (per 10,000 population)	575.0	667.9 (P) Red	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 623.4</p> <p>The rate of referrals in quarter 4 shows a considerable reduction in comparison to previous quarters. This corresponds with a reduction in repeat referrals and the continued triage by police and social care of domestic abuse incidents. Additional resource has been provided to assist in reviewing child in need cases and ensuring cases are managed and stepped down to Team around the Family (TAF) where appropriate and in a timely manner. Performance in this area will continue to be monitored through audit and monthly threshold meetings within the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub to ensure that targets are met and any intervention required is addressed promptly. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>
CSC003	Rate of Children in Need per 10,000	350.0	367.8 (P) Amber	March 2016	↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 390.7</p> <p>There continues to be improved performance in this area and a continued reduction in the number of children in need per 10,000 population. This corresponds with an increase in the number of early help assessments as a result of the step down procedures being utilised more effectively and consistently by the District teams. Performance activity in the area will continue to be monitored against set targets. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>CSC004</b>	Rate of Child Protection Plans per 10,000 (0-17)	44.4	61.4 (P) Green		↑	The 2014/15 outturn was 33.6  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i>
<b>CSC008</b>	Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000	96.2	99.9 (P) Amber		↔	The 2014/15 outturn was 101.0  During Quarter 4 a significant number of complex children's cases have been reviewed at Legal Advice and Action Meetings (LAAM). The concerns for some of these children has been significant and required some children to be placed away from their family and with local authority foster carers. Children who are looked after continue to be subject to robust planning and reviewing through the social work teams and the safeguarding unit and long term plans are identified at the earliest opportunity. The Access to Resources Panel (ARP) meets regularly to review all children placed in the care of the local authority to ensure that they return to their family when it is safe to do so or move to live with permanent or adoptive placements were appropriate. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i>
<b>CSC010</b>	The Percentage of Children in Care who have had 3 or more placements	<10.0%	5.9% (P) Green		↔	The 2014/15 outturn was 5.0%  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>CSC011</b>	The Percentage of Children in Care who have been in placement for 2 or more years	73.0%	75.8% (P) Green		↔	The 2014/15 outturn was 73.9%  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>CSC029</b>	Average time (days) between child entering care and moving in with adoptive family, for children who have been adopted	628.0	457.6 (P) Green		↔	The 2014/15 outturn was 536.4  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i>
<b>CSC014</b>	Family Intervention Service engagement with families	600	498 Red	Apr 15 – Mar 16	N/A	New measure for 2015/16  The Family Intervention Service review was completed in October 2015 and the service can report it has worked with 498 families over the 15/16 period. These remaining families will be engaged with during 16/17. This period has been affected both by a service review and the establishment of Phase 2 of the Troubled Families programme. The following work has been undertaken to positively affect this position in the future: -All staff trained to level 4 NVQ - working with parents -Data team recruited to report internally and to government  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>CSC015</b>	Percentage of Children leaving care through Special Guardianship Order (SGO) or Adoption	35.0%	44.5% (P) Green		↔	The 2014/15 outturn was 28.2%  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>CSC016</b>	Family Intervention Service positive outcomes with families	400	37 Red	Apr 15 – Mar 16	N/A	New measure for 2015/16  No claims were made in the Government payment window open in January 2016 due to the recent reviewing of the service and not having a data team in place. This has now been resolved and the data team will be able to co-ordinate future returns to Government. Reporting to effect funding will be completed retrospectively and no money will be lost to the Local Authority. The service is in a more stable place heading into the next reporting period.  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i>
<b>CSC017</b>	Number of specialist targeted services early help assessment and intervention	1000	1137 Green		↑	New measure for 2015/16  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	
CSC018	% of families with an under 5 living in the most 0- 20% most deprived SOA's that are registered with a Children's Centre	90%	74.01% Red	March 2016	↓	<p>New measure for 2015/16</p> <p>There has been a slight dip in performance over the year. The performance rating reflects a challenging year end target which has been difficult to meet due to the service area both being under review and not being in a position to consistently collect data. The review period has been challenging and a high number of key staff have moved to take up new positions elsewhere or left employment with the Council which has impacted on this area. The new service launched on 1st April 2016, resources are now targeted more effectively and data collection is stabilising</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>
CSC019	% of families with an under 5 living in the 0 - 20% most deprived SOA's who have sustained contact with a Children's Centre	50%	42.8% Amber	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	<p>New measure for 2015/16</p> <p>There has been a significant improvement in performance during the final quarter (a 21% increase in sustained contract from the previous quarter). The new Early Childhood Service implemented on 1st April 2016 will further strengthen work in this area with more effective deployment of staff and systems in place to undertake targeted outreach support and raising awareness of universal and targeted early education entitlements. We are continuing to strengthen working arrangements with partners to increase sustained contact with the most vulnerable families. The '2-2 1/2 year old Integrated Review' will be launched in May 2016 which will support early identification of need.</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

CSC020	Take up of 2 year old offer by eligible families as identified by the DWP	85%	71.5% Red	Feb 16	↓	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 69.0%</p> <p>The new strategy will strongly rely on wider data sets to influence targeting the right children.</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>
CSC021	Increase take-up of Children's Centre services for Children Looked After, Children in Need and Children subject to a Child Protection Plan	95%	73% Red	Jan 16 – Mar 16	↓	<p>New measure for 2015/16</p> <p>Although it is acknowledged that performance has dipped slightly over the year, a challenging target set at the beginning of the year is reflected in the performance rating and the year end target not being reached. The service area has been under a review that has experience a considerable delay and resulted in a period of instability. A high number of key staff have moved to take up new positions elsewhere or left employment with the Council. The new service launched on 1st April 2016 and resources are now targeted more effectively.</p> <p>Attendance at Children's Centres for this cohort of children is being prioritised in 2016-17 and will be reflected in target setting for this period.</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>CSC022</b>	% children's social work staff receiving monthly supervision	85%	80% Amber	Jan 16 – Mar 16	↔	<p>New measure for 2015/16</p> <p>Quarter 4 compliance is 80%. This has resulted from Manager/staff annual leave, sickness and absence and work priorities. Supervision is rearranged at the earliest opportunity where appropriate however this may fall outside of agreed timescales. Compliance with monthly supervision remains a priority area for Managers and will be monitored through monthly supervision audits. The quality of supervision is systematically audited throughout the year as part of the Quality Assurance Framework.</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>
<b>EDU001</b>	Early Years % Reaching Good Level of Development	70.0%	69.5% Green		↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 63.0%</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>
<b>EDU002</b>	The gap between the proportion of pupils achieving a Good level of development (in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile)	18%	32.7% Red	Sept 14 – Jul 15	↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 35.1%</p> <p>The gap between the lowest achieving children and their peers in the Foundation Stage Profile narrowed by 2.4% from the previous year. Work continues with schools with the largest gap to improve performance.</p> <p><i>This indicator monitored the achievement gap between the lowest 20% and the LA mean score – this is no longer relevant and the indicator will no longer be monitored</i></p>
<b>EDU005</b>	Key Stage 2 L4+ Reading, Writing and Maths	80%	80% Green		↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 78%</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be replaced by the new assessment measure and will be monitored at service level.</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	
EDU006	The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving at Key Stage 2 (Level 4+ Reading, Writing & Maths)	16%	21% Red	Sept 14 – Jul 15	↓	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 18%</p> <p>The Locality Boards have scrutinised data to determine priorities which are raising attainment of low ability free school meal pupils in reading and mathematics and more able free school meal pupils in grammar, punctuation &amp; spelling (GPS) and writing. Schools with these issues have been identified with targeted training programmes started in December 2015. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be replaced by the new assessment measure and will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>
EDU007	The % of Looked After Children achieving Key Stage 2 (Level 4+ Reading, Writing and Maths)	55%	54% Green		N/A	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 46%</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be replaced by the new assessment measure indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>
EDU008	Key Stage 4 5+ A*-C (including Eng. & Maths)	65.0%	61.8% Amber	Sept 14 – Jul 15	↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 60.0%</p> <p>Attainment has improved by 1% which goes against the national trend where standards have dipped. The Teaching Schools have been commissioned to support where school attainment has decreased. Analysis has been undertaken to determine issues in schools where pupils attained English and maths but not 3 other subjects.</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

EDU009	The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving at KS4 (5 or more A*-C including EM)	26.0%	32.2% Red	Sept 14 – Jul 15	↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 35.7%</p> <p>The gap has narrowed by 3% from the previous year. There is only one secondary school which has an achievement gap wider than the national average of 27%. One school has a gap of 26%. Pupil Premium reviews are planned for schools identified with some of the largest gaps, support by the Teaching Schools. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>
EDU011	The % of Looked after children achieving expected levels at Key Stage 4 (5 or more A*-C including English and Maths)	18%	14% Red	Sept 14 – Jul 15	N/A	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 13.2%</p> <p>The 14% gap is in line with the national average. Targets set by schools indicated that a higher percentage of Children Looked After (CLA) would attain 5 or more A*-C including English and Maths. Two CLA pupils attained a D in mathematics which was totally unexpected. The Looked After Children Education Service (LACES) and 14-19 teams are working to support the current Year 10 &amp; 11 cohorts. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	
EDU012	Inequality of achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 (FSM)	16.0%	19.3% Red	Sept 14 – Aug 15	↔	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 19%</p> <p>Level 2 (L2) performance at age 19 for both Wirral young people entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) and those not eligible for FSM is above North West averages. In 2015 however a higher number of non FSM young people at age 19 were qualified to L2 compared to those eligible for FSM. Work is currently being undertaken with Wirral Met College to target disadvantaged young people in the construction sector, focusing on GCSE and equivalent maths qualifications. It is hoped will help to address the L2 attainment gap. In 2016/17 academic year best practice and new approaches developed will be trialled with other disadvantaged learners across the college but with a focus on GCSE English. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>
EDU013	Inequality of achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19 (FSM)	34.0%	30.1% Green		↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 38%</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>
EDU014	The % of young people aged 16-18 who are not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	4.5%	4% Green	March 16	↑	<p>The 2014/15 outturn was 4.3%</p> <p><i>March 2016 NEET rate - lowest ever for the Local Authority. Young person not known rate (as at March 2016) has been maintained at a very low level - 3.1%. In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i></p>
EDU015	the % Care Leavers in Employment, Education or Training	49.0%	53% Green		↑	<p><i>New measure in 2015/16</i></p> <p><i>The 2015/16 target was set at 49% to reflect the wider cohort who are now</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

						<i>included in the count for this nationally benchmarked indicator. The count now incorporates care leavers aged 16-21 (in 2014/15 the count only included care leavers at age of 19). The target was set based on past performance and benchmarking information available. In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>EDU016</b>	The percentage of children attending good or better schools increases	80.0%	<b>81% Green</b>		↑	The 2014/15 outturn was 78.5%  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i>
<b>EDU017</b>	% uptake of Universal infant free school meals	85%	<b>87% Green</b>		↑	<i>The 2014/15 outturn was 82%. In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>EDU018</b>	Schools % take up of Education Quality (EQ) Standard Package services	88%	<b>81% Amber</b>		↓	The 2014/15 outturn was 88%  The buyback rate for the school improvement traded service EQ Standard Package has decreased. Measures are being put in place to mitigate this in the future: schools will be contacted; the revised 2015/16 budget to take account of reduced income and increase other income opportunities and a new more flexible offer being developed for 2016/17. <i>16-17 reporting - this area is now part of the Edsential service.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	
ADDP01	Proportion of people who use services who have control over their daily life	82%	77% Amber	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	<p>2014-15 – 76.4%</p> <p>Performance in 2015/16 shows a marginal improvement when compared with 2014/15 (76% to 77%) and remains in line with the national average (77%).</p> <p>The rollout of online portals in Q1 2016/17 will empower individuals to have additional control in terms of how they interact with the department and also the involvement they have with the planning of their care and support. Initially the portals will enable individuals to complete online care assessments and financial assessments but further development will enable individuals to communicate directly via online messaging with their social worker and also to see electronic versions of their assessments / support plans.</p> <p>The Liverpool City Region marketplace is also due to go live in Q1 2016/17 which will enable individuals to search for available support services in their preferred area thereby giving them greater autonomy over who provides their support.</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>
ADDP02	Increase the number of apprenticeships / traineeships available within the company (LATC)	10	11 Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	<p>New measure for 2015-16 Q2 outturn - 6</p> <p><i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i></p>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>ADDP03</b>	Increase the number of people with learning disabilities who have access to employment and training opportunities	4%	<b>3.5% Red</b>	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↓	2014-15 - 2.7% Q3 outturn – 3.6% The shortfall against the target in 2015/16 equates to a total of 5 people, work is ongoing with Wirral Evolutions currently in discussion with Wirral Metropolitan College with a view to beginning a programme of traineeships in 2016/17; this will culminate in two apprenticeships at the end of the programme. We are also in discussion with other providers of work related schemes to understand the programmes that they currently offer and the outcomes that are being delivered for individuals with a learning disability to maximise employment opportunities. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP04</b>	Increase access to services to include non-Fair Access to Care Service eligible customers	25	<b>3 Red</b>	Apr 15 – Mar 16	N/A	New measure for 2015-16  The delay in the company going live is a contributing factor in not meeting the initial targets which were based on the assumption of a go-live date of April 2015. Wirral Evolutions are working on a marketing plan with the Council's marketing team so that they can begin to market their services in order to make people aware that they can access their services without meeting the Council's eligibility criteria. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP05</b>	Proportion of adults with a learning disability who live in their own home or with their family	88%	<b>84% Green</b>	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↓	2014-15 - 83.1% Q3 outturn – 85% <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>ADDP06</b>	Permanent Admissions of younger adults (18-64) to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population	15.4	14.4 Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 – 16. Q3 outturn – 15.6% <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADCP07</b>	Permanent Admissions of older people (65+) to residential and nursing care homes, per 100,000 population	696.9	762.4 Amber	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↓	2014-15 - 810.9 Q3 outturn – 738.3 The target has been exceeded by 48 placements which in part is due to additional pressures from people who were previously self-funding their placement but have now seen their capital fall below the threshold for funding, when compared to 2014/15 this represents a 16% increase (11 people). Whilst not having achieved the target level set for 2015/16 the activity level does show a 5% reduction on 2014/15 which is equivalent to 25 people. Hospital discharges remain the most significant contributor to permanent admissions with just under 50% of all placements emanating from hospital. The increased number of Intermediate Care and Transitional beds from 1st September 2015 has helped to reduce activity in year; this is highlighted by the fact that less than 1% of people who have been placed in an IMC or Transitional bed are subsequently placed in long term residential care. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP08</b>	Average monthly bed days lost due to delayed transfers of care per 100,000 population	75	93.6 Red	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↓	2014-15 - 79.3 Q3 outturn – 89 Work continues through the Urgent Care Board to review the systems and processes to achieve more timely and appropriate discharges. WUTH have had two SAFER events and the lessons learnt from these events are being actioned through working with partners from the CCG, Community Trust

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

						and WUTH. A twice weekly teleconference is now in place to discuss complex patients with senior managers. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
ADDP09	% of people who use services and carers who find it easy to find information about support	80%	74% Amber	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 – 69% Performance has improved from 69% in 2014/15 to 74% in 2015/16 against a national average of 75% in 2015/16. The rollout of online portals in Q1 2016/17 will empower individuals to have additional control in terms of how they interact with the department and also the involvement they have with the planning of their care and support. Initially the portals will enable individuals to complete online care assessments and financial assessments but further development will enable individuals to communicate directly via online messaging with their social worker and also to see electronic versions of their assessments / support plans. The portals will dovetail with the Council's webpage thereby ensuring easy access to advice and information about the services that the Council provides. The Liverpool City Region marketplace is also due to go live in Q1 2016/17 which will enable individuals to search for available support services in their preferred area thereby giving them greater autonomy over who provides their support. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
ADDP10	Overall satisfaction of people who use services with their care and support	70%	67% Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 – 60.4% <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>ADCP11</b>	Proportion of new requests for support resolved by advice and information	50%	61% Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	New measure for 2015-16 Q3 outturn – 58% <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP12</b>	Proportion of new requests for support resulting in long term services	10%	3.6% Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↓	New measure for 2015-16 Q3 outturn – 3.4% <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP13</b>	Improving people’s experience of integrated care (service user experience questionnaire)	95%	64.8% Red	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↔	2014-15 - 73.7% Q3 outturn – 64.8% There is a high non-response rate for this question (32%) which suggests a potential lack of clarity / understanding, a review of the question in conjunction with an overall review of the survey is currently underway with the intention to create a revised survey which can be used across the Rapid Community Response Team. This will have the added benefit of significantly increasing the pool of potential respondents therefore providing an improved evidence base to support decision making. Monthly performance continues to be discussed at the Multi-disciplinary team meetings. Contract officers in Adult Social Services also monitor survey responses and will address any areas of concern / issues with service providers during monthly contract monitoring meetings. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP14</b>	Reduction in unplanned admissions	3.5%	4.5% Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 - 3.7% increase Q3 outturn – 3.5% reduction <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

<b>ADDP15</b>	Number of people referred to the ICCTs with integrated care recorded	95%	-	-	N/A	It was not possible to report on this in year due to data collection issues.  <i>This indicator will be discontinued in 2016-17 as we are unable to obtain the necessary data.</i>
<b>ADCP16</b>	Proportion of people who have received short term services to maximise independence requiring no ongoing support	75%	74% Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↔	2014-15 - 71.2% Q3 outturn – 74%  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP17</b>	Percentage of people discharged from hospital into reablement/ rehabilitation still at home after 91 days	90%	86% Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↔	2014-15 - 89.1% Q3 outturn – 86%  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>ADDP18</b>	Number of episodes of Reablement /intermediate care intervention for clients aged 65 and over, per 10,000 population	480	457.9 Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 - 448.9 Q3 outturn – 457.6  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

PHCP01	Rate of attendance at A&E for injury and assault where alcohol was a factor. (PHOF 2.18: Alcohol-related admissions to hospital.)	820	668.7 Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 - 808.42 Jan – Dec 15 outturn – 710.18  <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements.</i>
PHCP02	NHS Health Check programme by those eligible – Health Check offered (PHOF 2.22i)	20%	26.2% Green	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 - Offered 22.7%, Uptake 44.4% Apr – Sept 15 outturn – Offered 14.7%, uptake 30.6% As predicted, uptake performance in the final quarter of 15/16 rose significantly and resulted in 66% of those being invited for health check actually attending. Had the performance been at this level for the entire year, we would have exceeded our local target of 55% and met the national target of 66%. Whilst performance steadily increased over the quarters in 15/16, the low starting performance of only 28% in Q1 means that the overall annual uptake is only 40%. Also (as has been regularly reported) the performance across individual practices varies enormously, with some practices consistently achieving extremely low uptake. A paper is planned for the Joint Commissioning Group in July in order to facilitate a discussion across partners regarding the future model for this programme. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
PHCP03	NHS Health Check programme by those eligible – Health Check take up (PHOF 2.22ii)	55%	39.6% Red	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	
PHCP04	Proportion of opiate drug users that left drug treatment successfully who do not re-present to treatment within 6 months	10%	6.50% Red		↓	Previous year outturn - 7.6% Previous quarter outturn – 8.6% The reporting period now includes the data from the first 8 months of the new contract (Feb - Sept 2015) and the mobilisation of the new service. This is the period during which there was the greatest degree of service disruption and disturbance while staff were being accommodated into a new organisation and new individual roles, and new ways of working were being introduced and

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	
				Completions: Oct - Sep 15  Representations: Oct 14 - Mar 16		embedded. This has resulted in a reduction in the numbers of people completing treatment through this period. In addition there was initially an increase in the number of representations, with this also being a consequence of the transition process. This drop in performance of these 2 factors has been anticipated and predicted. Because of the structure of this indicator, measuring as it does activity in a 12 month rolling block, these early months of the contract will continue to impact on this indicator until later in this year (2016) when, as the 12 month rolling block moves on they will drop out of the calculation. However we are able to monitor in real time whether the current performance is going in the right direction by looking at the trend for the numbers of people completing treatment. Data for February, March and April of this year have now begun to produce increasing numbers successfully completing treatment and there has already been a substantial reduction in the percentage age representing, indicating that the hard work of 2015 is now beginning to bear fruit. When these months start to become part of the 12 month rolling block then this will bring about the upturn in the KPI, but this will take some months to work its way through the monitoring process. the PH team will continue to monitor this monthly activity very closely, and work with the provider to maximise the effects of the actions targeted at driving up this performance. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>PHCP05</b>	Proportion of non-opiate drug users that left drug treatment successfully who do not re-present to treatment within 6 months	53%	<b>33.6% Red</b>	Completions: Oct - Sep 15	↓	Previous year outturn - 54.9% Previous quarter outturn – 41.8% The performance of this indicator has shown a further reduction since the previous month. Performance has been impacted by the factors outlined above and continues to be interrogated in detail at contract review meetings. Analysis of factors influencing this performance provide cause for some confidence that this will now level out and begin to move to an upward trajectory. The PH team

2015-16 Families & Wellbeing Performance Indicators		Year End Target 2015-16	Quarter 4			Year End Statement (Red or Amber) Context (Green where provided)
PI Ref	PI Title		Actual	Period	DoT	

				Representations: Oct 14 - Mar 16		is continuing to monitor this closely and has asked for contingency actions to be taken as it has now dropped below the national average of 38.9%. These actions should now drive up performance but this performance will continue to be affected by transitional factors referred to above for several more months. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>PHDP06</b>	% of women who smoke at time of delivery: per 100 deliveries	11.5%	<b>10.4% Green</b>	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↑	2014-15 - 11.4% Apr – Dec 15 outturn – 10.5% <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be reported through Wirral Plan reporting arrangements</i>
<b>PHDP07</b>	Smoking quitters (4 weeks)	1285	<b>1016 Green</b>	Apr 15 – Dec 15	↑	This data is for up to the end of Q3 2015-16. Final Year-End performance will not be available until September 2016. Apr – Jun 15 outturn - 328 <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>
<b>Public Health Financial Management</b>	Projected Public Health net expenditure for 2015-16	£28.9m	<b>£30.7m Green</b>	Apr 15 – Mar 16	↔	Final gross expenditure position was £420k under budget. £1.4m of PH reserves used to cover the £1.9m in-year reduction of Public Health Grant. <i>In 2016/17 this indicator will be monitored at service level.</i>

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**Direction of Travel (DoT) Key**

↑ Performance Improving    ↓ Performance Deteriorating    ↔ Performance Sustained

Direction of travel is based on a comparison to performance in Q3 2015-16

### 3.2 Projects Report

2015-16 CYPD DP Projects	Status	Year End 2015/16 Progress Update
Strengthening families	Part delivered	Progress is on track. The project has been renamed Supporting Families Enhancing Futures and has been part delivered but was also anticipated to be at least a two year programme given its complexity. The steering and operational groups are continuing to monitor anticipated progress and additional project management expertise is guiding the plan to roll out which is expected to be in Autumn 2016.
Making Safeguarding Personal	Part delivered	Multi-agency Safeguarding Policies and procedures drafted and out for comment of which MSP is a core component. Updates to Liquid Logic system have now been made to enable more accurate recording of MSP principles within Safeguarding concerns and enquiries. 'Voice of the Service User' event held with SAPB members resulting in the development of a Service User Involvement' work plan which is being led by the Communications & Improvement sub group of the Adult Safeguarding Board
Supporting the delivery of the agreed priorities of the Safeguarding Boards	Delivered	<p>A weekly safeguarding report is produced, which includes Child Protection Plans in place and number of reviews held during week, together with percentage held within timescales and number being adjourned/cancelled. Notes also attached to weekly report with full duty rota for following week. This work has helped to ensure that children subject to a Child Protection Plans are now effectively monitored</p> <p>For the WSCB the project has been delivered. Priorities were set prior to Q1 and progress has been overseen by the WSCB and Executive. A final report on progress will be presented to the WSCB in May 2016. Progress against priorities has progressed as anticipated. Action plans for sub committees have been refreshed for 2016-17</p>
Quality Assurance of safeguarding responses	Delivered	Programme of multi-agency auditing is in place for the Wirral Safeguarding Children Board. The project for WSCB is delivered. Audits are overseen by the Performance Committee of the WSCB and learning is shared with partner agencies. Audit activity of the WSCB is included in the children's services and the WSCB quality assurance frameworks.
To provide challenge and support to educational settings	Delivered	Completed - Currently no schools in an Ofsted category.

2015-16 CYPD DP Projects	Status	Q4 2015/16 Progress update
To provide challenge and targeted support ensure that pupils' attainment at the end of each key stage increases	<b>Delivered</b>	Evaluation to take place in August using provisional data
Young people access to employment, education and training opportunities.	<b>Delivered</b>	Developments complete - revised Mersey Interactive portal launched November 2015. City Region LAs have also committed to a 2016/17 contract extension.
Risk of NEET service offer for young people aged 14 to 16	<b>Delivered</b>	268 Wirral young people aged between 14 and 17 engaged in the programme year to date. Young people referred by 14x Wirral schools. 1x self-referral from the NEET. Impact measures for participants include a 25% improvement in attitude / behaviour and a 40% improvement in attendance rates.
Children in care and care leavers employability	<b>Delivered</b>	7x care leavers graduated from the 2015 Get Real programme and secured an internship opportunity. 3x young care leavers have been referred back in to the service for further intensive support and development....they were not work ready. Following internship 71% (5x care leavers) progressed in to employment / apprenticeship opportunities. Overall, care leavers aged 19 to 21 supported by 14-19 Service in employment, education and / or training as at March 2016 is 52%.
Vulnerable groups tracking and monitoring service.	<b>Part delivered</b>	Service capacity increased with the appointment of a recognised apprentice
Services are accessible to the most disadvantaged families through utilising a range of approaches to delivery.	<b>Part delivered</b>	Staff have now been recruited to post and will take up their new positions from the 1st of April 2016. A two week transition period will commence from the 1st to the 16th of April, following which the new early childhood delivery model will commence. Take up of the service offer and sustained contact continue to be central to the delivery approach and clear targets will be set with each manager. Progress in a number of areas with disadvantaged or target groups is evidenced and it is recognised that both sustainability and further progress is required.
Sustained contact with target groups	<b>Part delivered</b>	
Demonstrating service intervention impact	<b>Part delivered</b>	

2015-16 CYPD DP Projects	Status	Q4 2015/16 Progress update
Remodel Children's Specialist Services	<b>Delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortlisting has been completed and interviews for remaining posts have been scheduled.</li> <li>• Terms of Reference have now been written to review the service reorganisation that went live on 15th June 2015.</li> <li>• The implemented Quality Assurance Framework is designed to ensure that improved outcomes for children and young people are improved.</li> </ul> <p>An effective and efficient service delivery model is now in place</p>
Implement the Career Progression model across Children's Specialist Services	<b>Delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Progression Policy has been reviewed with HR</li> <li>• Workforce Development Policy is now completed</li> <li>• The Career Progression model has now been reviewed and completed</li> </ul> <p>A sufficiency skilled, motivated and stable workforce is now in place.</p>
To close the attainment gap for disadvantaged pupils	<b>Delivered</b>	Evaluation of work commissioned has been undertaken. Impact will be evaluated against national exam results in August 2016
To raise achievement for Children Looked After	<b>Part delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liquid Logic system is being trialled with a group of schools to track progress.</li> <li>• Progress for Children Looked After (CLA) will be reviewed in May 2016</li> </ul>
Create a community interest company with Cheshire West and Chester Council to deliver sustainable services to schools and ensure resources are used effectively	<b>Delivered</b>	Company went live on 1st December 2015
Implement a new model for an all age disability service for children, young people and adults	<b>Delivered</b>	The All Age Disability Strategy has been completed and went to Cabinet on 21st March 2016. A delivery group has been setup which has a sub group and board membership. The new model has improved pathways and transition for children into adulthood.
Implement our health and social care integration plans with our health partners as part of the vision 2018 approach	<b>Re-defined</b>	<p>Work to enable more young people who self-harm to self-care is being completed as part of the commissioning process with CAMHS. Hospital admissions due to self-harm will be performance monitored as part of the Children's strategy.</p> <p>Evidence Based parenting programmes are being developed and delivered as part of the Early Help Strategy. It sets out work that will be undertaken to support parents when there are signs of a developmental difficulty. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) medication prescriptions will be monitored and reported on to evidence performance in this area.</p>

2015-16 DASS Projects	Status	Year End 2015-16 Project Update
Launch and establish the local authority company for adult disability Day Services	<b>Delivered</b>	Wirral Evolutions was fully implemented from 1st December 2015. This is a pioneering service for adults with Learning Disabilities providing personalised services through integrated multi-disciplinary teams. Wirral Evolutions works with people who use services and carers to offer inclusive support facilities that are designed with their full involvement and tailored to meet their needs.
Implement a new model for an all age disability service for children, young people and adults	<b>Re-defined</b>	The delivery dates for this action have been changed to align with the Corporate Transformation Programme. This will now be completed by April 2018
Maximise the opportunities of the Better Care Fund by developing sustainable 7 day integrated community services, contributing to a reduction in demand in Acute care and improving outcomes for people.	<b>Delivered</b>	All actions completed. The aim of integrated community services is to place people who require a combination of health and social care services at the centre of their care resulting in an improved experience and better quality of life.
Implement and embed new models of working to meet the statutory requirements and new duties of the Care Act.	<b>Delivered</b>	Regional market place has been agreed, and Live Well Wirral has been launched. A Wirral wide commission is underway, jointly commissioned with CCG and PH corporate. One offer for A and I will be in place, with tender live in November 2016, with contracts negotiated in year up to contract go live April 2017.
Implement our health and social care integration plans with our health partners as part of the vision 2018 approach	<b>Delivered</b>	All actions completed, including Central Advice and Duty Team (CADT) staff being transferred to DASS and co-located with NHS Call handlers to ensure an integrated single gateway. This single gateway and integrated approach will enable social services and health colleagues to work together more effectively to provide the best care based on a person's personal circumstances.
Implement a new model for our early intervention and prevention services to ensure along with our partners we manage demand efficiently and community based care effectively	<b>Delivered</b>	All actions completed. This new model should ensure people receive effective and appropriate support as early as possible, therefore maximising independence.

2015-16 Public Health Projects	Status	Year End 2015-16 Project Update
Review of tobacco control action in the borough	<b>Delivered</b>	Review completed. New Tobacco Control Strategy developed as part of the action for the Wirral Plan 2020 pledge to support Wirral Residents to live healthier lives. Specialist Stop Smoking Service re-commissioned in year, new contract awarded to ABL Health commenced 1st April 2016.
Review of service model for the community weight management service in partnership with Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group	<b>Delivered</b>	Review completed. Revised tier two weight management specialist Stop Smoking Service awarded via a framework agreement to Weight Watchers and Slimming World, new service to commenced April 2016.
Development of a risk and resilience strategy for 11-19 year olds	<b>Part Completed</b>	Due to a delay in recruitment the timeframe for development of the strategy has been revised to July 16. The literature/evidence base review has been completed. A stakeholder event has been held and consultation with young people completed. The strategy and subsequent action plan for implementation are in development.
Development of a service model for wellbeing and lifestyle services	<b>Delivered</b>	Ongoing concern over contract performance and the need to see a step change in action to tackle health inequalities led us to commission insight work with local people to be clear on the support they require to help them live healthier lives. This work was jointly commissioned with the Employment Team who wanted to look in depth at the issue of health related wordlessness in Birkenhead. The findings of the insight work have challenged our current commissions. In tandem we have been working with Healthy Wirral to develop a new model to connect communities with each other and to support local people to become more self-reliant. The outcome of this work has led to Cabinet agreeing to end our current contract for wellbeing and lifestyle services and we will be commissioning a network of community connectors, a refreshed information and advice offer and seeking to work closely with leisure services to support people to live healthier lives.
Delivery of NHS Healthchecks programme	<b>Delivered</b>	Awaiting Q4 results. This programme continues to under-perform against uptake targets. Currently considering options for future delivery

2015-16 Public Health Projects	Status	Year End 2015-16 Project Update
Ensure a safe transition of the commissioning of Health Visiting services and the Family Nurse Partnership from NHS England to Wirral Council	<b>Delivered</b>	Transition completed. 0-19 Healthy Child Pathway being delivered by Wirral Community NHS Trust, contract management being undertaken by the Public Health Team.
Ensure appropriate access to high quality sexual health services	<b>Delivered</b>	Integrated sexual health service led by Wirral Community NHS Trust delivered in year, contract has been extended for 12 months and will run until 31.3.17. Health Needs Assessment undertaken and will be used to inform specification for new contract to be commissioned to commence in 2017.
Ensure provision of effective lifestyle services	<b>Delivered</b>	Lifestyles services delivered this year via the Livewell team at Wirral Community Trust. In the light of the findings of the insight work, poor contract performance and a need to see a step change in health outcomes, Cabinet has agreed to end this contract and commission a network of community connectors and a revised information and advice offer.
Ensure provision of effective drug and alcohol recovery services	<b>Delivered</b>	New recovery orientated drug and alcohol service led by Wirral Ways to Recovery commenced delivery 1st February 2015. New alcohol strategy developed as part of the Healthy Lives pledge informed by a local Alcohol Inquiry.
To implement and evaluate the impact of Healthy Place investments e.g. Takeaway for a Change, Reducing the Strength	<b>Delivered</b>	Both Takeaway for a Change and Reducing the Strength campaigns have performed well in 2015-16 and will continue to be delivered in 2016-17 with an ambition for wider coverage across the borough for both schemes. These schemes are now key deliverables for the Healthy Lives pledge.

2015-16 Public Health Projects	Status	Year End 2015-16 Project Update
Assurance process fully developed and implemented	<b>Delivered</b>	The multi-agency Wirral Health Protection Group is responsible for assuring that the health of residents is protected from environmental hazards, incidents and outbreaks and; for reducing the negative impacts of communicable and non-communicable diseases including preventing infection and infectious diseases. The Group has developed a set of identified priorities this includes emergency resilience relating to major health hazards. These priorities are based upon the recently developed JSNA Health Protection 'chapter'. The WHPG meets bimonthly and receives assurance reports relating to the needs based priorities for Wirral.
Revise and refresh the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	<b>Delivered</b>	The JSNA attempts to anticipate the current state of health and social care and how those needs may change over the coming years against a background of reduced public spending and changes to the Health and Social Care landscape. The JSNA is not definitive, but will be regularly reviewed to check that we have correctly assessed the health and social care needs of Wirral's residents so that it can inform future commissioning priorities.
Produce the Public Health Annual Report	<b>Delivered</b>	The public health annual report has been written and will be available at the end of May 2016. The focus for the PHAR for this year is Domestic Abuse which supports one of the key pledges in the Wirral Plan 2020
To provide health care public health advice to Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group	<b>Delivered</b>	The relationship between public health and Wirral CCG has been strengthened. We inform and influence CCG decision and clinical care provision via attendance at the clinical senate and through ongoing joint working e.g. planning of the NHS Diabetes prevention programme. We have also been working with the Healthy Wirral Team to review and redesign local diabetes and respiratory care pathways ensuring prevention and self-care are embedded.

### 3.3 Financial Report

#### Revenue Budget

The Families and Wellbeing Directorate year-end position produced an overspend of £6 million (which is 3.9%) on the revised net budget as per the table below. In year revisions to the budget related mainly to capital financing adjustments, the allocation of remodelling savings in year plus the reprofiling of budget savings.

	<i>Original Net Budget</i>	<i>Budget Changes In year</i>	<b>Revised Net Budget</b>	<b>Outturn</b>	<b>Variance</b>
	<i>£ms</i>	<i>£ms</i>	<b>£ms</b>	<b>£ms</b>	<b>£ms</b>
Adults	68.3	2.8	<b>71.1</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>+2.9</b>
Children	68.0	4.5	<b>72.5</b>	<b>75.4</b>	<b>+2.9</b>
Other/Leisure	8.0	1.4	<b>9.4</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>+0.2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>144.3</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>153.0</b>	<b>159.0</b>	<b>+6.0</b>

The most significant element of the overspend for Adult Social Services was due to demand pressures within Community Care. A number of actions were put in place during the year to offset the adverse variance including targeted reviews of care packages and the implementation of a new 'asset based' assessment framework promoting service users strengths, abilities and resources both personally and within the community.

The most significant elements of the overspend within the Children and Young People were the result of increases in the number of looked after children and their associated placement costs together with costs of agency staff to provide cover for social work vacancies and some additional capacity where needed. Further overspends were offset by a number of actions taken within the year.

The Leisure Services overspend reflected some slippage in budget savings.

Savings agreed in setting the 2015/16 budget led to the directorate budget being reduced by a very challenging target of £21.7million. Cabinet 27 July agreed to the re-profiling of £7.6 million of these savings. Progress was however made on a series of savings including the launch of two local authority trading companies Wirral Evolutions and Edsential.

### Capital Programme Budget

The Capital Programme was amended during the year to reflect the inclusion of slippage from the 2014/15 programme and adjustments and re-profiling within the 2015/16 financial year.

<b>Families and Wellbeing</b>	<b>Capital Programme December 2015</b>	<b>Outturn March 2016</b>	<b>Variance</b>
	£ms	£ms	£ms
Adult Social Services	2.9	1.3	-1.6
Children's Services	10.8	7.7	-3.1
Leisure Services	2.5	1.8	-0.7
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>-5.4</b>

Within Adult Services as part of the commitment to transform the provision of day services £0.5 million has been invested supporting Wirral Evolutions to provide centres of excellence.

The most significant schemes within Childrens Services (including Schools) were the extension and internal alterations at Fender primary £0.64 million; the scheme to add 3 classrooms, resource and hygiene rooms at Elleray Park has continued successfully this year £0.98 million; development of the Hive continues on schedule with the Council directly contributing £0.6 million this year.

Within Leisure Services the new fitness suite at Guinea Gap saw an increase in usage. Membership at West Kirby Leisure Centre has increased following the improvements to the fitness suite there. £1.4 million has been invested at the 2 centres during the year.

Slippage has occurred on a number of schemes across all areas within the directorate meaning the unused elements of the 2015/16 programme will be re-profiled into 2016/17.

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## PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> July 2016

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME REPORT</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report explains the process of developing a scrutiny work programme for the new municipal year. The People Overview & Scrutiny Committee, in cooperation with the other two Overview & Scrutiny Committees, is responsible for proposing and delivering an annual work programme. This work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the Wirral Plan pledges which are within the remit of the Committee.

The report describes the process to enable members to deliver and manage the work programme for the municipal year.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

1. Committee is requested to suggest any topics for inclusion on the People Overview & Scrutiny work programme for the 2016/17 municipal year.
2. Committee is requested to provide delegated authority to the Chair, Vice Chair and Spokespersons to give further detailed consideration to the Committee's work programme prior to the next scheduled Committee meeting in September.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

To ensure members of the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee have the opportunity to contribute to the delivery of the annual work programme.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Not Applicable

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME AND THE WIRRAL PLAN**

The work programme should align with the priorities of the Council and its partners. The programme will be informed by:

- The Wirral Plan pledges
- The Council's transformation programme
- The Council's Forward Plan
- Service performance information
- Risk management information
- Public or service user feedback
- Referrals from Cabinet / Council

To maximise impact, scrutiny should ensure that topics of significance are prioritised in the work programme. During the next five years, the delivery of the Wirral Plan will form the highest priority for the Council and its partners. The scrutiny committee model has been modified to reflect the changes in Council priorities towards delivering improved outcomes for residents. Therefore, it is important for scrutiny to maximise the opportunity for non-executive members to play a constructive role in supporting the effective delivery of the Wirral Plan and the Council's Transformation Programme, whilst ensuring decision-makers are held to account.

It is proposed that the scrutiny work programme will focus on the Wirral Plan and will be owned by the three Overview & Scrutiny Committees. The priorities identified by members of the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee will form a key element of the overall work programme. This approach will ensure the most effective use of scrutiny's resources.

The Wirral Plan pledges and associated strategies of particular relevance to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee are:

<b>Pledge</b>	<b>Strategies</b>
Older People Live Well	Ageing Well in Wirral <a href="https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Ageing%20Well%20Strategy.pdf">https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Ageing%20Well%20Strategy.pdf</a>
Children are ready for school Young people are ready for work and adulthood Vulnerable children reach their full potential	Wirral's Strategy for children, young people and families <a href="https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Children%20Young%20People%20and%20Families%20Strategy.pdf">https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Children%20Young%20People%20and%20Families%20Strategy.pdf</a>
Reduce child and family poverty	Improving life chances <a href="https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Improving%20Life%20Chances%20Strategy.pdf">https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Improving%20Life%20Chances%20Strategy.pdf</a>
People with disabilities live independently	All age disability strategy: People with disabilities live independently <a href="https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/All%20Age%20Disability%20Strategy.pdf">https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/All%20Age%20Disability%20Strategy.pdf</a>
Zero tolerance to domestic violence	Zero tolerance to domestic abuse <a href="https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Domestic%20Abuse%20Strategy.pdf">https://www.wirral.gov.uk/sites/default/files/all/About%20the%20council/Wirral%20Plan/Domestic%20Abuse%20Strategy.pdf</a>

Given the scope of the pledges and supporting strategies, it will be necessary for members to identify specific aspects of pledge delivery upon which to focus. As a starting point for discussion, members may want to consider the following:

- The viability of the partnership arrangements to deliver the pledge
- Specific service areas related to a pledge / strategy
- The delivery of specific actions listed in the Action Plan for each strategy
- Specific issues highlighted in the regular performance monitoring reports
- The impact of the delivery of an aspect of a pledge on outcomes for residents.

In addition, members of the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee will also want to consider how best to undertake their health scrutiny role. It is expected that some of the detailed health scrutiny will be undertaken by the Health & Care Performance Panel.

### 3.2 PRINCIPLES FOR PRIORITISATION

The annual work programme should align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the Wirral Plan pledges. Good practice suggests that, in order to maximise the impact of scrutiny, it is necessary to prioritise proposed topics within the work programme. Members may find the following criteria helpful in providing guidance towards ensuring that the most significant topics are prioritised:

<b>Principles for Prioritisation</b>	
Wirral Plan	Does the topic have a direct link with one of the 2020 pledges?
	Will the review lead to improved outcomes for Wirral residents?
Public Interest	Does the topic have particular importance for Wirral Residents?
Transformation	Will the review support the transformation of the Council?
Financial Significance	Is the subject matter an area of significant spend or potential saving?
	Will the review support the Council in achieving its savings targets?
Timeliness / Effectiveness	Is this the most appropriate time for this topic to be scrutinised?
	Will the review be a good use of Council resources?

By assessing prospective topics using these criteria, the Committees can prioritise an effective work programme that ensures relevance and the highest potential to enhance outcomes for residents.

### 3.3 DELIVERING THE WORK PROGRAMME

It is proposed that the work programme will consist of a combination of scrutiny reviews, standing items and requested officer reports. Regular work programme update reports will provide the committee with an opportunity to plan and regularly review its work across the municipal year.

It is anticipated that the work programme will be delivered through a combination of:

- Scrutiny reviews undertaken by task & finish groups
- Standing panels, such as the Health & Care Performance Panel
- Evidence days and workshops
- Committee reports provided by officers
- Standing committee agenda items, for example, performance monitoring and financial monitoring
- Spotlight sessions

As some of the selected topics may well cut across the Wirral Plan themes, it is anticipated that some of the scrutiny topics may be of interest to members of more than one committee. In these circumstances, opportunities for members of more than one committee to work jointly on an item of scrutiny work will be explored.

During the municipal year, it is proposed that regular work programme review sessions will be held between the Chairs and Spokespersons of the Committee in order to effectively manage the work programme. This will help to ensure that higher priority topics are given greatest prominence on the work programme as it progresses and is modified during the year.

### **3.4 TRANSFER OF SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME ITEMS**

Members will be aware that the Cabinet report relating to future scrutiny arrangements (6<sup>th</sup> June 2016) set out a proposal to describe how existing pieces of work being carried forward from 2015/16 would transfer into the new scrutiny committee model. The items relevant to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee are set out below:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Former Committee</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Cumulative Impact on Public Health	Coordinating Committee	Reporting to September Committee
Avoiding Hospital Admissions Review	Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee	Reporting to September Committee
Children Ready for School Review	Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee	Review at scoping stage
Local Welfare Assistance Scheme Review	Transformation and Resources Policy & Performance Committee	Evidence day to be scheduled
Looked after Children	Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee	Evidence day to be scheduled

### **3.5 FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

In line with the new remit of the Committee and the principles for prioritisation, as described above, Members are requested to suggest possible topics for inclusion in the work programme. Committee Members should also consider how best to further develop the work programme in advance of the next scheduled Committee meeting in September. This could be achieved by Committee providing delegated authority to the Chair, Vice Chair and Spokespersons to provide further detailed input to the work programme's development.

**4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

**5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

**6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

The delivery of the scrutiny work programme will be met from within existing resources.

**7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

Not Applicable

**8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Not Applicable

**9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

This report is for information to Members and there are no direct equality implications.

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**APPENDICES:** None

**REFERENCE MATERIAL**

**SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

Council Meeting	Date

## WIRRAL COUNCIL

### PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

### HEALTH AND CARE PERFORMANCE PANEL (MEETING DATE TO BE ARRANGED)

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<i>FEEDBACK FROM THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH &amp; CARE PERFORMANCE PANEL HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016</i>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<i>THE CHAIR OF THE PANEL (COUNCILLOR MOIRA MCLAUGHLIN)</i>

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This report provides feedback regarding the key issues arising from the meeting of the Health & Care Performance Panel held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

#### 2.0 ATTENDEES

##### **Members:**

Councillors Moira McLaughlin (Chair), Alan Brighthouse, David Burgess-Joyce, Wendy Clements, Treena Johnson and Denise Roberts

##### **Other Attendees:**

Clare Fish (Strategic Director, Families and Wellbeing, Wirral Borough Council)  
Karen Prior (Wirral Healthwatch)  
Alan Veitch (Scrutiny Officer, Wirral Borough Council)  
Patrick Torpey (Scrutiny Officer, Wirral Borough Council)

##### **Visitors for part of the meeting:**

Sheena Cumiskey (Chief Executive, Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust)  
Suzanne Edwards (Service Director for Wirral, Cheshire & Wirral Partnership Trust)  
Jayne Marshall (Senior Manager, Commissioning & Transformation, Department of Adult Social Services, Wirral Borough Council)  
Boo Stone (Commissioning Lead for Department of Adult Social Services, Wirral Borough Council)

##### **Apologies:**

Councillor Irene Williams  
Lorna Quigley (Director of Quality and Patient Safety, Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group)  
Amanda Kelly (Senior Manager, Market Transformation and Contracts, Adult Social Services, Wirral Borough Council)

### **3.0 NOTES FROM THE PREVIOUS PANEL MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016**

The notes from the previous meeting, held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016, were approved by members.

### **4.0 CQC INSPECTION OF CHESHIRE & WIRRAL PARTNERSHIP TRUST (CWP)**

#### **Overview**

The Chair welcomed Sheena Cumiskey and Suzanne Edwards to the meeting. Members were shown a video which illustrated the services provided by the Trust, followed by a presentation which provided an overview of the CQC inspection process, the results of the review and the steps that had now been put in place to respond to the outcomes of the inspection. The CQC inspection had taken place in June 2015, although the report was not published until December 2015. The services provided by the Trust received an overall rating of 'Good'. The ratings for the five standard inspection criteria were:

- Caring                    Outstanding
- Effective                Good
- Responsive            Good
- Safe                      Requires Improvement
- Well-led                Good

The inspection also included fourteen core service reports, one of which (Learning Disability inpatient services) was rated as 'Outstanding'. Ten services were rated as 'Good' with the remaining three rated as 'Requires Improvement' (Acute wards for adults of working age and psychiatric intensive care units; Community health services for children, young people and families; Forensic inpatient / secure wards). An action plan has been produced by the Trust, in agreement with the CQC, in order to respond to the outcomes of the inspection. A further visit by CQC is anticipated before the end of May in order to review progress with the action plan. It is expected that the future visits will be targeted at those areas identified as 'Requires Improvement'.

Sheena Cumiskey informed Members that the inspection process was helpful and that it is beneficial for an external pair of eyes to look at the work of the Trust.

#### **Discussion**

During discussion with members, a number of issues emerged:

- A member raised the levels of staff sickness rates at the Trust. Members were informed that sickness is a key area for the Trust, which is undertaking significant work on the general health and wellbeing of staff. In relation to inpatient units, staff will be moved around to meet the needs of the organisation. Staff are expected to provide cover across different localities.
- Members were informed that improvements have been made to the facilities for the police to take individuals for safety (under the provisions of the Mental Health Act). Based within A&E units, the mental health assessment suite, provides a safe environment where the patient is assessed regularly. Support for such patients has also been improved by the introduction of the street triage initiative whereby a mental health nurse goes out in the community with the police to provide an immediate assessment which can prevent a resident from being placed in a police cell or a hospital admission. The street triage service is in operation daily between 3.00pm and midnight.

- A Member asked about the risks to continued good performance in the future. Members were informed of the following risks:
  - It is important to not become complacent. Relying on both soft and hard data, the Trust arranges their own unannounced inspections. The ambition of the Trust is to achieve an 'Outstanding' rating at the next CQC inspection.
  - Resources are becoming tighter while demand is increasing. Discussions are taking place with commissioners to assess how more can be achieved with less. Closer work with partners is also being developed, such as joint community health teams with the Council.
  - CWP is very much part of Healthy Wirral. Often clients have both physical and mental issues. It is important to focus on whole-person outcomes. However, it has to be recognised that mental health services require a critical mass of population. CWP currently serves a population of 1.1 million. In addition, new CAMHS beds will be opening in Chester in the summer of 2016 providing services for a population of 1.5 million. It is important to think about everyone's needs and not focus only on high profile issues such as the 4 hour A&E target.
- The risks highlighted in the CQC report relating to paper assessments for children primarily concerned West Cheshire. New actions regarding training and auditing have been put in place.

### **Conclusion**

The Chair congratulated CWP on the outcomes of the inspection and thanked Sheena Cumiskey and Suzanne Edwards for the report, which was noted.

## **5.0 SENSORY IMPAIRMENT SERVICE**

### **Overview**

The Chair reminded members that two members of the public had attended the previous meeting of the Panel to provide an account of living with macular degeneration in Wirral. The hazards of living in the community had been described, many relating to streetscene issues, such as bollards, kerbs and 'A' boards.

The Chair welcomed Jayne Marshall and Boo Stone to the meeting. They jointly presented a report on the Sensory Impairment Service, which highlighted the existing services and initiatives provided for those individuals living with sensory loss and impairments. Recent data suggests over 1200 people are registered either blind or partially sighted in Wirral, whereas significantly more people will be living with some degree of sight loss. Wirral Council Department of Adult Social Services (DASS) provide an in-house service of 3.5 FTE rehabilitation officers for those with permanent sight loss. In addition, a range of services are provided by partner organisations.

Although little Council funding is available to develop additional services, the All Age Disability Strategy – 'People with Disabilities Live Independently' will develop a framework from which specific actions progress.

## **Discussion**

During discussion with members, a number of issues emerged:

- Members were informed that DisabledGo has been commissioned by the six Local Authorities in the Liverpool City Region to provide an assessment of disabled access. Starting in Halton, the assessment will highlight properties with suitable access.
- A Panel Member questioned whether services were commissioned separately by each health partner in Wirral or whether there was a joined-up approach, for example, to the commissioning of interpretation services. Members were informed that there is a balance between regional cost-effective provision and something that meets local needs. Support must be provided at the most appropriate level, although further discussions could be held with local partners.

## **Conclusion**

The Chair thanked Boo Stone and Jayne Marshall for the report. It was agreed that Alan Veitch should contact David Bollans and Mike Hornby to thank them for bringing this issue to the attention of the Panel, to send them a copy of the report and ask Julie Barnes to contact David Bollans to discuss further detail.

## **6.0 FEEDBACK FROM THE CQC QUALITY SUMMIT: WIRRAL UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST (WUTH)**

The Chair reported that she had, on 14<sup>th</sup> March, attended a Quality Summit at Wirral University Teaching Hospital (WUTH). The Quality Summit, a meeting of key stakeholders, reviews the outcomes of CQC inspections and starts the process of putting in place an effective action plan to respond to concerns raised by the CQC inspection. Although the CQC inspection of WUTH had taken place in September 2015, the CQC report has only just been published, revealing an overall rating of 'Requires Improvement'. However, the mood of the meeting was positive as CQC say that the direction of travel is on the way up. The inspection highlighted that staff at all levels are caring, regularly showing dignity and respect to patients.

Some of key issues highlighted during the Quality Summit were:

- There remains an underfill of medical and nursing staff although significant recruitment of staff had taken place.
- Concerns continue regarding the through-flow of patients within the hospital. The increased numbers of arrivals at A&E was emphasised.
- The introduction of step-down beds, provided at Charlotte House, was highlighted as a particular success by WUTH in combating the recent winter pressures.
- Some concerns were voiced regarding the possible impact of the introduction of the 111 Out of Hours Service on the number of arrivals at A&E. Further work is being done to better understand patient referrals to A&E.
- End of life care at the Trust was highlighted as not being well-led nor consistently delivered. However, additional investment by WUTH will be made for staffing of this area.
- WUTH was congratulated by CQC for being realistic as the hospital's self-assessment broadly matched the outcomes of the CQC inspection.
- Positive outcomes from the recent staff survey were highlighted by both WUTH and CQC as evidence of a more positive working environment being developed. Reduced sickness rates provided further such evidence.

## **Conclusion**

It was agreed that WUTH should be requested to attend a meeting of the Health & Care Performance Panel in the new municipal year to discuss key issues arising from the CQC inspection report and the resulting action plan.

Alan Veitch was requested to distribute an email from Chris Oliver (WUTH) which demonstrates the steps put in place by WUTH to ensure quality is maintained for patients at Charlotte House. Karen Prior stated that a report on Intermediate Care provision, being produced by Healthwatch Wirral will, once finalised, be made available to members of the Health & Care Performance Panel.

## **7.0 FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE PANEL**

The next meeting of the Panel is scheduled for Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May. This will be a special meeting to review the draft Quality Accounts for each of the local health providers.

A subsequent meeting will be scheduled in the new municipal year. The agenda for this meeting will be compiled once the Health & Care Performance Panel has been re-established in the new municipal year.

The Chair noted a recent suggestion that member visits to care homes should be reinstated. The Chair suggested that the Director of Adult Social Services should be requested to provide a report on the feasibility and value of such visits. This item will be added to the work programme of the Panel.

## **8.0 SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING**

The following actions arose from the meeting:

1. Alan Veitch to contact David Bollans and Mike Hornby to thank them for bringing the issue of sensory impairment to the attention of the Panel, to send them a copy of the report and ask Julie Barnes to contact David Bollans to discuss further detail.
2. Alan Veitch to ensure that the CQC inspection for WUTH remains on the work programme and that WUTH are requested to attend a meeting of the Health & Care Performance Panel in the new municipal year. WUTH will be asked to discuss key issues arising from the CQC inspection report and progress being made relating to the resulting action plan.
3. Alan Veitch to distribute an email from Chris Oliver (WUTH) to Panel members. The email demonstrates the steps put in place by WUTH to ensure quality is maintained for patients at Charlotte House.
4. Karen Prior to provide a copy of the Healthwatch Wirral report on Intermediate Care provision, once finalised, to Alan Veitch for distribution to members of the Health & Care Performance Panel.
5. Alan Veitch to ensure that the potential member visits to care homes is added to the work programme of the Panel.

## **9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL BY THE FAMILIES AND WELLBEING POLICY & PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

There were no specific recommendations to be made to the Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee.

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**People Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>HEALTH AND CARE PERFORMANCE PANEL</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Clare Fish (Strategic Director of Families &amp; Wellbeing)</b>

**REPORT SUMMARY**

This report requests that members approve the terms of reference and nominate the membership to the Health and Care Performance Panel for the 2015/16 municipal year.

**RECOMMENDATION/S**

1. Committee approves the proposed terms of reference for the Health and Care Performance Panel.
2. Committee is requested to make the appropriate nominations for members and deputies to the Health and Care Performance Panel.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

The recommendations will ensure that Committee members continue to fulfil their health scrutiny role.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Not Applicable

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 During 2013, a scrutiny review entitled 'The implications of the Francis Report for Wirral' was undertaken by a panel of elected members. The recommendations of the panel members were subsequently approved by the Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee and by Cabinet. One of the recommendations included a proposal to establish a standing member's panel to monitor the performance of health providers.
- 3.2 Subsequently, the Families and Wellbeing Policy & Performance Committee agreed that a Panel be established to scrutinise the performance of health and care services in Wirral. The Panel has now been in place for two years. Feedback from those members directly involved has been positive. Although the Council's scrutiny arrangements have been recently reviewed to enable members to focus the scrutiny work programme on the themes of the Wirral Plan, there continues to be a statutory requirement to undertake health scrutiny. It is, therefore, proposed that the Health & Care Performance Panel will be re-established for the new municipal year (2016/17). The panel will report to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.3 The proposed terms of reference for the panel (2016/17) are attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Only minor changes have been made to the version adopted during the previous municipal year.
- 3.4 In previous years, the Panel was established on a politically proportionate basis. This will mean that the membership for the 2016/17 municipal year will be Labour 4; Conservative 2; Liberal Democrat 1. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Panel will be nominated at the first meeting of the Panel. Deputies can be nominated as detailed in the terms of reference.
- 3.5 It is proposed that a meeting schedule for the municipal year will be developed, to be agreed by the Chair, Vice Chair and Spokespersons. Additional meetings will be arranged if required during the year.
- 3.6 It is also suggested that a work plan for the Panel will be agreed at the first meeting of the Panel.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The terms of reference for the Panel are attached to this report.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

Officer support for the Health and Care Performance Panel will continue to be provided from within existing resources.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

Not Applicable

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Not Applicable

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct equality implications of this report.

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#### **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1:** Health and Care Performance Panel – Terms of Reference

#### **REFERENCE MATERIAL**

#### **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **HEALTH AND CARE PERFORMANCE PANEL**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

##### **CONTEXT**

This panel has been established in response to the recommendations made by the Francis Report Scrutiny Panel (January 2014).

##### **PURPOSE & FUNCTION**

The Health and Care Performance Panel will support the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee by examining, evaluating and monitoring health & social care performance issues and themes across the Borough and beyond (as considered appropriate).

The Panel shall report its findings and make recommendations to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee as it considers necessary and appropriate.

The Panel shall also undertake such other work / tasks as are allocated to it by the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee from time to time.

##### **MEMBERSHIP**

Members will be drawn from the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The Panel membership will consist of 7 Elected Members and seats will be allocated in accordance with the political proportionality of the Council.

##### **CHAIR and VICE CHAIR**

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Panel will be agreed by the Panel at its first meeting. The appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair shall be for the Municipal Year (unless otherwise changed by the Panel).

##### **DEPUTIES**

A maximum of 8 Elected Members per political group may be nominated to sit on the Panel as Deputies. The appointment of Deputies shall take effect upon the Group Leaders of each political group notifying the Head of Legal & Member Services of their deputy nominations.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Health and Care Performance Panel will provide oversight, support and challenge to the activities of Wirral Council and its partners in relation to the following key areas:

- Scrutinise the draft Quality Accounts of health service providers and offer feedback;
- Review evidence that the priorities set in the Quality Account are being delivered;
- Scrutinise the general performance of the local Trusts, escalating issues to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee as appropriate.
- Establish an effective flow of information and identify health service indicators with other bodies, such as Wirral Healthwatch, Wirral CCG and the Quality Surveillance Group (led by the NHS England Area Team).
- Review the performance of social care providers as appropriate.

The Panel will engage appropriately with partners across the Health & Social Care sector.

The Panel will be supported by officers from the Council and Partner agencies as and when required.

## **FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

A minimum of two Panel meetings will be held per year.

Additional meetings may be scheduled as and when required by the Panel.

## **DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

The Chair (or Vice-Chair) of the Panel will have authority to respond to Quality Accounts.

## **REGULAR OUTPUTS**

The Panel will provide commentary on the Quality Accounts annually to the health partners. Any other commentary will be reported to the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

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## People Overview & Scrutiny Committee Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016

<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>CHILDREN SUB-COMMITTEE</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Clare Fish (Strategic Director of Families &amp; Wellbeing)</b>

### REPORT SUMMARY

This report enables members to approve the terms of reference and nominate the membership to the Children Sub-Committee for the 2016/17 municipal year.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

1. Committee approves the terms of reference for the Children Sub-Committee.
2. Committee is requested to make the appropriate nominations for members and deputies to the Children Sub-Committee.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

The recommendations will ensure that the work of the Children Sub-Committee will continue in the forthcoming municipal year. The remit of the Committee will focus specifically on the outcomes for children, young people and families.

### **2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The option for this work to be undertaken by the People Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been considered but is not deemed appropriate because of the scope of activities involved.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

3.1 The Children Sub-Committee was established for the 2015/16 municipal year as a successor to the Attainment Sub-Committee. Rather than focussing on the scrutiny of educational attainment, the Children Sub-Committee developed a remit to concentrate on the broader outcomes of children and young people.

3.2 The recent changes to Wirral's scrutiny model will lead to a greater emphasis on scrutinising the delivery of the Wirral Plan pledges. It is, therefore, proposed that the Sub-Committee should focus its priorities on scrutinising the achievement of key outcomes, as detailed in the appropriate Wirral Plan pledges and Wirral's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families. The specific Wirral Plan pledges within the remit of the Sub-Committee are:

- Children are ready for school
- Young people are ready for work and adulthood
- Vulnerable children reach their full potential

3.3 In order to reflect those outcomes, it is proposed that the work priorities for the Sub-Committee will focus on issues for children such as foundation years, school readiness, educational attainment and children's social care. The proposed terms of reference for the Sub-Committee are attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

3.4 As with the previous municipal year, it is proposed that the Children Sub-Committee will be established on a politically proportionate basis. This will mean that the membership for the 2016/17 municipal year will be Labour 4; Conservative 2; Liberal Democrat 1. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Sub-Committee for the municipal year will be nominated at the first meeting of the Sub-Committee. Deputies can be nominated as detailed in the terms of reference.

3.5 The initial intention is that a minimum of three formal meetings of the Sub-Committee will be held during the municipal year, with meetings suggested in September, December and March. Additional meetings can be arranged if required.

3.6 It is proposed that the work programme will be agreed by members at the first meeting of the Children Sub-Committee.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not Applicable

#### **5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The terms of reference for the Sub-Committee are attached to this report.

#### **6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS**

Officer support for the Children Sub-Committee will continue to be provided from within existing resources.

#### **7.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

Not Applicable

#### **8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION**

Not Applicable

#### **9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct equality implications of this report.

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#### **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1:** Children Sub-Committee – Terms of Reference

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **CHILDREN SUB-COMMITTEE**

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The objective of the Children Sub-Committee is to support the Council and its partners in delivering Wirral's Strategy for children, young people and families to ensure:

- Children are ready for school;
- Young people are ready for work and adulthood
- Vulnerable children thrive and reach their full potential
- Children and young people feel safe and are safe
- Children and young people's views and voices are evidenced in and integral to all of the above objectives.

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Children Sub-Committee will provide oversight, support and challenge to the activities of Wirral Council and its partners in relation to the following areas:

- Children's attainment in school, focusing in particular on the attainment of the most vulnerable children, evidenced by the gap in attainment narrowing;
- The quality and performance of educational provision overall in Wirral, as judged by Ofsted;
- The quality and effectiveness of pre-birth to five year old support and provision for children and parents, leading to children having the best start in life, evidenced by their readiness for school;
- The quality and effectiveness of specialist children social care and partner provision to support the most vulnerable children, leading to children being safe and achieving their full potential;
- Targeted early help effectively supports more children to thrive and live safely in their families and communities
- Monitoring Local Authority performance against its statutory duties

**PROPOSED WORKING PRACTICES OF THE  
CHILDREN SUB-COMMITTEE**

<b>Sub Committee meetings</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	The Chair and Vice-Chair will be appointed at the first meeting of the Sub-Committee in the municipal year
<b>Membership</b>	The membership of the Sub-Committee will be politically proportional. (On the current political balance, this translates into 4 Labour; 2 Conservative; 1 Liberal Democrat). In addition, the 4 statutory education co-optees will be members of the Sub-Committee.
<b>Deputies</b>	A maximum of 8 Elected Members per political group may be nominated to sit on the Sub-Committee as Deputies. The appointment of Deputies shall take effect upon the Group Leaders of each political group notifying the Head of Legal & Member Services of their deputy nominations.
<b>Frequency</b>	To meet a minimum of three times per year.
<b>Work programme</b>	The Sub-Committee will identify a work programme for the year, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task &amp; Finish Groups</li> <li>• Standing Items</li> <li>• Specific Officer reports / presentations</li> </ul>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The minutes of the Sub-Committee meetings will be reported to the next available People Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
<b>Communication &amp; Transparency</b>	Meetings will be held in public with agendas being published prior to the meeting and formal minutes being produced. Therefore, support from Committee services will be required.

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## WIRRAL COUNCIL

### PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JULY 2016

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>POLICY INFORM BRIEFING PAPER – JANUARY 2016</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR FAMILIES AND WELLBEING</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b>TRANSFORMATION AND IMPROVEMENT</b>
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>NO</b>

#### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report presents Committee Members with the January Policy Inform Briefing paper which outlines the key features of the Autumn Statement and the Spending Review, which was announced on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015. As a continuum the Policy Inform papers include any relevant policy developments that have emerged over the past 3 months.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

2.1 The policy briefing papers are intended to provide Members with the latest position on emerging policy and legislative developments to support the committees work programme and future scrutiny work.

2.2 During the course of the 2015-16 municipal years, the Council’s Policy and Strategy team will prepare four policy briefing papers which will be reported to the Policy and Performance Committees for consideration. The following table outlines the timetable for the preparation and reporting of policy briefing papers:

<b>Policy &amp; Performance Committee Briefings</b>	
<b>July 2015</b>	The first policy briefing will focus predominately on the Queen’s Speech, which will establish the Government’s legislative programme for the parliamentary year ahead.
<b>September 2015</b>	The second policy briefing will be produced in September and will focus on the Chancellor’s July 2015 Budget Statement. The policy briefing will provide an update on policy and legislation and will consider relevant implications for Wirral.

<b>January 2016</b>	The third policy briefing will focus on the local government finance settlement which informs the annual determination of funding to local government. The policy briefing will provide an update on policy and legislation and will consider relevant implications for Wirral.
<b>March 2016</b>	The fourth policy briefing will focus upon the 2016 Chancellor of Exchequers Budget. The policy briefing will provide an update on policy and legislation and will consider relevant implications for Wirral.

2.3 The January Policy Inform briefing outlines the key features of the Autumn Statement and the Spending Review, which was announced on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The Policy Inform briefing also alludes to any potential implications for Wirral Council, and elaborates on any legislation or policy updates that have been implemented, or developed since the last policy briefing in September. It is expected that the March Briefing Paper will focus on the Chancellor of Exchequer's Budget, which will be published on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Due to Policy and Performance Committee's taking place at the beginning of March it will not be possible to take the next Policy Inform papers to Committee's, however these papers will be circulated to Members for their reference.

2.4 The Committee may wish to identify specific policy areas to focus upon which are in line with the Committee's work programme. Detailed briefing papers can be prepared for these subject matters at the request of the Committee which would be in addition to the regular policy briefing papers outlined above.

### **3.0 RELEVANT RISKS**

3.1 No specific risks identified.

### **4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

4.1 None considered.

### **5.0 CONSULTATION**

5.1 Not applicable.

### **6.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS**

6.1 Not applicable.

### **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS**

7.1 There are none arising directly from this report. Any implications identified in ongoing and recent national legislation and policy will require further

consideration by the Council to identify the appropriate action that will be taken.

## **8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS**

8.1 There are none arising directly from this report. Any implications identified in ongoing and recent national legislation and policy will require further consideration by the Council to identify the appropriate action that will be taken.

## **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are none arising directly from this report. Any implications identified in ongoing and recent national legislation and policy will require further consideration by the Council to identify the appropriate action that will be taken.

## **10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

(c) No because of another reason which is

The policy briefing is intended to provide Committee Members with an overview of ongoing and recent national legislation, bills presented to Parliament, emerging policies and upcoming consultations.

The local implementation of any policy or legislation will require an individual equality impact assessment.

## **1.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are none arising directly from this report. Any implications identified in ongoing and recent national legislation and policy will require further consideration by the Council to identify the appropriate action that will be taken.

## **12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are none arising directly from this report. Any implications identified in ongoing and recent national legislation and policy will require further consideration by the Council to identify the appropriate action that will be taken.

## **13.0 RECOMMENDATION/S**

13.1 Committee Members are requested to note the contents of the Policy Briefing papers and identify any area of focus for further detailed policy briefings to be provided.

## **14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S**

14.1 To provide Committee Members with an overview of ongoing and recent national legislation and emerging policy developments.

## **APPENDICES**

1. Policy Papers – January 2016

## **SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)**

<b>Council Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Not applicable</b>	<b>N/A</b>

# POLICY INFORM: FAMILIES AND WELLBEING

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## Policy Inform- January 2016

The Directorate Policy briefings will provide an overview of ongoing and recent national legislation, bills presented to Parliament, emerging policies and upcoming consultations. The Directorate Policy briefing will be produced specifically to inform Portfolio Holders and Elected Members and will be taken to Policy & Performance Committees for discussion.

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# Introduction

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The policy briefing paper is intended to provide Members of the Policy and Performance Committee with the latest position on emerging policy and legislative developments to support the committees work programme and future scrutiny work.

The following table outlines the timetable for the preparation and reporting of policy briefing papers:

<b>Policy &amp; Performance Committee Briefings</b>	
<b>July 2015</b>	The first policy briefing will focus predominately on the Queen's Speech, which will establish the Government's legislative programme for the parliamentary year ahead.
<b>September 2015</b>	The second policy briefing will be produced in September and will focus on the Chancellor's July 2015 Budget Statement. The policy briefing will provide an update on policy and legislation and will consider relevant implications for Wirral.
<b>January 2016</b>	The third policy briefing will focus on the Autumn Statement and the Spending Review which sets out how Government money will be allocated. The policy briefing will provide an update on policy and legislation and will consider relevant implications for Wirral.
<b>March 2016</b>	The fourth policy briefing will focus upon the 2016 Chancellor of Exchequers Budget. The policy briefing will provide an update on policy and legislation and will consider relevant implications for Wirral.

The January policy briefing outlines the key features of the Autumn Statement and the Spending Review which, was announced on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The policy briefing also alludes to any potential implications that have been highlighted by relevant Officers for Wirral Council, and elaborates on any legislation or policy updates that have been implemented or developed since the last policy briefing in September.

The Committee may wish to identify specific policy areas to focus upon which are in line with the Committee's work programme. Detailed briefing papers can be prepared for these subject matters at the request of the Committee which would be in addition to the regular policy briefing papers outlined above.

# Autumn Statement and Spending Review - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015

The Spending Review sets out how £4 trillion of government money will be allocated over the next five years. The key announcements outlined in the statement have been divided into themes:

## Local Councils

- The main grant to local government will be phased out. Other sources of income such as council tax and business rates are forecast to grow in cash terms by £6.3 billion by 2019-20.
- From 2016/17 local councils will be able to add 2% to council tax bills that can be spent exclusively on adult social care in their areas. This is intended to raise £2 billion a year by 2019-20.
- From April 2016, police forces will be able to increase the amount they require from council tax collections by 2%.
- Extension of the doubling of small business rate relief (SBRR) in England for 12 months to April 2017.
- The government will allow local authorities to spend up to 100% of their fixed asset receipts (excluding Right to Buy receipts) on the revenue costs of reform projects.
- The government will deliver its commitment to a £12 billion Local Growth Fund between 2015-16 and 2020-21.

## Housing



- The housing budget will be doubled to £2m a year. Stamp duty will be 3pc higher, raising almost £1b by 2020.
- 400,000 new homes by 2020.
- The right-to-buy scheme will be extended to housing association tenants, with a new pilot in five housing associations.
- A series of other schemes, including Help to Buy: Shared Ownership to help people get on the housing ladder.
- From April 2016 people purchasing additional properties will pay an extra 3% in stamp duty. Money raised will be used to help those struggling to buy their first home.
- 300,000 homes will be better protected from flooding by 2021, with £2.3 billion for over 1,500 flood defence schemes.
- A cap on the amount of rent that Housing Benefit will cover in the social sector. The reform will apply to tenancies signed after 1 April 2016, with Housing Benefit entitlement changing from 1 April 2018 onwards.

## Planning, Transport and Regeneration



- Further reforms to the planning system, including establishing a new delivery test on local authorities, to ensure delivery against Local Plans.
- Support for the availability of appropriate land for housing, including by releasing public sector land with capacity for 160,000 homes.
- Support for the regeneration of previously developed brownfield sites in the green belt by allowing them to be developed in the same way as other brownfield land, providing it contributes to Starter Homes, and subject to local consultation.
- Consultation on updating the Transparency Code to require all local authorities to record details of their land and property assets in a consistent way on the government's e-PIMS.
- The Roads Investment Strategy will see £15 billion of investment.
- HS2 will go ahead.
- Commuters will soon be able to claim compensation if their train is more than 15 minutes late.

**David Armstrong- Project Sponsor**  
*for Good quality housing that meets the needs of residents*

**David Armstrong- Project Sponsor**  
*for Transport and Technology Infrastructure fit for the future*

## Digital Government



- £1.8 billion invested in digital technology and transformation projects across the public sector.
- £450 million to support the Government Digital Service's role as the digital, data and technology centre for government.
- DCLG will work closely with the Valuation Office Agency to digitise the collection of local taxes.

## Community Cohesion



- Current levels of funding for community integration programmes will be maintained. This funding will be targeted to support the recommendations of Louise Casey's review of opportunity and integration in isolated and deprived communities.

## DCLG

- 20% reduction in the department's paybill, with total savings of £94 million by 2019-20.
- At least £74 million of funding for the Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme.
- DCLG will operate the £12 billion Local Growth Fund.
- Continue to oversee delivery of devolution deals.

**David Armstrong- Project Sponsor**  
*for Transport and Technology Infrastructure fit for the future*



## Arts and Sport

- Funding for museums and galleries will be maintained so they remain free to the public.
- The government will fund capital investments in culture across the country through a total of £1.6 billion by 2020-21.
- £5 million of the Northern Powerhouse investment fund will go to Manchester museum to create a new South Asia gallery in partnership with the British Museum, and £150 million to help make oyster style ticketing a reality across the whole of the North.
- The government will support the Rugby League World Cup bid for the UK in 2021 so matches can be held across the North.



## Businesses

- The business budget has been slashed by 17 per cent. This is partly achieved by offering £165million of loans to companies, rather than the current grants.
- Universal rates scrapped in favour of devolving powers to local councils who will now collect 100pc of the tax, which brought in £23bn this year.
- The government is creating 26 new Enterprise Zones, including expanding 8 Zones on the current programme. These include 15 Zones in smaller towns and rural areas.
- A £400 million Northern Powerhouse investment fund will be created to help small businesses to grow.

## Devolution

- Councils will be allowed to cut business rates to boost growth and elected city-wide mayors allowed to raise them for specific projects.
- There will be further commitment to the Northern Powerhouse, including: investment of £13 billion on transport in the North by 2020, a range of investments in scientific research, and supporting further Northern Powerhouse trade missions to key emerging economies.
- In 2017-18 the government will devolve and reform increased funding for managing temporary accommodation, giving local authorities 'more control and flexibility'.
- In 2016 DCLG will shortly consult on changes to the local government finance system to pave the way for the implementation of 100% business rate retention. As part of these reforms, additional responsibilities will be devolved to local authorities.

**Clare Fish- Project Sponsor for Leisure and Cultural Opportunities for all**

**Paula Basnett- Partner pledge led for Thriving Small Businesses**



## Tax Credit

- The government will borrow £8 billion less than forecast – making faster progress towards eliminating the deficit.
- Because of the improvement in public finances, the £4.4 billion of proposed cuts will no longer happen.
- Tax credits are being phased out as we introduce universal credit.
- The government will propose no further changes to the universal credit taper, or to the work allowances beyond those that passed through Parliament.

## Families & Childcare

- Spending levels on homelessness services will be maintained.
- £40 million will be allocated for services for victims of domestic abuse.
- Continued investment into the Troubled Families programme with the aim of better outcomes for 400,000 families by 2020.
- Doubling the free childcare entitlement- 15 hours to 30 hours a week for working families with 3 and 4 year olds from Sept 2017.
- Tax-Free Childcare from early 2017, providing up to £2,000 a year per child.
- From 2017-18 an investment of £300 million to increase the average hourly rate childcare providers receive, and at least £50 million of capital funding to create additional places in nurseries.



## Environment

- The current Energy Companies Obligation runs until March 2017. This will be replaced from April 2017 with a new cheaper energy supplier obligation to reduce carbon emissions which will run for five years. The changes will mean that on average 24 million households will save £30 a year on their energy bills from 2017.
- The Warm Home Discount scheme will also be extended to 2020-2021. This currently gives certain low-income households a one-off reduction of £140 on their electricity bill.

**John Martin- Partner pledge lead for Zero Tolerance to Domestic Violence & Julia Hassall- Project Sponsor for Vulnerable children reach their full potential**

## Our Partners:



### NHS

- The NHS will become a 7-day service in primary care and in hospitals. £750 million of investment and a new national voluntary contract for GPs .
- £300 million per year will be invested in diagnostics by 2020 to fund new equipment and additional staff capacity, including 200 additional staff trained to perform endoscopies by 2018.
- £150 million will be invested in a new Dementia Research Institute .
- £4.8 billion allocated for health every year for the next 5 years. This includes funding for a shift in the way urgent and emergency care services are provided and improving out of hospital services to deliver more care closer to home. New investment of £1 billion in technology will support this transformation and integrate patient records across health and social care by 2020. Over the next 5 years, at least £500 million will be invested in building new hospitals.
- £10 billion extra a year in real terms. £6 billion of which will be delivered in 2016, particularly to mental health services.
- This will fund:
  - 800,000 more operations and treatments
  - 5.5 million more outpatient appointments
  - 2 million more diagnostic tests
  - access to GP services in the evenings and at the weekend
  - 7-day access to hospital services by 2020
- Whilst the NHS is receiving increased funding, there is also a commitment to find a further £22 billion in efficiency savings.

**John Develing- Pledge lead for Wirral Residents Live Healthier Lives**



### Police

- No cuts to the police budget. The government will protect overall police spending in line with inflation – an increase of £900 million by 2019-20. "The police protect us and we are going to protect the police."
- Additional funding will be provided for forces that have strong proposals to support efficiency and reform.
- The National Crime Agency's budget will also be protected in cash terms to help cut organised crime.

**John Martin- Pledge lead for Zero Tolerance to Domestic Violence**



### Schools and Apprenticeships

- Schools funding will be protected in line with inflation. £23 billion will be invested in school buildings, creating 600,000 extra school places and 500 free schools.
- Sixth form colleges will now be able to become academies.
- Savings of £600million will be made from the education services grant that goes to local authorities as more schools become academies. - "We will make local authorities running schools a thing of the past".
- The current 'unfair' school funding system will be phased out and replaced with a new national Funding Formula from 2017.
- Funding for adult education will not be cut.
- The government will spend twice as much on apprentices- 3 million apprentices by 2020.
- A new apprentice levy of 0.5 per cent will be introduced for employers. The levy will raise £3 billion a year to fund three million apprenticeships. Less than 2% of UK employers will pay the levy.
- Maintenance loans will be available to higher education students who study part time from 2018.

# Further Analysis & Impact on Local Government and Partners

## Local Government:

### Funding

- There has been a £4.1 billion funding cut over this Spending Review period and this comes on top of almost £10 billion in further demand-led cost pressures facing councils by the end of the decade. Local communities will suffer as a result.
- The general government grant to local councils will be removed completely by 2020.
- Even if councils stopped filling in potholes, maintaining parks, closed all children's centres, libraries, museums, leisure centres and turned off every street light they will not have saved enough money to plug the financial black hole they face by 2020.
- The Local Government Association (LGA) warn that the spending review represents a 24% reduction in real terms to the local government grant, including the £1.5bn increase to the Better Care Fund.

### Business Rates

- Retaining 100% of business rates will, nationally, add up to an estimated £26 billion. As part of the 'devolution revolution' local authorities will also be able to lower business rates to attract business investment in their area. It is hoped that this will correct the 'geographical imbalance' and encourage local authorities to become more competitive and focus their attentions on attracting private investment into their own areas.
- Changes will hit the poorest parts of the country hardest, where there are fewer businesses and taxpayers to make up for lost Whitehall grants. Rich councils will get richer at the expense of already struggling councils.

### Social Care

- From 2016/7, local councils will be able to add 2% to council tax bills that can be spent exclusively on adult social care in their areas. This will go some way to allowing a number of councils to raise the money needed to offset some of the cost of social care.
- The new care precept will generate very different levels of revenue across the country, with no equalisation system planned.
- The additional Better Care Funding will not be available until 2017 leaving a shortfall to be addressed between now and 2017.

### Local Growth Fund

- DCLG will operate the £12 billion Local Growth Fund, which is more than double the size of equivalent funds in the last Parliament. This will empower local communities to deliver growth by giving them greater control of public spending, allowing them to target their own priorities.
- Secretary of State for DCLG, Greg Clark: "On top of building the homes our country needs across the nation we are devolving powers to local people who know their communities best to drive jobs, nurture businesses and improve local services."

### Housing

- Increased investment in schemes to help people to rent or buy has weighted in favour of private developers, at the expense of opportunities to deliver affordable social housing for communities. Tackling local housing need would also help to regenerate local economies and provide jobs and skills. ASPE argue councils are best placed to address specific local housing need.
- Under the new reform, Housing Benefit will no longer fully subsidise families to live in social houses that many working families cannot afford, and will better align the rules in the private and social rented sectors. It will also ensure that Housing Benefit costs are better controlled and will help prevent social landlords from charging inflated rent for their properties
- In areas of Wirral where the Local Housing Allowance rate for the Borough is below the rent charged by housing associations, prospective tenants, particularly those on out-of-work benefits, may be unable to fund the difference between rent and Housing Benefit. The profile of tenants may shift further away from single, younger households on lower incomes or welfare benefits. It may also have implications on the property type and financial appraisals for new-build social housing in the pipeline.

## Our Partners:

### NHS

- The NHS will become a 7-day service in primary care and in hospitals, this means that by 2021 everyone will be able to access GP services in the evenings and at weekends with an extra 5,000 doctors in general practice.
- An additional £600 million invested in mental health services will mean that significantly more people will have access to talking therapies every year by 2020.
- Investment into the new Dementia Research Institute will accelerate the pace of research and tackle the progression of the disease. This is the government's latest step in a long term strategy to combat dementia.
- Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt: "For doctors and nurses working harder than ever on the frontline this upfront investment means we can implement the NHS's own ambitious plan to transform services for the future." "This new money will help us finish the job."

### Police

- Protecting police funding will allow forces to adapt to changing crime threats and train more firearms officers to make sure the country can be protected from terrorist threats.
- £1 billion will be spent on 4G communications for police forces and other emergency services, allowing officers to take mobile fingerprints and electronic witness statements. This will free up officers' time, saving around £1 million a day when fully operational.

### Schools and Apprenticeships

- The Education Services Grant helps ensure that children are getting the education they deserve including School Improvement, Education Social Workers, and Strategic Management. Last year, £815 million was spent on the ESG. The LGA say urgent clarification is needed on how the £600 million cuts will be achieved, and how quickly, without impacting on welfare and standards.
- Currently a child from a disadvantaged background in one school can receive half as much funding as a child in identical circumstances in another school. The changes to the allocation of school funding will set a national rate for each pupil, with extra funding for those with additional needs.
- Introducing a new system will mean some schools will face relative budget reductions. LGA recommend changes should be introduced in a phased way to protect these schools. Government should also allow for local discretion to be applied to take into account individual local needs.
- 250,000 students will benefit from extra loans. This will include tuition fees for students studying for higher level skills in further education, part-time students and postgraduates.

# Queen's Speech 2015- Designation to Policy and Performance Committees

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015, the Queen unveiled the Government's legislative plans for the year ahead. Below is a list of each individual Bill which will have implications for local government that were announced during the speech. The list identifies the Policy and Performance committee with whose remit the legislation most closely aligns:

Legislative Plans	Policy and Performance Committee
National Insurance Contributions Bill/ Finance Bill	Transformation and Resources
Full Employment and Welfare Benefits Bill	All Policy and Performance Committees
Trade Unions Bill	Transformation and Resources
Housing Bill	Regeneration and Environment
Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill	Regeneration and Environment
Buses Bill	Regeneration and Environment
High Speed Rail Bill	Regeneration and Environment
Childcare Bill	Families and Wellbeing
Energy Bill	Regeneration and Environment
Education and Adoption Bill	Families and Wellbeing
Enterprise Bill	Regeneration and Environment
Policing and Criminal Justice Bill	Families and Wellbeing Transformation and Resources
Draft Public Service Ombudsman Bill	Transformation and Resources
Psychoactive Substances Bill	Families and Wellbeing

Additional bills that have been announced are outlined below. These will be monitored in relation to any emerging implications for Local Government and reported to the relevant Policy and Performance Committee as appropriate.

Additional Legislative Plans
EU Referendum Bill
Scotland Bill
Immigration Bill
Extremism Bill
Investigatory Powers Bill
Charities Bill
Armed Forces Bill
Bank of England Bill
Northern Ireland (Stormont House Agreement) Bill

Wales Bill
Votes for Life Bill

The bills relevant to the Families and Wellbeing Committee are discussed in further detail below. The information provided has been sourced predominately from the LGiU, as well as SOLACE and the LGC and therefore solely represents a fact-based introduction to the bills.

# Queen's Speech 2015- Developments and Implications

## Childcare Bill

### Synopsis and Key Points:

#### **Synopsis:**

- The purpose of the Childcare Bill is to help support working people from the start of their family life and help hard-working families with the costs of childcare and support parents in work. The changes aim to help 600,000 children a year from 2017.

#### **Key Points:**

- Deliver on the Government's election manifesto commitment of giving families where all parents are working an entitlement to 30 hours a week of free childcare for their three and four-year olds for 38 weeks of the year (equivalent of the school year).
- Require local authorities to publish information about the provision of childcare in the local authority area, and other services or facilities which might be of benefit to parents or prospective parents, or children, or young persons in their area.

### Further Developments:

- The Childcare Bill completed its Lords stages on 26 October 2015 and was introduced to the House of Commons with its first reading on the same day.
- The second reading of the Bill in the House of Commons took place on 25 November where the general principles of the bill were debated. The bill has now been committed to a Public Bill Committee, the first meeting of the committee is expected to be on 8 December.

#### **Education and Childcare Minister Sam Gyimah delivered a speech on 11 November 2015, detailing developments of the Bill:**

- We have supported parents by commissioning the 'What to expect when' guide. The literacy strategy which the Secretary of State launched in September has a strong focus on the early years.
- 'Our commitment to childcare is made clearer nowhere else than in the Childcare Bill'. The Bill will double the existing entitlement for 3- and 4-year-olds of working parents and represent a huge change in the market, with government becoming a bigger buyer of childcare than ever before.
- I am pleased that when government budgets are being cut across Whitehall, that this government has made a strategic decision to invest in childcare.
- The overall spend on childcare across government will rise from £5 billion to more than £6 billion a year over this Parliament, which through Tax-Free Childcare and tax credits means greater spending power for parents.
- In October a Policy Statement was published detailing progress made with the 30 hours pledge so far. Parents who are self-employed and lone parents get the 30 hours; support will also be available for those who are away from the labour market temporarily. The statement shares the next key steps towards full implementation of the entitlement from 2017 and early implementation in some areas in 2016. Early implementation will test capacity, flexibility and innovation, as well as ensure that all eligible children can access the 30 hours.

### Further Developments Continued:

- A review of the costs of delivering the childcare has been undertaken to ensure a sustainable rate of funding to deliver the entitlement; the results will be part of the Autumn Statement.

### Wirral Implications:

- Capacity to respond to additional child care places (from 15 to 30 hours a week) based on the current profile of parents of 3 and 4 year olds. The current take-up of 3 and 4 year old places is 100%. At present there appears to be sufficient estimated growth for those 3 and 4 year old places for working parents to extend from 15 to 30 hours. Within the maintained and non- maintained childcare sector (over 450 new places have been registered in the last 12 months).
- However, the precise impact of the measures in the Bill and the additional capacity required to respond to all eligible three year olds, is currently unclear. This is due to further clarity being required on the implications of the proposed changes to the welfare reform and child care capacity, required to meet the demand from parents whose youngest child is three years old or older and who need to make themselves available for work. It is currently unclear if the conditions of grant (from 15 to 30 hours entitlement a week) extends to parents in training and/or education or if parents in training and/or education are exempt from making themselves available for work and if so for how long. There is currently very limited information with regard to implementation of the increased offer which will be piloted in 2016 with roll out planned for 2017.
- Capacity to provide places within schools – the impact on schools is even more unclear, and this has and will continue to be discussed with Head Teachers. Currently schools are being actively encouraged to extend provision to develop provision for disadvantaged 2 year olds. This has been supported by recent changes in legislation; in that schools providing or seeking to provide this facility, where they already provide 3 year old provision (F1), no longer require a separate Ofsted registration. This focus on the 2 year old offer could potentially limit capacity to deliver the extended offer for three and four year olds (from 15 to 30 hours a week), within the school environment. The offer is not a universal offer and is dependent on parents being in employment which is likely to make the administration of the offer of 30 hours for some children and schools more complex.
- Wirral has nearly 75% of its 2 year olds eligible to take up the offer for disadvantaged two year olds (not evenly spread across the Borough). The additional funding (available when a child is 3) may be seen as an incentive for those parents currently eligible for the free 2 year old entitlement, encouraging and enabling them to seek work or to extend hours of paid employment to take the family income above the benefits thresholds. We will work with partners such as Job Centre Plus and employment agencies to support an increase in the take up of the offer and actively seek to support parents to move to a work ready position.
- Identifying families - working together with Job Centre Plus we need to ascertain the current level of worklessness amongst parents with young children across Wirral in order to assess the potential need for additional capacity as parents move into employment. In addition, the wider impact of the Welfare Reforms needs to be better understood for this group of parents.

## Wirral Implications Continued:

- Impact on child poverty - for parents who move into work or extend their hours of employment this policy is seen as positively contributing to the targets to reduce child poverty within the Child Poverty Act, 2010. Many parents who intend to go back to work or enter employment do find the costs of childcare unaffordable. Whilst the additional childcare entitlement may make this more affordable, the wider implications of universal credits remain unknown.
- Identifying eligibility for take up – in Wirral, the current 3 and 4 year old funding is managed through the Early Years Business Support Team and the Finance Department. The current process to manage payments is labour intensive and will be made more complex to match eligibility for this new policy requirement.
- The pilot sites are yet to be determined and Wirral will bid to be included in any early delivery cohort, if it was deemed possible through the range of providers – work to ascertain the likelihood of this will be undertaken once the criteria is understood.
- There are implications about how we make information available about this change in eligibility for families, through the family information service and other communication mechanisms, to ensure maximum take up. This is being considered as part of the early years and children’s centre remodelling.
- Wirral’s childcare providers meet as part of local networks, and discussions to understand the impact of the Bill will be planned through children’s centre leads.

## Education and Adoption Bill

### Synopsis and Key Points:

#### Synopsis:

- The purpose of the Education and Adoption Bill is to strengthen the government's intervention powers in failing maintained schools. Separately the Bill introduces powers to deliver regional adoption agencies.

#### Key Points:

- The Bill would give Regional Schools Commissioners powers to bring in leadership support from other excellent schools and heads, and would speed up the process of turning schools into academies.
- An inadequate Ofsted judgment would usually lead to a school being converted into an academy, and barriers would be removed to ensure swift progress towards conversion.
- It would make schools that meet a new coasting definition, having shown a prolonged period of mediocre performance and insufficient pupil progress, eligible for academisation.
- A coasting definition will be set out in due course according to a number of factors.

### Further Developments:

- The Education and Adoption Bill had its reading at the House of Lords on the 20 October 2015. Line by line examination of the Bill took place during the third day of committee on 17 November. Amendments discussed covered clauses 9-13 and 17 of the Bill. A date for the report stage is yet to be scheduled.

#### **The Education Secretary, Nicky Morgan delivered a speech at Policy Exchange on 3 November 2015, about the government's reforms to promote educational excellence:**

- The Education and Adoption Bill will allow us to turn around failing schools much more quickly.
- We'll offer coasting schools the support and challenge they need to improve. Where they rise to that challenge we'll get out of the way, where they don't, we'll bring in new leadership and new sponsors.
- Evidence shows that excellent sponsors are making a real difference in some of our most challenging schools. We need such strong sponsors everywhere. A significant proportion of the underperforming local authorities are located in the north of England.
- To try and tackle this the Chancellor announced last year the creation of a Northern Sponsor fund of £10 million.
- The first recipients of that fund have been announced; they will set up 7 high-performing academy hubs in areas with some of the greatest need.
  
- The DfE is currently consulting on 'Schools Causing Concern: Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools: Guidance for local authorities and RSCs', a major revision of the 'Schools Causing Concern' guidance. The draft updates the guidance to take account of the Education and Adoption Bill currently and provides non-statutory guidance on related local authority functions.
- The consultation seeks views on the proposed definition of a mainstream school which is coasting as well as the options for developing a coasting definition for special schools and for pupil referral units. Consultation closes on 18 December 2015.

### Wirral Implications:

- Wirral has a strong commitment to improving standards in schools, and whilst this Bill is intended to strengthen the governments powers to intervene in “coasting schools”; the Council is continuously developing its approach, using all powers currently enshrined in regulation and guidance, to support and where necessary intervene to raise standards in schools. For example, from September 2015, Wirral has implemented a new approach to providing "school to school support". This is strengthening the approach of schools supporting each other to raise standards. Support is now being delivered through three clusters, each with a teaching school and a school improvement officer. An overarching Board involving head teachers from the clusters, chaired by the School Commissioning Manager, is providing the framework to drive this approach and monitor its effectiveness.
- In terms of the Adoption aspect of the Bill; discussions have taken place across the Liverpool City Region and a proposal has been submitted by the Government to develop some aspects of adoption practice on a regional footprint. Plans are being developed, supported by a government grant and a nationally selected partner organisation. Firm proposal will be submitted by March 2016 to progress this.

## Welfare Reform and Work Bill

### Synopsis and Key Points:

#### Synopsis:

- The overriding aim of the Bill is to reduce expenditure and “help to achieve a more sustainable welfare system.” A related aim is to support efforts to increase employment and “support the policy of rewarding hard work while increasing fairness with working households.”

#### Key Points:

- It is essentially a Bill of three parts. First, it will introduce a duty to report to Parliament on:
  - Progress towards achieving full employment.
  - Progress towards achieving 3 million apprenticeships in England.
  - Progress with the Troubled Families programme (England).
- Second, it will repeal almost all of the Child Poverty Act 2010 and introduce a new duty for the Secretary of State to report annually on “life chances”: children living in workless households and educational attainment at age 16, in England.
- Finally, the Bill allows for the introduction of extensive changes to welfare benefits, tax credits and social housing rent levels. These will account for around 70% of the £12-13 billion in welfare savings identified in the Summer Budget 2015. The welfare/housing measures include:
  - Lowering the benefit cap threshold and varying it between London and the rest of the UK.
  - A four year benefits freeze.
  - Limiting support through Child Tax Credits/Universal Credit.
  - The abolition of Employment and Support Allowance Work-Related Activity Component.
  - Changes to conditionality for responsible carers under Universal Credit.
  - Replacing Support for Mortgage Interest with Loans for Mortgage Interest.
  - Reducing social housing rent levels by 1% in each year for four years from 2016-17.

### Further Developments:

- A number of changes were made to the Welfare Reform and Work Bill at report stage. The Bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons on Tuesday, 27 October 2015. The Bill was introduced to the House of Lords on 28 October and passed its second reading on 17 November. The committee stage is scheduled to begin on 2 December.

### Wirral Implications:

- **Freeze Working Age Benefits** - This will impact on household disposable income, not previously frozen albeit uprating has been nominal 2013/14. This will potentially increase the strain on Wirral's Council Tax Support, Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP), Local Welfare Assistance (LWA) schemes, as more people apply; more people become entitled to support. With consequential harder to collect charges, key revenue streams such as Council Tax, charges in respect of adult social care, Benefits overpayments will be detrimentally affected. Rent arrears locally are expected to increase as with all cuts and will continue at least whilst (social) landlords maintain rent levels and annual increases in lieu on the 12% target reduction by 2020-21.

## Wirral Implications Continued:

- **Freeze Working Age Benefits Continued** -This will increase pressure on LA Housing Benefit services from Social Landlords which is evident already via the rent shortfall in Bedroom Tax and insufficient DHP. The recent judgement at the Upper Tier Tribunal, supporting the DWP position in Social Sector Size Criteria cases confirms that the activity to reduce the impacts of this reform have ultimately had little effect on a case by case basis at local level. In the private sector is may see a freezing of Local Housing Allowance rates which will give Private sector landlords further issue with taking on tenants who rely on HB. This is likely to have a consequential impact on the levels of people being threatened with homelessness in the Borough.
- **Cutting Household Benefit Cap** – This will certainly impact locally, regrettably we cannot identify how many within present caseload will be affected, nor by how much in monetary terms on a weekly basis, as DWP consider circumstances of household benefits in payment that LA are unable to identify from records held. The Percentage reduction to the total maximum in Benefits that can be paid are relatively high, with the maximum for couples reducing from 26k per annum and for a single claimants reducing from 20k to £13,400. The LA's HB service administers the Cap not the DWP who advise us of each situation. There are currently 60 cases live (but cases go on and off and DWP projected our numbers would be 130). The change would bring some case with a consequential impact on resources, both front and back of house. Those affected would have an increased reliance on other means of support, financial, Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP – annual cash limited budget) or the Local Welfare Assistance potentially (LW – finite residual budget as scheme no longer nationally funded). Likely impact will see increased problems for those in temporary accommodation with large families and again, for LA, placing the homeless or those at risk etc., then reliance on the limited discretionary schemes (DHP).
- **General Issues for Wirral/Benefits Service** -As a consequence of these changes, as impacts emerge, which will be ongoing, there will be a need to make provision for continued review of local schemes and policies with an increased reliance on any discretion the authority can, within its local policies and resources, exercise (again for example its LWA/DHP fund). The definition of 'vulnerable' will need review given the ratio of those reasonable deemed to be vulnerable which are those financially at risk, including dispossession. This will impact on key grant limited local schemes such as Council Tax Support Scheme which currently awards £27m pa in respect of 35, 230 recipients. This will provide a significant challenge for officers reviewing the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2016/17 onwards and will see collection issues increase as more people face difficulty paying, coupled with more strain on the scheme impacting on its capacity and ultimately having their national benefits reduced at source to pay Council Tax. Many people will be affected by more than one of the reforms outlined, which will present complexities, uncertainly and increased need for advocacy and advice, particularly if we are to ensure that their income, often translating to the Wirral Pound, is to be maximised. Broadly we can expect from these changes increased contact to service, both front facing public contact and back of house processing (including the Welfare Right Unit) and decision making services with an increased need and reliance on knowledgeable, experience, skilled resources, ensuring accessibility, thereby support where at all possible anti-poverty measures.

### Wirral Implications Continued:

• **Remove Housing Benefit from Young People** -18-21 year olds, this will see more remain at home where it may not be appropriate to do so which will see issues for householder with Housing Benefits non dependant charges being applied and more rent to pay (as adult is meant to contribute as resident). These cases which will increase provide issues for the LA with collection of information and provision of evidence of household occupants. There is also a risk of young people going missing from benefit record, with difficulties operationally in determining their primary place of residence which will be key given the increasing drive of the DWP to reduce level of error and fraud within Welfare Benefits.

## Policing and Criminal Justice Bill

### Synopsis and Key Points:

#### **Synopsis:**

- This legislation is intended to continue the reform of policing with the aim of enhancing protections for vulnerable people

#### **Key Points:**

- The Bill would ensure 17 years olds who are detained in police custody are treated as children for all purposes under PACE.
- In particular, the amendments to the provisions of PACE concerning 17 year olds include:
  - Ensuring an appropriate adult is present for drug sample taking;
  - Ensuring appropriate consent is granted by both the 17 year old and parent/legal guardian for a range of interventions, including intimate searches; and
  - The ability to impose conditional bail to ensure the welfare and interests of the 17 year old.
- Reforming legislation in relation to the detention of people under sections 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 to ensure better outcomes for those experiencing a mental health crisis.
  - Prohibiting the use of police cells as places of safety for those under 18 years of age and further reducing their use in the case of adults;
  - Reducing the current 72 hour maximum period of detention; and
  - Extending the power to detain under section 136 to any place other than a private residence.

### Further Developments:

- There are no further developments at this time. The Policing and Criminal Bill will be kept under review by the relevant officers with any future implications reported in future policy papers to Elected Members.

### Wirral Implications:

- **Appropriate Adult Provision-** The Youth Offending service is in support of this change and we have been anticipating it for over a year. For many years 17 year olds have not been treated as Youths in the Police custody suite / Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE) arena, which is inconsistent with other youth justice parameters. Therefore this change supports and recognises 17 years olds as still being youths and not adults during PACE interviews, processing and charging stages of detention.

Our **Appropriate Adult** (AA) services are already in place and will accommodate this wider age group. YOS provides this service by day and EDT by night. This may involve an increase in workload, however some 17 year olds who are detained in custody can be deemed to be Vulnerable Adults and the existing AA service covers youths and vulnerable adults anyway, so the increased workload may not be large.

We will monitor any increase in use of AA in respect of 17 years olds but this extension of age group now represents the same 10-18 year age group YOS and the youth courts accommodate, so this is more in line and consistent with other such youth justice services.

### Wirral Implications Continued:

• **Identification of Accommodation for those Young People detained-** The Merseyside Criminal Justice Board **Youth Detention Protocol** may also need to include 17 year olds and this may have an impact on the requirements for Local Authorities to find accommodation for 17 year olds who have been refused Police Bail and the LA has a duty to accommodate them. The compliance of this protocol is monitored by the Police Crime Commissioner and the existing Policy may change to include 17 years olds, and this would then have an impact on CYPS Specialist Services and demands to accommodate 17 year olds at short notice who have been refused Bail. I have attached the existing protocol as this currently only covers 10-16 year olds but maybe amended.

## Psychoactive Substances Bill

### Synopsis and Key Points:

#### **Synopsis:**

- The Queen's speech on 27 May 2015 included a commitment to bring forward new legislation to ban the new generation of psychoactive drugs. The Psychoactive Substances Bill is intended to protect people from the risks posed by untested, unknown and potential harmful drugs. The Bill will create a blanket ban which is seeking to prohibit and disrupt the production, distribution, sale and supply of new psychoactive substances (NPS) in the UK.
- For the purpose of the Bill, a psychoactive substance is a substance which is capable of producing a psychoactive effect in a person who consumes it and is not an exempted substance.

#### **Key Points:**

- The Bill will:
  - make it an offence to produce, supply, offer to supply, possess with intent to supply, import or export psychoactive substances; that is, any substance intended for human consumption that is capable of producing a psychoactive effect. The maximum sentence will be 7 years' imprisonment
  - exclude legitimate substances, such as food, alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, caffeine and medical products, from the scope of the offence, as well as controlled drugs, which will continue to be regulated by the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971
  - exempt specific persons from certain offences under the bill, such as healthcare professionals, who may have a legitimate need to use NPS in their work
  - include provision for civil sanctions – prohibition notices, premises notices, prohibition orders and premises orders (breach of the two orders will be a criminal offence) – to enable the police and local authorities to adopt a graded response to the supply of NPS in appropriate cases
  - provide powers to stop and search persons, vehicles and vessels, enter and search premises in accordance with a warrant, and to seize and destroy psychoactive substances

### Further Developments:

- The Public Bill Committee on the Bill has now concluded. The Bill will next be considered at report stage. A date for the report stage has not yet been announced.
- In the meantime it has attracted some criticism and with the Government's advisory body for drug misuse, the Advisory Council for the Misuse of Drugs (ACMD) making 8 recommendations for amendment, including a tighter definition of the drugs that the bill covers, greater clarification of the difference between potentially harmful and harmless substances to avoid possible prosecution of suppliers of benign or beneficial substances, a sharper focus on commercial supply rather than users. These recommendations have now been responded to by the Home Secretary.

### Wirral Implications:

**At this time there are not any apparent major implications for Wirral Local Authority however the following issues will need to be considered;**

- The local prevalence of the use of NPS is not known with any confidence so it would be valuable to carry out some sort of study to gain better

### Wirral Implications Continued:

knowledge of the nature and extent of the use of these substances by the Wirral population.

- There is some consideration for Trading Standards in terms of investigating the so called “Head Shops” and assessing their compliance with the content of the new bill. The bill is setting out to close down the sources of supply and these retail outlets are targets, so Trading Standards, and the Police, will need to consider looking at what their approach is going to be to these retailers, including possible prosecution of those found to be in contravention with the bill.
- The Trading standards and the Police will also need to consider their approach to pubs and clubs where it is found that NPS are being used on their premises.
- A general review of the harm reduction education information offered locally to those groups in the population likely to be possible consumers of NPS.

# Policy Developments

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## [Briefing: Ofsted and good practice examples: further education and skills](#)

Ofsted has published three new good practice examples on further education and skills: ‘Preparing vulnerable young people for employment – Developing Initiatives for Support in the Community’; ‘Helping women from disadvantaged backgrounds make a new start’; ‘Women’s Technology Training Limited’; and Using the power of football to involve, educate and inspire young people and their families: Foundation of Light.

### **‘Preparing vulnerable people for employment – Developing Initiatives for Support in the Community’**

Developing Initiatives for Support in the Community (DISC) provides education and training opportunities for vulnerable young people. Over a 26 week period training, counselling and optional one-to-one support sessions are provided to help develop the skills needed for adulthood.

### **‘Helping women from disadvantaged backgrounds make a new start: Women’s Technology Training Limited’**

Women’s Technology Training provide courses specifically for women to help them progress into further education or employment that meets the identified needs of local communities. A significant proportion of learners are refugees, asylum seekers, long term unemployed or carers, and around 40% are from minority ethnic groups.

### **Using the power of football to involve, educate and inspire young people and their families: Foundation of Light**

Foundation of Light, the registered charity of Sunderland Football Club, runs programmes that use football to encourage children, parents and carers to develop their English, Maths, and parenting skills. Courses are 10 to 12 weeks long and families who complete the course are awarded match tickets.

**Source:** [Martin Rogers, Briefing: Ofsted good examples: further education and skills, LGiU, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015](#)

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## [Briefing: People, places, possibilities: progress on local area coordination in England and Wales](#)

The report by the Centre for Welfare Reform in association with Inclusive Neighborhoods explores the implementation of local area coordination (LAC) in the UK, specifically in Derby City and Thurrock. It suggested that LAC can be a fundamental part of the health and social care system; through helping to build capacity in communities and reducing dependency on expensive statutory

services, LAC is helping to 'bring services back to core functions and principles and closer to the communities they serve.'

The report illustrates a range of benefits for communities where LAC has been implemented, including:

- An overall cost effectiveness
- Increased informal support networks
- Reduced isolation
- Services better integrated

The report recognises the challenges associated with implementing and maintaining LAC with a need for strong ongoing commitment and partnerships between the statutory sector and communities.

**Source:** [Christine Heron. Briefing: People, places, possibilities: progress on local area coordination in England and Wales, LGiU, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: The experiences of parents in the childcare market – Citizens Advice research**

This report by the Citizens Advice explores parent's experiences of the childcare market, concluding that the childcare system is not set up in the interests of working parents.

Parents found childcare to be expensive and inflexible, particularly those who require childcare at unusual hours, with some having to change jobs or leave the labour market altogether. For working parents sessions offered under free childcare provision were found to be very restrictive.

The report also outlines the complexity of available funding around childcare provision and the difficulties parents faced in finding the right childcare. It is concluded that parent's needs should be central in childcare policy. To support parents in continuing to work we need more flexible and affordable childcare and equitable access for all.

Citizens Advice provides a range of recommendations to help ensure this. These include:

- Local authorities providing greater support to parents to find childcare
- Local authorities working to ensure that there is truly flexible local provision available
- Employers offering greater flexibility to help parents balance work and childcare
- Central Government working towards a simplified range of provision, to make choosing childcare easier for parents
- Free childcare provision to be fully funded in a way that allows providers to offer childcare at times suitable for working parents, or;
- The "more radical option" of extending free provision to all 2, 3, and 4 year olds regardless of parents working status

**Source:** [Mark Upton. Briefing: The experiences of parents in the childcare market – Citizens Advice research. LGiU. 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015](#)

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## Commission on Assessments without levels – report of DfE response

The briefing outlines the ‘Final report on the Commission on Assessment without Levels’ and the Government response to this report.

The use of levels in assessment created too much focus on pace and progression onto the next level before ensuring pupils had a good knowledge and understanding of the curriculum.

It is argued that assessment without levels will take away the unnecessary burden of recording and tracking for teachers and allow them to instead use formative assessment methods to identify pupil’s strengths and gaps in knowledge and understanding.

The Commission encourages a move away from a focus on data to demonstrate progress, to schools instead developing their own approach that is effective in assessing pupil’s progress and supporting their achievement.

Guidance for developing clear and effective assessment policies is provided.

It is recognised that schools’ approaches are driven by expectations of what Ofsted inspectors are looking for and recommends that a ‘shared understanding of all aspects of summative and formative educational assessment’ is needed for school leaders and Ofsted.

A number of further recommendations and next steps are proposed by the Commission. The Government’s response to the Commission report is positive: ‘We support the Commission’s view that schools should place a higher value on day-to-day formative assessment’.

**Source:** [Kathy Baker. Briefing: Commission on Assessment without Levels – report and DfE response. LGiU. 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015](#)

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## Briefing: Private Tuition for school children and its impact

This briefing considers what is currently known about patterns of private tuition within the UK, its impact on educational outcomes and the various policy responses possible.

Private tuition for school-aged children is growing both in the UK and globally. Research found that the most affluent are the most likely to employ private tutors and children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds are much less likely to receive it.

Parent stated reasons for employing additional tutors were; to improve a child’s performance in an individual subject; to achieve the highest possible examination grade and; to improve a child’s self-confidence.

Much of the research on the impact of private tutoring on education attainment points to limited and mixed outcomes and it is hard to say with any certainty that it will have a positive impact.

The evidence of an impact on attainment at GCSE or A Level is limited in most subjects, although there is measurable impact in mathematics and science. Evidence suggests that tuition is much better if it is part of a long term approach rather than short term cramming for an exam or test.

The briefing concludes that the effective policy responses that should be considered include; considering some form of regulation including minimum standards and training of tutors and; the approach of the Sutton Trust and Educational Endowment Trust of actively engaging to ensure better access to additional study for those without the financial resources to pay.

**Source:** [Andrew Crompton. Briefing: Private Tuition for school children and its impact. LGiU. 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: Funding for disadvantaged pupils – PAC report**

The House of Commons Public Accounts Committee report sets out the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee's inquiry following the Nationalist Audit Office's value for money report and evidence taken from the DoE, the Education Endowment Foundation and two practicing head teachers.

The Permanent Secretary welcomed the NAO report, and 'endorsed everything written in it', pointing out that it was extremely timely 'because the Government has a lot of decision to take in the spending review and beyond about how it wishes to evolve policy'.

The reports provides an overview of progress made on the Department's objective of narrowing the attainment gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers, largely through the use of the Pupil Premium, and raises some key issues of concern for the administration of the Pupil Premium in the period ahead.

It argues that local authorities have an important role to play in a number of issues arising from the PAC inquiry, including; monitoring the effectiveness of Pupil Premium expenditure in schools in their area; making effective efforts to ensure that all parents eligible to claim free school meals do so and; providing support to schools that struggle to recruit high quality teachers.

**Source:** [Martin Rogers. Report: Funding for disadvantaged pupils – PAC report. LGiU. 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: The Family Justice Review: The Effect on Local Authorities**

The 'Impact of the Family Justice Reforms on Front-line Practice Phase One: The Public Law Outline' research report, published in August 2015, set out to gather the views of frontline practitioners as well as strategic managers on how reforms brought into place by the Children and Families Act 2014 and the resulting Practice Direction 12a are working in practice. This briefing summarises the

background to reform and the key points raised in the research. A phase two report is due to report in 2016.

Challenges to local authorities at this stage include effectively managing social worker workload, and ensuring budget allocations make clear where the funding for early pre assessment work is to come from.

A further key area of improvement for local authorities raised by the report is in supporting social workers to improve the quality of evidence provided to courts. The case manager role seems important and this research indicates that developing social worker confidence and competence in this area is key.

The report also suggests case managers can helpfully work alongside lawyers and local Family Justice Boards in tracking cases through the PLO process thereby improving partnership working.

**Source:** [Andrew Crompton, Family Justice Review: The Effect on Local Authorities, LGiU, 15<sup>th</sup> October](#)

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### **Briefing: Ofsted and CQC Consultation: inspection of local area SEND arrangements**

The DfE has requested that Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission inspect local areas on their effectiveness in fulfilling their duties. There will be a new form of inspection (under section 20 of the Children Act) and the present consultation seeks views on proposals for how they will be conducted.

The new proposals have been shaped by discussions over recent months held by Ofsted and CQC with young people, their parents and carers, disability and special educational needs support groups, local authorities and health groups about the most important responsibilities that should be inspected.

The common themes to emerge from all groups were that inspection should evaluate whether disabled children and young people and those who have special educational needs are identified properly and whether their needs are met and their outcomes improve.

The consultation includes a questionnaire for children and young people, in line with the intention that their views will be a significant aspect of the inspection themselves.

**Source:** [Martin Rogers, Ofsted and CQC consultation: inspection of local area SEND arrangements. LGiU. 22<sup>nd</sup> October.](#)

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## **Briefing: Key stage 3: The Wasted Years? – Ofsted survey**

This briefing outlines the Ofsted survey report ‘Key Stage 3: The Wasted Years?’

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector's (HMCI) Annual Report 2013-14, reported that primary schools had continued to improve but the performance of secondary schools had stalled.

It was identified that ‘...too often, the transition from primary to secondary school was poorly handled. Consequently, the gains made by pupils at primary school were not embedded and developed at Key Stage 3’.

The Ofsted survey was commissioned to gain a more accurate and detailed picture of this and identify any weaknesses in the Key Stage 3 curriculum.

The report concludes that Key Stage 3 must become a higher priority for secondary school leaders. A number of recommendations as to changes required are proposed for both school leaders and Ofsted.

A number of good practice case study examples are identified and summarised, suggesting ‘pockets of innovative practice that co-exist with other less effective approaches’.

It is argued that a tangible Government commitment to a national strategy on Key Stage 2/3 transition is needed, supported by funding and a clear sense of what is expected of schools.

**Source:** [Kathy Baker, Briefing: Key stage 3: The Wasted Years? – Ofsted survey, LGiU, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015](#)

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## **Briefing: Health and Social Care Devolution: a commentary**

Following the Greater Manchester Devolution Agreement, Greater Manchester and NHS England signed up to arrangements for local integration of NHS and social care budgets. At the same time the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill is making its way through parliament, proposing an ‘enabling’ framework within which devolution deals can be negotiated.

This briefing provides a summary of the developments thus far and highlights key issues in the debates in parliament on the Bill. It looks particularly at the compatibility of the Bill with current NHS legislation and issues around governance, accountability and overview.

The Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill is a framework Bill – it provides an enabling structure to transfer function of many public authorities, including NHS bodies, to local authorities. But it cannot be certain how far the powers will be used which raises questions about how the Bill fits with existing NHS law - the Bill is lacking detail.

So far, it is not clear how overspends will be dealt with and there is unlikely to be additional funding. It is also unclear what will happen about NHS debts and liabilities, including private finance initiatives and clinical negligence claims. Devolution highlights again how the boundary between free healthcare and means-tested social care can be negotiated.

[Janet Sillett, Health and Social Care devolution: a commentary, LGiU, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015.](#)

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### **Briefing: Care and Continuity: contingency planning for provider failure**

This briefing provides an overview of the business continuity and contingency planning guide to help councils plan and deal with social care provider failure.

The guide is delivered in two parts. Part 1 is an overview of the causes and potential mitigation of social care provider failure. It outlines the statutory and safeguarding obligations have in place in case of provider failure. Part 2 contains step-by-step guidance and checklists for developing continuity and contingency plans. These checklists can also be used to ensure that existing plans are fit for purpose.

The guide includes links to other useful and relevant resources. It has several case studies and materials from councils and a special section on working with insolvency practitioners.

**Source:** [Ingrid Koehler, Care and Continuity: contingency planning for provider failure, LGiU. 26<sup>th</sup> October.](#)

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### **Briefing: Post-16 Education and Training Institutions BIS Guidance on Area Reviews**

The government is seeking to reform post-16 education through a programme of area reviews, intended to cover all FE and Sixth Form colleges, some of which are likely to face closure or merger as a result. The reform is expected to produce fewer, larger and more specialised providers, including a network of new Institutes of Technology.

The briefing provides an overview of the guidance published by the BIS on performing these area reviews. The reviews will either be proactively initiated by a group of institutions in a local area, or by government where it sees a need to progress rapidly.

Each area review will be led by a local steering group, composed of a range of stakeholders including local authorities, LEAs, chairs of governors, and the FE and Sixth Form College Commissioners. Each review will proceed through a number of phases:

- An analysis of current provision and delivery arrangements in the area
- An options analysis

- Governing body deliberations
- Implementation

**Source:** [Toby Hill, Briefing: Post-16 Education and Training Institutions: BIS Guidance on Area Reviews, LGiU, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015.](#)

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### **DfE consultation – Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools**

The DfE is consulting on ‘Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools’ – a major revision of the May 2014 ‘Schools Causing Concern’ guidance. The draft contains non-statutory guidance on related local authority functions including how LAs should act as champions of excellence and school governance.

The draft consultation documents relate only to LAs maintained schools, though academies will be subject to the same general disciplines through RSCs, and local authorities are advised to alert the relevant RSC ‘where they have concerns’ about an academy.

RSCs are given considerable powers and discretion to act on behalf of the Secretary of State. The guidance is statutory for LAs, so that they have to ‘have regard’ to guidance.

The draft guidance describes three groups of school which will be eligible for intervention:

- Schools that have been judged inadequate by Ofsted
- Schools that are ‘coasting’ as defined by regulations
- Schools that have failed to comply with a warning notice satisfactorily

**Source:** [John Freeman, Briefing: DfE consultation – Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools, LGiU, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: Tackling social and educational inequality – Cambridge Primary Review Trust**

The Cambridge Primary Review Trust has published a review of UK international evidence ‘Mind the Gap: tackling social and educational inequality’ to establish whether unequal educational outcomes are related to social inequality.

The study found that the most important influence on educational attainment is family background including parental outcomes, educational background, and homes which provide an environment for study.

The review finds that educational attainment is better in more equal societies and that unequal educational outcomes are more profound in unequal countries not just for poorer children but across the social spectrum.

However, spending on education, including more targeted spending like the pupil premium can make a difference, but is most likely to do so in already successful schools. The authors conclude that reducing inequality will ultimately depend on reducing socio-economic inequality rather than educationally focused policies and interventions.

**Source:** [Mark Upton, Briefing: Tackling social and educational inequality – Cambridge Primary Review Trust, LGiU, 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015.](#)

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### **Briefing: The English Indices of Deprivation 2015**

The latest Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) for England was released on 30 September 2015.

The IMD is a huge dataset, ranging across the domains of employment, income, health, crime, environment, education, and skills, and housing and access to services; these various domains are combined to create various composite indicators. The IMD can be used at neighbourhood level or for a local authority area as a whole.

This briefing sets out the background and methodology of the IMD and presents a selection of results.

A preliminary analysis indicates a persistence of deprivation in parts of the north and midlands and parts of London, although London appears to be improving in relative terms; there appears to have been some deterioration in the position of some coastal areas.

Data produced from the IMD is of crucial importance for planning, targeting resources, and preparing funding bids.

**Source:** [Andrew Jones, Briefing: The English Indices of Deprivation 2015, LGiU, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: Apprenticeships: Delivering Skills for Future Prosperity – Ofsted Survey**

This briefing outlines the Ofsted report ‘Apprenticeships: Delivering Skills for Future Prosperity’. This report finds that a third of apprenticeships surveyed were failing to provide sufficiently high-quality training, suggesting that the drive to create more apprenticeships has diluted their quality.

Growth in apprenticeships has been concentrated in service sectors, where there are too many low-skilled roles being classified as apprenticeships.

Trailblazer apprenticeships, which are formulating the standards and assessment procedures of the government’s reformed apprenticeships, are delivering substantial and high-quality training. But they tend to be dominated by large employers.

Most new apprenticeships are going to the over-25s, the number of 16 to 18 year olds being taken on is as low today as it was a decade ago.

The report concludes that, as well as stifling the career opportunities of learners, low-quality apprenticeships devalue the brand at a time when the government is seeking to put vocational education on an equal footing with academic education.

A number of recommendations are provided for government, schools and providers of apprenticeships to ensure sufficient information and training opportunities are available.

**Source:** [Toby Hill, Briefing: Apprenticeships: Delivering Skills for Future Prosperity – Ofsted Survey, LGiU, 13th November 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: Building the right support: a national plan to develop community services for people with a learning disability and/or autism with behaviour that challenges**

Building the right support is the national plan to develop community services and close inpatient facilities for people with a learning disability and/or autism who display behaviour that challenges, including those with a mental health condition.

The national plan is a renewed push on the Transforming Care programme which has been seeking to drastically reduce the numbers of people who are inappropriately placed in NHS funded units.

Some progress has been made over the last four years of the programme. However, the problem remains that although discharges are taking place, people are also being admitted at a similar level, and some discharges are being delayed through lack of community options.

There is also significant variation in performance both of local areas and in regions; for example the regional variation in inpatient levels ranges from about 6 to 61 per million population.

The national plan will build on the progress so far, but with a greater focus on nationally supported implementation. The plan, which should be fully implemented by 2019, includes:

- The closure of between 35 to 50 percent of inpatient capacity across England
- Financial arrangements for shifting money from inpatient beds to community services – £75 million to aid transition over three years within the existing financial envelope
- Establishing 49 transforming care partnerships to drive local change
- A new national service model.

**Source:** [Christine Heron, Briefing: Building the right support: a national plan to develop community services for people with a learning disability and/or autism with behaviour that challenges, LGiU, 18th November 2015](#)

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## **Briefing: Joining the Dots: Have recent reforms worked for those with SEND? – policy research**

The Driver Youth Trust (DYT) is a charity dedicated to improving the life chances of children and young people who struggle with literacy, particularly children with dyslexia. This briefing outlines ‘Joining the Dots: Have recent reforms worked for those with SEND?’ published by DYT.

It is argued that wider changes to the way schools are organised and managed are having an impact on the provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and may be holding back the potential positive impact of changes brought in through the Children and Families Act of 2014.

The report suggests that changes to LA’s role, changes to funding, (structural school reforms through academisation, and the gradual emergence of a new ‘middle tier’ with cross-school responsibility have all contributed to increased fragmentation in approaches to pupils with SEND.

The report raises fundamental challenges to many elements of current school system reform, saying in its conclusions that “reform cannot come at the price of equity ... the next phase of reform must focus on ensuring all learners have the educational opportunities currently experienced by those lucky enough to be at the best schools and in the strongest parts of the system”.

Practical and realistic recommendations are made for policy-makers and regulators, local authorities, schools, sector organisations and Ofsted which will help to improve delivery of the SEND reforms. The report calls for immediate action to ensure that outcomes will be improved for a large group of young people who have been consistently let down by the system.

**Source:** [Andrew Crompton, Briefing: Joining the Dots: Have recent reforms worked for those with SEND? – policy research, LGiU, 19th November 2015](#)

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## **Briefing: Work and Pensions Committee Report: A Reconsideration of Tax Credit Cuts**

This report, by the Work and Pensions Committee (WPC), is the result of an inquiry into the changes to Tax Credits proposed in the July 2015 budget.

In particular, the WPC investigated the likely impacts on household incomes of proposals to reduce the earnings threshold for Tax Credits and raise the rate at which Tax Credits are withdrawn as income rises; these proposals are examined alongside any compensatory effects of a higher National Living Wage, a higher personal income tax threshold, and an extension of free child care.

The WPC argue that the proposed changes to Tax Credits will result in very substantial cuts to the incomes of working families which will not be fully compensated for by the other measures announced in the July Budget.

The report also considers possible ways of mitigating the impacts of the cuts to Tax Credits; it concludes that altering the income threshold or the rate at which income is withdrawn cannot simultaneously meet the objectives of protecting the incomes of low income households, maintaining work incentives, or reducing expenditure.

The report concludes by suggesting that a limit has been reached to cuts in working age benefits and states an intention to investigate the generational balance of welfare expenditure over the course of this Parliament.

**Source:** [Andrew Jones, Briefing: Work and Pensions Committee Report: A Reconsideration of Tax Credit Cuts, LGiU, 19th November 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: School improvement: effective school partnerships – DfE research review**

This briefing outlines the research review of evidence commissioned by the DfE from Dr Paul Armstrong, 'Effective school partnerships and collaboration for school improvement: a review of the evidence'.

A key shift within the English school system, particularly since 2000, has been an increase in the number of schools working together in both formal and informal arrangements.

The report provides a comprehensive review of inter-school collaboration research and how and why schools go into a variety of partnerships, their different formations as well as challenges to the effectiveness and sustainability of these arrangements.

It is concluded that there is 'a paucity of independent empirical evidence relating to inter-school collaboration, across a number of areas', with the majority of evidence emanating from evaluations of central government initiatives.

The report highlights a number of gaps in the knowledge base. Two key areas are recommended for further exploration:

- a coherent and comprehensive mapping of the system in relation to the volume, diversity and key characteristics of inter-school collaboration;
- the impact of inter-school collaboration on the attainment and broader educational experience of students.

**Source:** [Kathy Baker, Briefing: School improvement: effective school partnerships – DfE research review, LGiU, 25th November 2015](#)

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## **Briefing: The costs and benefits of paying all the lowest-paid care home workers in the UK the Living Wage**

‘The costs and benefits of paying all the lowest-paid care home workers in the UK the Living Wage’ by Joseph Rowntree investigates the incidence of earnings below the Living Wage (LW) in care homes for older people, and the costs and benefits of increasing pay to this level.

The report also investigates some of the implications of the new National Living Wage (NLW) ahead of its introduction in April 2016.

After this report was published there was growing concern over the rising costs of adult social care which would be worsened by the introduction of the NLW.

It is estimated that if the LW were extended to all employees in the sector earning below the LW in 2014, the total annual cost to employers would rise by £996.2m. Total wage costs of the NLW would be £387m for the UK, which is considerably less than the transition to the LW.

It is concluded that government funding required would be relatively small and the gross cost of funding a LW settlement for England for would be offset by increases in NI and tax and benefit reductions. Funding the LW would bring significant benefits in the form of improved staff retention and motivation, and a reduction in in-work poverty.

**Source:** [Andrew Jones, Briefing: The costs and benefits of paying all the lowest-paid care home workers in the UK the Living Wage, LGIU, 26th November 2015](#)

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## **Briefing: English Baccalaureate implementation – DfE consultation**

This briefing is on the DfE Consultation on implementing the English Baccalaureate launched on 3 November 2015. In support of this, the DfE has published Statistical release: EBacc and non-EBacc subject entries and achievement 2010/11 to 2014/15, a Press Release, Nicky Morgan: no tolerance of areas where majority of pupils fail and a speech, Nicky Morgan: one nation education made by the Secretary of State at a Policy Exchange event also on 3 November.

The DfE press release described the consultation as ‘the next phase of the Government’s education reform package designed to tackle underperformance and deliver on the Government’s commitment to give every child an excellent education’.

In June 2015, the Government announced its intention that all pupils starting year 7 in September 2015 take the EBacc subjects when they reach their GCSEs in 2020. This current consultation is about implementing this commitment. The Government’s goal is that over time at least 90% of pupils in mainstream secondary schools will enter the EBacc.

The Government recognise that the current proposals have implications for increased numbers of teachers of EBacc subjects, particularly for numbers of teachers of languages.

The consultation invites responses to cover the challenges and issues for consideration by schools, their experiences of teacher recruitment and retention in EBacc subjects and the central strategies that schools would like to see in place for recruitment and training in this area.

The briefing warns that changes overall will bring a host of practical problems to schools. The Government does need to listen very carefully to the practical experience that schools bring to this consultation and be prepared to adapt the detail of its proposals accordingly.

The deadline for the DfE consultation on implementing the EBacc is 29 January 2016.

**Source:** [Kathy Baker, Briefing: English Baccalaureate implementation – DfE consultation, LGiU, 1st December 2015](#)

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### **Briefing: Bullying of young people: Recent Research in England and Scotland**

The Department for Education (DfE) published *Bullying: evidence from the second longitudinal study of young people in England* in November 2015. The study provides up to date data on prevalence, types of bullying and characteristics of those bullied in England.

This report is considered in the context of wider international work on bullying and its impact, including an increasingly public health focus in the United States of America and asks whether such a policy focus would also be helpful in England.

The research study which started in 2013, builds on the first longitudinal study of young people in England (LSYPE) which ran from 2004 to 2010. It fills a gap in reporting on this topic since the demise of the national indicator set, and comes to the general conclusion that bullying is declining in schools in England, as well as providing some interesting and more up to date detail of the experiences of children and young people.

**Source:** [Andrew Crompton, Briefing: Bullying of young people: Recent Research in England and Scotland, LGiU, 2nd December 2015](#)

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# Useful Sources

## Autumn Statement and Spending Review

### Key Announcements:

[Chancellor George Osborne's Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015, Government website, speech, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Full speech*

[Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015: key announcements, Government website, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Key announcements emerging from the statement*

[Department of Health's settlement at the Spending Review 2015, Government website, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Impacts of the spending review for the Department of Health*

Briefing: Autumn Statement and spending review 2015, APSE, November 2015 – *Analysis of the Autumn Statement and Spending Review and the impact local council frontline services*

[Department for Education's settlement at the Spending Review 2015, Government website, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Impacts of the spending review for the Department for Education*

[Department for Communities and Local Government's settlement at the Spending Review 2015, Government website, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Impacts of the Spending Review for DCLG*

[Lauren Lucas, Briefing: The Spending Review and Autumn Statement, LGiU, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Key points emerging from the statement*

### Further Analysis and Impact on Local Government and Partners:

[LGA Responds to 2015 Spending Review, Lord Porter, Chairman of the Local Government Association, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *LGA response to the spending review*

[Home Office's settlement at the Spending Review 2015, Government website, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Impacts of the spending review for the Home Office*

[Department of Health's settlement at the Spending Review 2015, Government website, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Impacts of the spending review for the Department of Health*

[LGA responds to Education Services Grant announcement, Cllr Roy Perry, Chairman of the LGA's Children and Young People Board, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Outlines the Education Services Grant announcement and highlights concerns*

Briefing: Autumn Statement and spending review 2015, APSE, November 2015 – *Analysis of the Autumn Statement and Spending Review and the impact local council frontline services*

[LGA responds to national schools funding announcement in Spending Review, LGA, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Brief outline of the impact of the new national funding formula*

[Laura Sharman, Spending Review: Warning that councils at financial tipping point, LocalGov, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Impacts of the Spending Review for council budgets and services*

[William Eichler, Spending Review: Local authorities to retain 100% of business rates, LocalGov, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Outlines Business Rates Retention for councils*

[Department for Communities and Local Government's settlement at the Spending Review 2015, Government website, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Impacts of the Spending Review for DCLG*

## Childcare Bill

[Childcare Bill 2015-16, Parliamentary website](#) – *Previous debates on all stages of the Childcare Bill and any latest updates*

[John Fowler, Childcare Bill, LGiU, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015](#) – *Brief analysis of the Childcare Bill*

[Government Press Release: Government brings forward plans to double free childcare for working families, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015](#) – *Details current childcare entitlement and changes*

[Government Speech: Sam Gyimah: we are in a golden age of childcare, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Details developments of the childcare entitlement and achievements so far*

## Education and Adoption Bill

[Education and Adoption Bill, Parliamentary website](#) – *Previous debates on all stages of the Education and Adoption Bill and any latest updates*

[Government Press Release: Hundreds of 'coasting' schools to be transformed, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015](#) – *Outlines draft regulations to be implemented by 2016 and defines the term 'coasting schools'*

[Andrew Crompton, Coasting Schools: Draft Regulations, LGiU, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015](#) – *Brief analysis of coasting schools and draft regulations*

[Government Speech: Nicky Morgan: one nation education, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015](#) – *Brief detail of the Bill and the Northern Sponsor Fund*

[John Freeman, DfE consultation - Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015](#) – *Brief outline of draft guidance*

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[House of Commons, Briefing Paper- Welfare Reform and Work Bill, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015](#) – *Brief analysis of the Welfare Reform and Work Bill*

[Welfare Reform and Work Bill, Parliamentary website](#) - *Previous debates on all stages of the Childcare Bill and any latest updates*

[Andrew Jones, The Welfare Reform and Work Bill: Welfare Reform Update, 20<sup>th</sup> August 2015](#) – *Brief overview of the Bill and any latest updates*

## Psychoactive Substances Bill

[Psychoactive Substances Bill, Parliamentary website](#)- *Previous debates on all stages of the Psychoactive Substances Bill*

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