

# WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD – 20 May 2014

## Children's Services Commissioning

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### 1.0 Background

This report covers the Children's Services Commissioning. Also attached is the RAG report for year end March 2014. This RAG report is for 11 months as the contracts began on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013. This will bring the reporting into the financial year and April's figures will be included in the following year's report.

### 2.0 Introduction

This information is an update to inform the Board about the performance of the Children's Commissioning. The contracts, with the exception of one which has been decommissioned as it had been duplicated, have been rolled over for a further 11 months as part of the budget saving options. Also each contract has had a reduction in their funding for the coming year. This will be monitored and the impact reported on at a later date.

The Priority areas for which services were commissioned are:

- PA1 – Parenting
- PA2 – Short Breaks for Disabled Children
- PA3 – Youth Challenge
- PA4 – Statutory Services
- PA5 - IFIP

Delivery against the performance measures have been RAG rated Red, Amber or Green. A Red rating denotes underperformance; Amber reflects work in progress broadly in line with expectations and Green is meeting or exceeding expectations. Red and Amber ratings are followed up by commissioners in one to one discussions at which corrective actions are identified to improve performance.

Each organisation is contracted to supply a completed monitoring form every quarter as well as having a monitoring visit. 100% of the organisations have had a contract compliance visit. There are two organisations which present as a concern and the commissioner is in discussion with them about their performance.

### 3.0 Current Position

The current position for each of the areas is as follows

#### PA1 Parenting

There are four organisations currently commissioned in this area and each of the organisations has met their outputs and outcomes for this year

#### PA2 Short Breaks

There are twelve different organisations commissioned in this area and although in the RAG report there are two organisations which are not meeting their outputs, this will be rectified as they were planned for Easter which is in April.

#### PA3 Youth Challenge

In this area of Youth Challenge there were three services commissioned and they are all meeting their outputs and outcomes.

#### **PA4 Statutory Services**

There are four different organisations delivering these commissioned services and only one which is not currently meeting their outputs and outcomes. An alternative plan has been put in place and they have now increased their outputs and outcomes since the last quarter. In discussion with this organisation, they reported that the difficulty was with the monitoring return as this did not fully show the work they had undertaken and this has now been rectified.

#### **PA5 IFIP**

In this area there are two services which have been commissioned and there is concern with one contract not meeting its outputs and outcomes. The commissioner has had a series of meetings with this organisation and a plan has been put into place to rectify this.

#### **4.0 Additional Commissioning**

There have been two new areas of commissioning which is the Adoption Reform Grant which C4EO have been commissioned to work with both District Social Workers and Adoption Social Workers to ensure that permanency for children is planned from the outset when a child comes into care. The other area is the local offer for the new SEND reforms. The Family Forum has been commissioned to co-produce this with the LA and partners and there will also be a new commissioning opportunity on The Chest for the development of a website.

#### **5.0 Recommendations:**

- That Wirral Children's Trust Board note the report.

#### **Appendices:**

##### **Appendix 1 – RAG Report for Quarter 1 through to 4**

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