

Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

6 September 2012

THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2012, 10.00am
COMMITTEE ROOM 2, SHIRE HALL, WARWICK

1. General

(1) Apologies for Absence

(2) Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

For any matter where a member has a disclosable pecuniary interest, they must:

- Declare the interest and give written notice to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days, unless they have already previously registered the interest
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Leave the meeting for the duration of the discussion (Standing Order 42)

Non-pecuniary interests must still be declared in accordance with the new Code of Conduct at this point of the meeting.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2012

(4) Chair's Announcements

2. Public Question Time (Standing Order 34)

30 minutes of the meeting are available for members of the public to ask questions on any matters relevant to the Committee. Questioners may ask two questions and can speak for up to three minutes on each. If you wish to ask a question, please contact Richard Maybey on 01926 476876 or richardmaybey@warwickshire.gov.uk

3. Questions to the Portfolio Holder

30 minutes of the meeting are available for members to question Cllr Heather Timms (Portfolio Holder, Children and Schools) on any matters relevant to the Committee.

4. Implementation of the Munro Review of Child Protection

Following a report in January 2012, this report provides further consideration of: the arrangements in place for the dual role of the Director of Children's Services (including the Government's guidance on the local test of assurance) and whether closer multi-agency working is improving the effectiveness of child protection in Warwickshire.

5. Sub-regional Collaboration

This report provides information on the proposed joint work by Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire related to children's services. The Committee's views will be incorporated into the programme that will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

6. Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

This report outlines the current situation and initiatives relating to the number of young people aged 16-18 in Warwickshire who are NEET.

7. Framework for the Commissioning of Post-16 Provision

This report sets out an approach to the commissioning of post-16 provision within the new education landscape, reflecting the fact that colleges, training providers and now Academy schools have increased autonomy and freedom from the Local Authority.

8. Post-16 Transport – report of the Task & Finish Group

Members are asked to consider the report of the Task & Finish Group and forward the recommendations to Cabinet for approval, with any necessary amendments or additions.

9. Work Programme 2012-13

The Committee is asked to agree its work programme for the year ahead, and propose any new topics that may be suitable for scrutiny via a Task & Finish Group.

10. Any Other Items

Which the Chair decides are urgent.

11. Commissioners report upon Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Improvements

This report to the Adult Social Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee is presented here for information only, as agreed with the Chair.

Jim Graham
Chief Executive

Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee Membership

County Councillors: Peter Balaam, Jim Foster, Carol Fox, Peter Fowler, Julie Jackson (Chair), Mike Perry, Clive Rickhards, John Ross (Vice Chair), Martin Shaw, June Tandy

Portfolio Holder, Children and Schools: Councillor Heather Timms

Church Representatives: Joseph Cannon and Dr Rex Pogson

Parent Governor Representatives: Alison Livesey and 1 vacancy

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Minutes of a meeting of the Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 20 June 2012

Present:

Members of the Committee

Councillor Martyn Ashford (replacing Cllr Carol Fox)
Councillor Peter Balaam
Councillor Jim Foster
Councillor Peter Fowler
Councillor Julie Jackson
Councillor Mike Perry
Councillor Clive Rickhards
Councillor John Ross
Councillor June Tandy

Invited representatives

Chris Smart
Diana Turner

Other councillors

Councillor Bob Hicks (to provide update on Safeguarding Task and Finish Group – in relation to item 8, Work Programme)
Councillor Dave Shilton (attending for Councillor Martin Shaw)

(Councillor Shilton advised the Committee that he was aware that the formal notification of his attendance had not been submitted within the time requirement of 3 clear working days and that he would not, therefore, take part in any voting on any issue).

Officers

Hugh Disley - Head of Service for Early Intervention
Mark Gore - Head of Service, Learning and Achievement
Peter Hatcher - Service Manager, Targeted Youth Support
Janet Purcell - Democratic Services Manager – Resources Group
Yvonne Rose - Service Manager, Secondary Phase
Shona Walton - Principal Inspector, Secondary and Special Schools

1.0 General

1.1 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Councillor June Tandy proposed that Councillor Julie Jackson be Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2012/13. Councillor Rickhards seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations.

Resolved

That Councillor Julie Jackson be Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2012/13.

Councillor Mike Perry proposed that Councillor John Ross be Vice-Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2012/13. Councillor Peter Fowler seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations.

Resolved

That Councillor John Ross be Vice-Chair of the Committee for the municipal year 2012/13.

1.2 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Carol Fox, Councillor Martin Shaw, Alison Livesey, Joseph Cannon, Councillor Heather Timms and Wendy Fabbro (Strategic Director, People Group).

1.3 Members' Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests

A general declaration of interest was noted for all members in their roles as school governors and/or trustees.

1.4 Minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

1.5 Matters Arising

1.5.1 Minute 1.4.2 - Passenger Transport Assistants

Mark Gore updated the meeting on the position with regard to Passenger Transport Assistants and referred to a letter that had been circulated to members.

1.5.2 Mark advised that the £700,000 savings target (referred to at Minute 2.4c) was based on there being 48 primary buses with assistants, costing an average of £25 per day, and a further saving as a result of increased competition for routes of around £10 per day (a total of approximately £320,000). There were 50 taxi services also making similar savings, bringing the total to just under £700,000.

1.5.3 Mark reminded members that the assistants were not automatically removed and that each route is assessed. Given this, it may not be possible to reach the level of savings originally envisaged in this area but the overall savings target on transport would be met. Mark assured the meeting that he would report back on this.

1.5.4 Councillor John Ross said he was aware of three taxi services for Etone School, one carrying only one child, and wondered why they could not be combined. Mark Gore explained that there could be any one of a number of explanations for this but gave his assurance that there is a very clear policy and criteria followed for allocation of transport.

- 1.5.5 It was agreed that the letter that the Cabinet Portfolio Holder had sent in response to the questions at the last meeting would be reissued to members.
- 1.5.6 Minute 4 - Area Behaviour Partnerships, Provision for Excluded Pupils and Pupils at Risk of Exclusion
Mark Gore updated the meeting on progress of the Eastern Area Behaviour Partnership. Councillor Julie Jackson questioned whether progress was taking place quickly enough and was advised that work had been taking place since the last meeting, including involving an independent consultant to look at best practice. A further meeting was being held the following week looking at ways of working and at services about to be commissioned for excluded pupils and those about to be excluded. Mark stressed that success would depend largely on the appointment of a very good coordinator.
- 1.5.7 Councillor Clive Rickhards asked whether there was adequate provision of learning support units (LSUs). Mark advised that schools in the East were developing a range of provision including LSUs to prevent exclusion. Mark agreed to circulate the latest figures.
- 1.5.8 Minute 4.4(g) – Keresley site
Mark Gore confirmed that there is no playing field at Keresley, but that there is an outdoor area which was considered satisfactory. Children will be there for a further 12 months but numbers are small and declining.
- Councillor Julie Jackson undertook to visit the site to see what is on offer and welcomed any other member who also wished to visit to notify Mark Gore.
- 1.5.9 Minute 6.2 – Work Programme and Children’s Health Issues
In relation to play areas, it was noted that rules had been relaxed and that secondary schools were now being developed without playgrounds on the basis that they were not required in schools with fully structured days. Members expressed concern that this could be detrimental to the health of children. Councillor Martyn Ashford and Councillor Dave Shilton (as Vice-Chair of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee) both highlighted the cross-over between these two Committees in relation to children’s health issues. This was particularly evident in the CAMHS item programmed for the next meeting of that Committee.
- 1.5.10 The Committee agreed that it would welcome a joint meeting for such specific items at the appropriate time.

Resolved

- Mark Gore to circulate a breakdown of transport costs (as summarised above) and to re-circulate letter from Cllr Timms in response to questions on Passenger Transport Assistants.

- Report on Passenger Transport Assistants is programmed for November 2012.
- Report on Area Behaviour Partnerships is programmed for November 2012.
- Visit to Keresley site to be arranged by Mark Gore for the Chair and any others who express an interest.
- A joint meeting with Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be scheduled for an appropriate time to consider Children's Health issues.

1.6 Chair's Announcement – Sharon Ansell, Parent Governor

The Chair announced that Sharon Ansell had given notice that she had to step down from the Committee due to ill health. The Committee requested that their thanks be forwarded to Sharon for her support of the Committee and their best wishes for the future.

2.0 Public Question Time

None

3.0 Portfolio Holder Question Time

Members expressed their disappointment that this was the second meeting that the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Children and Schools had been unable to attend and that it would be helpful if at least the support Cabinet member had been present.

The Committee considered that the absence of the Portfolio Holder presented a difficulty in undertaking both its overview and scrutiny roles and agreed that Councillor Timms be requested to attend meetings wherever possible.

4.0 Impact of "Transformation of Services for Young People" on past and future work with young people

- 4.1 Hugh Disley presented a report setting out the impact of the savings plan and transformation of services for young people. Hugh expressed his gratitude to the Council for the strategy it has adopted as it had maintained a level of support and a positive future for the service, unlike that found in many other local authorities. Hugh acknowledged that the transformation had not been easy but the reaction from communities had proved positive and his continuing engagement with young people, particularly through the Youth Council, revealed an understanding of the pressures on the Council and the need to change.
- 4.2 Hugh recognised, however, the need to remain vigilant especially for those who were most in need of the service. One area of potential support for organisations working with young people was through the individual budgets now allocated to members to use in their local area. Hugh stressed that the voluntary sector plays an important role in many areas and that it was important to maintain and build their resilience.

- 4.3 Diana Turner asked how services could be of benefit to wider groups of young people, not just those who are the subject of targeted support. Hugh explained that the gap would be bridged by working with the voluntary sector.
- 4.4 Councillor Clive Richards questioned whether the service was purely reactive, relying on referrals from other agencies, and sought an explanation of the term 'commissioned youth offer'. Peter Hatcher explained that there is a systematic collation of information and needs analysis in order to identify the young people who are likely to need support as well as those who evidently need support. Referrals are based on both analysis and contacts with organisations. In some cases, organisations are approached for help, in others a youth worker will be allocated to the young person, depending on the individual need.
- 4.5 Councillor Peter Balaam asked what mechanism is in place to monitor the outcomes for young people and the effectiveness of the new approach. Peter Hatcher replied that various factors are monitored, including positive destinations, health outcomes, the number in employment, education or training and involvement with criminal behaviour. There are no longer national indicators and therefore the service uses its own.
- 4.6 Councillor June Tandy raised the issue of young people engagement at local forums, recognising that although forums themselves had raised concern about young people and had them as a top priority, these were not meetings that young people were interested in attending. Councillor Tandy added that she was particularly concerned that NEETs were continuing to rise and that targeting would only work for those who wanted to be targeted. Hugh Disley responded that there were effective youth forums at district level, but that the issue at community forum level was more to do with finding ways of meeting the needs of people than expecting them to necessarily attend formal meetings.
- 4.7 Peter Hatcher reported that the message from young people and adults was consistently that there is not enough for them to do and so the service would continue to work on ensuring open access. The service does focus on those not attending school and on tackling NEETs. He added that the impact of the new approach would take time to take measurable effect.
- 4.8 Councillor Julie Jackson expressed concern that it would be two years before a significant impact is likely and, while recognising that 6 months would be too short, did wish to see progress reported in a shorter time scale.
- 4.9 In response to a question from Councillor Dave Shilton, Peter Hatcher updated the Committee on the position with the transfer of premises

in the Warwick District area (as listed in the appendix to the report) and noted that these were completing over the next few months. There remained one outstanding in Stratford as the landlord had still to be identified.

- 4.10 Councillor Peter Fowler welcomed the positive progress in his local area and also reported that the borough council are considering a new leisure centre in Coleshill (possibly as part of a school) and he was pressing for the opportunity to be taken to include a youth facility.
- 4.11 Councillor John Ross referred to other positive local action in his area, which included a thriving boxing club, but also noted that volunteers were hard to retain for any period.
- 4.12 Councillor Julie Jackson referred to the approach in her area where young ambassadors had been appointed to attend meetings and played an important role in teaching adults (e.g., on drugs and alcohol). Peter Hatcher undertook to get young people to attend any forum meeting if requested by members.
- 4.13 Councillor Julie Jackson concluded the item by requesting that a report on the effects of the transformation programme in terms of the outcomes for young people be brought to the Committee in 12 months time.

Resolved

That a report on the effect of the transformation programme on outcomes for young people be brought to the Committee in June 2013.

5. Review of 16-19 Provision in North Warwickshire and Nuneaton & Bedworth, March 2012

Councillor June Tandy reported that she had agreed with a request that this report be deferred and that a member seminar be arranged so that wider discussion could be undertaken.

The Committee noted that this would take place on Wednesday 11 July at 10.00 a.m. at Shire Hall, Warwick. The invitation would be to all members, including the co-opted and invited representatives of the Committee.

6.0 Performance of Warwickshire Children and Young People in 2011 National Tests and Examinations

- 6.1 Mark Gore advised that the Committee should have received a full report on examination results at its meeting last November 2011 but this had not happened, for which he apologised.

- 6.2 Mark outlined the main issues, reporting that performance remained good and was generally above or in line with statistical neighbours. There did, however, continue to be lower performance in the north of the County, particularly in deprived wards. Mark added that the results for looked after children were improving but still disappointing and indicated a need to focus still more on this group of children. There was a significant attainment gap of 26% at KS4 between children on free school meals and those who are not. During the debate, Mark reminded members of the many factors that impact on a child's capacity to engage in education and how the Troubled Families agenda was, among other things, about ensuring wraparound care, so that young people can engage in education.
- 6.3 In relation to NEETs, this was difficult to track as the level fluctuated according to the time of year and was generally higher in June, lower in September and increases again in November when young people drop out of courses. Mark explained that this was why the impartial advice and guidance to young people was essential to ensure they are on the right course. The raising of the participation age to 17 in 2013 will also provide a challenge. Councillor Jim Foster requested that in the further report the outcomes of young people be mapped to show employment destinations.
- 6.4 The new Ofsted framework changes mean a number of primary schools are now regarded as requiring intervention. The reduced Learning and Achievement Team will have to focus carefully on the schools in most need. The results of 25 inspections now have 11 schools moving from good to outstanding category, 11 from satisfactory to good and 3 from good to satisfactory. Only two schools are in special measures (compared to a neighbouring county that has 18).
- 6.5 Members noted the gap between boys and girls in English attainment and Shona Walton explained how this is worse in England than in other European countries. This had fluctuated over the years and appears linked to changes in aspiration/motivation of young people.
- 6.6 It was noted that it was too early to measure the impact of the English Baccalaureate as this had been applied retrospectively and schools had not had time to amend curriculums.
- 6.7 It was also noted that all secondary schools are engaged in vocational courses now and there were now very high requirements required for apprenticeships. Shona advised that alternative provision can be very important and that there are now more creative pathways opening up for young people.

Resolved

- A report to be brought back in September on NEETs (Spokespersons to agree who to invite but to include Steve Stewart from CSWP).

- A full report on attainment in November to include:
 - How the council is addressing the attainment levels of vulnerable children, including children in care.
 - How the council is addressing the differences in performance between areas.
 - The Council's strategy, including success measures, timescales and costings.
 - A comparison of how effective measures have been this year against last.
 - An explanation of how the Council is engaging with academies and with councillors in their area
 - A breakdown of attainment results for each school and area.
 - Unemployment levels, if possible for each area/locality (so that it can overlay the map in the report).

The Chair requested that information be circulated well in advance of the meeting so that members can be prepared to scrutinise effectively.

7.0 A Framework for Organising Education Provision in Warwickshire in 2012

- 7.1 Mark Gore presented this proposed framework, which responds to the statutory requirement that local authorities 'plan effectively for school organisation'. Councillor June Tandy commended the report for indicating clearly how the local authority will be different in the future, and the pressures it will be under, including that from the forecasted further decline in rural school numbers and growth in urban areas. Councillor Tandy asked whether it was becoming more acceptable to have all-through primary provision rather than separate infant and junior schools. Mark Gore confirmed that the trend was to establish all-through primary schools and the new funding formula will encourage this as there will be a lower funding for infant schools than has been the case to date in Warwickshire.
- 7.2 Mark added that the authority has a responsibility to ensure sufficient places whilst also addressing the issue of surplus places. There are around 25 (mostly rural schools) with less than 120 pupils. More than 25 have surplus places, 11 are in federations or in academy chains. Chris Smart expressed the view that federation did not necessarily represent good value for money and in some cases a split-site allowance costs less than federation. Chris urged the Council to use its influence in getting governing bodies to work together and come up with fair solutions in the primary sector and give clear policy direction.
- 7.3 Diana Turner advised that leadership is the key factor and attracting applicants to positions. Diana also expressed the view that a more flexible approach be considered with reorganisation of different size infants and juniors into the most appropriate size infant or junior. Councillor John Ross added that he was aware of an under-subscribed junior school close to an infant school, which suggested an

amalgamation may be possible. Mark Gore advised that opportunities were taken as they arose (for example, changing a JMI into an infant school). Timing was important and the primary focus had to be on those governors who were willing to consider change.

8.0 Work Programme 2012-13

- 8.1 Councillor Bob Hicks, Chair of the Safeguarding Improvement Task and Finish Group, updated the meeting on the work of the Group, referring to the interim report circulated to members. Councillor Hicks thanked Richard Maybey for his support of the Group and preparation of the report.
- 8.2 Councillor Hicks explained that the Group had been established to look at the implementation of the improvement plan following the Ofsted inspection. The Group had held a series of meetings in May to examine various aspects of this improvement plan, calling in officers to provide evidence and talking to carers from the Fostering Service which had been very informative.
- 8.3 It was noted that the ambition had been to take a final report to the June meeting of the Children and Young People OSC. However, it became apparent during the review that certain information from the NHS Arden Cluster would not be available until later in the year. Therefore, members have decided to issue an interim report now, and then resume the review when the pending information is available. Provisionally, they expect to take a final report to Committee in January 2013.
- 8.4 The Chair thanked Councillor Hicks, on behalf of the Committee, and looked forward to the final report.
- 8.5 The Committee noted its work programme and agreed that, given the items proposed for the November meeting, allowance should be made for this meeting to be an all-day meeting and for all members to be notified accordingly.

Resolved

That the programme be agreed with the updates made in response to issues raised at this meeting and to include the reservation of a whole day for the meeting on 6 November.

9.0 Urgent Item – Payment Ordered by the Local Government Ombudsman in relation to education not provided

The Chair agreed that this item be taken as urgent business.

Mark Gore presented a report outlining a case considered by Regulatory Committee on 12 June, which had agreed to comply with

the Ombudsman's proposed settlement of £6,000 in respect of a case of education not provided, plus an award of £500 for trouble and inconvenience to the parent. It had also been agreed that an officer be appointed to investigate and identify learning and action points.

It was noted that this incident was within the Eastern Area again and it was agreed that the report already scheduled on progress with the Partnership include an update on the lessons learned from this case. It was also agreed that the ombudsman report be circulated to members.

The meeting closed at 12.45pm

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Chair

Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

6 September 2012

The Implementation of the Munro Review of Child Protection

Recommendation

To consider the progress made or planned for Warwickshire following the Government's response to the Munro Review of Child Protection, and make any recommendations as appropriate

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 On 13 July 2011, the Government published its response to the Munro Review of Child Protection. It was informed by advice from an Implementation Working Group with a wide range of representation. This response was seen as the first step on the journey to create the conditions for sustained long-term reform of the child protection system to deliver improved outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people. Within this paper, the review recommendations are set out alongside the Government's subsequent actions and the progress made, or planned thus far, in Warwickshire.

2.0 Overview

- 2.1 The Government described its response to the Munro Review of Child Protection as "the start of a shift in mindset and relationship between central government, local agencies and frontline professionals, working in partnership". It developed its response with advice from an Implementation Working Group drawing on expertise from local authority children's services, the social work profession, education, police and health services. The response adopted the principles proposed by Professor Munro and addressed each of the 15 recommendations of her final report.
- 2.2 The response described the intention to reduce central prescription, place greater trust in local leaders and skilled frontline professionals, and build even stronger partnerships between government, local authority children's services, the voluntary and community sector, social work, education, police and health services. It outlines how a number of government reform programmes will contribute, how the Children's Improvement Board (comprising ADCS, Solace, Local Government Group and Department for Education) considers safeguarding improvement a priority, and how the Social Work Reform Board (SWRB) was driving long-term sector-led improvement to social work.
- 2.3 Headline changes include a major reduction in central regulation and guidance; a Chief Social Worker post in government and Principal Child and

Family Social Worker appointments in local authorities; improvements in the knowledge and skills base of the profession; an inspection framework with the experiences of children and young people at its centre; and greater transparency and coordination of local arrangements to provide early help to children, young people and families.

- 2.4 Implementation has started but, as Children’s Minister Tim Loughton writes in his Foreword, “change will evolve and best practice will be informed by experience, innovation and evidence. Our aim will be to create the conditions for sustained, long reform which enables and inspires professionals to do their best for vulnerable children and their families.”

3.0 Government Response to Munro’s Four Reform Themes

- 3.1 **Theme 1: Valuing professional expertise** (Recommendations 1, 2, 3 & 4). Government will oversee a radical reduction in regulation, with a corresponding reduction in local rules and procedures. Shared local arrangements will need to be developed for robust management of timeliness, the quality of understanding and the effectiveness of the help provided. The role and impact of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) should be strengthened, and external inspection will continue and will be conducted on an unannounced basis. The government agreed with Professor Munro’s conclusion that there is no compelling case for a national database providing information on whether a child is subject to a protection plan or in care, but will keep under review how to help professionals to cooperate and share information; it endorsed her view that local authorities should maximise the efficiency of their 24-hour access service to enable professionals to obtain relevant information.
- 3.2 **Theme 2: Sharing responsibility for the provision of early help** (Recommendations 8, 10 & 13). The Government wants a radical change in the way local agencies coordinate their work to maximise resources and increase the range and number of preventative services on offer to children and families; setting out transparent local arrangements will help practitioners working with children to access expertise, and should lead to the identification of the early help needed by a particular child or young person and their family, and to the provision of ‘an early help offer’ where their needs do not meet the criteria for receiving children’s social care services. The document outlined the contribution that should be made by Sure Start Children’s Centres, the new health visiting service family offer, the developing Positive for Youth vision, and the early intervention grant and Community Budgets.
- 3.3 **Theme 3: Developing social work expertise and supporting effective social work practice** (Recommendations 11, 12, 14 & 15). Building on the work of the Social Work Reform Board, the Government wants to improve radically the knowledge, skills and expertise of social workers from initial training through to continuing professional development; work will be done on incorporating the specific capabilities identified by Professor Munro into the SWRB’s professional capabilities framework. The new Chief Social Worker will advise government on social work practice and the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and young people, and the introduction of

Principal Child and Family Social Workers in local authorities will contribute to development of a career path allowing for ongoing direct work with children and families, and to strengthening the voice of practitioners in management.

3.4 **Theme 4: Strengthening accountability and creating a learning system** (Recommendations 5, 6, 7 & 9).

The Government agrees with Professor Munro that effective multi-agency working across a wide range of professionals is critical to successes; that clear lines of accountability and roles such as designated and named professionals are vital; and that the system needs to become better at monitoring, learning and adapting. It subsequently decided to retain the statutory status of the Director of Children's Services (DCS) and the Lead Member for Children's Services, and committed to revise the statutory guidance on their roles.

4.0 **The Fifteen Recommendations**

4.1 **Recommendation 1:** the Government should revise Working Together and The Framework for Assessment.

Government Response: the Government launched new draft documents for consultation on 12th June 2012. The consultation period closes on September 4th 2012.

Warwickshire Response: No immediate action is planned in Warwickshire. There are no local plans to change prescription or monitoring arrangements with respect to assessment timescales until national changes are secure. Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board is coordinating a response to the consultation.

4.2 **Recommendation 2:** the inspection framework should examine the effectiveness of contributions of all local services to the protection of children.

Government Response: consultations on two new inspections to be introduced from April 2013 are currently underway:

- *Arrangements for the inspection of services for children looked after and care leavers*
- *Proposals for the joint inspection of multi-agency arrangements for the protection of children*

Warwickshire Response: No immediate action for Warwickshire. An inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children under the existing arrangements took place in November 2011.

4.3 **Recommendation 3:** the inspection framework should examine the child's journey and look at the effectiveness of the help provided.

Government Response: new inspection framework is to be developed by Ofsted, and is scheduled to be in place from April 2013.

Warwickshire Response: no immediate action for Warwickshire.

4.4 **Recommendation 4:** local authorities and partners should use a combination of national and local performance information to help benchmark performance, facilitate improvement and promote accountability.

Government Response: the Government will work with Children's Improvement Board to finalise a data set for use by LSCBs, practitioners and managers, based on draft Munro data set.

Warwickshire Response: No immediate actions for Warwickshire. No plans to change local data collection until national changes are secure

- 4.5 **Recommendation 5:** the existing statutory requirements for each Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to produce and publish an annual report for the Children's Trust Board should be amended, to require its submission instead to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, and, subject to the passage of legislation, to the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- Government Response:** the Government accepts this recommendation
- Warwickshire Response:** no immediate actions for Warwickshire. Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board published its latest report in spring 2012 and will comply with national requirements as and when they are introduced.
- 4.6 **Recommendation 6:** the statutory guidance, 'Working Together to Safeguard Children', should be amended to state that when monitoring and evaluating local arrangements, LSCBs should, taking account of local need, include an assessment of the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families (including the effectiveness and value for money of early help services, including early years provision), and the effectiveness of multi-agency training to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.
- Government Response:** the Government accepts this recommendation in principle and will work closely with the national LSCB chairs, ADCS (Association of Directors of Children's Services) and partner organisations, to consider existing and new mechanisms that could be in place locally for them to assess the effectiveness of early help and protective services.
- Warwickshire Response:** Warwickshire continues to develop its early help offer and the Head of Service for Early Intervention has become a member of the LSCB, and an assessment of the effectiveness of early help has recently been commissioned by the Board.
- 4.7 **Recommendation 7:** local authorities should give due consideration to protecting the discrete roles and responsibilities of a Director of Children's Services and Lead Member for Children's Services before allocating any additional functions to individuals occupying such roles. The importance, as envisaged in the Children Act 2004, of appointing individuals to positions where they have specific responsibilities for children's services should not be undermined. The Government should amend the statutory guidance issued in relation to such roles and establish the principle that, given the importance of individuals in senior positions being responsible for children's services, it should not be considered appropriate to give additional functions (that do not relate to children's services) to Directors of Children's Services and Lead Members for Children's Services unless in exceptional circumstances.
- Government Response:** the Government accepts this recommendation in principle. It is therefore retaining the statutory status of the Director of Children's Services (DCS) and the Lead Member for Children's Services. The

Department for Education (DfE) subsequently reissued statutory guidance on the roles in April 2012.

Warwickshire Response: Warwickshire's arrangements were tested in the November 2011 Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children where leadership and ambition were held to be 'Good'.

- 4.8 **Recommendation 8:** the Government should work collaboratively with the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the Royal College of General Practitioners, local authorities and others to research the impact of health reorganisation on effective partnership arrangements and the ability to provide effective help for children who are suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm.

Government Response: the Government accepts the spirit of this recommendation, but wants to go further and establish a co-produced work programme, to ensure continued improvement and the development of effective arrangements to safeguard and promote children's welfare as central considerations of the health reforms. The Department of Health (DoH) will work with the DfE, NHS bodies, local authorities, professional bodies and practitioners to agree a co-produced work programme.

Warwickshire Response: no immediate actions for Warwickshire. The local impact of health reforms are kept under review by the LSCB.

- 4.9 **Recommendation 9:** the Government should require LSCBs to use systems methodology when undertaking Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) and, over the coming year, work with the sector to develop national resources to: provide accredited, skilled and independent reviewers to jointly work with LSCBs on each SCR; and to promote the development of a variety of systems-based methodologies to learn from practice.

Government Response: the Government agrees, and will consider further how to implement.

Warwickshire Response: The LSCB is currently using systems methodology to examine a 'near miss'. This review is designed to provide us with the experience to utilise new methodologies, once they have been agreed, in any future serious case reviews.

- 4.10 **Recommendation 10:** the Government should place a duty on LAs and statutory partners to secure sufficient provision of local early help services for children, young people and families.

Government Response: the Government decided that it was unnecessary to make this a statutory duty.

Warwickshire Response: Warwickshire continues to develop its early help offer, the Head of Service for Early Intervention has become a member of the LSCB and an assessment of the effectiveness of early help is to be considered by the LSCB in December.

- 4.11 **Recommendation 11:** the Social Work Reform Board's Professional Capabilities Framework should incorporate capabilities necessary for child and family social work. This framework should explicitly inform social work qualification training, postgraduate professional development and performance appraisal.

Government Response: The Government agrees that the skill base and competence of social workers working in child protection must be both explicit and a force for improving practice, training and professional development. Detailed work will need to be done with key partners, including the SWRB, the HPC (which has taken over responsibility for the regulation of social workers) and the College of Social Work to explore how best child and family-specific capabilities will fit within the wider capabilities framework, and how to make effective links between the capabilities, initial education, CPD and performance management.

Warwickshire Response: Warwickshire keeps progress in sight and under review through its Staff Development Advisory Group. We are in the process of introducing a new professional capabilities framework for social workers that has been developed in response to Munro.

- 4.12 **Recommendation 12:** employers and higher education institutions (HEIs) should work together so that social work students are prepared for challenges of child protection work.

Government Response: the Social Work Reform Board is working with HEIs to improve calibre of entrants and quality of education; the Government is exploring new models in achieving this such as 'Step Up to Social Work'.

Warwickshire Response: Warwickshire is introducing an Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE) as the final stage of becoming a social worker. Under this scheme, newly qualified social workers have protected caseloads and enhanced training during their first year in employment after qualification.

- 4.13 **Recommendation 13:** local authorities and their partners should start an ongoing process to review and redesign the ways in which child and family social work is delivered.

Government Response: the Government accepts the case for redesigning the way in which child and family social work is delivered and recognises that this is already happening in a number of local areas. Local attention should be given to creating conditions which value the continuity of relationships with children and families, and promotes effective evidence-based social work practice.

Warwickshire Response: children's social care teams are currently being reorganised into teams containing 'practices' of common interest. A service review of EDT is also underway, as is a corporate strategic commissioning review. Our work with Dartington Social Research Unit will inform further re-design and encourage the development and introduction of additional evidence-based programmes.

- 4.14 **Recommendation 14:** local authorities should designate a Principal Child and Family Social Worker, who is a senior manager with lead responsibility for practice in the local authority and who is still actively involved in front line practice and who can report the views and experiences of the front line to all levels of management.

Government Response: Government accepts the need for an explicit link between management and practice. Government recognises that the role of the Principal Child and Family Social Worker is necessary for the system to respond to the needs of children and families and be open to feedback. The

Government also supports Professor Munro's view that experienced social workers should be able to follow a career path that takes them to senior levels in the organisation without losing their prime focus on developing social work expertise.

Warwickshire Response: it has become clear that this post links to recommendation 15 and that Principal Social Workers will relate their work to that of the Chief Social Worker. A similar duty is proposed for adult services within the recently launched White Paper '*Caring for our future: reforming care and support*'. We need greater understanding of what will be required of Principal Social Workers before finalising our delivery models. In the interim, the Head of Safeguarding has been designated as responsible for the role.

- 4.15 **Recommendation 15:** a Chief Social Worker should be created in Government, whose duties should include advising the Government on social work practice and informing the Secretary of State's annual report to Parliament on the working of the Children Act 1989.

Government Response: The Government accepts the proposal for a Chief Social Worker to provide a permanent professional presence for social work within Government. The Government sees this role as being complementary to any corresponding professional body, for example, the College of Social Work. The Government is clear that the scope of this post will be to cover children and adults and will report jointly to the Secretaries of State for Education and Health. Recruitment is underway and a post holder should be in place by the end of the year.

Warwickshire Response: N/A

5.0 Munro Demonstrator Site

- 5.1 Warwickshire has recently been selected by the Children's Improvement Board as one of nine national demonstrator sites, representing authorities who are taking a whole system approach to the implementation of the Munro recommendations in order to demonstrate an improvement in outcomes for children and families. In this context, a whole system approach means considering the leadership, workforce and systems aspects of change. The sites are not expected to have found detailed solutions nor be experts in particular areas, but to be willing to share the challenges they have identified, the process they are undergoing to manage them and the changes this makes.

- 5.2 As a 'Munro Development Demonstrator' Warwickshire has committed to:

Be part of a national observatory network, working as an action research project, to share and disseminate best practice and develop sector expertise. This will involve at least 2 national meetings during the life of the project. Each site must undertake to host 10 one day site visits between 1st October 2012 and 31st March 2013 for peer Councils including the production of briefing materials and follow up to lines of further enquiry. These visits are not a show and tell exercise but to support peer councils to work together on key challenges and co-create solutions. These could be in the form of action learning sets which demonstrators will be offered training and support to deliver.

There is also a requirement for us to participate in a national evaluation of the methodology of the demonstrators.

- 5.3 To become a 'Development Demonstrator' we were required to exhibit:
- A leadership commitment to champion the implementation of the Munro recommendations as part of a whole systems approach.
 - A developing approach to the effective commissioning of services including, where appropriate, work with the third sector, social enterprises and commercial business partners.
 - A track record of cultural change within the workforce including, as applicable, integrated working and social work reform.
 - Evidence of testing and learning from systems change which may include cross boundary and cross sector working, technological based improvements, personalised budgets, community budgeting and payment by results.
 - A strong learning culture and a commitment to sector led improvement.
- 5.4 As a 'Development Demonstrator' we will receive:
- £20,000 in cash to facilitate our commitments
 - Training in action learning and to develop research capacity
 - National CIB commissioned support for the observatory network
 - Access to learning from previous relevant pilots, best practice and sector expertise
 - Access to expertise in commissioning and productivity
 - Access to expertise in integrated working
- 5.5 During the initial set-up phase in September we will be supported to scope our project and have access to relevant learning from previous and current related projects. We will also be given support to develop our capacity to work in an action research manner, including the use of action learning sets.
- 5.6 During the main project delivery phase the sites will be supported to work together. At the conclusion of the project, the work will be evaluated and the sites supported to develop an on-going way to share learning and development.
- 5.7 This process provides us with a real opportunity to ensure that we are fully engaging in the new agenda for social work and learning all that we can from other local authorities.

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The collaborative spirit in which Professor Munro's report *and* the Government's response to her recommendations have been developed is a model for future reviews of this nature.
- 6.2 The wide range of those to whom Ministers have engaged (including schools, health bodies and the police, all currently subject to reform programmes), emphasises the extent to which effective child protection depends on the active and informed involvement of all those working with children, young

people and their families. It is essential that, in turn, they all recognise this responsibility.

- 6.3 Whole system change requires long-term commitment and energy. Government is beginning to put the underpinnings of the system in place and there are a number of key documents out for consultation.
- 6.4 As a 'Munro Demonstrator Site', our continued progress will remain under scrutiny and challenge, and we will have access to the high-quality support and knowledge of what works best that we need to ensure that we deliver the best possible services within available resources.

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Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

6 September 2012

Sub-regional Collaboration

Recommendation

To scrutinise and comment upon the potential project areas of sub-regional work, so that the Committee's views can be incorporated into the programme presented for Cabinet decision.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In March 2012, the Leaders of Coventry City Council, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (see Appendix A) agreeing to seek to work collaboratively wherever possible. Programmes of activity have been considered by the relevant officers, initially led by the three Directors of Children's Services and more recently including lead Members. This report seeks to set out the areas of work where we will be exploring the feasibility for more formal collaboration, building on existing collaborative work. A further report will be made available in due course, covering anticipated savings as these become better understood.

2.0 Programme

- 2.1 A long list of items has been considered by officers and a shortlist identified that offers the best added value. Proposals were evaluated in terms of their ability to offer benefits in terms of improving the quality of service, achieving efficiencies and savings, and delivering each council's policy objectives.
- 2.2 We have developed a comprehensive understanding of our budgetary, savings and transformational landscape; and used this to review the potential for more joint procurement.
- 2.3 Existing collaboration includes:
- Sub-regional fostering framework agreement
 - CAMHS LAC service
 - Careers guidance
 - Children's rights independent visitor
 - Supervised child contract
 - Advice and mediation for foster carers

3.0 Projects being taken forward:

- 3.1 Fostering services – to start to consider the benefits and challenges of closer collaboration between services in each Council, and in particular to:

- Review the cost of Independent Foster Agency placements.
- Develop the feasibility of a 'bespoke' fostering service to add support services to foster placements, enabling children and young people to remain in their communities rather than be placed either out of county or in specialist independent-sector foster placements at significantly higher cost.
- There will be implications around foster placements of certain young people with certain protected characteristics and also the carers. Consideration will be given on equality issues and will be fully explored when developing the service.

3.2 Education – to explore the potential for sharing the costs of a monitoring and intelligence service to provide early warning of performance to inform local staff.

3.3 Transport – to explore ways to secure greater efficiency and find cost savings connecting with the wider sub-regional workstream on transport.

4.0 Projects considered, but found not to offer added value:

4.1 Music/performing arts – now largely funded via direct grant.

4.2 External residential placements – already an active regional project.

4.3 Training for foster carers and youth workers – already embedded in processes to supervise and retain staff.

4.4 Other services were considered but deemed to require a local response – e.g., child protection, family support, youth support.

5.0 Financial implications

While there are no financial implications arising from this report, any future financial savings or efficiencies that may be realised will be factored into the corporate budget planning process for consideration.

Background Papers

1. Memorandum of Understanding (**Appendix A**)

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Memorandum of Understanding

Coventry City, Solihull Metropolitan Borough and Warwickshire County Councils

March 2012

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 It is the expressed intention of Coventry City, Solihull Metropolitan Borough and Warwickshire County Councils to improve outcomes for the communities we serve.
- 1.2 By working together we recognise that we will be better able to deliver efficiency savings and reduce cost whilst building resilience across our organisations and thus improve the quality of services our customers and citizens experience, based upon agreed priorities by the three authorities
- 1.3 It is the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to act as a Statement of Intent which will support the realisation of these benefits.
- 1.4 More detailed arrangements will be established on a service by service basis as required in support of this generic Statement of Intent.

2.0 Participating organisations

- 2.1 The Partners ("we") covered by this Agreement are: Coventry City Council, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council
- 2.2 This is not an exclusive agreement and other public sector organisations (and third sector) in and outside the sub region will be extended both an open invitation to join this Agreement and an opportunity to participate on individual projects where there is considered to be a mutual benefit. This will include District & Borough Councils, Police and Health organisations

3.0 Approach

- 3.1 Through this Agreement we agree that when we are reviewing the way in which we commission and / or deliver a service our first step will be to consult each other to see whether a shared solution is the best way forward.
- 3.2 By shared solution we mean investigating the whole range of options from jointly commissioning a service from the private sector at one end of the spectrum to one of the partners delivering the service on behalf of all the partners at the other end of the spectrum.
- 3.3 Collaboration will only be implemented where there is mutual benefit and respect for local interests. Each of the Partner organisations will decide whether to participate in shared arrangements for a particular service based upon whether those arrangements "work for them".
- 3.4 Partner organisations will be open and transparent in all we do and recognise the impact of our decisions on each other.

4.0 Scope

- 4.1 The full scope of services (statutory and non-statutory) that each of the Partner organisations is responsible for, either through commissioning or direct delivery will be considered to fall under the scope of this Agreement, subject to the differing topology of local government in the respective areas
- 4.2 To ensure the preservation of local decision making and current accountabilities, the organisational and political sovereignty of the Partner organisations will be retained and deemed outside the scope of this Agreement
- 4.3 All staff will strive for effective collaboration across the Partner organisations.

5.0 Success criteria

- 5.1 Congruent with the intention expressed in Section 1 of this Agreement, success will be measured against the achievement of the respective outcomes across the Partner organisations.
- 5.2 The direct benefits of the collaboration across the Partner organisation will be considered, but not exclusively as:
 - Increased efficiency
 - Reduced service costs
 - Increased resilience in service provision
 - Improved quality of customer service experience
- 5.3 Any financial benefits accrued from the associated activity will be realised within the respective partner organisations and form part of our respective savings plans.
- 5.4 In addition to monitoring the realisation of the benefits above, effort will also be made to capture examples of greater joined up working, increased connectivity and improved ways of working across the Partner organisations.

6.0 Resourcing

- 6.1 Each Partner will provide the appropriate resources and will act with integrity and consistency to support of the intention set out in this Agreement.

7.0 Term

- 7.1 The term of this Agreement will be open ended, with regular review periods built in to monitor the realisation of benefits accruing from the collaboration.

8.0 Legal Effect

- 8.1 This Agreement is produced as a Statement of Intent and is not legally binding.

9.0 Signatories on behalf of the Partner Organisations

9.1 This Memorandum of Understanding is signed and dated by the following partners:

**On behalf of
Coventry City Council:**

Signed: J. R. Mutton

Cllr John Mutton
Leader of Coventry City
Council

Date 2nd MARCH 2012

**On behalf of Solihull
Metropolitan Borough
Council:**

Signed: Ken Meeson

Cllr Ken Meeson
Leader of Solihull Metropolitan
Borough Council

Date 2nd March 2012

**On behalf of Warwickshire
County Council:**

Signed: Alan Farnell

Cllr Alan Farnell
Leader of Warwickshire County
Council

Date: 2nd March 2012

Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

6 September 2012

Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Recommendation

To consider the report and the initiatives being taken to reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training, and to make any appropriate recommendations.

1.0 Purpose of report

At its meeting in February 2012, the Committee considered an [initial report](#) on young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs), which set out the policy context in which the Authority is working with young people who are NEET in Warwickshire. Following this, the Committee requested a more detailed report on the number of NEETs by area.

2.0 Background

2.1 Recent changes in legislation, the economic climate and government budget savings are having an impact on the number of young people who are NEET. These factors were detailed in the previous paper and include:

- A new duty on schools to provide impartial information advice and guidance (IAG) to young people in statutory education from September 2012.
- The replacement of the Education Maintenance Allowance by a Bursary Fund.
- Difficulties experienced by providers in the delivery of the Foundation Learning programme due to the requirements of the new model.
- Reduced transport subsidies for post-16 learners.
- A reduction in the funding available for commissioning impartial IAG.

2.2 The Government is committed to reducing the numbers of young people who are NEET and tackling youth unemployment, and the number of NEETs remains a key performance measure for Warwickshire County Council.

2.3 The Government's Raising the Participation Age (RPA) strategy raises the age that young people remain in education or training to age 17 by 2013 and up to their 18th birthday from 2015. Young people will be able to participate in a way that best suits their needs and aspirations; for instance in full-time education at school or college; on an Apprenticeship or part time if they are also working or volunteering full time. Promoting effective participation in education and training is a statutory duty of the Local Authority under the Education and Skills Act (2008).

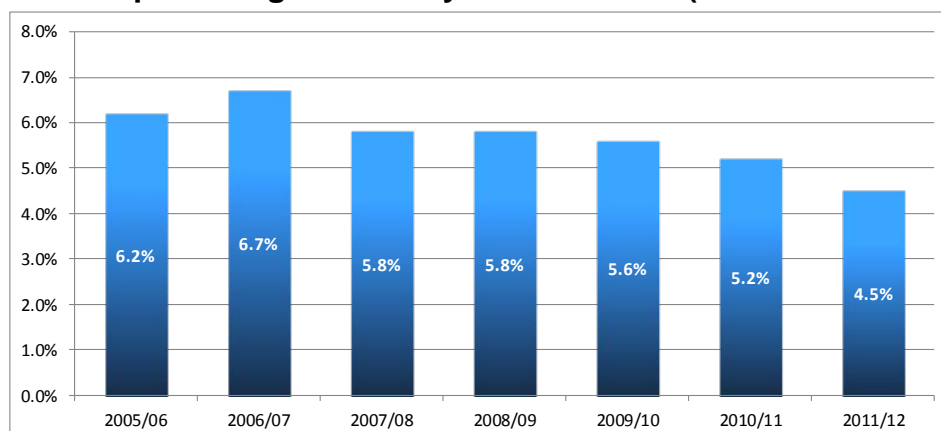
3.0 Issues

- 3.1 The DfE-published Warwickshire NEET figure for 2011/12 stands at 4.5%. The proportion of young people county-wide aged 16-18 who are NEET is below the national average, and is falling. However, the numbers of NEETs are not uniform across the county with higher numbers and percentages in North Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth.
- 3.2 The percentage of NEETs at age 17 and 18 are significantly higher than at age 16.

4.0 NEETs in Warwickshire

- 4.1 There are three different measures of the number of NEETs on which we are required to report:
- The number of 16-18 year olds who are NEET
 - September Guarantee of an offer of learning for young people in years 11 and 12
 - Destinations of young people at the end of Year 11
- 4.2 The DfE-published NEET figure is an average of the November, December and January submissions to the DfE from the contracted Information Advice and Guidance provider. Up until 2010/11, this covered 16-18 year olds in Warwickshire institutions. This changed in 2011/12 to include young people resident in Warwickshire up to the end of the academic year in which they become 19.
- 4.3 Warwickshire has seen the number of NEETs reduce from a peak of 6.7% in 2006/07 to 4.5% in 2011/12. This represents around 830 (estimated) young people aged 16-18 of the 18,418 cohort. It places Warwickshire 30th of 152 Local Authorities in England and 2nd within Warwickshire's group of 11 statistical neighbours (those local authorities deemed to have similar characteristics and used for benchmarking progress).

Table 1: percentage of 16-18 year old NEETs (2005-06 to 2011-12)



Source DfE

Table 2: number of 16-18 year olds who are NEET by district

District	NEET		
	Actual Age 16-18		Academic Age 16-18
	Jan-10	Jan-11	Jan-12
North Warwickshire	8.4% (127)	7.5% (106)	5.2% (97)
Nuneaton & Bedworth	6.2% (260)	6.8% (275)	4.6% (212)
Rugby	7.2% (214)	4.7% (132)	3.9% (119)
Stratford	3.1% (97)	2.9% (87)	3.3% (118)
Warwick	4.6% (171)	4.6% (162)	4.0% (152)

Source CSWP

Table 3: percentage and number of NEETs by age group

Age	NEET % (estimated n ^o)
Age 16	3.0% (180)
Age 17	4.3% (270)
Age 18	7.3% (440)
Combined	4.5% (890)

Source DfE

4.4 Vulnerable Learners

From 2012, the IAG provider is reporting quarterly on NEETs by:

- Young people with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LDD)
- Young people supervised by young offenders team (YOT)
- Pupil Referral Unit attendance (PRU)/excluded pupils
- Looked after children (LAC)
- Teenage mothers
- Teenage pregnancy
- Ethnicity (Black and Minority Ethnic, BME)

Quarter 1 data provides information for June 2012 where the total number of NEETs is at its lowest point in the year and stands at 3.2% (543). Table 4 sets out the number and percentage of vulnerable young people who are NEET as at June 2012.

Table 4: Warwickshire 16-18 NEETs by vulnerable group, June 2012

Vulnerable Group	Proportion of vulnerable group who are NEET	Others in vulnerable group not NEET	Proportion of NEET cohort of 543
YOT (aged 16-17)	21.3% (19)	78.7% (70)	3.5%
LAC	16.7% (18)	83.3% (90)	3.3%
LDD (aged 16-25)	6.8% (125)	93.2% (1,717)	23.0%
PRU/excluded	19.6% (33)	80.4% (135)	6.1%
Teenage mothers	31.5% (81)	68.5% (176)	14.9%
Teenage pregnancy	32.6% (30)	67.4% (62)	5.5%

Source CSWP

The percentage of Warwickshire's black and minority young people (BME) who are NEET is at 2.1% (33). Because this percentage is lower than the

cohort as a whole, they are not included as an identified vulnerable group in the table above.

4.5 NEETs targets

Table 5 sets out the agreed NEETs targets based on the number of young people in post-16 provision in Warwickshire institutions.

Table 5: 16-18 NEETs Targets 2010-2015

	2010 Target	2010 Actual	2011 Target	2011 Actual	2012 Target	2013 Target	2014 Target	2015 Target
Existing targets	4.6%	5.2%	5.2%	4.5%*	5.2%	5.0%	TBC	TBC

**based on the new methodology, which measures young people resident in Warwickshire up to the end of the academic year in which they become 19*

Table 6 sets out proposed targets for NEETs based on the new methodology, which Cabinet will be asked to agree.

Table 6: 16-18 NEETs Targets 2010-2015

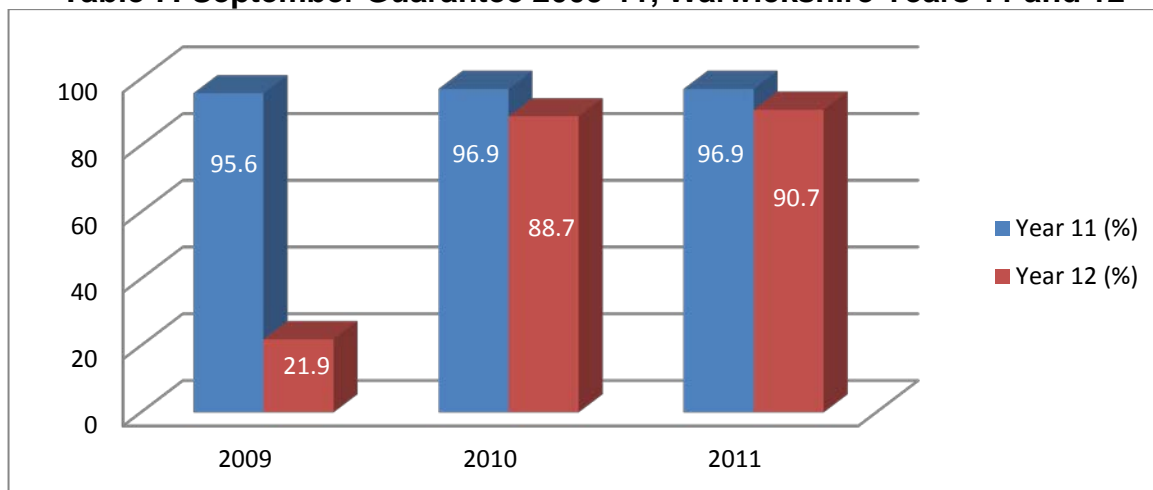
	2010 Target	2010 Actual	2011 Target	2011 Actual	2012 Target	2013 Target	2014 Target	2015 Target
Proposed targets	4.6%	5.8%*	5.2%	4.5%	4.5%	4.0%	3.0%	2.0%

**recalculated using new methodology*

4.6 September Guarantee

The September Guarantee is an offer of learning to all young people at the end of year 11 and year 12. This measure originated in Coventry and Warwickshire and is now national policy. Warwickshire stands at 96.9% and is the highest year 11 offer of learning across England. The Local Authority has focused effectively on increasing the offer of learning at year 12, resulting in an increase from 21.9% in 2009 to 90.7% in 2011. The year 12 target for 2012 is 93%.

Table 7: September Guarantee 2009-11, Warwickshire Years 11 and 12



Source CSWP

4.7 Destinations at the end of year 11

The Year 11 Activity Survey is an annual survey undertaken in November which reports the educational/employment outcome statistics of young people educated in Warwickshire and who completed their statutory education at the end of June. Table 8 below shows that in 2011, 95.7% of Warwickshire young people in Year 11 entered a positive destination decreasing slightly from 97% in 2009.

Table 8: 2006-11 Warwickshire destinations at the end of year 11

Status	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Continuing in Education	80.3%	80.6%	83.4%	88.1%	89.2%	89.5%
Training (non-employed)	2.4%	2.5%	2.8%	2.3%	1.8%	0.6%
Employment	9.7%	10.9%	8.9%	5.8%	4.9%	5.1%
Vol & P/t Activities	1.2%	0.9%	0.7%	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%
Positive Outcomes	93.5%	94.9%	95.8%	97.0%	96.2%	95.7%
NEET	5.6%	4.4%	3.7%	2.7%	3.2%	3.1%
Not Available Left Area	0.9%	0.7%	0.6%	0.3%	0.6%	1.3%
Negative Outcomes	6.5%	5.1%	4.2%	3.0%	3.8%	4.3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100.0%

Source: Year 11 Activity Survey 2011, Connexions. Percentages rounded to one decimal point - this may make sub-totals appear erroneous.

5.0 Initiatives to engage those young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET

Reducing the number of NEETs remains a high priority for the Government and the Council. Detailed below are the initiatives being taken currently to support young people into education, employment or training.

- (i) A Risk of NEET indicator (RONI) has been developed to support the DfE national strategy of raising the participation age. It provides an analysis of the data held by the Authority on young people in year 10 and identifies the characteristics that evidence has shown, puts the young person at risk of becoming NEET by age 16 (see **Appendix 1**).

Following a pilot in five secondary schools of the RONI process during 2011/12, the Authority will:

- Work with 18 secondary schools in Warwickshire to provide RONI reports in September 2012. Schools will use these to plan intervention measures at targeted year 10 pupils.
 - Roll out RONI programme to all secondary schools by 2013.
- (ii) The Authority commissions provision from a wide range of learning providers to ensure that there are sufficient places across the county in education and/or training for young people. It also seeks to influence externally funded European Social Fund (ESF) programmes in a commissioning capacity to ensure that provision is secured where it is most needed geographically, i.e., in the north of the county. Currently for 14-16 year olds who are at risk of becoming NEET, there are 270 places of learning for young people funded by ESF. This contract is managed

by North Warwickshire and Hinckley College, is countywide and is delivered by a number of sub-contracted institutions. For 16-18 year olds who are NEET, the number of ESF-funded places is 639 delivered over a three-year period. This contract is managed by CSWP and is also available across the county.

- (iii) The Authority currently contracts with Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership (CSWP Ltd) who are the commissioned IAG provider for vulnerable groups. The contract prioritises work with NEETs and provides support and guidance to young people on a 1:1 basis and in group sessions. The contract also ensures the placing of young people with suitable learning providers and the tracking, monitoring and reporting on the status of all young people. The contract focuses on vulnerable groups and there is dedicated Connexions advisor time for Looked After Children/care leavers; teenage mothers; young offenders and young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities.
- (iv) A 2012 summer programme has been commissioned with places for 90 learners across a range of providers targeted at PRU leavers, young people who have been home educated and Looked After Children. The provision aims to re-engage young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET and provides support to encourage young people to continue in learning as part of the September guarantee.
- (v) North Warwickshire and Hinckley College have secured funding as part of a Government trial to provide 15 young people who have special educational needs with intensive support into long-term paid work. The programme is called 'Supported Internships' and is due to start in autumn 2012.
- (vi) The Authority convenes and is represented at a wide range of external meetings sharing information on performance and exploring where collaboration is possible in order to reduce NEETs e.g., County NEET group, 11-19 County Strategic Partnership.
- (vii) The work undertaken to reduce NEETs is a key work stream of the Authority's strategy to meet the requirements of the raising of the participation age.
- (viii) Discussions are underway with the Troubled Families Coordinator with a view to including work with families that include a member of one of the vulnerable groups (see above) within the Troubled Families programme.

6.0 Summary

- 6.1 While the number and percentage of young people who are NEET compares well with other neighbouring authorities and nationally, it is a concern that there are a significant number of young people who are not in employment, education or training at 16 when they leave school and that the number grows at age 17. It is a further concern that numbers of NEETs are higher in the north of the county. The Committee will note as well that a very significant

number of these young people are from vulnerable groups. The initiatives set out in this report sets out some of the initiatives to track young people but more particularly to intervene early to prevent young people becoming NEET. However, it will require a coordinated and coherent response from all the agencies and organisations supporting vulnerable young people, including Target Youth Support, support for excluded children, early intervention and the Trouble Families initiatives to reduce these figures further faced with a difficult financial context.

- 6.2 The Committee is asked to comment on the report and the approach taken to reduce the numbers of young people not in education, employment or training.

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Risk of NEET Indicators (RONI), Phase 3, May 2012

Contributing Factors:

1. Has a SEN Status
2. Is Pregnant or teenage mother
3. Is a Looked After Child
4. Is supervised by the Youth Offending Team
5. Didn't achieve the National average score at Key Stage 2
6. Didn't achieve the National average score at Key Stage 3
7. School attendance is below 85%
8. Experienced one or more Fixed Term Exclusions
9. Experienced one or more Permanent School Exclusions

Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6 September 2012

A Framework for the Commissioning of Post-16 Provision

Recommendation

To scrutinise the Framework for commissioning post-16 provision set out in Section 6 of the report, and to forward any comments to Cabinet for their consideration.

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to set out an approach to the commissioning of post-16 provision, which recognises the autonomy and freedom of colleges, training providers and now academy schools, and therefore the very different role to be played by the Council.

2.0 Statutory Duties

- 2.1 The Council has a statutory duty to secure suitable education and training in order to meet the needs of young people in Warwickshire who are over compulsory school age but under the age of 19.
- 2.2 For young people who have a learning disability or difficulty, the Council remains responsible for meeting their needs until the age of 25.
- 2.3 The Education and Skills Act 2008 raises the participation age (RPA) that young people remain in education or training to age 17 from 2013, and to their 18th birthday from 2015. The Council is required to promote the participation of all 16 and 17 year olds in education and training and to identify those young people who are not participating.
- 2.4 How the Council exercises its responsibilities and commissions post-16 provision is complex since most provision will be made in institutions which are not the statutory responsibility of the Council. In most circumstances, decisions as to the expansion or reduction of provision will be taken by those institutions and not by the Council. The commissioning of the majority of provision must therefore be undertaken in partnership and agreement with institutions.
- 2.5 The Education Funding Agency (EFA) is responsible for funding post-16 provision whether in schools, colleges or with training providers. Funding is based on 'lagged' student numbers, i.e., providers will receive funding for the academic year 2012-2013 based on actual student numbers in 2011-2012. Special arrangements are in place to fund new provision such as new opening

sixth forms. The Skills Funding Agency (SFA) is responsible for funding Apprenticeship providers and, through the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS), commissioning apprenticeship places nationally. From April 2013, the Council will receive the funding in respect of 'high need' learners and will be expected to commission appropriate provision for this group of young people.

3.0 Context

3.1 Current Providers

Post-16 education is currently provided via:

- School sixth forms (22 of the 35 secondary schools currently have sixth forms)
- Special schools (6 of the 7 special schools offer post-16 provision)
- Colleges of further education (FE) (there are 3 in Warwickshire: North Warwickshire & Hinckley College, Warwickshire College and Stratford College. Provision is delivered through a number of local campuses, e.g., Rugby)
- Sixth form college (King Edward VI College in Nuneaton)
- Training providers (approximately 10 providers delivering foundation learning/work-based learning and 171 delivering Apprenticeship Training)
- Specialist colleges and non-maintained independent specialist schools for young people with learning difficulties or disabilities

3.2 New Provision

3.2.1 Permission has been given to North Warwickshire & Hinckley College to open two studio schools in Hinckley and North Warwickshire. The Hinckley studio school will open in September 2012; the studio school in North Warwickshire is planned to open in September 2013.

3.2.2 A studio school provides for young people aged 14-19 with 300 places in total. They are intended to have innovative methods of teaching and learning, an emphasis on vocational and applied qualifications and close links with employers.

3.2.3 A submission has also been approved to establish a University Technology College (UTC). The preferred site is Westwood School, Coventry. The UTC will be led by Warwick University in partnership with Jaguar Land Rover. It will provide again for 300 students aged 14-19 and will offer applied and vocational qualifications linked to engineering and technology.

3.2.4 Plans for other UTCs within Warwickshire have been discussed and UTCs have opened or will be opening in neighbouring authorities. These institutions will attract learners currently attending Warwickshire schools.

3.2.5 It is open to Academy Schools currently offering 11-16 provision to seek permission from the Secretary of State to open post-16 provision, with a presumption that agreement will be given. In this situation, the Council is a consultee but has no part in the decision-making process. One 11-16 Academy in Warwickshire has applied to the Secretary of State to open post-

16 provision, one 11-16 Academy is opening a sixth form from September 2012 through franchise arrangements with a Coventry secondary school and other 11-16 Academies are entering similar arrangements with FE colleges. Under franchise arrangements, the students are on the roll of the existing provider but the courses are delivered in whole or in part on the site of the 11-16 school and using the staff of that school.

3.3 Sufficiency

- 3.3.1 Studies carried out jointly by the Council and the Learning & Skills Council (the body responsible at the time for post-16 provision) indicated that broadly there was sufficient post-16 provision at all levels across the county, with a combination of sixth forms, FE and sixth form college provision and training providers. However, recent data indicates that there are insufficient apprenticeship places to meet the needs of all young people seeking employment with training opportunities.
- 3.3.2 Under the previous government, outstanding schools with certain specialisms were given the opportunity to develop post-16 provision with a presumption that such developments would be approved by the Council. Two schools in Nuneaton and one in Alcester opened new sixth forms under these arrangements in September 2011. In addition, the Nuneaton Academy also opened a sixth form in September 2011. Capital funding was made available for all four developments from national monies.
- 3.3.3 The development of new provision already adds to the diversity of existing provision and increases access and the choice of institutions available to students and it is argued that competition will lead to higher standards. However, all of the new sixth forms have focussed on Level 3 academic qualifications, principally A-levels. The growth in the number of providers, while the number of learners at this level remains static, at best raises questions of value for money and provider viability. There is evidence from national research that generally small sixth forms are less successful than larger providers and are unable to offer on their own the breadth of subject choices.
- 3.3.4 In such a diverse system, impartial information, advice and guidance (IAG) for students is key to ensuring young people take up appropriate courses which meet their abilities, needs and aspirations. From September 2012, responsibility for providing IAG will lie with schools and not the Local Authority as previously, although local authorities remain responsible for providing IAG for vulnerable groups of young people. Protocols around the delivery of IAG are being developed to ensure that young people are on appropriate courses to prevent 'drop out' and poor outcomes.

3.4 Issues

- 3.4.1 The more applied and employer-led learning offered by Studio Schools and University Technology Colleges further adds to the diversity and choice and opportunities for young people from age 14, but represents additional

provision when the number of students is not actually increasing. Age 14 is not a normal institutional admission point for Warwickshire learners, however the Admissions Service is working with the newly emerging organisations to ensure a smooth transition for our young people at this stage should they require it. The Access and Organisation Team will monitor the numbers of young people in Warwickshire schools and draw to members' attention instances of falling rolls which could affect the financial viability of individual institutions.

- 3.4.2 The numbers of young people wishing to access an apprenticeship have risen markedly in recent months. This rise in demand coupled with the decrease in employment opportunities generally has resulted in insufficient apprenticeship places being available to meet the needs. Officers in Learning and Achievement are working closely with Economic Development teams both within the County and District Councils to support the "Going for Growth" agenda by developing and implementing strategies to engage employers and to stimulate the market. Regular meetings are held with the National Apprenticeship Service to identify gaps (whether geographic or occupational) and to commission additional provision where possible.

4.0 Quality

- 4.1 Clearly the initial focus of the commissioning process is the sufficiency of provision, but the quality of provision is also a significant concern.
- 4.2 Responsibility for quality lies with the Governors of the institution. For non-Academy schools with sixth forms (9 schools at September 2012), the Local Authority will monitor the quality of the provision (attainment, achievement, retention, destination) and intervene in line with the strategy for school improvement.
- 4.3 For other providers, including FE colleges, the Local Authority will monitor the quality of provision and draw to the attention of the leadership of that provider any concerns the LA may have and offer brokerage support as appropriate. Concerns regarding the quality of 16-19 provision relating to any provider may be escalated upwards to the EFA/SFA/NAS and ultimately to the Secretary of State.
- 4.4 The current strategy for secondary school improvement is being revised and developed to reflect the rapidly changing landscape in relation to the newly emerging and diverse providers of 14-19 education and training. Elected members will be asked to consider and approve the revised strategy in the autumn.

5.0 Vulnerable Learners

- 5.1 The Council will work to ensure that there is sufficient, high-quality provision which meets the needs of all learners across the county, with particular emphasis on those groups of vulnerable young people, and those young people who may be disadvantaged because of a protected characteristic.

Provision will be identified and supported which addresses the needs of young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and encourages those who face multiple barriers to remain in learning until they have reached their full potential.

6.0 The Commissioning of Post-16 provision

6.1 Notwithstanding the statutory duties of the Council decisions on the pattern of post-16 provision and accountability for its quality are not the responsibility of the Council but of individual institutions themselves. However, as the 'champion of the learner' the Council does have a responsibility to secure the entitlement of young people to the broadest range of courses and programmes and impartial advice and guidance to inform their choices.

The role of the Council therefore is to:

- Establish a framework based on an agreed set of agreed principles in which decisions are made
- Provide data and information on potential student numbers and the sufficiency and quality of existing provision
- Identify gaps in provision and negotiate with providers to ensure needs are met
- Support the improvement of the quality for the education and training provided for young people and intervene where necessary
- Promote partnerships and collaboration to ensure access for all students to the broadest range of courses and programmes both academic and applied

6.2 A set of post 16-principles were agreed following consultation with the County Strategic Partnership and individual schools, colleges and training providers at the meeting of the Cabinet on 27th January 2011. They are given as **Appendix A**.

6.3 The Commissioning Cycle

6.3.1 The Council will undertake a strategic review of post-16 provision on an annual basis and prepare a position statement for each area of the county including information and data on:

- Demographic trends and current and forecast student numbers
- The number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs)
- Information on vulnerable groups e.g., Looked After Children, Gypsy Roma & Travellers, excluded pupils, young people with special educational needs and disabilities, and free school meals attainment gaps
- Current provision including participation, attainment, achievement, retention and destinations
- The national legislation and financial context, including arrangements for supporting students from deprived backgrounds e.g., 16-19 Bursary
- The local policy context, including the arrangement for post-16 transport
- The aspirations and views of young people

- 6.3.2 In the light of published data and information, the Council will meet with the County Secondary Phase Strategic Partnership, the Area 14-19 Partnerships and the Association of Training Providers to:
- Consider the sufficiency and quality of the provision available in the area, to identify any gaps in provision and how they could best be met
 - Assess any plans for new provision or the decommissioning of existing courses and programmes against the information on sufficiency and the agreed principles for commissioning post-16 provision
 - Identify where collaborative partnership arrangements can give access to more students to a greater range of courses, programmes and qualifications

A joint planning and review meeting involving lead officers from the EFA/SFA/NAS will be held at least twice a year to discuss gaps in provision, any concerns over delivery and attainment and to enable solutions to be arrived at. If necessary, the Council will meet with individual providers to discuss curriculum changes, collaborative solutions, targeting provision etc.

- 6.3.3 Where there is insufficient provision, more generally or for particular vulnerable groups, the Council will discuss with individual providers the Area Partnerships, sub-regional partners and the EFA/SFA/NAS how and where additional provision can be made/commissioned, e.g., submitting bids to the European Social Fund. Wherever possible, that new provision will be part of collaborative arrangements to ensure access and choice for the widest number of learners. Officers will work closely with the Area Partnerships to encourage and facilitate collaborative solutions where this is in the interests of the young people.

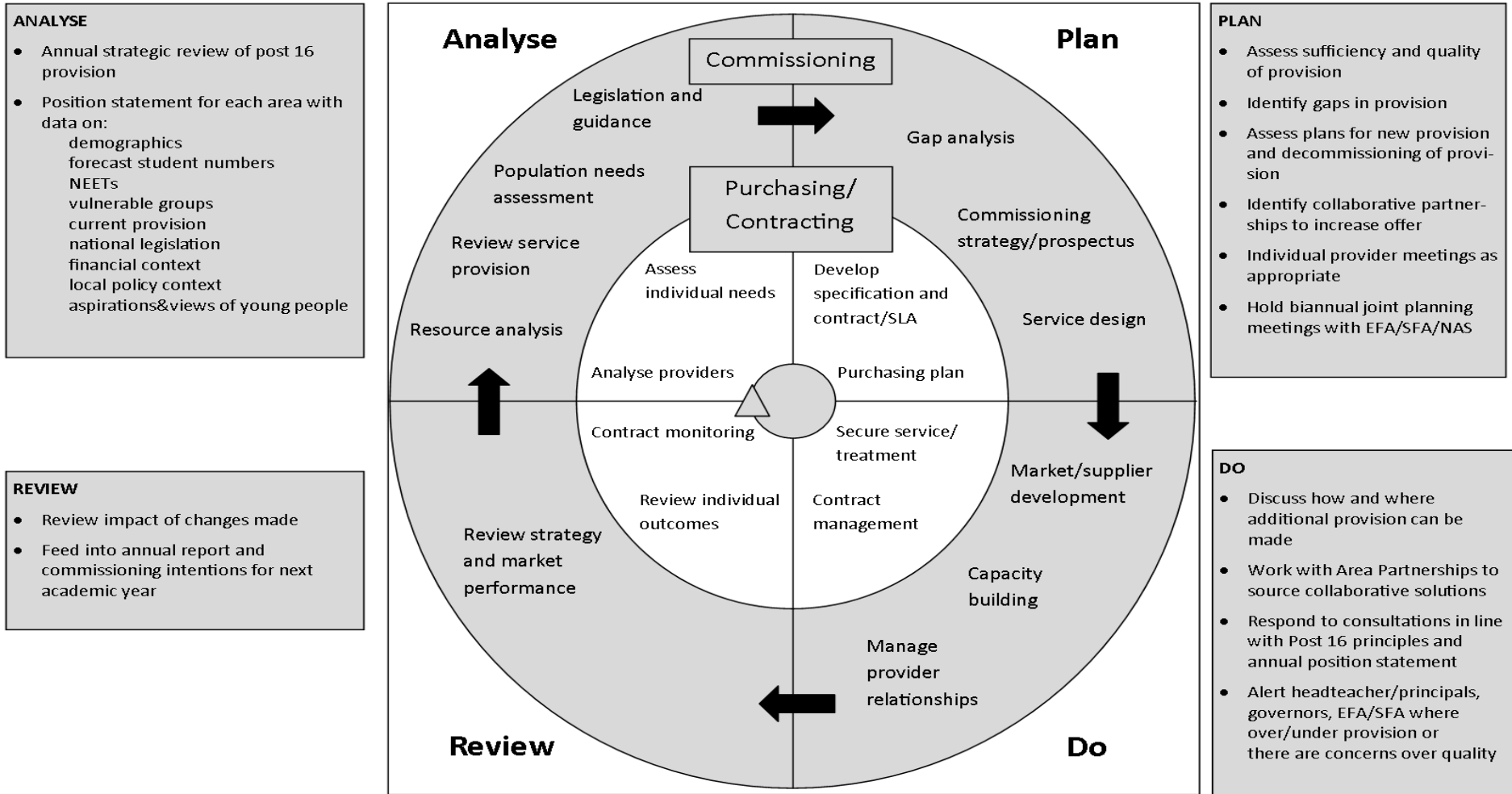
Where we are consulted on proposals to develop new provision, the Authority's response will be considered against the Post-16 principles as set out in Appendix A and the annual position statement.

Where there is too much provision or provision is not of high quality, the Council will alert the institution of those concerns initially through the headteacher and principal but also to the Governors involving the EFA/SFA as appropriate.

- 6.3.4 The Council will review the impact of the changes made and this will be fed into the annual report and commissioning intentions for the next academic year.

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COMMISSIONING OF POST 16 PROVISION



PT0948 Chart Analyse Plan

Principles for Commissioning Post 16 Provision

In considering the future options and judging the outcome for the delivery of post 16 provision in Warwickshire the following principles will be adhered to:

- 1) The needs of young people are considered as paramount and take precedence over the needs of individual institutions.
- 2) Structures and provision should result in the widest possible choice, progression and offer of curriculum opportunities for all the young people within the area and need to be responsive to learner demand.
- 3) Any proposed developments must contribute to the further raising of education, training and employment aspirations and increase overall participation.
- 4) All provision must be of a high standard as demonstrated by high levels of achievement, good completion rates and progression opportunities.
- 5) The outcome should contribute to local diversity and safeguard the interests of vulnerable young people including looked after children and those young people with special educational needs and disabilities.
- 6) Provision on offer must be fully accessible to learners and take into account sustainable transport arrangements to a learning site/opportunity.
- 7) The value for money of any proposal will be a major consideration, including any capital resource requirements. The viability of any individual post 16 institutional offer must be taken into account.
- 8) Due regard should be given to the needs of the labour market and employer demand when considering 14-19 development proposals.
- 9) The Local Authority will promote 14-19 collaborative arrangements to maximise all learner choice and opportunity.

Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

6 September 2012

Report of the Post-16 Transport Task and Finish Group

Recommendations

To consider the Task and Finish Group report and forward the recommendations to Cabinet for approval, with any necessary amendments or additions

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A Task and Finish Group of councillors was set up in March 2012 to examine the impact of the changes to the Post-16 Transport Policy agreed by Cabinet in April 2011.
- 1.2 Having considered the evidence from officers, schools, colleges, Members of the Youth Parliament and VOX, the Task and Finish Group has made six recommendations, which aim to improve partnership working between the County Council, schools and colleges, and redress issues of fairness and a lack of flexibility within the current Post-16 Transport Policy.
- 1.3 If agreed by the Committee, the report and recommendations (with any necessary amendments or additions) will then be considered by Cabinet.

2.0 Recommendations

The full report of the Task & Finish Group is appended to this covering report. However, for convenience, the six recommendations are included below:

1. The County Council should provide focused support for institutions in the whole area of post-16 transport, by implementing the following:
 - a) Enable the sharing of good practice and information about local transport arrangements
 - b) There should be greater publicity for the range of educational opportunities for students at the post-16 level, including specific publicity regarding the transport options available to enable those opportunities
 - c) Advise on, and possibly help to coordinate, local transport arrangements provided by the institutions themselves
 - d) Support local institutions in data analysis and research
 - e) In cases where this is relevant, consider offering financial support to institutions to help them provide their own transport arrangements

- f) The application of sub-regional guidelines on the use of the 16-19 Bursary in schools and colleges to ensure a consistent level of support for students between institutions
2. When considering changes to post-16 transport arrangements, the County Council should actively seek the views of the Warwickshire Members of the Youth Parliament and VOX (Warwickshire Youth Council)
 3. The County Council should investigate the possibility of a more flexible approach to the current "closed-door" policy operating on County Council-funded transport. This should include consideration of:
 - (a) Term-based passes
 - (b) 2-or 3-day week passes
 - (c) Payment on a casual basis where there are empty seats

The investigation should include the possible risks and how these might be managed. It should also include consideration of the examples of Worcestershire and Kent County Councils, whose policies are more flexible than the current Warwickshire County Council policy. The findings of this investigation should be reported initially to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4. The County Council should investigate the resource implications of making the Post-16 transport subsidy available to all low-income students. Currently it is only available to students who are able to use County Council buses. The Task and Finish Group appreciate that there will be resource implications, but feel that this is a justice issue.
5. The recent removal of the following routes is causing serious access difficulties, as indicated in the responses from several institutions. The County Council should consider the re-opening of these routes, provided either by a private operator or by the County Council.
 - (a) The cancelled route from Nuneaton to Stratford, via Rugby, Hillmorton and Baginton
 - (b) The shortened 236 route from Rugby to Moreton Morrell College
6. The County Council should take account of the level of isolation faced by some students who live in areas remote from their preferred institution, and take positive steps to redress the balance in terms of the enabling of access to post-16 courses.

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Post-16 Transport Scrutiny Review Final Report

*Working for
Warwickshire*

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 Warwickshire County Council has traditionally provided a discretionary subsidy for students travelling on the County Council-run post-16 transport service.
- 1.1.2 The County Council centrally commissioned bus services from private providers, with an annual charge payable by the student for a County Council bus pass, entitling the student to two journeys per day on a school bus. Travel on these services was subsidised by the County Council to reduce the costs to students.
- 1.1.3 The Council's Cabinet took the decision in April 2011 to remove the subsidy for post-16 transport, which increased the annual charge to the student from £400 in 2010/11 to £660 in 2011/12. Also as part of this decision, the number of services provided by the Council was reduced, with some services being run directly by private providers on a commercial basis. Of the bus services that the Council continued to provide, some journey times were made longer by increasing the length and geographical coverage of bus routes to preserve access to the network.
- 1.1.4 Some Councillors expressed serious concern at the time that this decision would lead to an increase in the cost of transport, which combined with reduced access to the new network and the increased amount of time spent journeying to school could in turn, provide a barrier to post-16 education.
- 1.1.5 In response to these concerns, a Task and Finish Group was set up in March 2012 to assess the impact of the Council's decision to remove the subsidy for post-16 transport on the opportunities for education and achievement of young people, particularly those in rural areas.
- 1.1.6 Following the completion of the review, the Task and Finish Group identified six recommendations, which aim to improve partnership working between the County Council, schools and colleges, and redress issues of fairness and a lack of flexibility within the current Post-16 Transport Policy.

1.2 Members and Contributors

- 1.2.1 The Members of the Task and Finish Group were Councillors: Martyn Ashford, Peter Balaam (Chair), Richard Chattaway, Tim Naylor, Clive Rickhards and Chris Saint.
- 1.2.2 During the course of the review, the Task and Finish Group met with officers from the Council's Transport Operations Team and Learning and Achievement Team. As Members considered it essential to hear the views of those affected by the changes in policy, consultation exercises were undertaken with the Heads of Sixth Forms and representatives from Colleges. The group was also supported by officers from the Council's Democratic Services Team.

1.3 Evidence

1.3.1 In order to achieve an understanding of the review topic, the Task and Finish Group considered both primary and secondary evidence from a range of sources. This included:

- “Response to Consultation - Post-16 Transport” report considered by Cabinet, 14th April, 2011 (available from www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cmis)
- Warwickshire County Council Transport Policy Statement 2012/13 (available from <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/transporthehelp16-19>)
- Consultation with Warwickshire Members of the Youth Parliament and Warwickshire Youth Council (VOX) (outcomes available from <http://warksdemocracy.wordpress.com/2012/05/18/getting-to-the-heart-of-young-peoples-issues/>)
- Email response to call for evidence, January 2013 (attached at Appendix D to this report)
- Response to questionnaires sent by the Group, to the following:
 - Secondary School Head teachers
 - Chairs of Governors at Secondary Schools
 - Heads of School Sixth Forms
 - Principals of Colleges
 - Heads of Student Services at Colleges
 - Chairs of Community Forums

(a summary of the responses to the questionnaire is attached at Appendix C to this report)

1.4 Dates and Timescales

- 14th April 2011 – changes to Post-16 Transport Policy agreed by Cabinet
- 25th May 2011 – Task and Finish Group commissioned by the Overview and Scrutiny Board
- 14th March 2012 – Initial meeting between the Chair, supporting officers from Democratic Services and officers from Pupil and Student Services and Transport Operations.
- 21st March 2012 – attendance at the Heads of Post-16 Network Meeting to publicise the review with Heads of Sixth Forms and launch questionnaire seeking evidence for the review
- 3rd April 2012 – first meeting of the Task and Finish Group, agreeing the scope of the review
- 9th May 2012 – attendance at the Travel to Learn Forum, to hear evidence from Council officers, Heads of Sixth Forms and representatives from colleges
- 5th July 2012 – final meeting of the task and finish group, to consider responses to questionnaire and agree outline recommendations
- 29th August 2012 - review published

4.2 Overview

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 Local authorities have a duty to provide free transport to school to students under the age of 16 who are considered 'eligible' for free transport, based on their distance from the nearest school and/or whether they have a mobility issue.
- 2.1.2 For students over the age of 16, there is no requirement for the Council to provide free transport to school or college, and local authorities are free to decide what level of support they wish to provide to students to enable them to access education or training. Warwickshire County Council has traditionally provided subsidised transport to school/college for students aged 16-19 attending either mainstream school sixth forms or further education colleges. Subsidised transport has also been available to students aged 16-25 with Special Educational Needs and/or Learning Difficulties and Disabilities attending a post-16 course.
- 2.1.3 As a result of the financial pressures facing the County Council, and the need to reduce spending, a savings target of £170,000 in 2011-12 and £246,000 in 2012-13 was agreed for the Post-16 Transport Budget. In order to achieve this level of savings the Cabinet reviewed the Council's Post-16 Transport Policy and took the decision on 14th April 2011 to remove the subsidy for post-16 transport. This resulted in an increase in cost of 65% to students for post-16 transport run by the County Council (from £400 in 2010/11 to £660 in 2011/12).
- 2.1.4 In order to reduce the burden on low-income families, the charge was halved from £660 to £330 for those who were in receipt of free school meals. In addition, a travel allowance of £110 (£220 if the student was from a low-income family) was made available to enable those students who lived more than two miles from an appropriate bus pick-up point to access the transport network.
- 2.1.5 After discussion with officers, it became clear that the decision to remove the subsidy came at a time of considerable change within post-16 education. The Department for Education (DfE) made the decision in October 2010 to remove Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), which provided young people from low-income families with a means-tested benefit of up to £30 per week, to help them with the costs of staying in post-16 education. EMA was replaced by the "16-19 Bursary" which is paid to some of the poorest students, with school and colleges also receiving funding to distribute to their students who have financial difficulties.
- 2.1.6 In addition, the Government announced in October 2010 that from September 2012, the cap on university tuition fees would be removed from and students could be charged up to £9,000 a year to study for an undergraduate degree. These factors could clearly have had an effect on the levels of participation in post-16 education, as students from low-income backgrounds received less

support and the prospect of increased student debt may make Further and Higher Education a less attractive option for students at 16 years of age.

2.2 Rationale

Councillors expressed concern that an increase in the cost of post-16 transport could present a barrier to young people's educational choices at 16 years of age. There was a concern that young people's choice of institution or course could be compromised, or that there would be an increase in the number of young people who became NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training).

2.3 Objectives

The review sought to ascertain whether the changes to the Post-16 Transport Policy has disadvantaged young people in Warwickshire, their educational opportunities and/or attainment and if so, to what extent.

The review also aimed to consider the steps that the Council, together with schools and colleges, could take to ensure that transport is not a barrier to post-16 education in the County.

A full outline of the rationale, objectives and key actions for the review is attached at Appendix A to this report.

4.3 History of the Review

During the review, the following approaches were undertaken:

- 3.1 Members of the Task and Finish Group met with Heads of Sixth Forms to understand how the changes in transport policy had affected their students. From this meeting the Group found that students at rural schools experienced the greatest problems in accessing home to school transport, and that access to the County Council school-bus network was an issue for some students.
- 3.2 The Task and Finish Group met with officers from the Councils Pupil and Student Service team and Transport Operations team, to look at why the changes in policy were necessitated, and how the Transport Operations team implemented the changes in conjunction with bus companies. It became clear during the discussion with officers that the decision to cut the post-16 transport budget had meant that officers had to work within smaller budgets, and reconfigure the bus network with the aim to run fewer, but fuller buses, whilst working with the private sector to offer up routes to bus operators that the County Council could not continue to run.
- 3.3 At an early stage it became apparent that it would be difficult for the review to isolate the effects that the change in transport policy had in the context of the other changes to further education and higher education. In order to address this issue, the Task and Finish Group decided to talk directly to schools and colleges, and form conclusions based on the anecdotal evidence available from those working directly with the students. The Task and Finish Group

would then be able to analyse the themes emerging from this evidence and make appropriate recommendations.

- 3.4 The Task and Finish Group attended a meeting of the Council's Travel to Learn Forum, which included representatives from schools, colleges and the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership (CSWP), which provides careers guidance to young people, via the Connexions Service. At this meeting the Group was able to consider how the Council worked with schools and colleges to overcome transport issues.
- 3.5 The Task and Finish Group circulated a questionnaire to all schools (both those with and without sixth forms), colleges, governors of secondary schools, Community Forums and the Warwickshire Members of the Youth Parliament (MYPs) and Warwickshire Youth Council (VOX). The questionnaire sought evidence of where post-16 transport had been a limiting factor on young people's educational choices. The questionnaire (attached at Appendix B to this report) asked for information on:
- The number of students whose choice of school/college was affected by the cost of transport
 - The number of students who have trouble accessing post-16 transport, or have long or convoluted journeys to school
 - Whether any courses were under threat due to a reduction in pupil numbers, reducing the level of choice for young people
 - To what extent institutions were making use of the 16-19 Bursary that replaced the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), and whether this was being spent on transport costs.
 - Whether the cost of transport had a negative effect on the attendance of young people at sixth form or college, and whether any young people were at risk of, or had become NEET as a result of the cost of transport.

A summary of the responses to this questionnaire is attached at Appendix C to this report.

- 3.6 The Task and Finish Group held roundtable meetings with support from Democratic Services to discuss the issues raised and consider draft recommendations.

4.0 Recommendations

The Task and Finish Group has made the following **recommendations**:

4.1 The County Council should provide focused support for institutions in the whole area of post-16 transport, by implementing the following:

- a) **Enable the sharing of good practice and information about local transport arrangements.**
- b) **There should be greater publicity for the range of educational opportunities for students at the post-16 level, including specific publicity regarding the transport options available to enable those opportunities.**
- c) **Advise on, and possibly help to coordinate, local transport arrangements provided by the institutions themselves**
- d) **Support local institutions in data analysis and research**
- e) **In cases where this is relevant, consider offering financial support to institutions to help them provide their own transport arrangements**
- f) **The application of sub-regional guidelines on the use of the 16-19 Bursary in schools and colleges to ensure a consistent level of support for students between institutions.**

4.1.1 The Task and Finish Group found examples of effective information sharing and partnership working in the work of the Travel to Learn Forum and in particular the approach taken by the County Council and Warwickshire College to resolve problems with transporting students to the college's Moreton Morrell campus.

4.1.2 Despite this, the Task and Finish Group felt that the Travel to Learn Forum was not used to its full effect, by not meeting consistently enough, and engaging successfully enough with schools and colleges to find solutions to problems faced by the institutions.

4.1.3 The evidence from CSWP, colleges and schools echoed this, and suggested that the County Council should take a stronger role in coordinating the work of the schools and colleges in this area, and that information sharing between institutions and information for students should be improved. The recommendation therefore provides a number of key areas which the Task and Finish Group believes would improve the outcomes for students.

4.1.4 The evidence in the response to our questionnaire shows a lack of consistency in the application of the 16-19 Bursary Scheme across the County. Students who are in care, or have recently left care, those claiming income support or students with disabilities are entitled to £1,200 per year to help with the cost of education. In addition to this, schools and colleges have a discretionary fund which students can apply for. Warwickshire College has had 510 applications for the 16-19 Bursary, in most cases supplying 50% of the money applied for, whereas Brooke School in Rugby has not allocated any money through the bursary scheme. From the evidence at Appendix C, it can be seen that each school or college has used the scheme in a different way. The evidence from CSWP at Appendix D demonstrates that this lack of consistency coupled with a lack of clear promotion has meant that students have been uncertain about whether they would receive a bursary.

4.2 When considering changes to post-16 transport arrangements, the County Council should actively seek the views of the Warwickshire Members of the Youth Parliament and VOX (Warwickshire Youth Council)

4.2.1 In looking at the consultation undertaken before the decision in April 2011, the Task and Finish Group were disappointed that the Members of the Youth Parliament and VOX (Youth Council), as the locally elected representatives of young people, had not been consulted before the decision was made. During the review, the Task and Finish Group consulted with the Youth Council and were impressed by the depth of knowledge, insight and debate demonstrated by the MYPs and VOX. The Task and Finish Group consider that the negative effects of the Post-16 Transport Policy would have been reduced had these groups been involved.

4.3 The County Council should investigate the possibility of a more flexible approach to the current "closed-door" policy operating on County Council-funded transport. This should include consideration of:

- a) Term-based passes
- b) 2-or 3-day week passes
- c) Payment on a casual basis where there are empty seats

The investigation should include the possible risks and how these might be managed. It should also include consideration of the examples of Worcestershire and Kent County Councils, whose policies are more flexible than the current Warwickshire County Council policy. The findings of this investigation should be reported initially to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 4.3.1 The Task and Finish Group found that the increased cost of the County Council pass and lack of flexibility over the "closed door" policy featured highly in the evidence from schools and colleges.
- 4.3.2 With reference to the increased cost, Warwickshire College, in its evidence state that admission numbers have dropped by 15% since 2009, and that the college believes that this is in part due to the cost of transport. The College suggests that if only 10% of these students did not attend because of transport costs, this would represent 97 students. The Task and Finish Group considers this as evidence that the increase in costs since 2009 has had a negative impact on the numbers of post-16 students. The charge for a County Council pass increased 120% from £300 in 2009/10 to £660 in 2011/12. There was an increase of 65% in one year from £400 in 2010/11 to £660 in 2011/12.
- 4.3.3 There is evidence from North Leamington School that the pass is bad value for money for Year 13 students, who due to exam leave and a short summer term, are paying for bus journeys that they will not take, as they have finished their course. The Task and Finish Group consider that a term-based or pro-rata system would allow students to pay only for the journeys they take, reducing the cost to students.

- 4.3.4 In their evidence, Stratford upon Avon College and Warwickshire College highlight the fact that a number of institutions run full-time courses over three or four days a week, meaning that a bus pass that covers five days a week does not represent good value for money for some students. For these students, a more flexible pass would provide better value.
- 4.3.5 The colleges also state that some of their students struggle to pay for their bus passes in advance, due to financial pressures, and the ability to pay a daily fare would enable them to afford the cost of transport. The Colleges suggest that some County Council buses (such as the 239) are running with a large number of vacant seats, and students would be more likely to use the service if they were able to pay more flexibly. This would provide better value for students and increase income for the County Council.
- 4.3.6 Warwickshire College also state in its evidence that the number of County Council bus passes issued to their students since 2009 has dropped from 700 to less than 300. The Task and Finish Group considers that this is further evidence that the County Council bus pass is less attractive to students who are able to choose private companies. Whilst the increased flexibility of the private companies' service is good for many students, those who are only able use a County Council service are not afforded this flexibility, and so pay more for a service which is not flexible to their needs.
- 4.4 The County Council should investigate the resource implications of making the Post-16 transport subsidy available to all low-income students. Currently it is only available to students who are able to use County Council buses. The Task and Finish Group appreciate that there will be resource implications, but feel that this is a justice issue.**
- 4.4.1 The Task and Finish Group considers that the cost of Post-16 Transport does have an effect on the number of students attending Post-16 education. There is evidence from CSWP that some students in North Warwickshire were not able to afford to attend a Post-16 course due to transport costs and subsequently became NEET. CWSP also has evidence that a small number of students attending Warwickshire College's Moreton Morrell campus have become NEET due to transport costs. Stratford upon Avon College said that 10 of their students have become NEET due to the cost of transport.
- 4.4.2 The current 50% subsidy available to students from low-income families goes some way to mitigate the sharp rise in the cost of post-16 transport. However, it is only available to those students who use County Council operated buses and is not available to the majority who use privately-run buses. As a result of the changes to the transport network, a number of routes are now only served by private operators, and students from low-income families in those areas have no access to a subsidy, and have to pay more for transport.
- 4.4.3 The Task and Finish Group considers that this policy appears to be unjust and to deny access to courses for some students on a rather random basis. To ensure that all students have fair access to the subsidy, the Task and Finish Group recommend that the subsidy should follow the needs of the students, and not be predicated on the provider of the service. The current situation amounts to a "postcode lottery", where students are discriminated

against due to the commissioning arrangements of the Council, rather than being given fair access to subsidies based on need.

4.5 The recent removal of the following routes is causing serious access difficulties, as indicated in the responses from several institutions. The County Council should consider the re-opening of these routes, provided either by a private operator or by the County Council.

- **The cancelled route from Nuneaton to Stratford, via Rugby, Hillmorton and Baginton**
- **The shortened 236 route from Rugby to Moreton Morrell College**

4.5.1 Evidence from Stratford upon Avon College suggests that the cancellation of the route from Nuneaton to Stratford via Rugby, Hillmorton and Baginton has left some students unable to attend the College. Those who do manage to attend have a convoluted route with a number of changes.

4.5.2 Evidence from Warwickshire College has suggested that the shortening of the 236 route from Rugby to Moreton Morrell to reduce costs has led to students having a particularly long and convoluted journey to college.

4.5.3 The Task and Finish Group supports the Colleges and asks the County Council to reconsider these routes in light of the problems experienced by students.

4.6 The County Council should take account of the level of isolation faced by some students who live in areas remote from their preferred institution, and take positive steps to redress the balance in terms of the enabling of access to post-16 courses.

4.6.1 Kineton High School has a large intake of students who travel some distance to attend the school from the surrounding rural area, with some students travelling from as far afield as Banbury and Stratford.

4.6.2 Shipston High School is in a unique situation in a relatively isolated rural position. There is no sixth form or college provision within easy travelling distance. The School feels that its students are disadvantaged in not having a post-16 provision nearby, limiting their access to post-16 education or training. The School feels this puts them at a significant disadvantage both practically and financially to the majority of similar students in the County.

4.6.3 The Task and Finish Group considers that students from Kineton High School and Shipston High School are clearly disadvantaged compared to students attending institutions in urban areas. The Group considers that similar problems are present in the North of the County. The Groups also considers that a number of students have long or convoluted journeys between urban areas. The Group believes that the Post-16 Transport Policy should take account of the fact that access to transport is not equal throughout the County and that some students are disadvantaged educationally simply because of their geographical location.

5.0 Financial and Legal Implications

5.1 Legal Implications

- 5.1.1 The Council has an obligation to provide transport to some students under 16 years of age. The Council does not have an obligation to provide transport to Post-16 students. The recommendations within the report will not affect the Council's provision of services to pre-16 students, and therefore there are no legal implications to the recommendations that need to be considered.

5.2 Financial Implications

- 5.2.1 The changes to the Post-16 Transport Policy were driven by the need to achieve substantial savings targets of £170,000 in 2011-12 and £246,000 in 2012-13. A key part of the mandate of this review was: "...that any recommendations with financial implications will no longer be approved by Cabinet and so for scrutiny be in line with Council priorities and perceived as a useful / credible tool, it needs to be more innovative and look for solutions that will either save money or will improve services without additional costs..." (refer to the comments in Appendix A on how the scrutiny will achieve value for money for council tax payers).
- 5.2.2 A number of the recommendations have the potential to create additional costs or to move costs from one part of the system to another. It is advised that the actual implementation of any suggested initiatives is first made subject to a detailed assessment of the financial impact on customers, the County Council and partner organisations. The financial criteria for implementation being appropriate may be a matter for further consideration but for example some criteria that naturally present themselves include (a) keeping overall costs within the limits set by savings targets, i.e. if new costs are created somewhere, then something to identify and secure the relevant funding has to accompany the proposal that causes the costs, (b) not replacing one financially unfair or perverse situation with another that is also unfair but just in a different way, (c) attaining or retaining simplicity and transparency in how we charge (d) etc

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 In making its recommendations, the Task and Finish Group considered the background information and context surrounding the review, the changes to policy made in April 2011 and evidence gathered from officers, schools, colleges, MYPs and VOX.
- 6.2 The Task and Finish Group considers that its recommendations should go some way to redress some of the impacts of the change in Post-16 Transport

Policy, by improving joint working between the County Council and institutions and helping more students benefit from the 16-19 Bursary.

- 6.3 The Group is aware that the implementation of some of their recommendations could require significant resources to implement, at a time when officers are being asked to meet substantial savings targets.
- 6.4 However, the Group also believes that the recommendations will help to create innovative solutions to transport issues, increasing flexibility and value for money for students on County Council buses, and help students into post-16 education by increasing the number of low-income families who receive help with the costs of post-16 transport.

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Scrutiny Review Outline

Review Topic (Name of review)	Post 16 Transport
Task and Finish Group Members	Councillors; Martyn Ashford, Peter Balaam (Chair), Richard Chattaway, Tim Naylor, Clive Rickhards and Chris Saint
Key Officers / Departments	Craig Pratt, Sophie Thompson, Kevin McGovern, Andy Stokes, Yvonne Rose
Lead Scrutiny Officer	Martyn Harris
Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Heather Timms
Relevant Corporate Ambitions	"Raising educational attainment and improving the lives of children, young people and families"
Type of Review	Evidence gathering through questionnaires, possible visits, possible select committee
Timescales	Review should be completed by 31 st July 2012
Rationale (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)	<p>A change in post 16 transport policy has meant the complete removal of the subsidy for post 16 transport. From September 2011, students were charged £660 a year to use County Council transport. Members have concern that the charges will impact on the education of young people in the County.</p> <p>The focus of the review is to assess the impact of the changes on the opportunities for education and achievement of young people, particularly those in rural areas.</p>
Objectives of Review (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)	<p>The review should ascertain whether the change in policy has disadvantaged young people in Warwickshire, their educational opportunities and/or attainment and to what extent.</p> <p>The review should consider what steps the Council, along with schools and colleges could take to ensure that transport is not a barrier to post 16 education in the County, and make recommendations to the Overview and Scrutiny and Cabinet.</p>
Scope of the Topic (What is specifically to be included/excluded)	<p><u>Included</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence gathering from Schools, Colleges, Special Schools, Members of the Youth Parliament (MYP's), the Youth Councils (Vox) and the Coventry Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership (CSWP). <p><u>Excluded</u></p> <p>The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport for pre-16 students Denominational Transport

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<p>How will the public be involved? (Community Forums, consultation, community groups / clubs, etc)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with heads of post 16 education • Meeting with Travel to Learn Forum • Consultation with students and possibly parents • Contact with other groups such as the Youth Councils.
<p>How will our partners be involved? (Relevant stakeholders, District / Borough reps)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools • Colleges • Transport operators may be involved at a later stage (tbc)
<p>How will the scrutiny achieve value for money for the Council / Council Tax payers?</p>	<p>It is fair to say that any recommendations with financial implications will no longer be approved by Cabinet and so for scrutiny be in line with Council priorities and perceived as a useful / credible tool, it needs to be more innovative and look for solutions that will either save money or will improve services without additional costs.</p> <p>The Review will seek to find ways of working smarter between Council services, relationships with schools and possibly transport operators to find solutions. This should ensure Post 16 students and their parents are getting better value for money, and schools and colleges are not disadvantaged by the change in policy.</p>
<p>What primary / new evidence is needed for the scrutiny? (What information needs to be identified / is not already available?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questionnaire responses and other feedback from stakeholders
<p>What secondary / existing information will be needed? (i.e. background information, performance indicators, complaints, existing reports, legislation, central government information and reports)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information regarding the low income criteria used in the post 16 transport policy • Information about how the 16-19 bursary has been distributed amongst students, particularly to cover transport costs • Data from the Warwickshire Observatory relating to Post 16 Students • Information from transport operators on their sales of young person tickets, including term and annual passes
<p>Indicators of Success – (What factors would tell you what a good review should look like? What are the potential outcomes of the review e.g. service improvements, policy change, etc?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review should quantify the impact (if any) the new transport policy has had on the educational opportunities for Post 16 students in the County. • The review should be able to recommend measures which improve access to education for post 16 students
<p>Other Work Being Undertaken (What other work is currently being undertaken in relation to this topic, and any appropriate timescales and deadlines for that work)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently work being undertaken on the raising of the participation age for young people, from 16 to 17 years in 2013, rising to 18 years in 2015. This could have a large impact on Post 16 education in the County, as young people will have to remain in school, college or work with training until 17 or 18. This could increase the numbers of students attending post 16 education in the County. • The Council carries out continuing work on NEETS, and the current contract with CSWP for IAG services will be renewed in the near future.

Questionnaire on the effects of recent changes to post 16 travel subsidy

Dear Colleague,

You are no doubt aware of the recent removal of almost all the transport subsidy for Warwickshire post 16 students. Under the new policy, students who travel on WCC services have to pay £660 for the year, those who use commercial services receive no assistance and there is a £110 allowance for students who have no access to public transport at all. There is also a reduced subsidy for students from low income families and for statemented students. At the same time a number of WCC bus services have been discontinued. Concern has been expressed by some councillors about the possible effects of these changes and the County Overview and Scrutiny Board has set up a Task and Finish Review Group to look at these effects.

The Group are keen to hear the views of heads of post 16 in schools, school business managers, teachers, careers advisers, college principals and lecturers as well as others. We would therefore be grateful if you could provide us with some information regarding the questions below. It would be helpful if you could provide evidence to support your answers where possible.

Please send your response to Martyn Harris at martynharris@warwickshire.gov.uk by 30th May 2012

1. By approximately how many (if any) of your students' choice of course and/or institution was affected by the cost of transport?
2. By approximately how many (if any) of your former students are not in education employment or training because of the cost of transport?
3. By approximately how many (if any) of your students experience problems in accessing transport?
4. Do any of your students have a long or convoluted journey as a result of the removal of WCC services?
5. Have any courses been discontinued, or are any courses under threat, because of lower demand in Sept 2011 than before? As far as you are aware, is this connected to the cost of transport?
6. Are you aware of any students whose attendance is poor or have dropped out of their course as a result of difficult journeys or the cost of transport?
7. Since the removal of EMA, and the establishment of the new 16-19 bursary scheme, how many students have received assistance via a bursary? What costs did the bursary cover? Did these costs include transport?
8. Has your school/college made its own arrangements to transport students as a result of the increase in cost of WCC services?
9. Is there anything regarding the new transport policy that you wish the Task and Finish Group to consider as part of their review of the new policy?

Councillor Peter Balaam
Chair, Post-16 Transport Task and Finish Group

Summary of Responses to Questionnaire – Post 16 Transport

1. Colleges:

Warwickshire College (Campuses in Leamington, Morton Morrell, Henley-in-Arden, Pershore, Rugby and Warwick)

- Cost of WCC transport has increased sharply over the last 3 years up from £300 in 2009/10 to £660 in 2011/12
- Number of WCC bus passes issued to College students has dropped from 700 to less than 300 over this time
- WCC pass is expensive for students who attend 3 or 4 days a week.
- Worcestershire operates a pro-rata pass scheme
- The 50% subsidy does help those on benefits, but not those with low incomes, and is only available for WCC passes. This discriminates against those who cannot use WCC transport.
- Comments on the closed door policy, and not being able to pay a daily fare.
- After changes to the service produced significant problems for some students, the Council and the College have shared the costs of running a specific mini-bus to transport these students.
- Admission numbers have been dropping since 2009, and the college believes this is in part due to the cost of transport. There has been a 15% drop in student number since 2009. The college surmises that if only 10% of that 15% did not attend due to transport, that represents 97 students.
- The college believes that transport cost, access and journey times are having an effect on early drop-out rates, but admit they don't have evidence of this.
- 510 students have applied for a 16-19 bursary to fund various things, including transport. In most cases they have tried to supply 50% of the cost, but in some cases have supplied 100% of the cost.

North Warwickshire and Hinckley College (Campuses in Atherstone, Nuneaton, Bedworth, Polesworth, Hinckley)

- Some students from N.Warks travelling out of county to Tamworth for post 16 courses due to transport difficulties
- Unknown number of students unable to access education due to transport.
- Some students from N.Warks have a long and convoluted journey to college
- 128 16-18 students supported via college bursary fund, costing £34,000. Have supported transport costs by refunds for bus/train fares, purchase of scholar passes for Arriva or stagecoach buses or paying a mileage allowance.
- College expects demand on the bursary fund to increase next year. They state there has been a marked increase in the number of students identifying the cost of transport as being an issue.

Stratford upon Avon College

- Few students live in Stratford, so many travel in from surrounding rural areas. Those from the east of the County experience more problems than others

- Approx 200 students experience problems accessing transport, and the college estimates around 10 students have become NEET due to the cost of transport.
- More than 20 students have dropped out so far this year, but the college does not say why this is, or whether this an increase on previous years
- 244 students have claimed the 16-19 bursary. 25 of those were entitled to the guaranteed maximum bursary. The majority of students used their bursary to cover the costs of transport.
- The college points out the cancellation of a bus route from Nuneaton via Rugby, Hilmorton and Baginton has resulted in problems.

2. Schools

Stratford upon Avon School

- The school does not have answers to a number of the questions.
- The responses they did provide did not specifically relate to transport.
- The school did state that the majority of their post 16 students moved up from year 11, and that those coming from other schools were more likely to have transport difficulties.

Stratford upon Avon Grammar School for Girls

- 184 students live outside of the District, and so will have some form of transport consideration. The school does not qualify this statement with particular concerns/considerations.
- A number of courses were being discontinued this year, but the school did not say that transport was the cause behind this.
- Journey times to school have been longer this year than in previous years, but the school does not say for how many students.
- The 16-19 bursary is currently being paid to 9 students in year 12. The eligible year 13 students are still in receipt of EMA.

North Leamington School

- The school has not had problems with transport to/from school. Students coming from further afield have been able to access the relevant buses.
- Some students who travel to other schools/colleges to access courses have had problems. The school is unable to offer all course options on their site.
- Year 13 students leaving at half term in the summer term still have to pay for a year pass. A pro-rata system or weekly passes and payment would be better. The school would like to see better flexibility in the system.
- 12 students have been given the 16-19 bursary, but do not use it to pay for WCC buses.

Kineton High School

- In 2011, one student from Banbury, and in 2012 one student from Barford did not attend the school due to the cost of transport.
- There is no evidence of students becoming NEET. However, there are three current year 11 students who could become NEET as the cost of transport (even including the FSM subsidy) is too prohibitive. Transport would have to be free to overcome this.

- Approximately 10 students have problems accessing transport. 2 students have problems with long journey times.
- The school suggests that WCC should better publicise to year 11s the transport options available for post 16 students.
- Further subsidies should be made available to those from low-income backgrounds, and these should be advertised proactively to disadvantaged year 11s.
- Quality of service – transport operators use lower-quality buses for school transport. With costs increasing, the value of the service delivered is decreasing.
- Students and parents believe that they are disadvantaged compared to those in urban areas, and their choices are being compromised.
- There are some students who choose Kineton High rather than their catchment school. This means that they are not eligible for funding for their transport, even though the distances between Kineton and their catchment school are very similar. This is difficult for parents to swallow, and undermines parental choice.

Bilton School, Rugby (does not have post-16 provision)

- Students attending local sixth forms do not encounter problems. Those who go on to attend Warwickshire College have problems accessing courses, as a number have moved from the Rugby site to the Leamington site, so they pay the £660 WCC cost. This has happened in the past at short notice, once the students have made their choices and do not hold any other offers. Some have dropped out as a result of this. The college needs to take account of this if changing the offer at a campus.

Alcester Grammar School

- Approximately 20-30 students have not attended this year due to transport costs. Of those who have enrolled, around 25 have transport problems.
- 3 courses have been removed in 2012 due to low numbers – 2 are niche courses (Applied Art and Moving Image Arts), which have attracted as they are not commonly offered.
- Attendance in the summer term is affected as students do not wish to buy a private term pass to only attend exams.
- 25 students have requested assistance with costs, primarily transport.
- The school expresses concern about the raising of the participation age to 18 in 2013 and 2014. The school feels that, in the future, 16-19 transport should be free on the same terms as 11-16 education currently is.
- The school requests greater flexibility with WCC bus passes, especially around the summer term.

Shipston High School (does not have post-16 provision)

- The majority of their students travel to Stratford for their 16-19 education.
- The area has very few NEETS, the school does say that a number of students have dropped out of colleges that were their second or third preference, which they only chose due to accessibility.
- The school feels that the collapse of the 14-16 SWIFT scheme has implications on post 16 education, as students that attended often continued to attend courses linked to this.

- The school believes it is in a unique position in an isolated rural area, without post 16 provision. The School believes that this puts students at a distinct disadvantage compared to others. The transport policy treats students as if there is a level playing field, when this is not the case.

3. Special Schools

Woodlands Special School, Coleshill

- 23 students' choice of course has been affected by the cost of transport. 10 students experience problems in accessing transport
- Cost is the main problem that students face
- There is an issue with students who are under 16 travelling on services for free, and the students travelling on the same service over 16 being charged.
- A particular situation arose when the whole bursary available to students was basically taken up by one student in care, and others lost out.
- The school points out that the current situation is unfair to some students.

Round Oak School, Warwick

- The removal of the subsidy has meant that some students that would have stayed on at 16 longer attend school.
- One particular student travelling from Stockton has to take two buses, and the timetables mean that they cannot get to school until 11:15am every day.

Brooke School, Rugby

- Four students did not stay on as post-16 students. Of these, two were due to the cost of transport. Of the current post-16 students, four experience difficulty in getting to school.
- The school has not allocated any money through the 16-19 bursary scheme.

Emails Received from Schools/Colleges in Call for Evidence, December 2011:

Warwickshire College

With regards to your request for feedback I can provide the following information from Warwickshire College;

1. We do believe that the level of charge for bus passes now is quite high and that many parents/carers we speak to are put off by the £660 charge especially on some services when it can only be used on specific daily journeys and not on other services. Clearly having the 50% subsidy was very helpful although I am waiting for information from Education Transport regarding numbers of our students WCC have subsidised this year. The College has also offered a 50% subsidy which has a more generous criteria than WCC's because it is based on net income too as well as benefits. This means we may have picked up some students that WCC could not subsidise based on the WCC criteria, which may have added to our costs.
2. The introduction of the closed services has definitely affected some students who struggle to pay in advance and especially those who only attend a couple of days a week. There are buses that are half empty yet the policy is still not to let people pay daily yet I am sure that the extra income would be appreciated e.g. 239 into Moreton Morrell. I appreciate your reasons for the closed service policy but surely if WCC know how many passes they have sold this term after the first 3 weeks they know they have plenty of space and the rules could be relaxed? It would increase your income too. We have also had some 'older students' often special needs who want to travel to Moreton Morrell but cannot cope with travelling via Leamington, again if there is space surely they could be sold a bus pass which as well as increasing your income it also helps them and saves a complex query.
3. Clearly the taking off of some services such as the No. 236 (North Warwickshire to Moreton Morrell) had a detrimental affect at the beginning of the year until we put on the College mini buses and I believe this put people off as the journey was going to be 6 buses a day and 5.5 hour journey - this clearly was not acceptable and (27 travelling this year). Clearly your financial contribution has been very welcome but the decision to not run services or reduce their length e.g. 236 (not running full route) has affected students decisions to study at some centres where the route is over long and complex.
4. Going forward into next year we believe from Andy Stokes that there is not going to be any changes that will affect our students, but lack of certainty for students already looking at next year is an issue, for example not knowing if the subsidy will be in place and concerns that there may be changes that will affect them. Certainty, clarity and a longer term strategy does help students in making their decisions and many make their choices this early in the year.
5. Relationships with ourselves and WCC and Stagecoach are very good despite these changes, we have worked together to ensure the best outcome we can for our students. In saying this there was a lot of change last year at quite a late stage which gave us problems and uncertainty which we believe did affect students' decision making.

Trinity Catholic School

It is difficult to ascertain the factors affecting swings in numbers attending secondary schools.

We have not only been hit by generally increased transport charges, the removal of grants/subsidies for those attending their nearest faith school but also reductions in EMA funding.

Traditionally we have had a very wide catchment area with a number of parents taking advantage of choosing a faith school and not having to find travel expenses. We estimated that we might be affected by one form of entry through these changes.

There are complex issues behind choices at 11 and 16. There are also implications when other local secondary schools can freely expand their intake numbers.

We have witnessed a clear reduction in our intake numbers, particularly in year 7.

Stratford upon Avon College

We would like draw to your attention the following issues, on behalf of our students, with regard to the above Transport Policy:

- A. The cancellation of the 270 bus from the Rugby area has had a noticeable impact on the number of students that are able to study at Stratford upon Avon College.
- B. At the beginning of the 2011 Autumn term there were not enough seats on the 235 bus from Rugby which was intended to accommodate some of the students who used to catch the 270 bus. Some students had to reconsider their place at College due to transport issues.
- C. We had many complaints about the 'closed door policy' in operation by Warwickshire County Council; our courses are not always timetabled for five days a week.
- D. Clearly, the cost of transport was and continues to be a major consideration for students wishing to study at Stratford upon Avon College.

Warwickshire's new Post 16 Education Transport Policy has had an impact upon both our current and prospective students

Coventry Solihull and Warwickshire Partnership

We have clients who are NEET in North Warwickshire and Nuneaton who claim that had they been able to receive a full EMA that would have enabled them to afford the transport costs to provision.

Various providers are making young people aware of the bursaries available, but this information [either](#) is not sufficiently clear or promoted sufficiently well, or there is a real uncertainty by young people that they will actually receive a bursary, unlike the EMA, where there the rules were very clear and transparent.

Appendix D

We have examples of Year 12 students at Warwickshire College who have ceased attending Morton Morrell due to high transport costs.

Similarly we have examples of students in Year 9 at Studley School who used to access Stratford College SWIFT courses but now don't, because of the transport cost issues.

Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

6 September 2012

Work Programme 2012-13

Recommendation

To consider the Committee's current work programme, amend as appropriate and put forward any recommendations for Task & Finish Groups for consideration by the Overview & Scrutiny Board.

1.0 Work Programme

The Committee's current work programme is appended to this report.

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Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee – work programme

Item	Report detail	Report author	Date of last report	Date of next report
Special Educational Needs	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the review of SEN provision, including the provision of in-county, out-of-county and private special education • To consider the impact that parental budget constraints are having on outcomes for young people <p><u>Outcome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make any appropriate recommendations 	Jessica Nash	8 June 2011	6 Nov 2012
Children's Centres	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the commissioning strategy for Warwickshire's Children's Centres <p><u>Outcome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To forward feedback and recommendations to the decision-maker 	Sally Lightfoot	NEW	6 Nov 2012
Area Behaviour Partnerships	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider how the new arrangements are working, now that this is full WCC policy • To specifically review progress of the Eastern Area Behaviour Partnership, following the concerns raised in April • To review how the barriers identified in the Chair reports from April are being overcome • To review attendance figures for pupils in alternative placements <p><u>Outcome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make any appropriate recommendations 	Ross Caws	25 April 2012	6 Nov 2012
Passenger Transport Assistants	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review how the new arrangements for school bus routes without PTAs are working • To receive any incidents reported by operators, schools or parents regarding the health, safety and behaviour of young people travelling on those routes <p><u>Outcome</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make any appropriate recommendations 	Craig Pratt	NEW	6 Nov 2012

School Attainment	<u>Purpose</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How the council is addressing the attainment levels of vulnerable children, including children in care - How the council is addressing the differences in performance between areas - The council's strategy, including success measures, timescales and costings - A comparison of how effective measures have been this year against last - How the council is engaging with academies and with councillors in their area - A breakdown of attainment results for each school and area - Unemployment levels, if possible for each area/locality 	Shona Walton	20 June 2012	6 Nov 2012
Safeguarding Improvement Task & Finish Group	<u>Purpose</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the report of the Chair of the Task & Finish Group (Cllr Hicks) <u>Outcome</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To endorse the recommendations and forward them to Cabinet 	Richard Maybey	NEW	30 Jan 2013
New school developments	<u>Purpose</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider how WCC and its partners are responding to new school developments and the growth in pupil numbers <u>Outcome</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make any appropriate recommendations 	TBC	NEW	30 Jan 2013
Academies Task & Finish Group	<u>Purpose</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the report of the Chair of the Task & Finish Group (Cllr Hopkinson) <u>Outcome</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To endorse any recommendations and forward them to Cabinet 	Richard Maybey	NEW	30 Jan 2013
Traded Services with Schools	<u>Purpose</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the decision regarding Traded Services with Schools 2013/14, taken by Cabinet on 15 November 2012 <u>Outcome</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To forward the views of the Committee to the Overview & Scrutiny Board 		NEW	30 Jan 2013

Strategy for School Improvement	<u>Purpose</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review the strategy for school improvement following the cessation of SIPs, involving school-to-school support at primary and secondary levels <u>Outcome</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make any appropriate recommendations 	TBC	NEW	3 April 2013
Transformation of Services for Young People	<u>Purpose</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To scrutinise the effect of the transformation programme on outcomes for young people <u>Outcome</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make any appropriate recommendations 	Hugh Disley	June 2012	June 2013

Potential other topics

To consider the robustness of the management arrangements in place for:

- **Youth Offending Team** (why do a high proportion of LAC enter custody; how do the safeguarding and YOTs work together)
- **Sexual Abuse Resource Centre**
- **Drug and alcohol teams**
- **Paediatric services**

School Funding Formula 2013

Standing items

Transformation Programme

The Chair and Party Spokes will determine if this item is needed for each meeting, and if so, what form it will take. It could be a general update or a full business case review

Briefing notes

Impact of staff reductions

For data on the number and percentage of staff reductions in service areas, and any direct impacts this has had on service delivery

Library and Information Service

For information on how the transformation programme is affecting library usage among young people, especially in areas of deprivation

Scrutiny of Bullying

For information on the Council's current anti-bullying strategy and for statistical data on bullying across the county

Education of Vulnerable Pupils

For an update on the Council's emerging strategy and for statistical data on the numbers of vulnerable children in the county

Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)

For an update on how schools are fulfilling their responsibilities for IAG

**Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**

5th September 2012

**Commissioners report upon Child and Adolescent Mental
Health Service (CAMHS) Improvements**

Recommendations

It is recommended that the committee:

1. Considers and comments on the effort and resource that Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust (CWPT) have applied to driving down CAMHS waiting times and to transforming services to better manage future demand.
2. Agree to CWPT attending the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting at the end of December 2012 (Quarter 3) and again at the end of March 2013 (Quarter 4) to report upon their progress in remodelling services and the resulting performance in bringing waiting times down to within the contractually agreed maximum waiting times.
3. Support the recommendation that commissioners explore soft market testing, the possibility of a franchise arrangement and interest in a tendering process should CWPT fail to meet their contractual waiting times targets and report back to the December Committee.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 Warwickshire's Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are commissioned by NHS Warwickshire (NHSW) as part of a £63 million, cradle to grave block contract from CWPT. The CAMHS element of the block contract equates to approximately £3.7 million. The service is commissioned through joint commissioning arrangements between NHSW and Warwickshire County Council located within the People Group.
- 1.2 Waiting times for CAMHS have been a matter of concern for a number of years. These concerns have been raised at Warwickshire County Council's Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ASC&HOSC) a number of times. During 2010/11 NHS Warwickshire applied a Commissioning for Quality and Innovation (CQUIN) incentive to reduce the referral to treatment waiting time to a maximum of 14 weeks. At the end of this period CWPT achieved 50% of their waiting times being under the 14 weeks. However this was not sustained into the following year.

- 1.3 In February 2012 the CAMHS commissioner reported a number of CAMHS related concerns to ASC&HOSC including a notable rise in waiting times. As a result CWPT were asked to report to the April 2012 ASC&HOSC meeting with accurate CAMHS waiting time data and a revised action plan for addressing them. CWPT were also asked to attend ASC&HOSC again in September 2012 to report upon the progress of these actions and their impact upon waiting times.
- 1.4 In February 2012 the Committee also agreed to the recommendation that the CAMHS Commissioning Manager report back in September 2012 with the results of a CAMHS benchmarking exercise and the exploration of the viability of tendering CAMHS services.
- 1.5 In April 2012 CWPT reported to ASC & HOSC that there were no children or young people awaiting initial assessment from CAMHS, although there were 473 children awaiting treatment, 134 of these were reported to have neuro-developmental conditions.
- 1.6 At the June 2012 ASC & HOSC CWPT reported that they had calculated that waiting times could be eradicated completely by the end of October 2012 should they be able to recruit 15 whole time equivalent (wte) staff. However of the 15 wte 6.6 wte were recruited with investment of £130,000 creating a range of additional clinical capacity to include psychological therapists, psychiatrists & nursing to undertake a waiting list initiative Members were informed that this increased capacity resulted in a 40 % reduction in the total number of children and young people waiting to be seen, with numbers falling from 473 to 282 by the end of June 2012.
- 1.7 In addition CWPT reported that they had held a Stakeholder Workshop, 26th March 2012 and Project Initiation Workshop, 16th April 2012 to scope and implement a formal service transformation project to drive service redesign and improvements. CWPT estimated that it will take approximately 6 to 9 months to complete these work streams.
- 1.8 The Arden Cluster contract with CWPT for 2012/13 set the waiting times target on a downward quarterly trajectory Table 1.

Table 1

By 30.06.2012 (Q1)	Q1 targets are currently being reviewed and agreed
By 30.09.12 (Q2):	<9 weeks for referral to assessment <9 weeks for referral to treatment
By 31.12.12 (Q3)	<8 weeks for referral to assessment <8 weeks for referral to treatment
By 31.03.13 (Q4)	<7 weeks for referral to assessment <7 weeks for referral to treatment

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 Although the focus of this report is the waiting times the overall aim of holding CWPT to account with regards to meeting their performance targets is to ensure that we have a CAMHS service that is able to offer timely, needs led, geographically equitable, evidence based interventions to young people with mental health problems and through this process enhance their mental health and reduce levels of distress. CWPT are expected to work in partnership with other agencies to provide a high quality service that:
- Engages effectively with stakeholders
 - Collects and reports accurate and robust performance/outcome data
 - Has clear and well communication referral criteria and pathways through services
 - Works effectively with partners in meeting the needs of their client group.
- 2.2 In previous reports CWPT have indicated, through calculating intervention times, capacity and demand, that waiting times can be within target limits by the end of October 2012 and that the first phase of service transformation will be complete by the end of February 2013 (within 9 months of the June ASC & HOSC).
- 2.3 CWPT have invested considerable resources and waiting times continue to fall. The Commissioners recognise that the transformation project is still in its early stages and would like CWPT to report back to ASC & HOSC at the end of December 2012 and March 2013, when details of the future sustainability of the redesigned model for the CAMHS service can be fully considered.
- 2.4 To better meet current and future demand CWPT have initiated a Project Management approach to tackling the key issues they see as impacting on the effective working of the CAMHS service. On 26th March stakeholders and commissioners were invited to a CWPT CAMHS event where concerns were examined and subsequently the key areas for improvement and project work streams were identified to drive forward the necessary changes.
- 2.5 It is these significant changes and associated performance improvements that the Committee need to assure themselves are fully implemented, producing the necessary effectiveness of the service to meet the needs of the children and young people of Warwickshire and to meet the contractual obligations with the Arden Cluster.
- 2.6 The four specific work streams that have been devised by CWPT to transform CAMHS services:
- Capacity and Demand Work
 - Data Quality and Validation

- Development of Integrated Care Pathways
- Stakeholder Engagement and Communications

2.7 Commissioners consider that there is an element of risk regarding two of these work streams that should be noted in case these manifest themselves as problems at a later date;

- Data accuracy - Commissioners understand that the Epex data management system used by CAMHS is capable of supporting the measurement and reporting of the full range of CAMHS activity and performance. However it appears that Epex has not been used to its full functionality in the past and in addition there is a large amount of work to do to embed processes and ensure staff are competent and committed to the necessary data capture. Demonstrating the success of the Trusts work in minimising waiting times depends on robust data capture and reporting, commissioners need to be assured that processes are in place to guarantee future data is accurate and reliable.
- Pathways – Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) – CWPT have identified a number of internal pathways to ensure that young people receive precisely the right treatment once they have been assessed. One of these pathways is the ASD pathway where a multi agency diagnosis is required across health services. CWPT are exploring an alternative pathway to include additional paediatric capacity.

2.8 If CWPT fail to meet their waiting times target, testing the market and tendering the service is one way of pursuing change and is an exercise that has become more common for CAMHS services nationally over the last three years. The CAMHS commissioner has been in contact with other PCT's and local authorities who have taken this approach to investigate the potential benefits and outcomes achieved and to inform our processes should this be the preferred commissioning option.

2.9 Of particular note is that Hampshire, Gloucestershire, Buckinghamshire and Swindon have all tendered out their CAMHS services in the last three years. Their reasons for this course of action vary but the majority report a positive experience and good outcomes to date. One of the Health Trusts actively pursuing additional contracts and the winning bidder for the Buckinghamshire and Swindon processes is the Oxford and Buckinghamshire Mental Health Trust who could potentially be a serious contender should our CAMHS services be tendered out due to their favourable geographic location.

2.10 Another option might be that of franchising, with the control of CAMHS being passed over to another party who would take over the management of the service. There are allowances for this option under the Health and Social Care Act; however how this might work is not as yet completely clear. The CAMHS

Commissioning Manager will explore this option further in preparation for the December 2012 meeting.

2.11 The proposed benchmarking exercise to compare Warwickshire Specialist CAMHS service's activity with statistical neighbours has not been possible due to the fact that there are a wide range of service models in operation with different CAMHS teams across the country offering different elements of specialist mental health services. Some CAMHS services include prevention or early intervention work, where others do not and this data is included in their overall activity statistics. In addition activity is measured in different ways across these services. This makes direct comparisons of activity to inform any understanding of levels of productivity difficult. One measure that has been utilised by the NHS Benchmarking exercise is that of 'contacts' which is a uniform measurement collected by all CAMHS teams, although this measure too will be affected by the service model adopted locally. The NHS Benchmarking report shows that partnerships included in their data collection reported:

- An average of 3,021 contacts by their CAMHS services per 100,000 PCT weighted population.
- Warwickshire's CAMHS service, for 2011/2012 averaged 2,867 contacts per 100,000 PCT weighted population.

A comparison of investment into Specialist CAMHS has been possible and shows broadly that the investment locally is similar to that of our statistical neighbours (Appendix A). Comparison of both activity through contacts and investment has to be treated with caution due to the variety of service models that exist across the country, but the data does show that Warwickshire's CAMHS services are not an outlier with regards to having comparably similar investment and activity with other CAMHS.

3.0 Timescales associated with the decision/Next steps

- 3.1 CWPT to be invited back to ASC&HOSC at the end of December 2012, Q3 and again at the end of the March 2013, Q4 to report on the waiting times and the progress of the transformation and sustainability project.
- 3.2 The CAMHS Commissioning Manager to report back to the December Meeting with the results of exploration into the possibility of franchise arrangements and of soft market testing.

Background Papers

1. ASC &H OSC – 19th June 2012, CAMHS current Position and Action Plan and minutes
2. ASC &H OSC - 11th April 2012, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Waiting Times – current position & action plan and minutes
3. ASC &H OSC - 15th February 2012, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Waiting Times and minutes

4. ASC &H OSC - 13th April 2011, Scrutiny of CAMHS - Progress Report
5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13 April 2011 at Shire Hall, Warwick
6. Scrutiny Review Implementation Plan – CAMHS Waiting Times (Joint document produced by Loraine Roberts, General Manager, CAMHS, CWPT and Kate Harker, Joint Commissioning Manager – CAMHS.
7. Report to ASC&H OSC dated 16 September 2010 and to Cabinet dated 16 December 2010 and the associated minutes
8. Report of the Joint Scrutiny Panel of the Children, Young People and Families and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees, June 2010

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Appendix A

2012 data

Statistical Neighbours	PCT spend (1)	No of 0-18 year olds	Approx spend per population	Last update
East Riding of Yorkshire	£1,596,119	66822	23.89	Nov 11
Leicestershire/Leicester	£5.85 m	218,264	26.80	July 12
Northamptonshire	£5.4 m	170,000	31.7	July 12
Staffordshire	£7,527,559	179721	41.88	Nov 11
Worcestershire	£4.12m	119,557	34.46	June 12
Essex	£14m	293747	47.66	July 12
Cheshire West and Chester	£2.3m	71,800	32.03	Dec 2011
Warwickshire	£3.7m	110798 (0-17 only)	33.39	July 12
Average			33.97	