

Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

Work Programme – 6 Month Progress Report

Lead Member – Councillor Margaret Fearnley

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION ITEMS	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Progress of the Safeguarding Commission Recommendations (September)	In September 2010 Lorraine Hansom, Programme Director for Safeguarding Improvements gave an update on the progress made in implementing the agreed recommendations of the Report of the Kirklees Safeguarding Commission. The panel have subsequently created a progress report outlining positive highlights and areas of concern. The panel are currently formulating conclusions and recommendation and the Progress Report will be signed off at the January Panel meeting.
Preventative Support to Families (CAF)	In July the panel decided to use the update of the Safeguarding Report Recommendations to help inform the direction of the Preventative Support item on the Panel's work programme. Following a discussion by the panel at the September meeting the panel agreed to concentrate on identifying areas of development within the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). At the meeting in October the panel received a briefing on the background to CAF as well as beginning to identify potential areas of development. The panel will continue to gather evidence around the CAF in the new year and have indicated that they would like to speak with CAF co-ordinators as part of this work.
School Arrangements (October)	John Edwards, Assistant Director of Learning and Lynette Cassidy, Senior Improvement Manager BSF updated the panel on the current position of School Arrangement, focusing on the impact on schools, since the end of the Building Schools for the Future Project. The panel discussed both the positive ambitions and collaborative working of schools brought about by the BSF programme and the challenges that have arisen from the loss of BSF funding.
ARISING ISSUES	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Educational Attainment and Safeguarding Performance*	In August it was agreed with the Director of Children and Young People, that Scrutiny would establish a Sub Group to receive performance information on the Council's statutory functions e.g. Safeguarding & Looked After Children Issues and School & Educational Performance. The first subgroup meeting was held in November. A Safeguarding Management performance Report was presented by Paul Johnson, Assistant Director Family Support & Child Protection and Andrew Wainwright,

	Business Support Manager Children & Families. The panel will be holding the next Sub Group meetings in February and March 2010. The panel heard that there have been some positive outcomes, with some young people taking up training and going on into further education; although the GCSE level results for LAC could have been better, many have made good improvements.
Connexions (NEET)	Following the attempt by non-executive councillors to call in the decision to approve reductions to the Connexions Workforce. It was agreed to create a Scrutiny Sub Group that would look to gather a clear understanding of the role. Evidence gathered at the Sub Group will be fed into the wider topic of NEET on the panel's work programme.
Call In Primary Capital Programme (November)	On the 30 November the Children and Young People panel received and noted the Call-In raised in relation to the decision taken by Cabinet on 9 November regarding 'Primary Capital Programme – Implementation of the building works required to support the primary sector reorganisation in Cleckheaton and Gomersal'. The Call in was held on the 7 th December 2010 at Batley Town Hall.
Role of the Authority as a Corporate Parent* (October)	<p>In October, the panel attended an interactive training session on Corporate Parenting. The session allowed councillors to find out more about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Parenting, • Issues surrounding children and care leavers, • the role and responsibilities of Councillors • information on the Independent Visitors Scheme, • the Kids in Care website, • the Children in Care Council and; • regulation 33 visits. <p>The panel took part in a number of exercises and had the chance to speak to children who have been in care. It was a very positive training session, attended by a number of Councillors and Co-optees. The young people that attended and were involved in the interactive sessions made very good presentations.</p>
ASSIGNED TASKS	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Child Trust Arrangements	There have been 2 meetings of the Trust held since the last report. The Trust used a workshop approach to enable all the partners to contribute in an effective manner. The aim was to find a better, closer way of working; especially with the budget cuts and to ensure continued benefits to young children. There has been a common statement of intent (The Pledge) developed, with contributions from the LAC group and ensuring that it is presented in a language

	appropriate and understandable for all. It is suggested that the Children's Centres will be more focused. It is useful for the panel to use the information presented at the Trust to help inform the work of the panel e.g. reduction in teenage pregnancy. A further meeting is to be held in January.
Early Years Child Care Provision	<p>Cllr Pattison and Kirsten Barker had an initial briefings session with Andrew Pennington in September 2010. This led to an evidence gathering session with Carole Pickburn, Carol Lancaster and Karen Murray and covered the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the range of childcare provision available in Kirklees • Understanding the demand and take up of childcare provision and identification of barriers to take-up • Identifying lessons learnt from the Family Intervention Programme and engaging with the most disadvantaged families. <p>More meetings are scheduled in the new year, as well as arrangements to meet with parents and members of the public to seek their views.</p>
Health Inequalities Programme (Joint AT with Well-Being & Communities Panel)	<p>Cllrs Parchment and Scott have led on this assigned task on behalf of the Panel. A first meeting was held with the Programme Manager, Director of Public Health, and Assistant Director: Well-Being & Integration, to discuss the role of scrutiny and identify the terms of reference for this assigned task. It was agreed that scrutiny would focus on providing a challenge to the implementation of the programme, and that they would also be consulted initially on how councillors could be engaged in the programme. A second meeting was held on 6th December, when the Group started to challenge the programme's implementation and offered guidance on wider councillor engagement. The Group will meet again at the beginning of March.</p>
LEAD MEMBER BRIEFING ISSUES	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Educational Attainment of Looked after Children	<p>5th November 2010 Paul Johnson and Andrew Wainwright</p> <p>In consultation with Alison O'Sullivan. It was agreed to set up a specific sub group to hear this information* (See above)</p>
Role of Authority as a Corporate Parent	<p>28th October 2010 Cllr Harris – This was moved to a wider training and development session as it was felt the briefing session would be of benefit to the whole panel* (See above)</p>
Lead Member/Cabinet Member Briefing	<p>2nd September 2010 Cllr Harris and Cllr Ken Smith – (BSF/School (Arrangements, 14-19 Agenda, NEET, Teenage Conception, Proposals for New Children's Home)</p>

LEAD MEMBER – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
<p>There has been good attendance by panel members all contributing well to discussions. I especially value the contributions, time and work done by the co-optees. There have been two additional Sub Group Meetings and One Call-In, which has added to the workload of the panel.</p>

Development and Environment Scrutiny Panel

Work Programme – 6 Month Progress Report

Lead Member – Councillor Ken Sims

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION ITEMS	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Streetscene	<p>At the meeting in September Panel members were presented with an update on the progress of the formation of the new Streetscene service. The briefing covered the background to the service and key aspects such as staff structure, changes to working practice, organisation development and communication.</p> <p>Following the briefing the Panel agreed the terms of reference which covers three areas of focus: communication, organisation and delegation. Plans to move forward with this work has been delayed due to difficulties in obtaining information and a fact finding visit to one of the trial areas, Spen valley, has been put on hold pending further discussions with Officers.</p>
Local Development Framework	<p>At the October meeting Panel members were given an update on the progress of the LDF core strategy. The presentation included details on how the authority arrived at the preferred option and information on the consultation arrangements.</p> <p>The Panel has agreed to focus on the consultation process, methodology, policy and realism of the plan. At the November meeting the Panel together with invited members of the all party LDF working group were presented with a dry run of the consultation. The session allowed Panel members an opportunity to give feedback on the proposed consultation arrangements.</p>
Kirklees Economic and Sustainable Investment Strategy.	<p>The Panel has yet to start work on reviewing this developing strategy which will outline the current economic position in Kirklees and set out the Council's plans over the coming years.</p>
ARISING ISSUES	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Kirklees Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment	<p>Following new Flood Risk Regulations the Local Authority will be required to prepare a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment Report which has to be submitted to the Environment Agency by June 2011.</p> <p>Guidelines suggest that Scrutiny be encouraged to carry out</p>

	a review of the report and following an approach from Strategic Drainage officers it has been agreed to set up a small task group to undertake this review.
ASSIGNED TASKS	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Winter Maintenance	Work is ongoing to review the effectiveness of the Council's revised winter plan which includes a focus on how effective the plan was in responding to local need. Cllr Iredale who is leading this task has indicated that a report should be ready by March 2011.
Renewal of Crematoria and Cemeteries	Panel members have received initial background information and agreed the main key lines of enquiry. A questionnaire has been sent to members of the bereavement service partnership to help inform the review and a meeting with officers is being planned for the early part of next year. A report should be ready by March 2011.
LEAD MEMBER BRIEFING ISSUES	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Regeneration Schemes Skills Gaps in Kirklees Workforce Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative Recession in Kirklees 	<p>There have been three briefing sessions held with Cabinet members which have covered all of the items included in the Panel work programme as well as updates on Cabinet priorities.</p> <p>In addition all Assistant Directors have been seen and more sessions are planned with the aim of obtaining further updates on the areas of work being covered by scrutiny and emerging issues.</p>

LEAD MEMBER – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
<p>Progress on the Streetscene issue has been partly hampered by the changes that have taken place during the recent senior management restructuring exercise particularly as two of the newly appointed senior managers have had no prior involvement in the development of the Streetscene service.</p> <p>The difficulties in moving forward with the review of Streetscene during this period of senior management transition means there is a possibility that the panel may not have sufficient time available to cover all of the planned work by the end of this municipal year.</p>

Resources Scrutiny Panel

Work Programme – 6 Month Progress Report

Lead Member – Councillor Julie Stewart-Turner

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION ITEMS	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Asset Strategy Key Officer(s): Joanne Bartholomew Mark Gregory	<p>8 September 2010 - The panel was presented with the outline Asset Strategy and informed that the cost to the council to manage and maintain its assets is approximately £50m each year.</p> <p>27 October 2010 – Officers presented the panel with a more detailed map which clearly identified the different types of assets.</p> <p>Following detailed panel discussion it was agreed that officers would hold discussions with services and undertake a desk top exercise pulling together various strands of information which will be presented to the panel in January prior to the information being taken to Town & Valley Committees.</p>
ICT Strategy Key Officer(s) Laura Rawnsley Susan Betteridge	<p>20 July 2010 – The panel was presented with an initial outline of the ICT Strategy and was informed that the ‘Mirror Report’ had highlighted that there are many different systems operating across the Council that had been purchased for individual service needs. The aim therefore is to create a ‘one’ council approach to ICT.</p> <p>24 November 2010 – The panel was updated on the ICT Strategy, particularly the things that had changed since the panel was last briefed on the issue. For example the change in management structures and the scale of the financial challenge.</p> <p>Fundamental to this strategy will be looking at the way in which people currently work and creating the right behaviours and culture within the organisation.</p>
Procurement Strategy Key Officer(s) Susan Betteridge Bob Kilcoyne Victoria Podgorski Jane Fearnley	<p>17 August 2010 – The panel received an initial briefing on the procurement strategy, which has many different strands to it.</p> <p>27 October 2010 - The panel received a further update on the progress being made on the procurement strategy.</p> <p>The strategy goes to Cabinet in the new year and the panel was asked for suggestions as to who should be consulted as part of the process.</p>
ARISING ISSUES	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Strategic Approach to Community Events Key Officer(s) Kimiyo Rickett/Adele Poppleton	<p>This issue was originally a lead member briefing item however, following a briefing session with Kimiyo Rickett and Adele Poppleton, it was felt that an issue of such complexity needed to be discussed by the full panel.</p>
Panel Recommendation(s)	<p>Rec 1 On the standard report template (i.e for Cabinet) an additional box should be added to include an impact statement on what has been done to gauge the public’s reaction” to the action being proposed.</p> <p>Response from Cabinet Member: EMG is to be advised of the intention to change the report writing guidance on Consultations to take account of the panel’s comment re impact of decisions. Subject to them not raising any concerns the guidance note will be amended.</p>

	<p>Rec 2 More resources should be allocated to adequately deliver the Employee Well-being and support agenda, even on a short term basis, while the organisation is going through significant transition. The Council should also explore the possibility of resources being shared across West Yorkshire, linking up with other authorities in order to make the best use of resources.</p> <p>Response from Cabinet Member: Cllr Khan has asked Julie Alderson to write to Cllr ST setting out the assistance that the Council currently provides employees to help mitigate the effects of the transition period the Council has entered.</p>
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ASSIGNED TASKS

Issue	Update (December 2010)
Marketplace Key Officer(s) Jane Fearnley	Cllr David Ridgway and Linda Summers (Voluntary Co-optee) are undertaking an assigned task looking at the Council's Marketplace Procurement System. Primarily looking at: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorrect Marketplace implementation 2. The use of confirmation orders to pay invoices rather than to raise a purchase order 3. Marketplace structure does not match the present structure of the Council.
Customer Excellence Report	Cllr David Hall presented this report to Cabinet on the 9 November 2010. Response from Cabinet: <i>'the relevant Scrutiny Panel monitor the implementation of the Council's One Council and One Partnership approach to Customer Excellence and provide updates to the appropriate Cabinet Portfolio Holder'.</i>

LEAD MEMBER BRIEFING ISSUES

Issue	Update (December 2010)
Lead Member/Cabinet Member Briefings – Cllr Mehboob Khan Employee Support and Well-Being Customer Strategy	<p>6 Sept - Joanne Bartholomew –briefing on the Asset strategy 6 Sept - Jane Brady briefing on the Customer Strategy 9 Sept - Lead Member Cabinet Member briefing sharing of Scrutiny and Cabinet Priorities</p> <p>9 Sept - Ros Jones employee Support & Wellbeing 21 Sept - Kim Brear (Employee Well-Being Champion) 27 Sept – Victoria Podgorski/Susan Betteridge – Procurement 27 Sept – Laura Rawnsley briefing on ICT Strategy 28 Sept – Kimiyo Rickett/Adele Poppleton – Strategic approach to Community Events 4 Oct – Communication 9 Nov – Lead Member Cabinet Member briefing – sharing priorities and discussing panel recommendations 26 Nov – Julie Alderson – sharing priorities with the Interim Director of Resources.</p>

LEAD MEMBER – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

After discussions with Directors and the panel, I think that we will need to include HR in our work programme as soon as we can make time in the New Year. Attendance by the Panel Members has been good, and they are working very well together. The issues we're covering are complex, technical and changing rapidly, so everyone is doing well keeping up with them.

We have a new Community Co-optee who has joined us after the start of the year but has fitted in well with other Panel Members. Jenny has been excellent at supporting the Panel with such a challenging programme.

Well-Being & Communities Scrutiny Panel

Work Programme – 6 Month Progress Report

Lead Member – Councillor Jean Calvert

FULL PANEL DISCUSSION ITEMS	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Dementia	The former Adults & Healthier Communities Scrutiny Panel had contributed to the development of the new dementia strategy during 2009/10. The Panel therefore requested a briefing from the Assistant Director: Personalisation & Commissioning in September on the progress in implementing the dementia strategy and were satisfied with this. However the availability of information and support to those who have been diagnosed remained of concern. Dementia has therefore been included as one of the long term conditions being looked at as part of the 'Early Diagnosis – Long Term Conditions' project.
Reconfiguration of Mental Health Services	Cllr Calvert and Karin Westeman met with representatives from South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust, including the Chief Executive, in September to receive an update on the reconfiguration. It was agreed that further meetings would be scheduled in quarterly, and a date for the next meeting is being sought in January.
Personalised Budgets	The Panel met with the Strategic Transformation Programme Lead in September to be briefed on personal budgets and spent time ensuring that they understood the process and how this worked in practice for individuals. It was agreed that a further update should be brought in February, with an additional briefing on other aspects of the 'Putting People First' agenda.
Early Diagnosis – Long Term Conditions	<p>In July, the Panel identified their main project of this year focusing on the accessibility of information and advice for those diagnosed with long term conditions. The increasing focus on early diagnosis has resulted in large numbers of patients being diagnosed whilst their condition may not be far enough advanced to warrant significant medical attention. It is important that patients and their families/carers are able to access information and advice on how to manage their condition; however the Panel is aware that it is often difficult to know where this can be accessed.</p> <p>The Panel has met with a number of witnesses to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joanne Crewe, Head of Long Term Conditions, NHS Kirklees • Sarah Muckle, Consultant in Public Health, NHS Kirklees • Janine Bestall, Self Care Portfolio Manager, NHS Kirklees

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Macdonald, Group Manager: Access & Assessment, Kirklees Council • Amanda Foxley, Commissioning Manager, Kirklees Council • Julian Grove Haworth, Coordinator, LINK • Denzil Nurse, LINK Steering Group <p>The Panel has asked the Head of Long Term Conditions to return in January with information on where the 'hotspots' for long term conditions are located within Kirklees and the plans that are in place for working in these areas, with a particular emphasis on how they are working with the voluntary sector.</p> <p>The next stage of the project focuses on evaluating user experiences of accessing services and support from the Council, health organisations, and the voluntary sector. This will include: assessment of navigability of websites; assessment of satisfaction surveys/compliments/complaints; meeting with user groups and expert patients; GP survey; and visits including one to observe the telehealth service in January.</p>
Scrutiny of Crime and Disorder	<p>The January meeting of the Panel has been set aside to focus on scrutiny of crime and disorder, and will fulfil the statutory requirement to hold a dedicated crime and disorder meeting once a year. Cllr Calvert is seeking to consult Kiran Bali, Police Authority representative on the Panel, on the content of this meeting.</p> <p>Items scheduled for consideration include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to alcohol licensing and anti-social behaviour • Proceeds of crime and how these are used to benefit the community • Integrated offender management
New Health Arrangements	<p>Members of the Panel attended a joint meeting with OSMC on 14 September to be briefed on the implications of the new Health White Paper. At this meeting, members contributed to the Council's response to the Government consultation.</p> <p>In November, the Panel met with Merran Mcrae, Director for Well-Being & Communities, to be briefed on specific elements of the new health arrangements including the Health & Well-Being Board and the local Healthwatch.</p> <p>Going forward the Panel will maintain a watching brief on developments and are awaiting the publication of the Health Bill. The Panel hope to meet with Merran Mcrae and Judith Hooper in January/February to explore the implications of the Health Bill and Public Health White Paper.</p>
Anti-Social Behaviour and Fear of Crime	<p>In September, the Panel considered the final report summarising the findings and recommendations of the former Safer Stronger Communities Scrutiny Panel's project</p>

	<p>looking at the Cabinet priority of reducing anti-social behaviour, and particularly focusing on alcohol related anti-social behaviour. Members recognised that since the former Panel's research into this issue in the autumn of 2009 there had been a change in Government which had resulted in a number of current consultations proposing changes to the handling of anti-social behaviour and alcohol licensing. It was therefore felt that the information within the report was no longer up to date. However, members agreed that as they still supported the recommendations it would be appropriate for Cllr Calvert to share these with the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities. This was subsequently done.</p> <p>Members also agreed that the Council's Licensing Manager should be asked to attend their January meeting, focusing on crime and disorder, to provide an update on the new legislation on alcohol licensing and how this has impacted on anti-social behaviour in town centres.</p>
Community Cohesion Strategy	The Panel is keen to be involved in the early stages of refreshing the Strategy and are waiting to meet with the Assistant Director: Communities and Leisure. This specific piece of work has slipped due to the volume of other work being undertaken by the Panel.
ARISING ISSUES	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
NHS Single Equality Scheme 2010-13 Consultation	The Panel was consulted on the draft NHS Single Equality Scheme 2010-13 in October and asked NHS Kirklees' Director of Corporate Services a number of questions focusing on: the scope of the consultation and wider engagement; the potential impact of the Comprehensive Spending Review on the proposed actions; and the indicators in place to measure equal opportunities. These were taken on board and fed into the wider consultation.
Vascular Services Review	Cllr Calvert met with representatives from NHS Kirklees and Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Trust in November to discuss the proposed changes to vascular services. Following this, NHS Kirklees attended the Panel in December to brief all members on the Vascular Services Review and to invite comments from members.
Transforming Community Services	NHS Kirklees asked to attend a meeting of the Panel to brief members on the process being followed by KCHS to become a social enterprise. An additional meeting was scheduled on 7 th December to accommodate this request, in advance of its consideration at the Trust Board meeting on 15 th December.

Dermatology Service Review	The Panel was consulted on the Dermatology Service Review by NHS Kirklees in December.
ASSIGNED TASKS	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Pain Management (Follow Up of Recommendations from earlier Scrutiny project)	Cllr Smaje is leading on this assigned task on behalf of the Panel. Cllr Smaje met with the Director of Public Health and Assistant Director: Well-Being & Integration on 6 th December to discuss progress on the recommendations and noted the significant impact of scrutiny in achieving progress. Contact has also been made with the University to follow up the recommendations appropriate to them and a meeting will be arranged in the New Year.
Social Isolation (follow up of recommendations from 'Independence without Isolation' project)	Cllr Smaje is leading on this assigned task on behalf of the Panel. The Social Isolation Action Learning Group met in September to start monitoring the implementation of recommendations from the 'Independence without Isolation' project. Progress is starting to be made in some areas, although much depends on budgets. The Action Learning Group will meet again early in the New Year and hope to involve carers in the meeting.
Health Inequalities Programme (Joint AT with Children & Young People Panel)	Cllr Smaje and Geoff Hughes have led on this assigned task on behalf of the Panel, and Liz Goldthorpe has now joined the Group. A first meeting was held with the Programme Manager, Director of Public Health, and Assistant Director: Well-Being & Integration, to discuss the role of scrutiny and identify the terms of reference for this assigned task. It was agreed that scrutiny would focus on providing a challenge to the implementation of the programme, and that they would also be consulted initially on how councillors could be engaged in the programme. A second meeting was held on 6 th December, when the Group started to challenge the programme's implementation and offered guidance on wider councillor engagement. The Group will meet again at the beginning of March.
Impact of Changes to Respite Care Services – North Kirklees	Following a referral from the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee in November, a small group of members from the Panel have agreed to take forward this assigned task. A first meeting will be held on 20 th December and representatives from NHS Kirklees, St Annes and families of the residents have been invited to attend.
LEAD MEMBER BRIEFING ISSUES	
Issue	Update (December 2010)
Neighbourhood Impact Areas	Cllr Calvert discussed Neighbourhood Impact Areas in her briefing with the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities in September and with the Director for Well-Being &

	Communities in September. It was not felt that this issue needed to be progressed further by the Panel.
Regular briefings with health bodies and the LINK	<p>Cllr Calvert has held a number of general briefings, in addition to project specific meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS Chairs – 13 August 2010 • Mid Yorkshire Hospitals Trust – 23 September 2010 • NHS Kirklees – 12 October 2010 • NHS Chairs – 26 November 2010
Regular Lead Member / Cabinet Member Briefings	Cllr Calvert met with the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities in September. A scheduled meeting with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services was cancelled due to illness, and has not yet been rearranged.

LEAD MEMBER – ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

As you can see from the six monthly report there has been a lot of activity from this panel with a lot more planned. My special thanks go to Cllr Liz Smaje who has led all the assigned tasks and without her this work wouldn't have been covered. We have already had to organise two more panel meetings more than had been planned at the start of the year.

I know this year has been particularly difficult with all the Government changes within the Health Services but I feel that this panel has too much scope to cover and although it mirrors the Cabinet Portfolios I don't have to remind you that there are two cabinet members for each portfolio.

On top of this there were lots more issues that should have been looked into besides the ad hocs/call ins/ccfa that have also been held which could/should have been covered by this panel.

This years statistics show that out attendance rate has improved tremendously and it is with all this in mind that I must thank all members of the panel for their attendance and input and Laura for her dedication as the officer who has to co-ordinate all this work.