

Children and Families Scrutiny Committee Agenda

Date: Tuesday, 18th October, 2011
Time: 1.30 pm
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2011.

3. **Declaration of Interest/Party Whip**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests and for members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

4. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

A total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to make a statement(s) on any matter that falls within the remit of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers.

Note: In order for officers to undertake any background research, it would be helpful if members of the public notified the Scrutiny officer listed at the foot of the agenda, at least one working day before the meeting with brief details of the matter to be covered.

For any apologies or requests for further information, or to give notice of a question to be asked by a member of the public

Contact: Mark Grimshaw
Tel: 01270 685680
E-Mail: mark.grimshaw@cheshireeast.gov.uk

5. **Virtual Head** (Pages 7 - 12)

To consider a report of the Head of the Virtual School.

6. **Work Programme update** (Pages 13 - 22)

To give consideration to the work programme.

7. **Forward Plan - extracts** (Pages 23 - 24)

To note the current Forward Plan, identify any new items and to determine whether any further examination of new issues is appropriate.

8. **Consultations from Cabinet**

To note any consultations referred to the Committee from Cabinet and to determine whether any further action is appropriate.

9. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

The reports relating to the remaining items on the agenda have been withheld from public circulation and deposit pursuant to Section 100(B)(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the matters may be determined with the press and public excluded.

The Committee may decide that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items pursuant to Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing the information.

PART 2 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

10. **Local Children's Safeguarding Board Review** (Pages 25 - 30)

To consider the report of the Strategic Director of Children, Families and Adults.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Children and Families Scrutiny Committee**
held on Tuesday, 20th September, 2011 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3,
Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor A Kolker (Chairman)
Councillor K Edwards (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors L Brown, S Gardiner, P Hoyland, D Mahon, D Neilson, W Livesley,
M Sherratt, B Silvester and McCann and Jill Kelly

Apologies

Councillors G Merry

In Attendance

Councillor Hilda Gaddum and Councillor Rhoda Bailey

Officers

Lorraine Butcher – Strategic Director Children, Families and Adults
Cath Knowles - Head of safeguarding & Specialist Services
Tony Crane - Head of Service - Early Intervention & Prevention
Anne Gadsden – Excellence and Equity Manager
Peter Cavanagh - 14 - 25 Learning and Achievement Manager
Mark Grimshaw – Scrutiny Officer

86 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That subject to the following amendments the minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2011 be approved as a correct record.

- a) That on page 4, under the heading 'Cheshire East Family Service' parts a) and b) be merged so that it reads 'That the Committee agree to the development of a Cheshire East Family Service and the targeted approach to prevention and that the costs and rationale of the newly developed operational structure be distributed to Members of the Committee.
- b) That on page 5, under the heading 'work programme update' the words 'with a Membership of seven' be added to part a) after the words 'Home to School Transport be established'.

87 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/PARTY WHIP

None noted.

88 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Committee.

89 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE UPDATE

Lorraine Butcher, Strategic Director of Children, Families and Adults, attended to provide a verbal update on changes to the management structure. It was reported that a re-organisation of the corporate management team had been undertaken and within this it had been endorsed that the positions of Director of Children's Services and Director of Adults Services be merged into one position of Strategic Director for Children's, Families and Adults Services.

Lorraine Butcher explained that this change had been driven not only by a need for greater efficiencies but also because there was recognition of a convergence between both the children's and adult's agendas. Lorraine Butcher continued to report on a number of challenges and opportunities that would arise from the 'joining up' the management of both Directorates. It was highlighted how a number of common elements along with strong leadership and existing robust processes would enable both Directorates to make the most of the opportunities and overcome the challenges.

The point was raised that the Cheshire East had appeared to have gone 'full circle' with the re-appointment of a Strategic Director of Children's and Adult's services. It was asserted that the constant changing of management structures could be unsettling for staff and therefore a period of stability was called for. Lorraine Butcher agreed that a period of stability in terms of management structures was important and it was fully expected that this would now be the case. Lorraine Butcher also explained that when the two Directorates had been brought together under one Director previously, both departments had not been in the position to make the most of the opportunities available at that time. There had been a need to keep them apart in order for them to develop. It was stated that Cheshire East was now in a position where joint working between the children's and adult's services would be mutually beneficial.

It was stated that there needed to be more recognition of education in the Children's Directorate and that it must not be lost in the restructure. Lorraine Butcher asserted that whilst education remained an integral part of the Directorate, local authorities were in a different place in terms of their relationship with schools and that this relationship would continue to change at speed.

It was suggested that it would be useful if the Committee could receive a breakdown of responsibilities aligned to each respective senior manager.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the update be noted
- b) That a breakdown of responsibilities aligned to each senior manager be distributed to the Committee.

90 OFSTED INSPECTION OF SAFEGUARDING AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN SERVICES

Lorraine Butcher attended to present a report which detailed the OFSTED Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children Services. Lorraine Butcher reported that the inspection was carried out from 27 June to 8 July 2011 and its purpose was to evaluate the contribution made by relevant services in the local area towards ensuring that children and young people were properly safeguarded and to determine the quality of service provision for looked after children and care leavers.

Lorraine Butcher stated that on the whole the report was very positive. It was explained that the outcomes did not quite reflect the content of the report as OFSTED had been unable to award Cheshire East 'good' in a number of categories due to the inability to demonstrate 'sustained improvement'. This was not due to any failing by the Council or its officers but more due to the fact that the first fifteen months post Local Government Re-organisation had been a forced period of development with a large amount of flux. Lorraine Butcher asserted that the report had made it clear that the foundations for a well performing service had been established and that the Directorate were confident on delivering on the outlined areas of improvement.

The Chairman commented that before asking any questions, the Committee must be clear on what they wanted to do with the report from a scrutiny perspective. It was suggested that a special meeting could be established to go through the report in more detail and that this should be held before the next scheduled meeting on 18 October 2011 if possible.

A point was made with regards to the proposed changes to the OFSTED inspection regime. It was queried whether Cheshire East would start to measure by the success of a child's journey through the various processes as suggested by the Munroe Review. Lorraine Butcher reported that Cheshire East was already planning towards the proposed new inspection framework which would include approaches outlined in the Munroe Review. Having said this, it was asserted that it was better to build in self assessment through embedded good practice rather than to just prepare for a one off inspection.

As a final point, attention was drawn to the fact that the children's residential home at Claremont Road had received an outstanding judgement in every category from a recent OFSTED inspection. The Chairman suggested that congratulations be passed onto the staff and management team and that it be noted in the minutes.

RESOLVED –

- a) That a special meeting be convened to go through the OFSTED report in more detail before the next scheduled meeting on 18 October 2011.
- b) That the Committee's congratulations for the staff and management team involved with the residential homes on Claremont Road be noted.

91 SUMMARY OF SCHOOLS PERFORMANCE 2010-11 & QUARTER 1 REPORTING 2011-12 FOR THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DIRECTORATE

Lorraine Butcher attended to present a report to update on the year end performance relating to school academic standards for the 2010/11 academic year as well as to summarise the Quarter 1 Performance of the Children's and Families Directorate.

After considering the report, a number of Members queried the use of the term 'narrowing the gap' described in paragraph 10.6. It was suggested that an authority could 'narrow the gap' by bringing down higher achieving schools and pupils rather than by bringing those at the bottom to a higher level. Lorraine Butcher confirmed that there was no perverse incentive behind the concept and that it only meant that Cheshire East would strive to drive up standards across the board and also to narrow the gap in achievement between those young people in receipt of free school meals and those not in receipt.

It was asserted that more needed to be done to tackle low achievement in a number of Cheshire East schools. In terms of paragraph 10.6(e), which stated as a priority for the 2011-12 academic year: 'To commission, as required, high quality personnel to support the ongoing monitoring and challenge to schools underperforming or at risk of underperforming', it was queried what this actually meant. With this in mind, it was suggested a report was required which outlined what was being done to improve underperforming schools and that this should be added to the work programme.

It was queried whether all the academic results from Academies had been received. Lorraine Butcher confirmed that these had been received but drew attention to the fact that as there was no requirement for Academies to report performance to Local Authorities

RESOLVED –

- a) That the report be noted.
- b) That an item be added to the work programme relating to what Cheshire East were doing and were able to do to improve underperforming schools.

92 WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

Members considered the work programme.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the Membership of the Home to School Transport Task and Finish Review remain at six Members.
- b) That a Task and Finish Review on Health and Cared for Children be established in partnership with the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and that the final Membership of the Group be left to the discretion of the Chairman.

- c) That an item relating to childcare support for working parents be added to the work programme.

93 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Members considered the Committee's training requirements for the 2011/12 Civic year.

RESOLVED – That the following items be added to the work programme as independent training sessions for the Committee:

- Local Authorities' changing interface with schools and education.
- The architecture of partnerships in relation to the Children's Directorate and the value they add.

94 FORWARD PLAN - EXTRACTS

The Committee gave consideration to the extracts of the forward plan which fell within the remit of the Committee. It was suggested that in relation to Business Planning Process item, it would be useful if the Committee received a summary when Cabinet had received an update on the budget position.

RESOLVED –

- a) That the forward plan be noted
- b) That the Committee receive a summary of any budget position update relating to children's services received by the Cabinet.

95 CONSULTATIONS FROM CABINET

There were no consultations from Cabinet.

The meeting commenced at 1.35 pm and concluded at 3.50 pm

Councillor A Kolker (Chairman)

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Children & Families Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 18 October 2011
Report of: Lorraine Butcher, Strategic Director Children Families & Adults
Subject/Title: **Progress Report : Virtual School**
Portfolio Holder : Cllr Hilda Gaddum

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Children & Family Scrutiny Board with the performance and progress relating to The Virtual School since its inception in September 2010. The principle document referred to within this paper is Appendix A which provides the detailed information relating to current priorities as well as the analysis of performance relating the academic progress of Cared for Children in 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- 1.2 Due to the small size of the overall Cared for Children population and its vulnerability in terms of the potential ongoing changes in terms of placement stability, it is essential to consider overall trends in performance from actual case studies. The complexities of each individual case results in a unique package of support for each young person and the overall achievements of an individual need to be considered in its widest sense and not just formal academic qualifications.

2.0 Decision Requested

- 2.1 The Virtual School progress report to be received and noted.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The reason for presenting this information is to report on the impact and progress of The Virtual School since its inception just over 12 months ago

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All wards will be affected.

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health

- 6.1 Not applicable

7.0 Financial Implications (Director of Finance and Business Services)

7.1 Performance data has been used to shape Children & Family service needs and identify/match resources to meet demand based appropriate levels of need. Clearly the Cared for Children cohort are one of our most vulnerable groups and should therefore receive greater levels of support based upon their need.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 None

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 The key risk relates to the accuracy of information to ensure that reporting is based upon validated data. Robust methods are in place with schools to quality assure the accuracy of reported data. The Virtual School has systems in place to track the performance of pupils throughout the year to assist in the modification of support programmes for individuals.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The progress report as presented within Appendix A provides the relevant information relating to the developments, priorities and outcomes associated with The Virtual School since September 2010.

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Phil Mellen
Designation: Head of The Virtual School
Tel No: 01625 374974
Email: philip.mellen@cheshireeast.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

Virtual School for Cared for Children

Progress Report to Scrutiny Committee October 2011

Cared for Children (sometimes called Looked after Children) are the children that are subject to care orders and those who are voluntarily accommodated (they may be fostered or in residential homes or still living with their family). We as a local authority are their corporate parent, responsible for their care and support. The Virtual School takes the lead in ensuring that all of our Cared for Pupils have the best educational opportunities possible and that there is consistency of approach across Cheshire East. As the outcomes for Cared for Children, both locally and nationally, are far worse than those of their peers (e.g. 26% 5 A*- C GCSEs as opposed to 75% of all pupils), there is a real need for clear lines of accountability and someone to champion these vulnerable pupils and their needs. The Virtual School enables us to take an overview of all of our Cared for Children (C4C) and their progress. It also enables us to support and challenge schools and other agencies in their work with these children and young people. The Virtual School came into existence on 1st September 2010 and is active in training, championing the needs of C4C and looking to improve outcomes and consistency. We provide training, advice and support for Foster Carers, Designated Teachers and Social Workers as well as working closely with all agencies that support our children.

Since our inception in September 2010, we have delivered well received training to all of the groups listed above, channelled financial support as appropriate to our C4C, been present and involved in hundreds of meetings, set up data systems so that we can track the progress of all school-age C4C termly, funded wider schemes such as Letterbox, re-designed the Personal Education Plan (PEP), raised the profile of C4C within the LA and partner agencies, improved outcomes in many areas (see page 3), helped to manage school moves and admissions and supported all of our Cheshire East Cared for Children, from Cumbria to Sussex. The recent Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services commented as follows:

'The head of the virtual school provides clear strategic direction to the multi-disciplinary virtual school team. This team has strong relationships with cared for children, and provides strong advocacy for them, when necessary. The work of the virtual school team is well embedded and provides a coordinated, holistic approach to the education of cared for children and young people, including those who are recognised as being gifted and talented. This ensures that they receive good support for their education and as a result barriers to learning are reducing.'

Virtual School Priority Actions 2011-12

1. Early Years:

Establish lists and tracking for Early Years.

Improve number accessing 2,3,4 year old offer.

Improve EYFS PEP completion rate to 90%+

Early Years Training for Foster Carers.

Roll out training to all settings.

Work closely with EYFS Team to target settings with more or complex C4C.

2. Key Stage 1

Analyse 2011 results and look for trends.

Target additional support to improve outcomes at end of KS1.

3. 14-19

Appoint 14-19 worker jointly with YOS and 14-25 Team. Ensure effective induction to team and positive first encounters with schools. Complete new post 16 PEP and roll out to schools and colleges. Work on pathway planning to ensure efficient transitions post 16. Utilise and improve relationships with Connexions, Post 16 Teams, YOS, 14-25 Team etc for benefit of C4C/Care Leavers. Improve NEET figures for Care Leavers/C4C. Liaise with 14-25 team to ensure all eligible C4C/Care Leavers access 16-19 Bursary Fund.

4. PEPs

Establish multi-agency PEP Quality Assurance group to finalise new PEP format, write model PEP for Schools/Social Care colleagues, quality assure PEPs randomly on a termly basis.

5. Well-being

Set up events throughout the year to support Foster Carers and Cared for Children, to build relationships and improve self-esteem. Organisation and liaison with annual celebration event/other high profile events to raise self-esteem/profile of Cared for Children.

6. Establish Advisory Board

Liaise with Corporate Parenting Board to ensure Virtual School links in with wider priorities of Local Authority/Children's Trust. Establish Advisory Board for Virtual School – meeting 3 times per year.

Cared for Children results 2011 (provisional)

Key

66% - Improvement on 2010

2011 results	2010 results
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Key Stage 1 (7 Year olds) 2011 results

	Speaking and Listening	Reading	Writing	Maths	Science
Achieving Level 2 and above	65%	65%	65%	76%	71%
2010	75%	67%	62%	71%	75%
Achieving Level 2B and above		59%	29%	53%	
2010		57%	33%	50%	
Level 3	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%
2010	0%	5%	0%	0%	0%

Key Stage 2 (11 Year olds) 2011 Results

	Reading	Writing	English overall	Maths
Making 2 +Levels progress from KS1	85%	92%	92%	83%
2010			79%	79%
Level 4 +	69%	62%	69%	62%
2010	74%	53%	68%	74%
Level 5	15%	0%	8%	22%
2010	42%	5%	21%	37%

This Cohort (2011) included 6 pupils (46%) who made 3 or more Levels progress in either English or Maths or both (3 pupils).

Key Stage 3 (14 year olds) 2011 Results

	English	Maths	Science
Level 5 +	40%	40%	60%
2010	53%	37%	58%
Level 6+	5%	25%	10%
2010	5%	16%	11%

Key Stage 4 (GCSE) results 2011

	Entered for GCSEs	Gained 1 + GCSE	5+ A*-G GCSE	5+ A*-C GCSE	5 + A*-C GCSE including Eng and Maths	5 + A*-C GCSE including Eng	5 + A*-C GCSE including Maths	Average Point Score
2011	95%	92%	67%	33%	11%	22%	22%	171.1
2010	62%	62%	54%	27%	10%	15%	10%	170.3

In terms of comparator information, this information is currently being analysed and will be available for the actual Scrutiny meeting.

A Case Study

We supported 5 cared for siblings at Monks Coppenhall Primary. Virtual School funding provided learning mentor support for all 5 children through the very distressing situation of moving from being placed with parents on a care order to being split up into 2 pairs and 1 child to go into foster care, and more latterly through trying to come to terms with the fact that their future is long term fostering as this has taken a profound toll on all of them. This money has paid for sessions with their siblings to talk about the issues and helping them deal with them. It has proved invaluable and helped to build up their emotional resilience which has been very fragile. Other funding provided books and stationary for all as there were no books, crayons or magazines of any kind in their parental home at the time of them being taken into care. Letterbox Club provided books and lots of support for the oldest sibling. 1:1 provision has helped all those eligible both last year and for C and A double sessions last year. Pupil A met or exceeded all her targets in her Year 6 SATs and the other siblings all made good progress across the year.

Glossary

Personal Education Plan (PEP) – these are written annually (and updated 6 monthly) and are designed to reflect the support needed by a Cared for Child in their educational setting.

EYFS – Early Years Foundation Stage : All providers of education and care to children from birth to the age of five must follow the standards set in the early years foundation stage (EYFS) framework

Phil Mellen

Head of Virtual School for Cared for Children

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 18 October 2011
Report of: Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title: Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2011/12 Work Programme, to consider the efficacy of existing items listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the work programme be received and noted.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree and review the Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health

- 6.1 Not known at this stage.

7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs

- 7.1 None identified at the moment.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 In reviewing the work programme, Members must pay close attention to the Corporate Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.

10.2 The schedule attached, has been updated in line with the Committees recommendations on 20 September 2011. Following this meeting the document will be updated so that all the appropriate targets will be included within the schedule.

10.3 In reviewing the work programme, Members must have regard to the general criteria which should be applied to all potential items, including Task and Finish reviews, when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate. Matters should be assessed against the following criteria:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority
- Is the issue of key interest to the public
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service

10.4 If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
- The matter is subjudice
- Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

11.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Mark Grimshaw
Designation: Scrutiny Officer
Tel No: 01270 685680
Email: mark.grimshaw@cheshireeast.gov.uk

As of 10/10/2011

Children and Families Scrutiny Committee Workplan: September 2011 – April 2012

Portfolio Holder – Hilda Gaddum

Historical Record

Date of Meeting	Agenda Setting Meeting	Topic	Purpose/Key issues (including origin)	Comments post meeting
26 July 2011		Annual Announced Inspection	To receive a verbal update	That the Director of Children's Services be requested to submit a report at the next meeting of the Committee outlining the findings of the Announced Inspection and the resulting action plan.
		Children & Families Performance Report	To receive an update on the general performance of the service and to pinpoint areas for development	That the newly developed performance scorecard be brought to the Committee on a quarterly basis for review.
		Independent Reviewing Officers Report 10/11 – Annual Report	Members to consider the report and any issues arising from it	That in subsequent years, a summary page be provided in addition to the main report. That a review of the CAMHS

				service in terms of its relationship with Cared For Children be added to the work programme.
		Cheshire East Family Service	Members to be briefed and to consider the CE approach.	That the policy be revisited in six months for review.
20 September 2011		Management Structure Update	Members top receive verbal update	That a breakdown of responsibilities aligned to each senior manager be distributed to the Committee.
		OFSTED inspection	Members to consider report,	That a special meeting be convened pre 18 October 2011 to discuss in further detail. That congratulations be passed to staff and mgmt at Claremont rd.
		Summary of Schools Performance		Item be added to work programme relating to what CE do to improve underperforming schools.
		Training Requirements		Training sessions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LA's changing interface with schools and education - Architecture of partnerships.

Next Agenda Setting Meeting: 4 October 2011

Ongoing items/reviews/Monitoring Papers

Item	Reporting:	Committee Meeting							
		20/9	18/10	15/11	13/12	17/01	14/2	13/3	10/4
PERFORMANCE REPORTING (key exceptions – red/amber and explanations/commentary) to include adoption rates, staffing information and profile of children in Cheshire East	Quarterly	X			X				
INDEPENDENT INSPECTIONS OR REVIEWS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Unannounced Inspection • Children Services Performance Rating • Schools Inspection 	Quarterly	X							
SAFEGUARDING	When Appropriate								
REGULATION 33	Bi-annual					X			
BUDGET PROCESS – summary of budget position update given to Cabinet.	When Appropriate				X				
REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME	Regular	X	X						

Possible Future Issues / Items (Chronology)

Meeting dates:

Special meeting to be convened (October), 18 October 2011, 15 November 2011, 13 December 2011, 17 January 2012, 14 February 2012, 13 March 2012, 10 April 2012

Item	Corporate Priority / Targets	Suggested Action	Notes	Due Date and Status
OFSTED inspection paper	Support our Children and Young People	Members to go over in more detail the paper discussed in September 2011		Special meeting tba
Children's Trust	Support our Children and Young People	Members to be briefed on what issues are important for young people.	Possible invite Cheshire East Youth MP representatives.	November 2011 Deferred
CAMHS Service and Cared for Children	Support our Children and Young People	Members to review	Requested at Committee in July 2011	November 2011 On track
The impact on Council Services following the opening of Academies	Support our Children and Young People	Members to consider	Requested at Committee in June 2011	November 2011 On track
The future of careers advice following the reduction in the Connexions Service (inc information on the future of Connexions)	Support our Children and Young People	Members to be briefed	Requested at Committee in June 2011	December 2011 On Track
Disabled Respite Care – including elements of the Aiming Higher Paper	Support our Children and Young People	Members to be briefed on the future direction of respite care.	Requested at Committee in May 2011	December 2011 Deferred

Possible future items for consideration:

- Fostering Inspection
- IT Systems
- Every Child matters
- Director of Public Health inc. work on Obesity and Diabetes (when appointed)
- Cheshire East Family Service – review in February 2012
- Work that Cheshire East can do and are doing to improve underperforming schools.
- Childcare support for working parents
- School Organisation Plan - ?
- Children's Centres Proposed Changes – possibly align with Cheshire East Family Service item

Training Requirements/Planned sessions

- Local Authorities' changing interface with schools and education
- The architecture of partnerships and consideration of the value they add.
- Site visit to CAT team

Disregarded / Discontinued Items

Item	Date	Reason
Post 16 Transfer of Funding to Local authorities	22.09.10	Responsibility no longer with LA
Analysis of School Performance	22.09.10	To be merged with educational attainment item
Early Years Funding Reform	22.09.10	Briefing heard on 27.07.10
Children's Centres	26.10.10	Dealt with as part of the Family Support review.
School Status report	26.10.10	Merged with Academies item
Interventions in Schools	26.10.10	To be dealt with in the schools inspection item.
School Admissions Policy / TLC review	14.12.10	Superseded by White Paper item
Redesign of Children's Services	17.02.11	Incorporated into Safeguarding item
Teenage Pregnancy	17.02.11	Superseded by Director of Public Health Item
NEETS	17.02.11	Superseded by Connexions Item
Macclesfield High School Review	04.05.11	Item no longer needing consideration
Transport for Young People	18.05.11	Superseded by Home to School Transport Review
Aiming Higher Report	13.06.11	Superseded by Disabled Respite Care item.
Member Engagement in Social Services Systems	03.08.11	Superseded by Training session on Contact, Referrals and Assessments

Task Groups – potential/current/completed

Title	Progress Notes	Actions
Managing the Provision of School Places (formerly TLC)	Went to Scrutiny November 2009.	
Residential Provision	Recommendations agreed 07.09.10 – went to Cabinet 20.09.10 for consideration. Members to review action plan following Officer's response to recommendations.	
Family Support	Reported to Committee 07.12.10. Went to Cabinet 20.12.10	Cabinet Response required ASAP
Education attainment	Set up Task and Finish Group to review the work of the multi agency improvement and achievement group	
Foster services	Recommendations agreed 04.11. Went to Cabinet 06.11	Cabinet Response required December 2011
Health and Looked After Children	Discuss with Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.	To set up with conjunction with the Health and Wellbeing Committee.
Cared for Children 16 plus service.	Set up Membership 28/06/2011 – deferred to January 2012	
Home to School Transport	Following recommendation from Cabinet meeting.	Membership approved.
Health and Cared for Children	Following Fostering service review – in partnership with H&W Committee	Membership sought post 22/9

Dates of Future Cabinet Meetings

3 October 2011, 31 October 2011, 28 November 2011, 5 December 2011, 9 January 2012, 6 February 2012, 5 March 2012, 2 April 2012 and 30 April 2012.

Dates of Future Council Meetings

13 October 2011, 15 December 2011, 23 February 2012, 19 April 2012 and 16 May 2012.

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FORWARD PLAN 1 OCTOBER 2011 - 31 JANUARY 2012

This Plan sets out the key decisions which the Executive expect to take over the next four months. The Plan is rolled forward every month. It will next be published in mid October and will then contain all key decisions expected to be taken between 1 November and 29 February 2012. Key decisions are defined in the Council's Constitution.

Reports relevant to key decisions, and any listed background documents may be viewed at any of the Council's Offices/Information Centres 6 days before the decision is to be made. Copies of, or extracts from these documents may be obtained on the payment of a reasonable fee from the following address:-

Democratic Services Team
Cheshire East Council ,
c/o Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1HZ
Telephone: 01270 686463

However, it is not possible to make available for viewing or to supply copies of reports or documents, the publication of which is restricted due to confidentiality of the information contained.

A decision notice for each key decision is published within 6 days of it having been made. This is open for public inspection on the Council's Website, Council Information Centres and Council Offices.

The law and the Council's Constitution provides for urgent key decisions to be made. A decision notice will be published for these in exactly the same way.

Forward Plan 1 October 2011 to 31 January 2012

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Relevant Scrutiny Committee	How to make representation to the decision made
CE11/12-19 Connexions Cheshire and Warrington	To approve the future governance arrangements.	Cabinet	31 Oct 2011		Children and Families	Lorraine Butcher, Strategic Director (Children, Families and Adults)
CE11/12-4 Business Planning Process 2012/2015 - Business Plan	To approve the Business Plan for 2012/2015 incorporating updated budget and policy proposals together with the Capital Programme.	Cabinet, Council	6 Feb 2012	With all Members and a range of local stakeholders including PCT's, Parish Councils, social care representatives, businesses, trades unions, the schools forum and the public.	To be determined but expected to be a scrutiny budget consultation group.	Lisa Quinn, Director of Finance and Business Services

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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