

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3 June 2014

Agenda

A meeting of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be held in the **Committee Room 2, Shire Hall, Warwick** on **3 June 2014 at 10.00 a.m.**

1. Appointment of Chair to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

To appoint a Chair for 2014/15.

2. Appointment of Vice-Chair to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

To appoint a Vice-Chair for 2014/15.

3. General

(1) Apologies

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members are required to register their disclosable pecuniary interests within 28 days of their election of appointment to the Council. A member attending a meeting where a matter arises in which s/he has a disclosable pecuniary interest must (unless s/he has a dispensation):

- Declare the interest if s/he has not already registered it
- Not participate in any discussion or vote
- Must leave the meeting room until the matter has been dealt with (Standing Order 42).
- Give written notice of any unregistered interest to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of the meeting

Non-pecuniary interests must still be declared in accordance with the new Code of Conduct. These should be declared at the commencement of the meeting.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd April 2014

4. Public Question Time (Standing Order 34)

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting is available for members of the public to ask questions on any matters relevant to the business of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Questioners may ask two questions and can speak for up to three minutes each. To be sure of receiving an answer to an appropriate question, please contact Georgina Atkinson at least 3 working days before the meeting. Otherwise, please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting and ensure that Council representatives are aware of the matter on which you wish to speak.

5. Questions to the Portfolio Holder

Up to 30 minutes of the meeting are available for members of the Committee to put questions to the Portfolio Holder on any matters relevant to the remit of the Committee.

6. Early Years Commissioning

To receive a verbal update on the procurement exercise from the Head of Strategic Commissioning.

7. Work Programme 2014/15

To consider the Committee's updated Work Programme and future areas of scrutiny activity.

8. Head of Learning and Achievement

To receive a verbal report from the new Head of Service regarding his future plans and priorities for the Learning and Achievement service.

9. Educational Provision for 14-19 Year Olds

To examine initiatives in relation to developing employability skills and consider the progress made in relation to Raising the Participation Age.

The Committee to then adjourn for a lunch break from 12.30 p.m. to 1.00 p.m.

10. Child Poverty Strategy

To receive a presentation from a representative of the Child Poverty Action Group on the national perspective on the Child Poverty Strategy, followed by an update on local activity.

11. Priority Families Programme

To consider the current position and progress made by the Priority Families programme in relation to Phase One of the national Troubled Families programme.

12. Integrated Disability Service – Public Consultation

To receive a verbal report on the public consultation exercise in respect of proposed changes to the Local Offer.

13. Implications of the Budget

To consider and comment upon the One Organisational Plan savings relating to Children and Young People services and associated functions.

14. Any Urgent Items

At the discretion of the Chair, items may be raised which are considered urgent (please notify Democratic Services in advance of the meeting).

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for 2nd September 2014, commencing 10.00 a.m. in Committee Room 2, Shire Hall, Warwick.

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee Membership

Councillors:

Mike Brain, Jonathan Chilvers, Bob Hicks, Julie Jackson, Dave Parsons, Dave Shilton, Jenny St. John, Angela Warner, Chris Williams, John Whitehouse

Co-opted members for Education matters:

Joseph Cannon and Dr Rex Pogson, Church representatives
John McRoberts – Parent Governor representative*

(*currently there is one vacancy for a Parent Governor representative)

Non-Voting Representatives:

Max Hyde, Chris Smart, Diana Turner

Portfolio Holders relevant to the remit of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Colin Hayfield, Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning
Councillor Bob Stevens, Portfolio Holder for Health

Contact Details

For queries regarding this agenda, please contact:
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JIM GRAHAM
Chief Executive
Shire Hall
Warwick

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Present

Members:

Councillor Jonathan Chilvers
Councillor Peter Fowler
Councillor Bob Hicks (Chair)
Councillor Julie Jackson (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Danny Kendall
Councillor Dave Parsons
Councillor Mike Perry
Councillor Jenny St. John
Councillor John Whitehouse
Councillor Chris Williams (replacing Councillor Yousef Dahmash for this meeting)

Co-opted members:

John McRoberts, Parent Governor Representative

Other Councillors:

Councillor Wallace Redford
Councillor Bob Stevens, Portfolio Holder, Health
Councillor Heather Timms, Portfolio Holder, Children and Schools

Officers:

Hugh Disley, Head of Early Intervention
Helen King, Deputy Director of Public Health
Chris Lewington, Head of Service, Strategic Commissioning
June Maw, Interim Service Manager, Learning and Achievement
Rachel Leslie, Public Health Registrar
Ann Mawdsley, Senior Democratic Services Officer (Minutes 1 – 6)
Richard Maybey, Performance and Improvement Officer
Jayne Mumford, Interim Service Manager, Special Educational Needs
Sue Ross, Interim Head of Safeguarding
Sharon Shaw, Operations Manager, Adoption
Paul Spencer, Democratic Services officer (Minutes 7 -13)
Pat Tate, Service Manager, School Early Intervention Service
Barbara Wallace, Operations Manager, Children's Centres
Adrian Wells, Interim Service Manager, Integrated Disability Service

Other representatives:

Diana Turner, Warwickshire Governors Association
Chris Smart, Warwickshire Governors Association

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Members of the public:

Ellie Costello, Siblings at the Same School

1. General

The Chair welcomed Richard Maybey, who gave the Committee a demonstration on LG Inform, which provides benchmarking information across a range of Local Authority services. Richard Maybey's contact details were provided for any Member needing further guidance.

(1) Apologies

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Yousef Dahmash (replaced by Councillor Chris Williams for this meeting).

(2) Members' Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillor Whitehouse declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that he was a Governor at St. John's Nursery and Primary School in Kenilworth.

Councillor Kendall declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that he was a history teacher at Alcester School.

Councillor Jackson declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that she was a governor at Oakwood Academy which has a nursery and that she was a trustee for the Nicholas Chamberlaine Schools Foundation.

Councillor Perry declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that he was a trustee at Kind Edward VI School.

Councillor Hicks declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that his daughter was employed at St Michael's School and that this daughter-in-law was employed at Stockingford School.

Councillor Parsons declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that he was a governor at Nethersoles Church of England Academy, Polesworth, and that his son was a teacher at The Croft Junior School.

Diana Turner declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that she had a grandson who was mentally disabled.

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Councillor Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest; the nature of the interest being that he was a member of the Warwickshire Adoption Panel.

(3) Minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2014

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 January 2014 be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record, with the following corrections:

Page 2 – Item 1 (2), Members’ Disclosures of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Diana Turner stated that her declaration had been in regard to her grandson.

Page 8 – Item 4, School Admissions Arrangements 2015/16 – point 2

Following a discussion on this point, the minute was agreed.

Page 10 – Item 5, 16-19 Year Old NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) Performance Update

In the seventh line of the fourth paragraph, the minute should read: *“was pregnant or a teenage parent”*.

2. Public Question Time

Ellie Costello put a question to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Schools regarding the written support that had been received from the North Leamington Cluster. Councillor Timms reported that this was referred to in Item 2.10 of the report to Cabinet on 10th April 2014.

In response to a general concern regarding the difficulty for members and the public to access information, Councillor Timms responded that the Cabinet report would be published today and she hoped that this gave sufficient time for all members of the public to engage.

3. Questions to Cabinet and Portfolio Holder

Question 1

Diana Turner stated that she was a governor at Bilton School in Rugby. This school was an academy and therefore had its own admission arrangements, but was currently below the Pupil Allocation Numbers (PAN) and had additional places. Bilton School was a signatory to the In-Year Fair Access Protocol (IYFAP), which ensured that outside of

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the normal admissions round, unplaced children were offered a place at a suitable school as soon as possible. Diana Turner felt this arrangement was not working in Rugby, which had a number of selective schools, and any school with places was being asked to take more children. Bilton School had been asked to take 35 hard-to-place children, while other schools had no more than four, and this large number had a potential disruptive and deleterious impact on other students.

Councillor Timms noted that the Access to Education Board had agreed that the INFAP should be reviewed and this would be going out to schools shortly for consultation with a view to implementation in September 2014.

Question 2

Diana Turner stated that it seemed there were major shortcomings in the admission arrangements and the funding was therefore not following students in the short-term. She gave the example in Rugby where admissions applications had been placed in August, with children only being placed until the School Census Data was published in October. Schools were therefore losing out as victims of unfair access and admission arrangements not placing students quickly. She asked for remedial action to be taken.

In response to both questions, Councillor Timms noted that the Access to Education Board had agreed that the INFAP should be reviewed and this would be going out to schools shortly for consultation with a view to implementation in September 2014. She added that the Learning and Achievement and Admissions teams took the IYFAP very seriously, and this work had moved to the Special Educational Needs Team within the People Group. In relation to Rugby, Councillor Timms noted that she had spoken to the Head at Bilton School during the week, and that the Head at Avon Valley School was the Early Behaviour Partnership Head, and was aware of the challenges faced by Bilton School. Councillor Timms recorded her gratitude to the school for the work they were doing across the board for young people in Rugby.

Question 3

Councillor Whitehouse noted there was an item on the Forward Plan for Cabinet regarding the provision of additional school places at Milverton Primary School. He asked what the Portfolio Holder's response was to the concerns of the Milverton Primary School's Governing Body, which was challenging the expansion plans and had highlighted the lack of consultation around this decision. Councillor Whitehouse asked what actions were being taken to rectify the systematic problems with school admissions.

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Councillor Timms responded that in the last year Government had invited bids for a one-off Targeted Basic Needs Fund to provide additional funding for school places in areas where they are most needed. She noted that the County Council had a role to champion children and ensure sufficient school places and had put forward 20 bids, and had been successful with ten. The whole of North Leamington had been identified as an area of pressure and work had been done with the respective schools. Work had been undertaken with Milverton Primary School, including an extended consultation time. The Primary Schools had rejected the proposals and the Directorate would continue to have conversations with the school and identify alternative proposals. Councillor Timms added that discussions had also been held with the Head at Paddox School, which had resulted in a solution for that school.

Councillor Whitehouse stated that he believed there was a systematic problem in school planning and asked what was being done about this.

Councillor Timms responded that North Leamington had been identified as an area of pressure in the 2012 School Census, and this was evidenced. She added that the Targeted Basic Needs Fund was a once-off pot of money for Local Authorities to bid for, which Warwickshire had done. This was completely separate to the Basic Need Funding, which supports the capital requirement for providing new pupil places both in new or expanded maintained schools, and in Free Schools or expanded Academies. Within this fund, Warwickshire had identified a gap for 2016, which was being challenged on the basis of the true picture being masked on basic planning areas. She added that while there had been a high staff turnover in the Learning and Achievement Team, which had resulted in learning curves for many officers, she was confident the team could manage this going forward.

June Maw, Interim Service Manager (Learning and Achievement) noted that the District/Borough Councils Local Plans were at different stages of development, which was allowing housing developers to put in opportunistic plans, which the County Council had to deal with quickly, often without warning.

Councillor Timms noted that a Sufficiency Strategy was being developed, with numbers, and would ensure that Area Teams prioritised needs which were fully evidence-based, and this would enable a more co-ordinated approach in the future.

It was agreed that growth and pressure on school places was no longer about birth rates, and that the pressure on Primary School places needed to be resolved quickly, with the understanding that this pressure would quickly move into the secondary school places.

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Councillor Timms stated that schools were being consulted, as their involvement was essential, but it was important to get the right mix between ensuring developers delivered where new schools were required, or that in areas where opportunities to expand existing schools were available, these were maximised.

Councillor Whitehouse asked whether the County Council had been consulted on rumoured proposals for Kenilworth School and College, which potentially had major capital investment requirements from the County.

Councillor Timms noted that the Admissions teams worked closely with planners and that the Infrastructure Delivery Manager had been appointed in this role. She added however that developer contributions were always based on basic needs.

The Chair thanked the Portfolio Holder for her responses.

4. Early Years Commissioning

Chris Lewington, Head of Strategic Commissioning, provided a verbal update on the progress of this work. She noted that it was taking longer than originally anticipated, and was still in the evaluation stage. It was reported that the number and quality of the bids received had been high. The number of voluntary staff redundancies had been determined and this information had been forwarded to the Pension Scheme Actuaries for the determination of pension scheme liabilities. Once this exercise was complete, the information would be shared with potential bidders, to determine whether they would be moving forward with their bids.

With regard to the procurement timetable, members were advised that the notification of successful and unsuccessful bidders would be deferred from 7th April to 12th May 2014. In light of this, the contract would be awarded on 23rd May and subsequently the starting date for the 39 children's centres with their new providers would be staggered with three stages, commencing 1st July, 1st August and 1st September 2014. Full implementation was expected by 1st September 2014.

During the discussion that followed, the following points were noted:

- 1) Members recorded their concern that this had been a verbal report and that many of the delays, particularly the work required around pensions, had been highlighted by the Chair and Spokesperson members at the end of 2013. Chris Lewington reassured members that there was a Project Team for this work, meeting weekly to evaluate progress;

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- 2) There was a concern in respect of the significant financial impact caused by any delays to the commissioning process, reported to be £40,000 per week. Members queried whether additional savings targets would be required due to the delay. Chris Lewington confirmed that at the point of transfer, expenditure would remain the same. In terms of additional savings targets, this would have to be determined by the Project Board for inclusion in medium-term financial plans. This information would be included in the briefing to members.
- 3) The quality of the bids was good, and no decisions had been made for alternative plans should bidders withdraw. It was agreed however that the Communications Strategy needed to be robust, with the correct information being shared with Children's Centres, staff and parents.

In response to a query regarding the sustainability of Children's Centres if further extensions were put in place, and the potential impact on parents and children, Chris Lewington responded that a letter had been sent to all Children's Centres and the Project Team would be following up with all Centres, considering further extensions and the potential impacts. The staged approach would be used to ensure that those Children's Centres at the highest risk would be included in the first tranche.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to:

- 1) Note the update; and
- 2) Request a briefing note on the progress of the Early Years Commissioning exercise, which would include information relating to additional savings targets.

5. Warwick Super Priority Area Consultation

The Chair referred to the two Cabinet reports that had been tabled at the meeting, and were now in the public domain. June Maw outlined the consultation responses and what was being proposed, specifically a change to the timetable from 2015 to 2016.

Members noted their dissatisfaction at receiving both reports on the day of the meeting, and to the fact that the officer report referred to the consultation responses in the group rooms, and this had not yet happened. This meant the Committee would find it difficult to form a reasoned response. The Committee made the following points:

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- 1) The Committee noted that in response to the O&S report being submitted to Cabinet, the Strategic Director had commented that it was unfortunate that the Committee had not had the opportunity to hear views of other parties. The Committee considered however, that officers had been aware that the debate at the previous Committee meeting would take place and it was their responsibility to ensure that a balanced set of inputs was made available to elected members.
- 2) Members felt the consultation process had been poorly communicated and late in the day, and this may have added to the disappointing response. It was felt that future consultations should include consultation meetings at Children's Centres as well as at schools.
- 3) The standard County Council process following public consultations, where officers provided a valued response to consultation responses, had not been carried out in this case.
- 4) Members felt that Cabinet would have no choice but to agree the recommendation to develop Super Priority Areas for Leamington and Warwick, which would then have to be included as part of the Council's consultation for 2016/17 school admissions. The Cabinet would then have to be clear about what officers would need to do to ameliorate the situation for parents.
- 5) June Maw undertook to check whether a response to the consultation had been received from the Warwick Transport Strategy Group.

The Committee acknowledged that this was no easy solution to this, and it was important to get a good resolution in Warwick to support the roll-out to other areas of the county, which were all distinct in their requirements and needs. It was considered desirable to have local schools for local children and siblings going to the same school; however, it was recognised that this may require increased accommodation in some cases.

Members were advised that it was not clear yet how many appeals would be received as placement notifications would only be sent out on 16th April 2014. Appeals would then have to be lodged and scheduled in to the programme of appeals that had been set.

Chris Smart outlined the independent role of School Admission Panels, which operated under the guidance issued by the Department of Education. He added that there would never be a right answer for everyone involved with school admissions and the County Council would have to be a decision made that would best serve the majority.

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Councillor Heather Timms responded that it had been made clear throughout the process that all proposals were subject to the agreement of schools and further discussions would be held with the relevant schools, and that this would be key to moving forward. She reassured the Committee that the intention to develop Super Priority Areas was not being lost, and the comments received from the Committee would be used to further develop the proposals for Leamington and Warwick.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to:

- 1) Note the update; and
- 2) Establish a Task and Finish Group to consider the philosophy and strategy of the Super Priority Areas across the county and submit recommendations to the Committee meeting scheduled for 2nd September 2014. This would enable the Committee to be involved in developing this policy. Any member wishing to participate was asked to contact Democratic Services before 11th April 2014. Councillor Heather Timms supported this proposal, and it was agreed that School Governors needed to be involved in the process, possibly through a briefing at the summer meeting of the Governor's Forum.

6. Adoption Process and Scorecards

Sue Ross, Interim Head of Safeguarding, and Sharon Shaw, Operations Manager (Adoption Services) introduced the report which outlined the priorities for adoption outlined in the 2011 Government paper *"An Action Plan for Adoption: Tackling Delay"*.

A discussion took place regarding the breakdown of adoptions. Sharon Shaw acknowledged that statistics relating to this were vague, but that Warwickshire had had three over the past year, all with older children. It was important to learn lessons from these situations, and to continue to improve training and psychological support for families. She added that some authorities did not carry out adoptions for children over three but she felt that this risk was worth taking.

Members noted that there was a balance to be achieved between trying to move children as quickly as possible without pre-empting court decisions. The Children's Panel did monitor potential children coming through the system, which helped.

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It was noted that children available for adoption most often came from challenging backgrounds, and this meant that the matching process could take some time.

The Committee thanked the Adoption Team for the positive work they were doing.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to:

- 1) Note the report; and
- 2) Request a further report in 12 months, with a focus on the impact of the Government's Adoption Action Plan.

7. Primary Support Inclusion Groups

The Committee received a report regarding the evaluation of Primary Support Inclusion Groups (ISGs) and to enable comment on future provision for primary age pupils that were subject to, or at risk of exclusion.

Background was provided on the report to Cabinet in February 2011, regarding the closure of the primary section of the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), following recommendations made by the Children and Young People OSC. The actions taken since that time to comply with statutory education duties, including work with primary school head teachers, to provide support for pupils at risk of exclusion, were also reported.

Funding previously allocated to the primary PRU had been used through two commissions for a pilot period of two years, to fund six professional learning communities and a service level agreement with the County Council's Early Intervention Service (EIS), to establish ISGs. The EIS was also commissioned to provide support to other Warwickshire primary schools not involved in the pilots.

An evaluation was provided of the ISGs, which reminded of the purpose of the programme, its aims and objectives. It also evaluated the capacity of ISGs to meet the needs of primary age pupils and value for money of the pilot scheme.

Six ISGs were established throughout Warwickshire, with funding focussed on staffing, staff training, external support and adapting premises. Criteria were established to determine which cases could be managed within a school setting and those needing to be escalated to ISG level. Tables were included giving data on the numbers of pupils supported through ISGs, attainment and attendance levels. A table compared data on permanent and fixed term exclusions by year from

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2008/09 to 2012/13. Data was also provided, for emotional wellbeing and resilience, early intervention / integrated working and meeting the learning need.

A section of the report looked at the improved value for money from the pilot scheme and the increased numbers of pupils supported, with earlier intervention. The conclusions were reported, together with data on the support provided by EIS to the schools outside the ISG pilot.

Future need and demand was considered. An audit in January 2013 showed the numbers of primary school pupils with a statement of behaviour, emotional and social difficulties (BESD) and others who required support. The report explained how the majority of these pupils' needs were met. However, there was a gap in provision, for a small number of individuals, where current arrangements were insufficient and the consequences of this were detailed. It was exacerbated where a school fell into crisis. Appended to the report were details of the criteria used for accessing support. A related table showed the numbers of pupils involved, including those in need of specialist ISG support.

Proposals had been approved by the Schools' Forum, a group comprising head teacher representatives and senior officers. The Group was taking forward the planning and guidance of these proposals for supporting primary pupils at risk of exclusion. The elements of these proposals were also reported.

Finally, the implementation plan was considered, with details of the commissioning arrangements, the service level agreement with EIS and the plans to open the first specialist ISG by September 2014.

In presenting the report, Pat Tate, Service Manager for the School Early Intervention Service, referred to the recent member visits to Goodyers End and Stockingford Primary Schools. Several members spoke about the value of the school visits. The Chair asked officers to thank the schools for their hospitality. He commented that from the visits, the experience of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) was at best, mixed. Hugh Disley, Head of Early Intervention, confirmed that a review of CAMHS was being undertaken presently, emphasising that this was at a senior level within the authority and its outcome may affect future commissioning arrangements.

In response to a number of questions raised, the following points were noted:

- 1) Travel costs to alternate school premises would be met by the local authority. Different travel options would be considered in each

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pupil's case, rather than reliance just on taxis. Further information was also supplied about nurture groups and family support work.

- 2) Proposals to develop ISGs in other geographical areas were comprehensive. Sites would be established that were flexible, with appropriate staffing and advice in place. In some cases, it might be necessary to bring the support to the pupil, in their existing school.
- 3) Successes were benchmarked against other local authorities. Pat Tate referred to the quantitative data available and the underpinning Common Assessment Framework (CAF), which most Warwickshire schools engaged with.
- 4) One of the outcomes from the pilot was the need for a specialist ISG. She talked about the difficulties when schools were in special measures, the extra demands this caused, the need for risk assessments and ensuring appropriate support was provided to pupils needing it at all times.
- 5) Persistent disruptive behaviour was considered the most frequent cause for exclusion. Members were advised that there was no prescribed period for action to be taken and each case was dealt with individually. Councillor Heather Timms stated that there were no PRUs in Warwickshire. She spoke about the revised service delivery, the reducing exclusion statistics and the benefits of the specialist ISG approach, in supporting pupils at an earlier stage.
- 6) Other points were raised about exclusions and supported transfers to other schools, as well as transport difficulties for families with children at different schools.

A discussion took place regarding 'satisfactory academic progress' and members noted that the classification given may have undersold the actual progress achieved. Members sought further information, which was duly provided, about the balancing figures for the data relating to schools outside the ISG pilot. Pat Tate compared the previous support arrangements, which were often provided at a later stage. She spoke also about how an event at home could trigger issues, the expectations of schools and the support provided to them.

Chris Smart, Warwickshire Governors Association, sought further information about the governance arrangements for ISGs. From a parent's perspective there was an impact on pupils having to travel to additional school premises and this also affected their ability to attend after school clubs. On the governance question, Pat Tate confirmed the officer hierarchy, the Ofsted arrangements and that there was a service level agreement in place for the EIS. Hugh Disley added that the pupil's home school commissioned the IDS support and maintained control via its governance structure.

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Diana Turner, Warwickshire Governors Association, stated the need for regular feedback to governors on ISG placements. Pat Tate responded that there were annual reports and a regular dialogue with head teachers. She responded to a supplementary question, confirming the revised wording used under the Children and Family Act for children with emotional, social, or mental health issues, also speaking about the underlying issues, linked to difficult behaviour and the positive outcomes from the CAF approach. There was discussion about the specialist school and the availability of ISG placements for primary school pupils.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to:

- 1) Note the report; and
- 2) Request a further update in 12 months, to include the experience gained of transport issues and how these have been resolved.

8. Integrated Disability Service

Adrian Wells, Interim Service Manager (Integrated Disability Service), presented a report on the impact of the savings programme on priorities and service delivery. Members were reminded of the previous decisions by Cabinet regarding the redesign of the Integrated Disability Service (IDS). The service worked with disabled children, young people and their families, providing social care and short breaks. Work was being undertaken to redesign the service in light of forthcoming Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) legislation, within the Children and Families Bill.

The savings agreed by Council for the current savings plan amounted to £1.76 million. The impact on staffing was reported, it being expected to achieve approximately £883,000 from previously identified staffing reductions. However, given the focus on achieving budget reductions through efficiencies in staffing structures some areas would be revisited.

Development of a matrix of need that made sure resources were allocated in a fair and transparent way was also important. There had been two abortive attempts to do this and it had been agreed to update an earlier version of the matrix to be compliant with legislation.

Families in receipt of social care services would need to be reviewed by 30th September, with packages of support being agreed by a quality audit panel, to ensure consistency of decision making and that the right service is provided.

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A section of the report considered improvements to commissioning processes, with details being provided of the tenders to be sought. Close joint working would also be needed with partners, including clinical commissioning groups and schools. The recently established IDS Reference Group would need to become a formal body and appended to the report were the terms of reference, a meeting schedule and an action plan for this Group.

In presenting the report, Adrian Wells explained that retendering was expected to realise some savings, but there would inevitably be cuts in services. Consultation would take place on a range of options to achieve the required savings.

Councillor Jenny St. John was concerned about the future of the short break centre at Kenilworth. Details were provided of eligibility and usage levels, with a comparison being made to the service delivered by Wiltshire County Council, which was deemed to be similar to Warwickshire. Another point was the mix of provision in the County with the Kenilworth facility being funded by social care and an NHS funded facility in North Warwickshire.

It was noted that this was a holding report, with the focus on staffing aspects, but Councillor Whitehouse wished to ensure that that a focus remained on the service offer to Warwickshire's residents. Confirmation was sought regarding the time line for progress with this review. Adrian Wells outlined plans for a discussion paper by the end of April 2014 for consideration by the Reference Group. Options would then be prepared for public consultation and the aim was to report back to Cabinet by the end of July 2014 with the consultation response. It was suggested that a further report be submitted to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June 2014.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to:

- 1) Note the report;
- 2) Receive an update to the meeting scheduled for 3rd June 2014, following the consultation exercise but prior to Cabinet's determination.

9. Development of a New School at Manor Park Site

Members considered a report from Jane Mumford, Interim Special Education Needs and Inclusion Service Manager, regarding the development of a new school for children with behavioural, emotional and social disorders. The need for additional places had been well

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documented. Members were updated on the development plans and recently, the Department for Education had appointed a sponsor to take forward the project. Appended to the report was the detailed position statement, which the Committee reviewed.

An update was provided about potential restrictions for development of the school's current playing field. Furthermore, there was concern about asbestos on the site. The Chair questioned whether the new school would have use for the existing sports hall.

Councillor Whitehouse spoke of the demands for specialist school places in both the Nuneaton and Bedworth and Warwick areas. This demonstrated the need for satellite services in other parts of the County. Other points were raised about the ring fencing of capital receipts, the deadlines for this scheme and the potential for claw back of government funding.

Councillor Mike Perry asked about the potential for pupils from neighbouring counties to be placed at the new school. It was noted that 90% of pupils would come from Warwickshire. Finally, there was discussion about the potential for appointment of a member to the governors or trust board for the new academy school.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to note the report.

10. One Year On: The Transition of Public Health into Warwickshire County Council

This item was introduced by Councillor Bob Stevens, Portfolio Holder for Health. A report was presented by Rachel Leslie, Public Health Registrar, with support from Helen King, Deputy Director of Public Health.

The report included a summary and background of the work undertaken in the first year, since the transfer of public health functions from primary care trusts to the Local Authority. The background included a table showing a description of the six key functions of Public Health. A section was included on the Strategic Commissioning Reviews of integrated sexual health, focussed services for children and lifestyle services. Planned and ongoing Public Health programmes had been aligned to the One Organisational Plan and a further table outlined the programme areas and how these related to the broad vision of the Plan.

The report included information on 'Making Every Contact Count', a process to enable all employees to provide guidance which supported behaviour change, to improve residents' health and wellbeing. The

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public health partnership aspects were also reported. Public Health supported the Health and Wellbeing Board and an independent annual report was produced by the Director of Public Health. Finally, the report looked at financial considerations, with a table showing the 2013/14 and 2014/15 budget for each Public Health function.

Councillor John Whitehouse spoke about the functions delivered by the community and voluntary sector, such as youth services. He declared an interest, due to his involvement in a group in Kenilworth and explained that this group had a strong relationship with young peoples' groups, but not with the County Council. Helen King responded, giving examples of work with pharmacies, that on mental health and wellbeing and work with young peoples' groups, but she accepted the point about engaging with local partnerships.

In response to questioning from the Committee, the following points were noted:

- 1) Public Health services provided in schools included school nurses, those delivered through health visitors and work with very young mothers. Councillor Stevens also commented on the roles of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2) Obesity was a complex issue and there were many reasons why statistics could vary significantly, such as those between the North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth areas.

In response to a question raised regarding relationships with former NHS colleagues and whether there were barriers to information sharing since the transfer of the Public Health function, the Committee was advised that there were good links through clinical commissioning groups (CCGs), and a joint commissioning board, through which relationships were maintained, but there were some data sharing restrictions.

Councillor Julie Jackson asked about links with neighbouring CCGs and public health departments. She also referred to mortality statistics and levels of obesity in her division as compared to other parts of the County. A report on spending to target these issues and the related outcomes was suggested. Councillor Stevens provided further information about the CCGs serving Warwickshire, as CCG boundaries weren't coterminous with local authority areas. Helen King added that the next Director of Public Health Annual Report would focus on child health issues.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to note the report and request that information be provided to on the points raised during the debate.

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11. Work Programme 2013-14

The Chair presented the Committee with the final work programme report for 2013/14. He reminded members of the decision made in the morning session for a Task and Finish Group regarding the implementation of Super Priority Areas. Diana Turner commented that this work could complement that on ISGs referred to earlier in the meeting.

The Chair sought the Committee's input to the Work Programme, commenting on the recent Ofsted report of a school in the Nuneaton and Bedworth area classed as 'outstanding'. The Committee could undertake a review of how to learn from excellence. Councillors Perry and Whitehouse pursued this idea, suggesting that a review could include a school which had significantly improved its performance that the meetings be held at the school.

Chris Smart referred to the rates of staff turnover and the number of senior officer posts that were currently appointed on an interim basis. Councillor Whitehouse noted the recent appointment of the Head of Learning and Achievement and suggested that a report be brought from the officer in September 2014, with their forward plans for the service.

With regard to the appended briefing notes in the work programme, Councillor Whitehouse requested that the date of issue be placed against each one. He also asked if the appendix showing the recommendations and action plan could be considered earlier in the meeting, as he had two questions for the Portfolio Holder and an officer, but they were no longer present at the meeting, so would pursue them himself. The issues concerned the officer response regarding information on youth and community centres on the County Council's website and concerns about the response to the letter submitted by the Chair of Governors at Kenilworth Children's Centre and Nursery.

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to note the report.

12. Any Urgent Items

None.

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13. Date of Next Meeting

The Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted that the date of the next meeting had been scheduled for 3rd June 2014. The Chair also publicised a training session on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and asked members to confirm their availability.

The Committee rose at 3.30 p.m.

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Chair

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3rd June 2014

Questions to Cabinet and Portfolio Holder

Recommendations

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the forthcoming Cabinet and Portfolio Holder decisions relevant to its remit, asking any relevant questions and considering areas for further scrutiny, where appropriate.

1.0 Cabinet and Portfolio Holder Decisions

- 1.1 The decisions relevant to the remit of the Committee are listed below. Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and identify topics for pre-decision scrutiny. The Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning may be in attendance at the meeting to answer any questions from the Committee.
- 1.2 The list was last updated from the Forward Plan on 22nd May 2014.
(*Key decision)

Decision	Description	Date due	Cabinet / PfH
Proposed Changes to Home to School Transport Policy	The report will be seeking permission to consult on proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy to support the savings target identified in the One Organisation Savings Plan.	25 th July 2014	Portfolio Holder

**Children and Young People
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

3rd June 2014

Early Years Commissioning

Recommendations

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the update on the Early Years Commissioning procurement exercise.

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 In August 2013, the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee carried out a Select Committee review of the Early Years Commissioning and the proposed change to the service delivery model for Children's Centres across the county. This resulted in a number of recommendations being presented to Cabinet on 12th September 2013.
- 1.2 A confidential briefing note regarding the outcome of the procurement exercise was circulated to members on 12th May 2014, with notification that the formal contract award decision would be confirmed on 23rd May 2014.
- 1.3 The Head of Strategic Commissioning will be in attendance at the meeting to provide information on the successful bids.

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3rd June 2014

Work Programme 2014/15

Recommendations

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Approves the updated Work Programme 2014/15 and the inclusion of additional areas of scrutiny activity or review;
- 2) Notes the arrangements for the Annual Work Programme event on 30th July 2014;
- 3) Notes the updates on the Transition of Mental Health Services Task and Finish Group and the Super Priority Areas Task and Finish Group;
- 4) Receives the invitation from the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to attend the meeting scheduled for 16th July 2014;
- 5) Notes the update on recommendations and actions previously agreed.

1.0 Work Programme 2014/15 and Annual Event, 30th July 2014

- 1.1 The updated Committee Work Programme for 2014/15 is attached at **Appendix A**. The existing Work Programme will be refreshed at the Annual Work Programme event which has been scheduled for all Overview and Scrutiny Committees on 30th July 2014, commencing 9.30 a.m. at Northgate House.
- 1.2 The programme for the event will be circulated in due course and will involve a café style approach that will allow all members in attendance to record their suggestions and priorities for the forthcoming year.

2.0 Briefing Notes

- 2.1 The following Briefing Notes have been circulated since the last meeting of the Committee:

- Care Quality Commission report regarding Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust – 7th May 2014
- Early Years Commissioning – 12th May 2014
- Schools Performance Dashboard – 21st May 2014

2.2 Members are asked to consider whether they wish to undertake further scrutiny of any of the above topics.

3.0 Transition of Mental Health Services Task and Finish Group

3.1 The first meeting of the Task and Finish Group took place on 16th April 2014, at which the scoping document (attached at **Appendix B**) was considered and Councillor Peter Morson was selected as the Chair. There have also been a number of meetings between Ann Mawdsley (Democratic Services) and lead officers to ensure that the scope, stakeholders and focus of the Group are appropriate and that this work takes place parallel to the review of transitions (not mental health) that is currently being undertaken in respect of Transitions for Fair Access to Care Services and the work being done by the CAMHS Redesign Project Board.

3.2 The Group's next meeting has been scheduled for 6th June 2014 to consider existing services in respect of transitions, CAMHS, mental wellbeing and the direction of travel generally.

4.0 Super Priority Areas Task and Finish Group

4.1 At the last meeting, the Committee agreed to appoint a Task and Finish Group to undertake a review of the Super Priority Area policy for schools admissions arrangements. The Group held its first meeting on 12th May 2014 to complete the scoping document, which is attached at **Appendix C** and Cllr Clive Rickhards was appointed as Chair.

4.2 The Group's next meeting has been scheduled for 2nd June 2014 to consider background information, in particular the Admissions Code, Adjudicators Report, examples of other authorities' admissions criteria, and a briefing note with regard to Rugby West Super Priority Area.

5.0 People Group – Local Account

5.1 The County Council produces an annual Local Account to outline the work of the Adult Social Care department. The Local Account explains how much the Council spends, what it spends money on, what it is doing and future plans for improvements. It is therefore a valuable means of reporting back to local people on performance and is a key engagement and accountability mechanism to the public and a useful way of informing self-improvement activity locally.

5.2 Previous Local Accounts have been received by the Adult Social Care and Health OSC to monitor performance in respect of adult social care; however, the 2013/14 Local Account now includes information in respect of children's services and therefore it is now important to engage the Children and Young People OSC in the consideration of this report.

5.3 An additional meeting of the Adult Social Care and Health OSC has been scheduled for 16th July 2014 (commencing 10.00 a.m.) at which the Local Account will be considered. The Chair has invited members of the Children and Young People OSC to attend the meeting to listen to and participate in the discussion for the Local Account item on the agenda.

6.0 Recommendations and Action Plan

6.1 Attached at **Appendix D** is a document which will help the Committee to keep track of recommendations and requests that it has made. The document will be regularly updated and presented to each Committee meeting, so that members can track progress and determine whether any further action is required.

7.0 Dates of Future Meetings

7.1 Future meetings of the Committee have been scheduled for 10.00 a.m. on the following dates:

- 2nd September 2014
- 4th November 2014
- 6th January 2015
- 7th April 2015

Appendices:

Appendix A – Work Programme 2014/15

Appendix B – Transition of Mental Health Services Task and Finish Group, Scoping Document

Appendix C – Super Priority Areas Task and Finish Group, Scoping Document

Appendix D – Recommendations and Actions 2014/15

	Name	Contact details
Report Author	Georgina Atkinson	georginaatkinson@warwickshire.gov.uk
Head of Service	Sarah Duxbury	sarahduxbury@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	David Carter	davidcarter@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kam Kaur	cllrkamkaur@warwickshire.gov.uk

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

1 Item	Report detail	Date of last report	Date of next report
Questions to the Portfolio Holders / Forward Plan	Report which includes Forward Plan decisions relevant to the remit of the Committee. (Georgina Atkinson)	N/a	* Standing item for every meeting
Priority Families Initiative	<p>The Council has identified more than 900 of the hardest to help families who will be targeted for intervention by the programme. More than 400 families are already being worked with and the scheme remains on track to meet the local authority's target of turning around 805 families in the County by April 2015. Areas to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many families are involved and how are families identified? • How will it make a difference? How has it made a difference so far? • What funding is available to support this initiative? • Where are Warwickshire in comparison to other authorities? What have been the key challenges and issues? • Is the Council on track to achieve the April 2015 target? • How does the initiative link with the Child Poverty Strategy and the support provided by Children's Centres? How is the initiative being monitored and evaluated? • How will be programme be sustained beyond 2015? (Nick Gower-Johnson) 	N/a	3 rd June 2014
Educational Provision for 14-19 Year Olds	<p>To examine the developments being made to address skills shortages and ensure children and young people have the opportunities and support needed to develop the employability and life skills they need for the future employment. Areas to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What provision and support is available to young people (either in schools, by the youth support service or other methods) to develop life skills? • Are the development of life skills and employability skills included as part of the 	N/a	3 rd June 2014

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

1 Item	Report detail	Date of last report	Date of next report
	<p>school curriculum?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are young people prepared for the world of work? • What initiatives have been implemented and how effective have they been? • What support is provided by sixth forms, colleges and other further education providers? • Do schools work in partnership with local businesses on developing life skills for young people and the skills needed for employment? • Has an Employability Charter been developed and promoted within Warwickshire? If so, what has been the impact of its development so far? • What is the involvement of the CWLEP/City Deal and how will it impact on skills shortages and developing employability skills? • How are the views of children and families sought on current provision and how do they feed into future service provision/development? • Impact of Raising the Participation Age from Summer 2015. <p>Once the Committee has received the initial report, it will consider if any further review work (possibly via a Task and Finish Group) is required. (Yvonne Rose, Sarah Bradwell, Sophie Thompson)</p>		
Child Poverty Strategy	<p>The Committee to monitor the implementation of the Strategy through the action plan to ensure actions and developments are being achieved on target and are making a difference. Areas to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline of the national context, nature of Child Poverty and eradication by 2020. • Has the final strategy been approved? What are the timescales involved? • Review the action plan and monitor progress against it. • How effective is partnership working in the delivery of actions? • What outcomes are expected as a result of the strategy? 	N/a	3 rd June 2014

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

1 Item	Report detail	Date of last report	Date of next report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have the views of children and families been sought and fed into the strategy? • How does the Strategy link to the Priority Families Initiative? (Bill Basra) 		
Implications of the Budget	Funding reductions over the next four years could potentially result in unmanageable demand. How will this be addressed, in terms of the delivery of key projects? The Committee to monitor how this will be addressed within a reduced budget, in order to sustain statutory requirements and meet the Corporate Ambitions. May be a verbal update – Wendy to advise closer to the time. (Wendy Fabbro)	N/a	3 rd June 2014
Integrated Disability Service	To receive a verbal report on the public consultation and the service offer to residents. (Adrian Wells)	2 nd April 2014	3 rd June 2014
Head of Learning and Achievement	To receive a verbal report from the new Head of Service regarding their future priorities and plans for the service. (Nigel Minns)	N/a	3 rd June 2014 – TBC
Scrutiny Action Plans	<p>To receive an update on recommendations previously submitted and subsequently agreed (or noted) by Cabinet in respect of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academies and Free Schools (Claudia Wade – to confirm other officers) • Children’s Centres (Barbara Wallace) 	22 nd January 2014	2 nd September 2014
Super Priority Areas Task and Finish Group	To receive the report and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group. (Sally Baxter)	2 nd April 2014	2 nd September 2014

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

1 Item	Report detail	Date of last report	Date of next report
Vulnerable Children Strategy	Consideration of the draft Strategy, which incorporates the 'Narrowing the Gap' objectives. (Nigel Minns)	N/a	2 nd September 2014
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	There will be a full review of the JSNA in 2015, focusing on the last three years work/products. The update is to be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in May (2014) and will cover the current 5 themes and 10 topics. It is recommended that a joint meeting with the ASC&HOSC is held towards the end of the year (October/November) to consider the review. (Georgina Atkinson / Ann Mawdsley)	N/a	Additional single item meeting in Oct/Nov – date TBC
Performance of Warwickshire C&YP in National Tests and Examinations	To consider the annual report on school attainment. Primary school data available by January and Sixth Form data by March. Headline data to go to members in November, what is the value added. Final data really available in June. (Nigel Minns)	6 th November 2013	4 th November 2014
Area Behaviour Partnerships	To consider an annual update on the progress of the ABPs, focusing on the performance, how any issues with underperformance have been addressed and what the impact of performance has been on young people. (Steve Pendleton)	6 th November 2013	4 th November 2014
All Age Autism Strategy	To consider an update on the Delivery Plan, the achievement of key outcomes and the three recommendations from the Chair & Spokes. (Lisa Lissaman) Add to F Plan.	N/a	4 th November 2014
Children's Centres Service Delivery Outcomes	To undertake the Committee's previous recommendation for the Children's Centres Select Committee: <i>That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health</i>	23 rd August 2013	6 th January 2015

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

1 Item	Report detail	Date of last report	Date of next report
	<p><i>and Wellbeing Board monitors the key service delivery outcomes, as defined by the Learning and Achievement service, and the extent to which these are achieved by the Children’s Centre providers.</i></p> <p>The Committee to receive a performance report in order to monitor outcomes. First update to include detail regarding the award of the contract and the key service delivery outcomes that have been set. (Barbara Wallace / Kate Harker)</p>		
Performance of the Independent Reviewing Service	To consider a report on the impact on young people of the performance of the Independent Reviewing Service and the application for a Market Forces Supplement for IRO salaries. (Jenny Butlin-Moran)	22 nd January 2014	6 th January 2115
NEETs Update Report	The Committee to consider an annual update, with reference to statistical neighbours, looked after children, the legacy of pupil referral units and like to apprenticeships and work experience, with reference to the work of the Coventry and Warwickshire LEP in this area. (Sarah Bradwell)	22 nd January 2014	6 th January 2015
Adoption Process and Scorecards	To receive an update on the implementation of changes to the adoption process, including the impact of the Government Adoption Action Plan. (Brenda Vincent)	2 nd April 2014	7 th April 2015
Primary Inclusion Support Groups	The Committee to consider an annual report on the Primary Inclusion Support Groups to include the experience gained of transport issues and how these have been resolved. (Pat Tate / Graham Pirt)	2 nd April 2014	7 th April 2015

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

1 Item	Report detail	Date of last report	Date of next report
Childcare Sufficiency Assessment	To consider the annual report (prior to approval at Cabinet) on how the Council is meeting its duty to secure sufficient childcare. (Diana Spragg) Possible Select Committee approach – requires further discussion at Chair & Spokes (then add to Forward Plan)	N/a	7 th April 2015 – TBC *discuss at future Chair & Spokes
Transition of children to adult mental health services	Report of the joint Task and Finish Group with the OSC, Adult Social Care and Health OSC and Health Watch to review the transition of children to adult mental health services. (Clls Fowler and Hicks representing the OSC) (Ann Mawdsley)	Agreed by OSC – 22 nd January 2015	26 th September 2014? Tbc
Mental Health Service Provision for Children in Schools	Possible joint Task and Finish Group with Adult Social Care and Health – needs further discussion with Chair and Wendy Fabbro. Request that School Governor representatives be invited to participate in that review. (Georgina Atkinson)	Raised by OSC – 22 nd January 2015	TBC
Organisational Health Report 2014/15	Quarterly report to scrutinise the performance management of services that fall within the remit of Committee. (Georgina Atkinson)	22 nd January 2014	TBC

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

Briefing Notes

Item	Briefing Note detail	Date requested	Date circulated
Role of the Director of Children's Services	To assess the robustness of arrangements in place for the dual role of the Director of Children's and Adult Services. To include minutes of the Warwickshire Safeguarding Boards who also monitor this arrangement. (Wendy Fabbro)	13 th January 2014	
Children & Families Bill 2013 and SEND Reforms	To consider an update on the implications and changes arising from the implementation of the Children and Families Bill 2013 and the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) reforms. (Jayne Mumford)	2 nd May 2014	
School Improvement Team	To consider the findings of the internal audit review of the School Improvement team. (Claudia Wade to confirm)	27 th January 2014	
Warwickshire Education Services (WES) – Trading Update	To assess the progress of WES and the competitiveness of the LA's offer to schools. (Pat Tate)	Request for June 2014	
Schools Dashboard Report	Includes KPIs for schools, i.e. number of children attending 'good' schools. (Wendy Fabbro)	2 nd May 2014	21 st May 2014
Review of Threshold Document	Briefing note regarding the review of the document which focuses on the threshold for children and/or families requiring social care support. (Wendy Fabbro)	2 nd May 2014	

**Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme 2014/15**

Universal Free School Meals	First briefing note provided in January 2014 – request update on the latest position, particularly around the County Caterers Implementation Plan, the readiness of schools for September and arrangements for those schools who do not have any catering provision.	2 nd May 2014	
Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust	Briefing notes regarding the recent Care Quality Commission report.	2 nd May 2014	7 th May 2014

Transition of Mental Health Services Task and Finish Group
Scoping Document

Review Topic (Name of review)	Transition of Mental Health Services Task and Finish Group
Task and Finish Group Members	<p><u>Children & Young People OSC</u> Cllr Bob Hicks Cllr Peter Fowler</p> <p><u>Adult Social Care & Health OSC</u> Cllr John Beaumont Cllr Peter Morson</p>
Co-option of District and Borough members (where relevant)	<p>A member of Healthwatch will be co-opted onto the Group.</p> <p>To be discussed.</p>
Key Officers / Departments	<p>David Soley Becky Hale Adrian Wells Peter Hatcher Kate Harker Doris Sheridan Charlotte Gath Andrew Sjurseth Jo Davies</p>
Lead Scrutiny Officer	Ann Mawdsley
Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)	<p>Councillor Heather Timms – Children and Schools Councillor Jose Compton – Adult Social Care Councillor Bob Stevens - Health</p>
Relevant Corporate Ambitions	The health and wellbeing of all in Warwickshire is protected
Type of Review	Task and Finish Group
Timescales	6 months
Rationale (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)	<p>The Committees have agreed to appoint this Task and Finish Group in response to a concern that was raised by the Warwickshire LINK Project Report – Giving Young People a Voice in Health and Social Care, which identified that there were inconsistencies in the transition of young people from CAMHS to adult mental health services and that <i>"high quality service provision at the point of transition increases the likelihood of young people developing their full potential, including good overall well-being and staying engaged with education, employment or training. This is associated with improved mental health and increased resilience for transition to adulthood"</i>.</p>

	<p>The key issues raised focused on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information-sharing to parents/carers and individuals about future service provision beyond 16 years of age. • Communication between various key agencies • Procedures and arrangements affecting parents/carers. • Carers assessments – how these are being offered. • The need for a clear pathway for the transition between services.
<p>Objectives of Review (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)</p>	<p>A full assessment of the issues that have been identified, in order to understand the source of the problem and consider options for improvement.</p>
<p>Scope of the Topic (What is specifically to be included/excluded)</p>	<p><u>Include</u> The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The interface between different services • A focus on Mental Health, including Learning Disabilities. • Mental Health wellbeing services • Information on available services • Information and support through transition from children and young people to adult services <p><u>Excluded</u> The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier 4 services provided by CWPT (specialist services)
<p>How will the public be involved? (See Public Engagement Toolkit / Flowchart)</p>	<p>Interest groups, such as Family Voice Warwickshire, New Ideas and Children's Centres will be invited to submit their views. How this is managed effectively will be discussed with HealthWatch.</p>
<p>What site visits will be undertaken?</p>	<p>To be discussed, if necessary.</p>
<p>How will our partners be involved? (consultation with relevant stakeholders, District / Borough reps)</p>	<p>The following partners will be involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCGs • Schools • Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust
<p>What primary / new evidence is needed for the scrutiny? (What information needs to be identified / is not already available?)</p>	<p>What strategies are in place What emphasis is placed on mental health wellbeing services by CCGs, and how were these communicated to parents/carers</p>

<p>What secondary / existing information will be needed? (i.e. risk register, background information, performance indicators, complaints, existing reports, legislation, central government information and reports)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data on the number of young people with mental health and emotional issues – how many of these were met through universal services, how many received targeted services, and what was being done to support LAC? What were the SDQ (Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaires) scores for these young people? • Benchmarking evidence – possibly Bedfordshire CCG who have developed an Emotional health and wellbeing strategy.
<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>	<p>Timely information that ensures individuals and parents/carers understand the transition between mental health services and are fully aware of mental health wellbeing services that are available.</p> <p>A directory of services available for mental wellbeing.</p>
<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>	<p>Budget savings – how will an budget reductions from 2014/15 onwards affect the service? Transition Board Review</p>

Super Priority Areas Scoping Document

Review Topic (Name of review)	Super Priority Areas
Task and Finish Group Members	Cllrs John Whitehouse, Cllr Clive Rickhards, Cllr Wallace Redford, Cllr Maggie O'Rourke
Co-option of District and Borough members (where relevant)	Chris Smart
Key Officers / Departments	Nigel Minns, Craig Pratt, June Maw, Colette Naven-Jones
Lead Scrutiny Officer	Sally Baxter
Relevant Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Heather Timms
Relevant Corporate Ambitions	From the One Organisational Plan: Our economy is vibrant, residents have access to jobs, training and skills development. - Our young people are supported to meet their needs and aspirations
Type of Review	Short-life task and finish review
Timescales	Commence 12 th May 2014 Complete 2 nd September 2014 – Meeting of Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Rationale (Key issues and/or reason for doing the review)	Requested by the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform consultation on school admission arrangements for 2015/16
Aim	To undertake a task and finish review to examine the principle and feasibility of the establishment of super priority areas across the urban areas of Warwickshire with an initial focus on the Warwick and Leamington Areas.
Objectives of Review (Specify exactly what the review should achieve)	1. To gather evidence from a range of sources. 2. To produce a report based on the group's findings 3. To develop recommendations for consideration by the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a view to these being conveyed to Cabinet.

<p>Scope of the Topic (What is specifically to be included/excluded)</p>	<p><u>Include</u> The following is included in the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local authority maintained primary schools (Junior and Primary) <p><u>Excluded</u> The following falls outside the scope of the review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary schools - Schools in rural areas - Schools not under local authority control - Special schools
<p>How will the public be involved? (See Public Engagement Toolkit / Flowchart)</p>	<p>Ellie Costello, Siblings at the Same School School Governors Schools and parents</p>
<p>What site visits will be undertaken?</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>How will our partners be involved? (consultation with relevant stakeholders, District / Borough reps)</p>	<p>Partners to be invited to evidence gathering meetings. If appropriate members will visit partners.</p> <p>Partners include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headteachers either individually or via Consortium Chairs - Consultation of statutory consultees. <p>WCC invitees include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Admissions Team - Portfolio Holder - Senior management (Nigel Minns and Wendy Fabbro) - Transport and Highways (Margaret Smith) <p>Public Invitees include:</p> <p>Siblings at the Same School Parents</p>
<p>How will the scrutiny achieve value for money for the Council / Council Tax payers?</p>	<p>By examining the principle behind the establishment of super priority areas a clear decision can be made whether this approach should be implemented.</p>
<p>What primary / new evidence is needed for the scrutiny? (What information needs to be identified / is not already available?)</p>	<p>Meetings/interviews with witnesses</p>

<p>What secondary / existing information will be needed? (i.e. risk register, background information, performance indicators, complaints, existing reports, legislation, central government information and reports)</p>	<p>School Admissions Code Adjudicators Report Briefing note on rationale behind Rugby SOA Statistics regarding: - Sibling applicants - Levels of acceptance - Refusals (and in-area) Modelling of the 50 unsuccessful siblings Pupil number forecasts Details of the appeals process Admissions criteria in other areas Policies of other admissions authorities</p>
<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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completion of report and development of recommendations that are agreed for implemented by Cabinet. 2. Increased level of satisfaction by parents/cares and schools with admissions policy.
<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>	<p>Officers in School Admissions constantly managing process.</p>

**Recommendations and Actions raised by
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2014/15**

Date raised by the OSC	Recommendation / Action	Lead Member / Officer	OSC Update	Progress Notes
2 nd April 2014	Early Years Commissioning – Chris Lewington undertook to circulate a briefing she had prepared to members of the Committee, which would include details of future savings plans.	Chris Lewington	3 rd June 2014	COMPLETED Briefing notes circulated to members 12 th May 2014
2 nd April 2014	Warwick Super Priority Area – June Maw undertook to check whether a response to the consultation had been received from the Warwick Transport Strategy Group.	June Maw	3 rd June 2014	COMPLETED June Maw has confirmed that no consultation response was received from this group.
22 nd January 2014	Hugh Disley, Head of Early Intervention, agreed that the page would be amended to include the full list of youth and community centres, with web links to the full youth other in each area.	Hugh Disley	2 nd April 2014	Hugh Disley has advised: The directive that we have is that services provided by/funded by WCC have their provision details on our webpages and others, such as community and voluntary groups have their provision details on Warwickshire Direct. As Targeted Support for Young people no longer have the remit for universal youth provision, information in respect of current voluntary or other youth services would need to come from Localities & Communities; we have requested that Warwickshire Direct contact WCVYS for the information required. The onus would then be on the individual groups to update and maintain their information on Warwickshire Direct.

**Recommendations and Actions raised by
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2014/15**

			<p>We will provide a link from the WCC web page to the Warwickshire Direct webpage.</p> <p><u>Further request from Cllr Whitehouse:</u> "The role of the WCC web site to signpost young people to their nearest provider, whether WCC or independently run, and this is best done by a single web page listing all providers. In the case of non-WCC providers, the page could provide a simple web link to the provider's own web site; hence there would be no ongoing maintenance burden on WCC. Please reconsider."</p> <p><u>Update from Hugh Disley:</u> E-Services has developed web pages to publish information on WCC youth centres and service provision within the districts and boroughs. The Lillington page is in place - www.warwickshire.gov.uk/lillingtonyouthcentre - but we are still awaiting content from the other area managers in order to populate their respective pages.</p> <p>E-Services are ready to implement as soon as information on these youth-focused facilities and services becomes available. (Targeted Youth Support is actively chasing them for their information.) Alongside the work that E-Services are doing on the WCC webpages, the following is being carried out in relation to the Warwickshire Directory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a new section under Family and Parenting called 'Support for Young People'.
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**Recommendations and Actions raised by
Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee 2014/15**

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update some of the existing records on the Directory to populate this new section - 132 records. - Liaise with colleagues to identify other provision which isn't currently on the Directory.
22 nd January 2014	Request that the Committee have sight of the County Council's response to the letter that was submitted to the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council by the Chair of Governors at Kenilworth Children's Centre and Nursery.	Hugh Disley / Claudia Wade	2 nd April 2014	<p>Letter circulated to the Committee by email – 13th March 2013.</p> <p><u>Further request for clarification raised by Cllr Whitehouse re:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Informal comments raised by some providers; 2) A clear statement of WCC's own policy position? Do we "value the expertise of EYTCs" or not?; and 3) What is WCC doing to utilise Nursery schools/classes to the full for the benefit of the whole of early years education across the county, and to ensure the sustainability of the EYTCs for the future?

**Children and Young People
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

3rd June 2014

Head of Learning and Achievement

Recommendations

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the verbal report from the Head of Service for Learning and Achievement.

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Nigel Minns joined the County Council on 28th April 2014 as the Head of Service for Learning and Achievement. He will be in attendance at the meeting to provide an outline of his plans and priorities for the coming 12 months and longer term.
- 1.2 The Committee is asked to receive the verbal report from the Head of Service and consider any areas for further scrutiny.

**Children and Young People
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
3rd June 2014**

Educational Provision for 14-19 Year Olds

Recommendations

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Examine initiatives in relation to developing employability skills; and
- 2) Consider the progress made in relation to Raising the Participation Age.

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has requested a report which looks at developments being made to address skills shortages and how young people are being supported to develop employability and life skills required for future employment.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Local Authority is committed to helping young people access information and gain skills, work experience and the abilities they need to make a successful transition to employment.
- 2.2 The Local Authority's statutory duties are to:
 - encourage, enable and assist the participation of young people in education or training, including the most vulnerable and those at risk of disengaging;
 - promote the effective participation in education and training of young people covered by the duty to participate (RPA); and
 - have in place arrangements to identify those who are not participating.
- 2.3 On a monthly basis, local authorities are required to track and report to the Department for Education (DfE) the status of all young people in post-16 destinations until the end of the academic year in which they reach 19 years of age (or up to 25 years of age for those young people with learning difficulties). Local authorities also need to have arrangements in place to ensure that 16 (year 11) and 17 (year 12) year olds have received an offer of a suitable place in post-16 education or training by each September (known as the September Guarantee).

- 2.4 From September 2012, The Education Act 2011 placed schools under a duty to secure access to independent and impartial careers guidance for their pupils in years 9-11. From September 2012, the duty was extended to include all pupils in year 8 (12-13 year olds) and years 12 and 13 (16-18 year olds). For Further Education Colleges and Sixth Form Colleges there is an equivalent requirement for 16-18 year olds (through their funding agreements).
- 2.5 Increasing the participation of 16-24 year olds in learning and employment not only makes a lasting difference to their individual lives and those of their families, but is central to the government's ambitions to improve social mobility and stimulate economic growth. The government is committed to maximising the participation of 16-24 year olds in education, training and work to ensure that more young people go on to study and gain the skills and qualifications that lead to sustainable jobs and fewer become NEET.
- 2.6 A young person who experiences a period NEET will, on average, lose up to £50,000 in earnings over their working life when compared to a peer who doesn't experience a period NEET. They will lose up to £225,000 over the same period when compared to a peer who has never been NEET and who has graduated from university. The long-term scarring of a period NEET to a young person's future life is dramatic. This has long term effect on society as a whole in lost taxes, additional public services costs and associated impacts such as youth crime and poor health¹.
- 2.7 The 14-19 education landscape has significantly changed in recent years, with the introduction of University Technical Colleges, Free Schools, Academies, Studio Schools and Further Education Colleges able to recruit learners at 14. Due to this changing educational landscape, the nature of the relationship between schools and local authorities has also changed.
- 2.8 In response to the Government's invitation for schools to join the academy programme, a significant number of secondary schools in Warwickshire have embraced the recent reforms. A total of 46 academies have opened in Warwickshire (25 secondary and 21 primary academies).
- 2.9 Warwickshire is a diverse county and as such the skills needed differ across the districts.
- 2.10 Whether young people possess sufficient and suitable 'employability skills' is a debate that has been going on for some time. Employers are demanding the right skills to meet the ever-changing needs of today's global economy and schools, colleges and universities are working hard to develop a better skilled future workforce to help meet those needs. A key question still remains, however, as to whether there is agreement on what those skills are.

¹ *Make NEETS history in 2014*, Impetus Private Equity Foundation, January 2014

- 2.11 In 2013 the CBI surveyed 294 firms and reported that 32% were dissatisfied with school and college leaver literacy and numeracy levels. The CBI has identified that a positive attitude is the key foundation of employability.
- 2.13 Last year, Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership engaged consultants Ecorys to survey local advanced manufacturing and engineering employers to look at their skills needs for the future. Contrary to general perception, when asked to comment on the current skills gaps and shortages apparent in their businesses, almost three quarters of respondents stated they did not suffer from any as they were able to recruit people with the skills required².

3.0 How are young people prepared for the world of work?

- 3.1 Every state school must offer a broad and balanced curriculum. Maintained schools in England are legally required to follow the national curriculum. Academies and free schools are not required to follow the national curriculum but they must teach a broad and balanced curriculum, including English, mathematics, science and religious education.
- 3.2 The Government is currently reforming qualifications and the curriculum to better prepare pupils for life after school. Every qualification that young people study for, academic or vocational, must be demanding, rigorous and a route to employment. Employers, universities and colleges are often dissatisfied with school leavers' literacy and numeracy even though the proportion of young people achieving good grades has gone up in recent years.
- 3.3 Work Related Learning has been non-statutory in Key Stage 4 (KS4) since September 2012; schools and academies are now free to formulate their own policies on work related learning. Some schools and academies offer work experience opportunities to pupils in Years 10 and 11. However, recent changes in post-16 funding and post-16 study programmes have enabled more students to access meaningful work experience opportunities as part of their post 16 study programme.

4.0 Innovative Structures

- 4.1 University Technical Colleges and Studio Schools are government funded schools that offer 14-19 year olds teaching through real life employer projects. Both have all national political party support and have been endorsed by the CBI and Chamber of Commerce.
- 4.2 The areas first University Technical College will open on the Westwood Business Park site Coventry in September 2014. WMG Academy for Young Engineers will deliver a business-led curriculum designed in response to extensive consultation with higher and further education partners and local,

² Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering Skills Analysis for Coventry and Warwickshire. Ecorys 2013.

regional and international employers. It will challenge, place high expectations and positively transform young people so that they are able to achieve their full potential as effective leaders, employers, employees and entrepreneurs, as well as effectively respond to an ever more rapidly changing world.

- 4.3 The county's first Studio School for 14-19 year olds opened in Nuneaton in September 2013. The Midland Studio College specialises in Engineering (intelligent transport systems) and Enterprise. Studio schools offer continual work experience from Year 10 to Year 13 and give young people a head start on being ready for work. They also use personal coaching and small classes to help young people achieve their full potential. The maximum number of students in the whole school is 300. The Midland Studio Colleges other Studio school based in Hinckley, is the first Studio School to achieve an Outstanding Judgment from Ofsted, it was praised by inspectors for the *"truly exceptional achievement is made in the wider range of skills that prepares students for the next stage in their education or employment."*

5.0 Vocational Education

- 5.1 The Secretary of State for Education commissioned Professor Alison Wolf of King's College London to carry out an independent review of vocational education. The 'Wolf review of vocational education' published in March 2011, has considered how the DfE can improve vocational education for 14-19 year olds and promote successful progression into the labour market and into higher level education and training routes.
- 5.2 From 2013/14, the only courses which will count in 14-16 performance tables are those that are high quality, rigorous and proven to support progression.
- 5.3 From September 2014, new Tech Levels will provide a high-quality vocational alternative to A Levels – each endorsed by professional associations or employers. Along with a high-level maths qualification and an extended project, Tech Levels will count towards the Technical Baccalaureate, or TechBacc – an ambitious new benchmark for the most talented students.
- 5.4 Apprenticeships are also being reformed; new standards are being developed and designed by employers. The Government has extended the apprenticeship grant for employers to support small firms making the commitment to recruit and train young apprentices.

6.0 Careers Guidance

- 6.1 Since September 2012, schools and academies have been legally required to secure independent careers guidance for all year 8-13 pupils.
- 6.2 Ofsted conducted a thematic review of careers guidance to assess how schools are responding to their new duty. Ofsted's report 'Going in the right direction?', published in September 2013, found that the majority of schools

needed to do more to ensure that all of their pupils had information on the full range of training and education options and career pathways to help them make informed choices about their future so that they could reach their potential.

- 6.3 Ofsted is considering young people's destinations when judging the quality of a school's leadership and management. According to the DfE, the best schools have high aspirations for all of their pupils and demonstrate this by placing inspiration, mentoring and real-life insights into the workplace at the core of what they do.
- 6.4 Schools should use the DfE's destinations data to monitor the choices made by pupils at the end of year 11 and year 13. The destination measures show the percentage of students progressing to further learning in a school, further education or sixth-form college, apprenticeship, higher education institution or moving into employment or training. It identifies, for the first time, their education and employment destinations by gender, ethnicity, free school meals, special educational needs (SEN) and learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD). To be included in the measure, young people have to show sustained participation in an education or employment destination in all of the first two terms of the year after they completed Key Stage 4 or took A Level or other Level 3 qualifications. The first two terms are defined as October to March.

7.0 Schools working in partnership with local businesses on developing life skills for young people

- 7.1 Establishing a planned programme of employer engagement gives pupils the opportunity to hear directly from professionals and be inspired by role models. Schools/academies across Warwickshire have set up their own arrangements with local businesses, linking with different sized companies and organisations, also developing business links via parents and school governors.
- 7.2 Business in the Community pairs schools/academies with local employers; six of our secondary schools have been matched with employers, e.g. Queen Elizabeth School with TNT.
- 7.3 Barclays Bank has developed a work skills programme for 11-19 year olds that they offer to schools/academies. Local colleges and training providers also offer support to schools and academies.
- 7.4 There are many good examples of collaborative practice but too many employers are still not effectively engaged with schools, colleges or universities. Building relationships needs to be made much easier.
- 7.5 Within the European Structural Investment Fund, Skills Theme, there is a strand 'getting a better fit between education and employment', which aims to

develop better links between businesses and schools, further and higher education providers across Coventry and Warwickshire.

8.0 What initiatives have been implemented in Warwickshire and how effective have they been?

- 8.1 Warwickshire is a diverse county and as such the skills needed differ across the districts. Therefore, initiatives tend to be targeted rather than universally offered. There are lots of initiatives being delivered across Warwickshire, however, due to the changing relationship with schools, the LA is not always made aware of individual school arrangements.
- 8.2 The Apprenticeship Hub was established in April 2013 to support businesses in Warwickshire recruit apprentices and to support the County Council to recruit 50 apprentices across its departments. In its first 12 months, WCC has recruited 34 apprentices and the Hub has engaged directly with 152 businesses, had over 6500 unique views of its two websites and has supported the advertising of over 200 Apprenticeships vacancies for Warwickshire based employers. The Hub has also supported schools and nurseries, either directly, through the website, the Schools post site or through the HR Advisory team to support recruiting over 30 Apprentices.
- 8.3 The Council's HR department is exploring 'Fair Train' a work experience quality kite mark; a commitment to providing high quality work experience across WCC. The Observatory and the Economic Development Team provide Local labour market information to all schools and are committed to continue to do this.
- 8.4 Following the success of the Warwickshire 'EXPO' event for school pupils in March 2013, the Economic Development Team are continuing to organise jobs and apprenticeship events. They are working with key sectors e.g.; the Gaming industry to organise targeted careers events.
- 8.5 The Secondary Phase Team, within Learning and Achievement, deliver careers guidance network meetings to support senior and middle leaders in schools and academies with responsibility for careers guidance. The network aims to support institutions and the council with meeting the expectations in relation to Raising the Participation Age, supporting with interpreting statutory duties in relation to careers guidance and interpreting new Ofsted guidance on the inspection of careers guidance. At the meeting held in November 2013 CWLEP and Jaguar Land Rover attended to update schools on different careers in the sub-region.
- 8.6 All secondary schools and FE colleges across Warwickshire were encouraged to attend the Skills Show held at the NEC in November 2013. The Skills Show is the largest event of its kind in the UK and highlights the vital importance of skills to economic growth in the UK. It's the single biggest showcase for vocational training, skills and careers in the UK which is packed with a wealth

of exciting opportunities to inspire visitors. This event is being repeated in November 2014.

- 8.7 There is an agreement with all post-16 learning providers in the sub-region to accelerate the application process from young people in order to provide an offer of learning by the end of March (as opposed to the statutory requirement of September). This is known as the Warwickshire 'March Forward Guarantee'.
- 8.8 WEST (Warwickshire Employment Support Team) has traditionally worked with adults with learning difficulties, Autism or Asperger's to enable them to gain employment. Recently, some pilot work has taken place with younger adults about to leave education. The specialist skills of the WEST team have enabled the young adults to develop work readiness skills and gain employment opportunities
- 8.9 35 secondary schools and 1 FE college are actively involved in Warwickshire's Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. Young people aged 14-24 work towards three levels of the award, which supports developing skills for both life and work, including, self-discipline, commitment and a capacity for team work.
- 8.10 WCC have made a fund available over the next four years (£2 million in total) to support with skills in education and skills in employment. Officers are currently exploring ways in which this fund could have the most benefit and impact across the county.
- 8.11 The recently published report by the Work Foundation on the 'Geography of Youth Unemployment', suggests that LAs should set up Youth Transition Partnerships to enable local policy makers to co-ordinate services, align and pool resources, and fill any gaps in infrastructure. The group's membership would include local employers, schools, FE providers, LAs the voluntary and community sector, Work Programme providers and Job Centre Plus. These partnerships would lead on developing a Youth Transitions Strategy, commission services, monitor outcomes, share data and track young people.
- 8.12 Officers at WCC are working with Coventry City Council to explore a 16-24 'Progression to Employment' strategy, in order to co-ordinate all plans and activities aimed at reducing NEETs and Youth Unemployment. This will be aligned with the work of Coventry and Warwickshire's Local Enterprise Partnership.
- 8.13 Within the European Structural Investment Fund, Employment Theme, there is a Youth Unemployment Initiative for 15-24 year olds. Under this work there is a target of supporting 1885 eligible 15-24 year olds across Coventry and Warwickshire between 2014 and 2020. Actions that will be supported include:
 - Expanding and improving the quality of careers advice for young people;

- Increasing young people's exposure to industry via traineeships/apprenticeships;
- Tailored intervention, including coaching and mentoring support with transport costs; and
- Improved employability skills, including literacy and numeracy.

8.14 Within the European Structural Investment Fund, Social Inclusion Theme, there is work being carried out on engaging and raising aspirations for young people. Under this strand there is a target of working with 1,456 15-24 year olds across Coventry and Warwickshire between 2014 and 2020. Priorities in this area include:

- Supporting interventions for young people, especially those with multiple barriers to participation, including care leavers, lone parents, offenders and those with learning difficulties and disabilities.
- Activities that raise aspiration and reduce the attainment gap by preparing young people for working life.

8.15 As Warwickshire does not have an Employability Charter, there could be the potential for developing a Charter, possibly through the remit of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership.

9.0 Update on strategies/initiatives to reduce NEETs

9.1 Budget reductions across the Authority have reduced the targeted support for young people, which include the IAG and NEETs work.

9.2 The Authority is committed to support young people to make a successful transition to employment and has continued to commission CSWP in 2014/2015 to provide support and specialist careers guidance to 16-19 year old NEET young people to encourage them to re-engage in education, employment and or training. CSWP work with post-16 providers, employers and other agencies across the sub-region to find suitable opportunities.

9.3 Part of the Authority's strategy to reduce NEETs has been to develop an early identification system for young people at risk of disengaging, known as the Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI). It provides an analysis of data held by the Authority on young people on roll in Warwickshire schools and identifies characteristics that evidence has shown puts the young person at risk of becoming NEET at age 16. The Authority will be providing each secondary and special school with individual RONI reports for pupils in current year 7 and current year 10 in order that preventative activity can be targeted at those young people specifically at risk.

9.4 The Local Authority's Targeted Support for Young People Team work with young people who are at risk of becoming NEET or who are NEET and who are not yet ready to re-engage. The service works through personal development programmes offering 1:1 support or structured group work. Referrals come from five main sources: CAF, Priority Families, Social Care,

schools are self-referrals from young people the service has contact with through its Centre work, projects and detached work.

- 9.5 The Virtual School for looked after children ensure every child of school age (4-16 years) has a Personal Development Plan (PEP). The PEP process supports with mapping the young person's future plans and identifying any support needed to achieve these, e.g., organising work experience opportunities.
- 9.6 Getting Ready for Adult Life (Leaving Care Services) provide direct support to young people aged 16-25 years of age to promote education, employment and training opportunities. Career planning is an integral part of the young person's pathway plan.
- 9.7 The People Group has recently established a 'Priority Young People' project board to ensure support offered to Warwickshire's most vulnerable young people is coherent, effective and aligned across all areas of the Authority.

10.0 Involvement of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) and City Deal

- 10.1 The CWLEP have developed a Skills Strategy to support its overall objectives of generating economic growth and creating jobs. Three Strategic priorities have been identified and developing high level manufacturing skills is a key aim.
- 10.2 The CWLEP have identified in the Strategic Economic Plan (March 2014): *'That a challenge in Coventry and Warwickshire is bridging primary and secondary education and the linkage to Small and Medium Employers in Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering (AME). Secondary School colleagues are being brought together with businesses in the AME sector in May 2014 to discuss employment opportunities in the sector for young people. There is an opportunity to use both of these initiatives to open a dialogue between public and private sector partners, involving the Department for Education and to pilot initiatives which will further support young people as they progress from secondary education into further study and ultimately work linked to the AME sector.'*³
- 10.3 The CWLEP has worked extensively with the Skills Funding Agency regarding requests for Skills Capital and launched a call for expressions of interest for Skills Capital projects. Based on the proposals received, they are seeking funding from the local growth deal under the AME programme for:
 - One significant skills capital investment of £7m led by City College Coventry and Henley College to develop a STEM centre which will encourage more young people to acquire the technical and higher skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and support

³ CWLEP Strategic Economic Plan 2014, pp66.

future growth in advanced manufacturing and engineering, delivering 2000 qualifications over three years.

- Two lower value capital projects totalling £1.15m led by Warwickshire College which will support the promotion of STEM subjects and the provision of AME apprenticeship training.⁴

11.0 How are views of children and families sought on current provision?

11.1 The Youth Parliament held a Youth Employment Summit in May 2013, where they explored careers guidance and job opportunities.

11.2 A survey of care leavers has resulted in more opportunities being made available for children to access careers information, advice and guidance.

11.3 The County Council conducted an annual pupil survey, which all schools were invited to participate in:

- In 2012, there were 7420 responses, 62% were from secondary aged pupils (total 4598)
- In 2013, there were 3661 responses from secondary aged pupils

11.4 The survey contains a section on careers, this is focused on how well prepared pupils are for further education and finding job. Key messages:

- The proportion of students who felt they had good access to careers services fell from 25% in 2011, to 19% in 2012, 19.5% in 2013.
- 14% of pupils agreed with the statement that their careers advisor had given them enough IAG compared to 13% in 2012 and 18% in 2011.
- 21.7% felt they were well prepared for a job or college interview.

12.0 Raising the Participation Age

12.1 The Government has increased the age to which all young people in England must continue in education or training, requiring them to continue until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17 from summer 2013 and until their 18th birthday from summer 2015 onwards.

12.2 Participating in education or training brings benefits for young people, and also for the economy and wider society. Young people who continue in learning post-16 are more likely to attain higher levels of qualifications and have increased earnings over their lifetime. They are also able to gain the skills that employers want, which will lead to a more internationally competitive workforce.

⁴ CWLEP Strategic Economic Plan 2014, pp64

12.3 Raising the Participation Age (RPA) does not necessarily mean young people must stay in school beyond the age of 16; they will be able to choose from one of the following options:

- Full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider; or
- Full-time work or volunteering combined with part-time education or training; or
- An Apprenticeship.

12.4 The Education and Skills Act 2008 places specific duties with regard to the role of local authorities in relation to RPA. Local authorities will be required to:

- Promote the effective participation in education or training of all 16 and 17 year olds resident in their area; and
- Make arrangements to identify young people resident in their area who are not participating.

12.5 The Education and Skills Act 2008 places specific duties with regard to the role of schools in relation to RPA. Schools will be required to:

- Secure independent, impartial careers guidance for their pupils in years 8-13.
- Promote good attendance of 16 and 17 year olds; and
- Inform local authority support services (CSWP) if a young person aged 16 or 17 has dropped out of learning. This is so the young person can be contacted swiftly and offered support to help them re-engage.

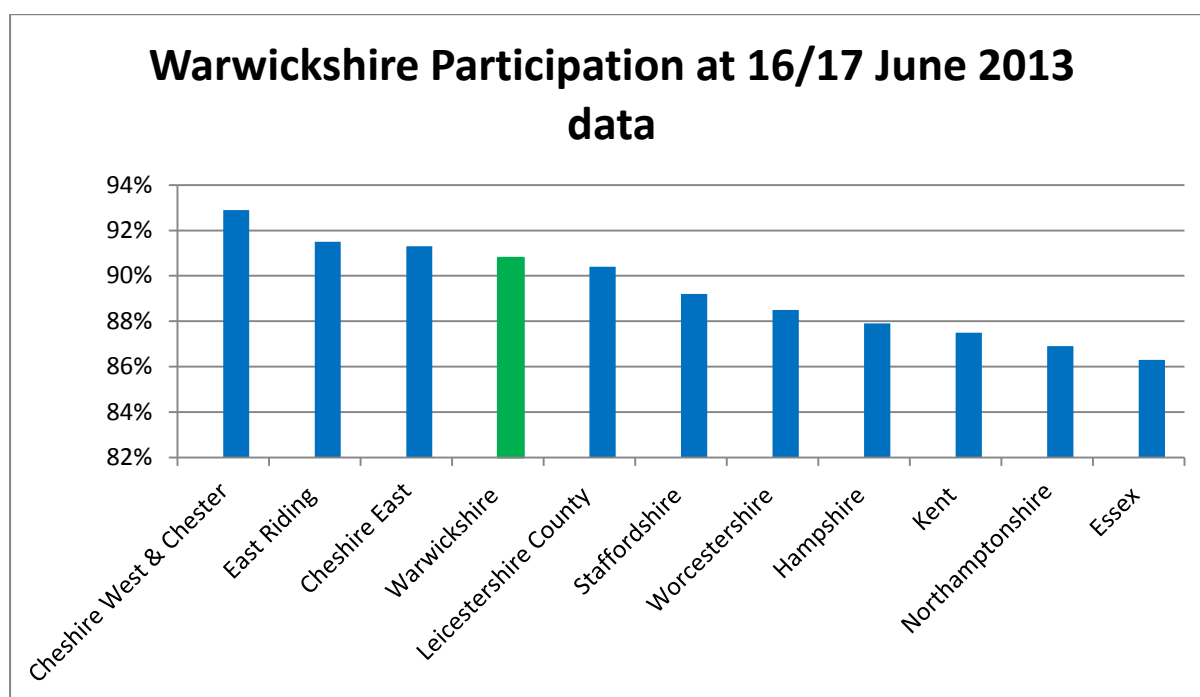
12.6 Successfully achieving RPA will require all sections of the education system to play their part, and in particular local authorities will have a key role to champion the needs of young people in their areas and work with local partners to achieve full participation. This currently involves leading on a number of initiatives to support young people to progress in learning and to continue to reduce the numbers who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

12.7 Actions taken by the County Council in order to meet these new statutory duties and enhance the life prospects of young people in Warwickshire include:

- delivering internal/external briefings;
- creating a dedicated RPA webpage on Warwickshire County Council website;
- delivering a sub-regional post-16 participation in education, employment and training Group (PEET);
- publishing an RPA Strategy document outlining actions being taken to meet the new requirements which came into effect in summer 2013;
- briefing post 16 providers on developing 2013/14 commissioning priorities;

- delivering briefings on new Information, Advice and Guidance responsibilities to all secondary schools;
- implementing an 'Early Alert to NEETs' form to target early intervention actions where a learner has left their course early or is at risk of becoming NEET;
- risk of NEET (not in education, employment or training) indicator (RONI) implemented in all secondary schools. It provides an analysis of the data held by the local authority on young people and identifies the characteristics that evidence has shown puts the young person at risk of becoming NEET at the end of year 11;
- monitoring the performance of all secondary schools, focussing particularly on the performance of vulnerable learners;
- promoting and support the use of the 16-19 Bursary Funds to help financially disadvantaged young people aged 16-19 to meet the costs of participating in education or training; and
- working to stimulate economic growth via the *Going for Growth* strategy, particularly in the promotion of apprenticeships.

Warwickshire Participation Data for 16 and 17 year olds



Source: DfE Data, Proportion of 16-17 year olds recorded in education and training, June 2013.

12.8 The table above shows the participation of young people aged 16/17 in Warwickshire compared to statistical neighbours as at June 2013, which is the official data used by the Department for Education (DfE) for participation rates by local authorities.

12.9 However, the DfE also publish quarterly updates, with the latest showing participation figures as at December 2013. Whilst participation of 16/17 year olds in Warwickshire has increased by 0.5% from December 2012 to

December 2013, most of the statistical neighbours have a higher rate of increase and England overall has seen an increase of 1.9%.

- 12.10 Within Coventry and Warwickshire there are agreed principles regarding those young people covered by the new duties regarding RPA but who may require a temporary break in education or training, with the intention to re-engage in learning at the earliest opportunity. Within Warwickshire in April 2014, there were 30 young people aged 16 and 47 aged 17 who required a temporary break due to health issues, being pregnant or being a teenage parent.
- 12.11 Further details on these new duties and the strategy adopted by the council in response to Raising the Participation Age can be accessed at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/stayinginlearning

13.0 Conclusion

- 13.1 Building on developing links within the Early Help and Targeted Support Business Unit and the Learning and Achievement Business Unit, The People Group are also are developing stronger links with Economic Growth Business Unit, in the Communities Group. Working jointly across the groups will maximise opportunities, improve co-ordination and engage a range of partners. It will also support developing further links with the CWLEP.
- 13.2 The Local Authority to consider piloting a 'Youth Transition Partnership', to support the co-ordination of the wide range of initiatives and organisations involved in preparing young people for employment.
- 13.3 The Authority will continue to strengthen links with all schools, academies, colleges and training providers to raise the profile of this agenda.

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Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3rd June 2014

Child Poverty Strategy

Recommendation

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the update in relation to the Child Poverty Strategy and the proposed approach to refreshing the Strategy outlined in Section 5.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared in response to the following lines of enquiry raised by the Committee about the Child Poverty Strategy:

- The National Context
- Warwickshire Child Poverty Strategy (Adoption, Progress, Timescales)
- Opportunities and Challenges (Partnership Working, Alignment with Priority Families Initiative)

1.2 The report aims to address each of these areas in turn and concludes by setting out next steps within the context of a changing and challenging climate.

2.0 The National Context

2.1 The Child Poverty Act came into force in 2010 with the aim of eradicating Child Poverty by the end of 2020 and was one of the last acts of the outgoing Government.

2.2 The measurement of Child Poverty adopted by the previous Government was the most commonly used threshold of low income where poverty was judged as a household income that is 60% or less of the average (median) British household income in that year. Income is defined as disposable income rather than pre-tax income, on the basis that it is the money that the household has to live on. The measurement has attracted considerable debate since its adoption both for its inadequacy (in portraying a true picture of poverty) and its reliance on relative income which resulted in a 2012 statement that suggested poverty levels were falling due to overall incomes falling.

- 2.3 The current Government have retained the commitment to eradicating Child Poverty though since 2012 there has been much debate within Ministerial Departments about the approach and commitment to Child Poverty (given the economic climate and impact of welfare reform) and the measurements by which progress is ascertained.
- 2.4 Since then the impetus for a revised approach to Child Poverty has accelerated with a report from the Child Poverty Action Group (July 2013) which outlined the picture of Child Poverty, the impact of welfare reform and the role of Local Authorities. This was further corroborated in the Autumn of 2013 from the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission (Chaired by Alan Milburn MP) stating that the Governments targets in relation to Child Poverty would not be met.
- 2.5 In addition to commenting on targets, the Commission also recommended a revised set of measurements for poverty supplemented by an approach that focussed upon:
- a) An equitable recovery with a focus on reduced costs of living and improved earnings
 - b) Addressing Youth unemployment
 - c) Increased Apprenticeships
 - d) Reducing in-work poverty
 - e) Tackling Intergenerational poverty
 - f) Affordable Childcare
 - g) Educational Attainment
 - h) Employers adopting more equitable recruitment
- 2.6 In terms of Welfare Reform, the Commission was broadly supporting of Universal Credit but stressed that more needs to be done to demonstrate that 'work pays'. This view has been corroborated by the Child Poverty Action Group that has calculated that 66% of children living in poverty have one parent that is working.
- 2.7 In response, the Government published the document 'Consultation on the Child Poverty Strategy 2014-17'. The document can be viewed by accessing the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/child-poverty-a-draft-strategy>
- 2.8 In brief the refreshed strategy focusses on:
- Supporting Families into Work and increasing earnings;
 - Improving living standards; and
 - Educational attainment
- 2.9 In addition to renewing the commitment to addressing child poverty, the underlying ethos of the Strategy seeks to address poverty now and break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. The Strategy also emphasises the

importance of partnership working, revisiting the measures of Child Poverty and the need to focus on vulnerable groups.

- 2.10 Warwickshire County Council's response to the formal consultation was endorsed by Cabinet on 8th May 2014 and was submitted prior to the 22nd May 2014 deadline set by Government. A copy of the response is attached as **Appendix A**.

3.0 Warwickshire Child Poverty Strategy

Adoption of a Local Strategy

- 3.1 The national approach to Child Poverty is underpinned by a local approach to Child Poverty that is defined in the 2010 Act as:

- To have partnership arrangements in place to understand and tackle child poverty in their area.
- To carry out and publish a local child poverty needs assessment in order to understand the drivers of child poverty in their local area and the characteristics of those living in poverty.
- To prepare a joint child poverty strategy setting out the measures that the local authority and each named partner propose to take to reduce and mitigate the effects of child poverty.
- To take their duty to reduce child poverty into account when preparing or revising their Sustainable Community Strategy.

- 3.2 The Child Poverty Act 2010 requires all Local Authorities to have a Child Poverty Strategy in place underpinned by a Child Poverty Needs Assessment. The process for developing a Strategy and Needs Assessment commenced in Autumn 2010 and concluded in Spring 2011 and involved key stakeholders which included some engagement with children and families. In Warwickshire, a Strategy was approved in the Summer of 2011 (**Appendix B**) that focussed on the following areas:

- Creating Employment Opportunities
- Intervening Early to Break the Cycle of Poverty
- Improving Financial Capability and Awareness
- Addressing Housing Needs and Homelessness

- 3.3 By early 2012 it was already evident that the Strategy was too aspirational, lacking in SMART measures and had been superseded by key Coalition developments-most notably the Troubled Families Initiative. There was also evidence that although there had been multi-agency participation in the formulation of the Strategy, it had not been subsequently 'owned' either across the County Council or its partners.

- 3.4 Consideration was given in 2012 to refresh the Strategy but this was put on hold during 2012/13 as guidance from Central Government and CPAG at the time was that a major review of Child Poverty was imminent. The national

context outlined in Section 2 of this report demonstrates that this review took longer than anticipated.

Delivery of the Strategy

- 3.5 In the absence of refreshing the Strategy during 2012/13 a ‘confederal’ approach was adopted in relation to the Strategy. In addition to acknowledging the issues inherent in the current Strategy, this approach acknowledged:
- The National Context (Economic Climate, Welfare Reform, Ministerial debates over Child Poverty)
 - Local Context (Budgetary Cuts)
- 3.6 It was also recognised that at a partnership level there was a high level of ‘acronym’ fatigue (SCS/LAA/PSB) and little desire to implement the Strategy through the creation of a partnership infrastructure and that the best course of action would be delivery of the Strategy as part of ‘business as usual’ activities. This is borne out by **Appendix C** which sets out the range of activity that has been taken under each of the four headings of the Strategy. Some notable achievements during this period have been:
- A rise in apprenticeships with specific focus on Care Leavers.
 - Focussed work on the employment aspects of the Priority Families Programme.
 - Children Centres as hubs for health, positive parenting and improving the financial security of children and families.
 - Recognition within the Health and Well Being Strategy of the role that poverty plays in contributing towards health inequalities and a Health led JSNA into the impact of welfare reform.
 - Implementation of the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme to help the most vulnerable who are experiencing crisis and particularly those in food poverty.
 - Commissioning of CAB services. In 2014-15 alone, the CAB’s addressed almost £15 million in debt and maximised benefits to the tune of £4.8 million.
 - Free School Meals Take up. Since 2012 through Warwickshire Welfare Rights Advice Service schools have been targeted where there is an under registration of Free School Meals. Collective totals for all of these projects currently stand at over £140,000 of additional pupil premium for schools and approximately £1.1 million of additional benefits to families who were entitled but not claiming.
- 3.7 The one exception to the ‘confederal’ approach has been the 3rd workstream ‘Improving Financial Capability and Awareness’. Due to the work of the Warwickshire Financial Inclusion Partnership and commissioned contracts held by the Localities and Partnerships Team, it has been possible to direct activity towards the achievement of the Strategy’s aspirations in a way that has not been possible in other areas. For example, the Warwickshire Financial Inclusion Partnership has been instrumental in adopting a multi-

agency approach to issues of common concern and focussing on emerging issues. In 2014-15, the Partnership has agreed to focus on:

- Welfare Reform
- Affordable Credit
- Food Poverty
- Affordable Warmth
- Overseeing delivery of Free School Meals Take Up & Financial Capability

4.0 Opportunities and Challenges

- 4.1 As mentioned, work in relation to the Child Poverty context needs to be seen within the context of the national and local landscape since 2010. Whilst a partnership and performance management infrastructure has not been implemented to underpin the Child Poverty Strategy, it is evident from **Appendix C** that a range of activities have been undertaken since that period that can be deemed as combatting poverty. In most cases these actions have been pursued independent of the Strategy rather than as a result of it.
- 4.2 Despite this, opportunities have been sought to align or redirect the activity of the other headings where it makes sense to do so and where added value can be achieved. Some notable examples have included:
- Aligning the work of Financial Inclusion to the Priority Families agenda and the Armed Forces Community Covenant.
 - Negotiating with DWP to ensure that the ESF programme could be utilised by Care Leavers.
 - Allocation of £2.1 million LPSA 2 capital monies (via Cabinet) to Affordable Housing Projects.
 - Close working with the Economic Growth Team around Disadvantaged Groups.
 - Seeking to extend the work of Financial Inclusion from benefits and debt to prevention and signposting to skills and jobs.
- 4.3 Wherever possible, partnership working as a vehicle for achieving outcomes has been pursued as it is viewed as an essential component (by Central Government) in tackling poverty. This has been either at a strategic level (through bodies such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, Children Trusts etc.) or operationally in the delivery of projects (e.g. partnership working with schools on improving FSM take-up).
- 4.4 The challenge has been to direct resources both internally and externally towards the pursuit of objectives when the environment has been one of increasing poverty rather than decreasing it. This has been further compounded by the scale of retrenchment within the public sector which has meant that there are fewer resources to target vulnerable groups and disadvantaged areas.

5.0 Outcomes and Next Steps

- 5.1 With a renewed approach imminent from the Central Government and enhanced interest from Members locally, the time is opportune to refresh the Child Poverty Strategy in 2014/15 with the intention of a new strategy in place by 1st April 2015. The economic climate and the clarity in the County Council's direction (via the One Organisational Plan) also provide useful parameters for a revised approach as does the Government's commitment to Phase 2 of the Troubled Families Programme.
- 5.2 In seeking to refresh the Strategy, it is proposed that a refresh of the Strategy be conducted that has regard to the following principles:
- Alignment with current business objectives both internally within WCC and externally with key stakeholders and with major initiatives (such as the Priority Families Programme) where the links to poverty are obvious and there are resources that can be deployed.
 - Underpinned by a Needs Assessment that is cognisant of the current climate and future trends
 - Focusses on a few key areas where a real difference can be made and value for money demonstrated
 - Commitment to Partnership Working both during the refresh of the Strategy and following adoption and implementation
 - Contains reference to measures by which the impact of the Strategy can be evaluated on an annual basis
- 5.3 In addition to seeking endorsement from Cabinet, it is the intention to keep Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee updated on developments during the refresh, adoption and monitoring stages of the process.

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Appendices

Appendix A – WCC Response to HM Consultation on Child Poverty, 8th May 2014

Appendix B – WCC Child Poverty Strategy

Appendix C – Summary of Contributing Actions to the Child Poverty Strategy

Supporting Information

- Child Poverty Action Group 'Local Authorities and Child Poverty (July 2013)
- Report of the Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission (Autumn 2013)
- HM Consultation on Child Poverty (February 2014)



Department
for Education

Consultation Response Form

Consultation closing date: 22 May 2014
Your comments must reach us by that date

Child Poverty Strategy 2014-17: Consultation

If you would prefer to respond online to this consultation please use the following link: <https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations>

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes, primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you want all, or any part, of your response to be treated as confidential, please explain why you consider it to be confidential.

If a request for disclosure of the information you have provided is received, your explanation about why you consider it to be confidential will be taken into account, but no assurance can be given that confidentiality can be maintained. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data (name and address and any other identifying material) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, and in the majority of circumstances, this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reason for confidentiality:	

Name: Bill Basra	
Please tick if you are responding on behalf of your organisation.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y
Name of Organisation (if applicable): Warwickshire County Council	
Address: Shire Hall, Warwick. CV34 4SX	

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the Ministerial and Public Communications Division by e-mail: consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the Department's ['Contact Us'](#) page.

Please mark the category which best describes you as a respondent.

<input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary and community sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local authority	<input type="checkbox"/> Practitioner working with children/families
<input type="checkbox"/> Central government	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Carer	<input type="checkbox"/> Child/Young person
<input type="checkbox"/> Research body/academic	<input type="checkbox"/> Public bodies and named partners in the Child Poverty Act	<input type="checkbox"/> Organisation representing families and children
<input type="checkbox"/> Social enterprise	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Please Specify:

We would like everyone's views on how we can work together to end child poverty. Only by working together can we transform the lives of the poorest children.

Our approach

1 To what extent do you agree that the draft strategy achieves a good balance between tackling poverty now and tackling the drivers of inter-generational poverty?

<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agree	<input type="checkbox"/> Neither agree nor disagree
<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree	

Comments:

It is a welcome development that the Child Poverty Strategy acknowledges that there are entrenched issues relating to poverty in relation to families and that these demand a holistic approach that in addition to tackling their immediate need; also addresses underlying factors that both diminish prospects and perpetuate poverty across generations. Further thought needs to be given to 'connecting people to places' and thereby acknowledging the role of neighbourhood in tackling poverty and challenging clusters of low aspiration that exist in many areas that are currently deemed deprived.

Our approach

2 Considering the current fiscal climate, what is your view of the actions set out in the draft strategy?

Comments:

Appreciating that the Strategy is still draft at this stage, further information will be required as to how actions will be translated at a local level. Further detail is also required as to whether, as in the case of the Troubled Families Programme, additional resources will be available to address the requirements of the refreshed Child Poverty Strategy and the extent to which Local Authorities will be entrusted to allocate such resources at a local level. What has been lacking in the previous approach to Child Poverty and requires addressing in the future approach; is a sufficient link between need, intervention and evaluation of impact. An evidence based approach is therefore required that ensures how the action proposed will yield the desired impact.

A good example of this is Universal Free School Meals to all infants where a more targeted approach may have been desirable and schools have yet to receive guidance on how this will affect calculation of Pupil Premium which in turn will have an impact in narrowing the attainment gap. More work is needed on evaluating impact including Return on Investment methodology to demonstrate the social and financial benefits of tackling child poverty as compared to actual costs which are well documented.

Gathering ideas

3 At a local level, what works well in tackling child poverty now?

Comments:

- a) Partnership Working: In Warwickshire there is a Financial Inclusion Partnership which focuses on making a collective difference on a few key priorities each year. Partnership working enables alignment of resources, reduction of duplication and maximising impact.
- b) Evidence Based Approach: Understanding local communities, identification of need and evaluating actions is crucial in ensuring that interventions are having the desired impact and achieving value for money
- c) Local Commitment: A commitment from Warwickshire County Council to address poverty and provide targeted support to vulnerable people means that the Local authority is well placed to tackle the child poverty agenda through knowledge of its communities, establishing strong partnerships and delivering results.

4 At a local level, what works well for preventing poor children becoming poor adults?

Comments:

- a) Early Intervention: Children Centres have been at the forefront of seeking to breaking the cycle of poverty through financial inclusion work that has seen a focus on Parenting Skills, Adult Education, Volunteering as a pathway to employment, maximising benefits and signposting to other agencies such as health, CABx and education.
- b) Troubled Families Programme: Warwickshire has been engaged in whole family approaches to troubled families since 2009 and welcomed national initiatives in relation to Troubled Families in 2012 which have enhanced the offer to families with multiple problems many of whom have poverty that is both current and often intergenerational.
- c) Working with Schools. Through working with schools Warwickshire has adopted a targeted approach that seeks to address under registration of Free School Meals. Projects since 2012 have yielded over £140,000 of Pupil Premium and benefits maximisation to the tune of £1.1 million.

5 What more can central government do to help employers, local agencies and the voluntary and community sector work together to end child poverty?

Comments:

- a) Better Co-Ordination: Whilst the DCLG Troubled Families Programme has been a welcome initiative, the same cannot be said of the DWP programme. The root causes of this were a lack of co-ordination between two central government departments who were both seeking to address the needs of the same cohort of families.
- b) Co-Design Child Poverty Programmes with LA: The differing fortunes of the DCLG and DWP initiatives above demonstrate that when Local Authorities are jointly shaping and entrusted to deliver programmes there are greater prospects of success

6 Please use this space for any other comments you wish to make.

Comments:

On a general level:

- a) It is welcome development that Central Government are revisiting the measurement of Child Poverty.
- b) The profile of welfare reform should not detract from the fact that according to CPAG, 66% of children living in poverty have at least one parent that is working. Whilst the focus on employment as a sustainable route out of poverty is correct there needs to be a corresponding commitment to ensure that 'work pays'
- c) Notwithstanding b) more analysis is required of the impact of welfare reform particularly amongst those groups who have an enduring vulnerability. Locally welfare reform has had some unintended consequences and the Government's commitment to Child Poverty should be used an opportunity to revisit those aspects of welfare reform that contributing rather than alleviating child poverty.
- d) There is a need to recognise that in tackling poverty there is a cultural shift in service required both at a national and local level in deprived communities where individual and collective aspiration is absent. Given the enhanced roles for schools and employers it is argued that some thought also needs to be given on the role that they can play in challenging some of the fatalism that exists within the communities and those providing services to them.
- e) The approach to Child Poverty would be strengthened if Government were to prioritise key programmes and initiatives and outline how they will, or could, contribute towards the delivery of the Strategy. In particular additional thought should be given on how the Child Poverty Strategy could be delivered through the Priority Families Programme.

In specific terms:

- a) Supporting Families Into Work
 - Support for those in work to move into better jobs. This is, of course, very welcome but further information is required on how this will be achieved beyond funding apprenticeships for adults.
 - Support to stay in education - reinstatement of EMA rather than a very limited bursary scheme is likely to have more of an impact.
 - Better careers advice, the current careers advice delivered in schools has serious flaws. More information is required on how the development of the National Careers Service will bridge the gap..
 - Making work pay by increasing hours - agree in principle that this is the right thing but it also can become punitive when parents are on zero hours contracts and cannot control how many hours they will work from one week to the next. In these circumstances taking on a second or third job to make up the hours would be extremely difficult and the proposed review to remove the exclusivity in these contracts will not alter that situation.
- b) Improving Living Standards
 - Reference is made to change the definition of fuel poverty but with no explanation as to what the new definition might be. The prohibitive costs of prepayment meters (PPM) should also be explored as low income PPM users are hit doubly hard: on variable standard prepayment tariffs, not only are they unable to find the extra money needed

when fuel costs are increased but they are also paying a higher price for their tariffs than those on Credit Meters paying by direct debit¹. They are also unable to access the best energy deals and discounts on the market or lock into fixed price deals. This means they can neither cut the cost of their fuel bills nor protect themselves against price rises in the future.

- The measures to keep transport costs down are welcome, however there is no reference to the cost of bus travel for adults, which in some areas is relatively high making journeys to jobs with low pay prohibitively expensive. If costs are not kept down then perhaps travel to work costs should be included in Universal Credit claims?
- The focus on affordable credit is welcomed and we await further the level of cap on pay day loan costs. In terms of investment in Credit Unions it would be desirable if this was delegated through Local Authorities to ensure accountability, professionalism and capacity to deliver (of the Credit Union) at a local level.
- There should be some reference within the Strategy on the need to provide financial capability education to parents and children both to address poverty now and to break the cycle of poverty and this should be supplemented through the deployment of resources on the rationale that not only will aspirations of the Strategy be met, but such an initiative would also assist with the transition to Universal Credit.

c) Educational Attainment

- Whilst greater flexibility around usage of the Pupil Premium is to be welcomed it would be important for Government to reiterate that the usage of such funds is to focus on reducing the attainment gap among disadvantaged pupils and not be absorbed within schools' general budgets.
- Providing schools with money to help pupils to catch up is welcome provided this is managed fairly and underpinned by objective measurement. A further challenge is how would the stigma of being identified as underachieving be removed?
- Destination measures - these have long been called for but how will they be collated? Would a person be able to use them to determine which courses offer the best employment outcome or are they just at provider level? How else will these measures be used? Will they be linked to future funding of either specific courses or providers?
- Hidden Cost of Schooling-there should be some thought given on the extent of prescription required on the pupil premium to address the hidden costs of schooling (uniform, trips, extra curricular activities) that have an effect on educational attainment of those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

7 Please let us have your views on responding to this consultation (e.g. the number and type of questions, whether it was easy to find, understand, complete etc.).

¹ Hills,J. (2012) Getting the measure of fuel poverty: Final Report of the Fuel Poverty Review , CASE report 72: London

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply.

x

E-mail address for acknowledgement: billbasra@warwickshire.gov.uk

Here at the Department for Education we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, please confirm below if you would be willing to be contacted again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?

Yes

No

All DfE public consultations are required to meet the Cabinet Office [Principles on Consultation](#)

The key Consultation Principles are:

- departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before
- departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and use real discussion with affected parties and experts as well as the expertise of civil service learning to make well informed decisions
- departments should explain what responses they have received and how these have been used in formulating policy
- consultation should be 'digital by default', but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy
- the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

However, if you have any comments on how DfE consultations are conducted, please contact Aileen Shaw, DfE Consultation Coordinator, tel: 0370 000 2288 / email: aileen.shaw@education.gsi.gov.uk

Thank you for taking time to respond to this consultation.

Completed responses should be sent to the address shown below by 22 May 2014

Send by post to: Child Poverty Strategy 2014-17 Consultation, Child Poverty Unit, Department for Education, 1st Floor, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT.

Send by e-mail to: strategy.consultation@childpovertyunit.gsi.gov.uk

Warwickshire Child Poverty Strategy



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Vision: To reduce, and alleviate the impact of child poverty in Warwickshire by 2020.

Overarching Objectives

1. To move people out of poverty.
2. To break the cycle of poverty.
3. To mitigate the effects of poverty.



Strategic Priorities

Priority One: Creating Employment Opportunities to help Move People out of Poverty

1. To boost the local economy through major infrastructure projects which will help attract inward investment, and create employment opportunities for local people.
2. To work with the commercial/private sector to ensure that developments will benefit local communities. This includes local procurement opportunities, and through the provision of training opportunities, apprenticeship schemes, work experience programmes and employment opportunities which will encourage people into work.
3. To work with partner organisations to help support local people, particularly hard to reach groups to benefit from local employment opportunities.

Priority Two: Intervening Early to Break the Cycle of Poverty

- Supporting Children's Centres to provide holistic family support. Encouraging positive parenting techniques to promote family stability, a culture of encouragement and aspiration, and provide a strong and stable foundation for learning.
- Referrals or sign-posting to partner organisations on a range of issues including financial support, improving skills, returning to work, housing, health.
- Effective engagement with pregnant mums, particularly from 'hard to reach' groups, to ensure effective ante-natal and post-natal care including emotional, mental and physical wellbeing.
- Supporting interventions which help reduce teenage conceptions, and therefore reducing the numbers of children born into poverty, by raising aspirations, improving educational attainment and addressing benefit dependency. Increasing the take up of family planning advice for those in poverty to help prevent a cycle of poverty amongst large families on low incomes.
- To recognise the value of children's centres as a 'hub' for developing community support structures and building capacity within communities e.g. widening participation and engagement with parents. Encouraging volunteering opportunities, developing confidence, aspiration and positive role models.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles and improving outcomes for families.
- To continue working with families and schools in raising educational attainment.



Priority Three: Improving Financial Capability and Financial Awareness

Working collaboratively with the voluntary and community sector to provide advice, information and training on financial matters which may be preventing families from being economically active.

- Debt management and prevention.
- Welfare and benefits advice.
- Financial capability and budgeting (money management).
- Financial awareness.

Priority Four : Addressing Housing Needs and Homelessness

Quality and stability of housing is important. Poor quality housing and overcrowding can contribute significantly to negative outcomes for children and inhibit the learning environment, and affect the emotional, mental and physical wellbeing of the whole family.

- To increase the amount of affordable housing across the boroughs/districts which is available for families and young people who are in poverty, or at risk of poverty.
- To support people who are at risk of becoming homeless, and homelessness prevention activities, helping to reduce the demand on housing.
- Bringing void properties back into occupation for the benefit of families, as part of an empty properties strategy.
- Giving greater priority to families where there is overcrowding.

Measuring Progress: How will we know if the Strategy is Working?

The Frank Field Review argues that a major limitation of the existing child poverty measures is that they have incentivised a policy response focused largely on income transfers which is financially unsustainable.

A more effective approach would be to use a set of measures that will incentivise a focus on improving children's life chances, and ultimately break the transmission of intergenerational disadvantage. For Warwickshire, proxy measures could include, for example:-

- Improving the take up of free school meals.
- Decrease the number of JSA claimants by helping people into employment.
- Reducing the number of teenage conceptions in Warwickshire.
- Improve educational attainment, particularly in areas where attainment is low.
- Increasing the numbers of mothers and fathers attending ante-natal care.
- Localised measures through children's centres.



Accountability

Within the County Council a Corporate Group, including key partners in the public and voluntary sectors, is in place to oversee the implementation of the new Child Poverty Duty and to drive forward the objectives of the strategy.

The Strategic Director for the Communities Group will be the lead accountable officer for the child poverty strategy, on behalf of all partners where there is a 'duty to cooperate'.

Programmes and actions within WCC, and partner organisations will deliver aspects of the strategy, and will feed into the annual reporting of progress on the eradication child poverty as outlined in the new duty.

By focusing resources on communities most in need, linking with the localities agenda, we can develop localised community action plans that can begin to address local needs, to build capacity and resilience within communities and raise aspirations that accords with the Big Society agenda.

Next Steps

To agree, with partners, an action plan that will outline the contribution of each partner in helping to achieve the vision of this strategy.

Contact Point :

Julie Smith, Corporate Lead Officer for Child Poverty
in Warwickshire.
Warwickshire County Council
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Contributors to the Strategy

Sector Specialist for Child Poverty :

WCC Children's Trust
Young people/Youth Parliament
Special Schools
Parent Support Advisors
Early Intervention Service
Youth Service
North Warks and Hinckley College
Area Offices
Police
Voluntary and Community Sector
CAB
School Improvement Officers
Extended Services
Connexions
NHS
Public Health
Leaving Care Team
Integrated Disability Team

Centre for Excellence and
Outcomes (C4EO)
Commissioning Support Services
Early Years Team
County, Borough and District Officers
Respect Yourself Campaign
Gypsy and Traveller Services
CAF Team
Family Nurse Partnership
Safeguarding Services
Warwickshire Observatory
Credit Union
Multi-agency Commissioning

Appendix 1

Two key Reports which have informed the strategy are the **Independent Review on Early Intervention: Good Parents, Great Kids, Better Citizens by Graham Allen MP, and the Rt. Hon. Iain Duncan Smith MP.**
And The Foundation Years : preventing poor children becoming poor adults, An Independent Review by Frank Field MP, Dec 2010.

The premise of the two reports is that good early intervention is the key determinant for tackling social disadvantages and inequalities later in life. Providing children with the social and emotional support needed to help fulfil their potential and break the cycles of underachievement which blights some of the poorest communities. Specifically that children's life chances are most heavily predicated on their development in the first five years of life, and that family background, parental education, good parenting and the opportunities for learning and development in those crucial years matter more to children than money.

An independent review of best practice in early intervention was published in January 2011.

The Marmot Review :

Giving every child the best start in life is crucial to reducing health inequalities across the life course. The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development – physical, intellectual and emotional – are laid in early childhood. What happens during these early years (starting in the womb) has lifelong effects on many aspects of health and well-being—from obesity, heart disease and mental health, to educational achievement and economic status.

Addressing health inequalities in Warwickshire and supporting families to choose healthier lifestyles will be a key determinant of future life outcomes, including educational attainment and employment opportunities which will help to break the cycle of poverty.

Appendix 2

The Definition of Child Poverty

The most commonly used threshold of low income is a household income that is 60% or less of the average (median) British household income in that year. It uses disposable income rather than pre-tax income, as this is the money that the household has to live on.

Incomes are adjusted for household size and composition to put them on a comparable basis. Clearly, a lone adult does not require the same income as a family of four in order to have the same standard of living.

The latest year for which household income data is available is 2008/09. In that year, the 60% threshold was worth: £119 per week for single adult with no dependent children; £206 per week for a couple with no dependent children; £202 per week for a single adult with two dependent children under 14; and £288 per week for a couple with two dependent children under 14.

These sums of money are measured after income tax, council tax and housing costs have been deducted, where housing costs include rents, mortgage interest (but not the repayment of principal), buildings insurance and water charges. They therefore represent what the household has available to spend on everything else it needs, from food and heating to travel and entertainment.

For further information please contact:

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SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTING ACTIONS TO THE CHILD POVERTY STRATEGY

Priority 1: Creating Employment Opportunities to help People Move out of Poverty

a) Apprenticeships

We are working to help all employers in Warwickshire, but especially the small and medium sized ones to recruit Apprentices, we have had well over 1000 unique views of the employers website, have engaged directly with over 150 employers and also work with the Colleges and Training Providers who deliver in Warwickshire to promote Apprenticeships and Apprenticeship vacancies. As a Council we also have a guaranteed interview built into our Apprenticeship Policy for Looked After Children.

Apprenticeship starts for under 19 year olds in Warwickshire has also bucked a national trend and risen over the last few years:

2010/11 - 1342

2011/12 - 1368

2012/13 -1422

b) Work Programme

The Work Programme is mandatory Jobcentre Plus provision for claimants of Jobseekers Allowance and Employment Support Allowance. When people enter the Work Programme varies from group to group but for people aged 18-24 this would be after claiming for 9 months, although in some circumstances people can enter the scheme earlier. For people aged 25 and over entry point is 12 months claiming. The Work Programme is for 2 years and will continue to support people once they have found work as well as into work. Delivery is personalised and therefore each individual's experience of the Work Programme will be different but may include training, help with CV writing or work placements. Contract holders in our area are Serco and ESG and most delivery is done via a chain of sub-contractors which include Sarina Russo and Coventry and Warwickshire CDA. DWP does not release in depth data and does not allow it's providers to either and therefore it is difficult to assess or influence local delivery.

c) Sector Based Work Academies

6 week programme providing both training and work experience available to people on Jobseekers Allowance from day one of claiming. Jobcentre Plus work with training providers to deliver these academies as and when required, outcomes tend to be good and provision can be adapted easily to suit specific employers. This is an area where we are able to influence.

d) Skills Conditionality

For Jobseekers Allowance claimants for day one of signing where their adviser feels their lack of skills is the main reason for them being unable to find work. This is most likely to be Maths, English or IT.

e) Work Clubs

There are a number of work clubs around the county (currently being mapped by Localities and Partnerships). Work Clubs fall outside of Jobcentre Plus provision although they do sometimes provide funding for start-up costs. Anyone can set up a work club and they can be run as peer support, others do have qualified advisers.

f) European Social Fund 2007-2013

Although we are 2014 this programme is continuing to deliver until 2015. Most provision for skills is procured via the Skills Funding Agency and includes provision to up skill the workforce, the unemployed and programmes for young people that are NEET (delivered locally through CSWP).

g) Community Grants

Also part of the SFA ESF provision, Community Grants are much smaller (up to £12,000). Commissioned via Heart of England Community Foundation grant applications are approved through a panel upon which WCC has a representative and therefore does have a role to play in which projects receive funding and which do not. These projects work with small numbers at grass roots level and are very diverse. They are good at reaching those often excluded by the national programmes. All provision is designed to support people to become closer to the labour market.

h) Priority Families

Two programmes one via DCLG delivered by local authorities and one via DWP using ESF monies delivered by a national contractor. With both of these programmes back to work support forms part of the overall provision and in each case we are able to have a degree of influence.

All of the above form part of national schemes and in most cases our ability to help shape them is limited with the exception of the DCLG Priority Families as that is delivered by WCC.

i) Warwickshire Employment Support Team (WEST)

WEST work with people with disabilities to support them into work. This can include identifying placements, supporting with interviews and job coaching. WEST is core funded and as such delivery can be as flexible as required.

j) Talent Match

Talent Match is a Big Lottery Funded scheme to support people aged 18-24 that have been NEET for 12 months or more. Funding is for 504 young people over 5 years. The funding is available in 21 areas across England and we have it to cover North Warwickshire and Nuneaton and Bedworth, the delivery area also covers north Coventry. BIG Lottery are not prescriptive in how outcomes are to be delivered and the provisional is very personalised. Warwickshire County Council is one of the members of the core partnership and has been very involved in supporting the lead accountable body (CSWP) through the application phase into delivery which is to begin very shortly. WCC will continue to have a role on the partnership.

k) European Structural and Investment Fund 2014-2020

WCC has played been a key contributor to the writing of this strategy and co-write the employment and social inclusion themes. Much of the delivery will be delivered on behalf of the LEP by national bodies (Skills Funding Agency, BIG Lottery and DWP) however all these bodies have agreed for the LEP to have a role in commissioning and management of the funding. Levels of influence are likely to vary.

Inward Investment

	Investments Made (Successes)	New Jobs	Safeguarded & Relocated Jobs	Enquiries Received	Web Searches
April 2010 – Mar 2011	44	75	90	536 ¹	
April 2011 – March 2012	31	233	289	419 ²	
April 2012 – March 2013	30	482	60	322	589
April 2013 – December 2013 ³	38	52	159	225	418
Running Total	143	842	598	1499	1007

Job growth (2011-2014)

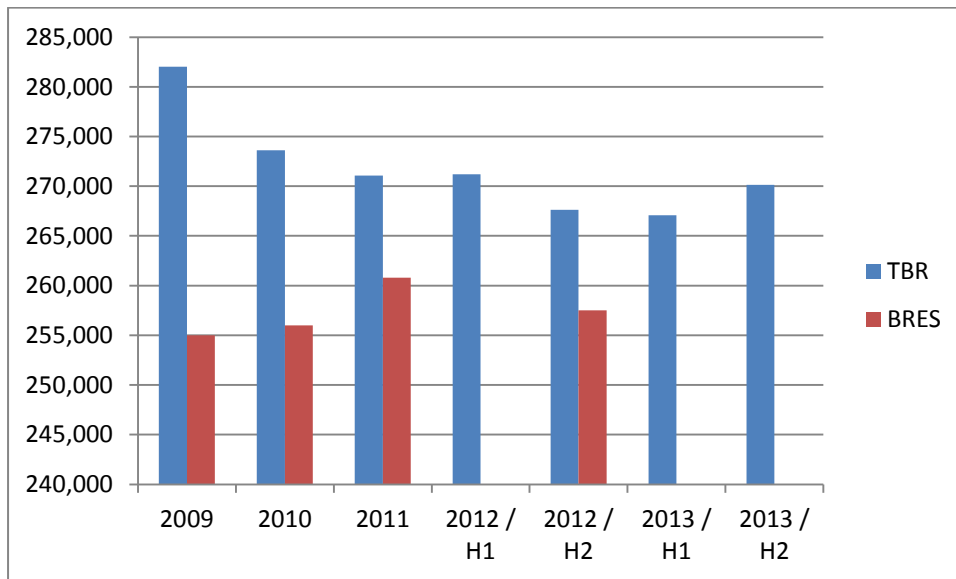
The chart below provides information on the number of jobs estimated to be in Warwickshire, and how this has changed over the period in question. We were in the midst of the recession in 2011, so we have included data from 2009 (the peak before the recession impacted on the labour market) for information. One can see that job numbers have fallen. The data we get from TBR is more up to date, and suggests an uplift in job numbers over the past 12 months, which links with data we have seen on unemployment (Figure below).

¹ Figures for April 10-11 include web-searches

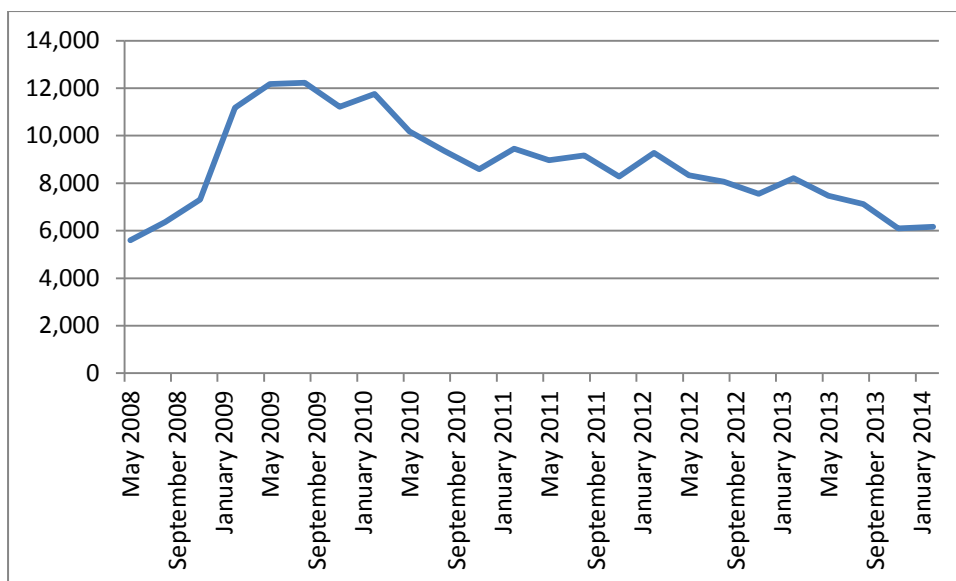
² Figures for April 10-11 include web-searches

³ Incomplete year as awaiting final Q4 2013 -14 figures

Job growth (2009-2013)



Unemployment (2008-2014)



Priority Two: Intervening Early to Break the Cycle of Poverty

a) Children Centres

The core purpose of children's centre provision is to improve the outcomes and life chances for children under five and their families. This is achieved by focusing upon those families who find it most difficult to access services and by delivering early intervention services tailored to meet individual needs.

Children's Centres are supported in their work by key partners such as midwives and health visitors who are able to identify the need for intervening early and as soon as possible to tackle problems emerging for children and their families. Each family is therefore able to

access family support appropriate to their needs supported by a range of professionals working in partnership to offer children's centre services. Parents are able to access evidence based parenting programmes such as Triple P to ensure parents have the ability to act as positive role models and demonstrate good parenting skills.

Currently 132 children's centre staff are trained to deliver Triple P. Parents and carers are able to access Family Learning courses which enable them to improve their parenting and personal skills and children's centres are encouraged to offer training which supports parents back into employment.

Children's centre services are designed to be flexible and to operate at times that most meet the needs of families and key partners in local communities, including both outreach and centre based services. Where services are delivered from a community base they will be available at times defined by the community. A key responsibility for the children's centres is to take an active role in increasing the community's capacity to deliver appropriate universal services and the development of effective peer networks to support effective parenting experiences.

In terms of the link with Health and Children Centres, there is geographical working focussed on Children's Centres with the appropriate level of HV support based on local demographics – this is already much further advanced in Warwickshire than in other areas

The development of a Community Offer – again focussed around the Children's Centre geography – this will use the expertise of the Health Visiting workforce (including the training that has already taken place around Building Community Capacity) and the local knowledge from the LA Public Health team to develop tailored initiatives to tackle local health issues – this will be delivered through the expanded Health Visiting team working collaboratively with other agencies.

Referral or Sign posting to partner organisations on a range of issues including financial support, improving skills, returning to work, housing, health

The new specification requires that the health visiting service will work collaboratively with other and signpost on where necessary when identifying issues. We are introducing a CQUIN this year which will look in particular around pathways for childhood obesity and ensuring that children identified as obese can be given access to appropriate interventions.

Effective engagement with pregnant mums, particularly from hard to reach groups to ensure that effective ante-natal and post natal care including emotional, mental and physical well-being

The recently published updated specification for Health Visiting has an increased focus on mental health and on early attachment. The expansion of the Health Visiting Service locally to provide 116.7 wte by Mar 15 and the further development of information sharing between maternity and health visiting will allow more consistent delivery of new universal antenatal contacts by the Health Visiting service as well as the existing programme of postnatal contacts and more tailored care for those identified as more vulnerable. The service has been funded for a further 11.95wte in 13/14 (following an expansion of 12wte in 12/13) and as at February now has over 100wte trained health visitors working locally with families. The FNP service ensures for evidence based intensive intervention in a particular hard to reach group of young first time mothers. The current commissioned caseload is 190 places.

b) Health

Public Health Warwickshire have commissioned the Soil Associations Food for Life Partnership to support 16 priority schools where deprivation and childhood obesity have highest prevalence in Warwickshire. The 5 year evaluation of the FFLP has to date demonstrated that promoting whole food culture in schools improves educational achievement as well as improving health through the increase in uptake of fruit and veg, growing and cooking skills.

Referral or Sign posting to partner organisations on a range of issues including financial support, improving skills, returning to work, housing, health (All) All services commissioned by Public Health Warwickshire, will from 1st April 2014 have contract variations which require all service providers to train staff to a minimum of level 1 in Making Every Contact Counts. Service specifications require that providers signpost individuals to all services which improve health including the wider determinants of health (i.e. to housing debt services etc.)

The maternal obesity pathway at GEH and the imminent launch of the pathway at Warwick Hospital ensure that all pregnant mums are signposted to many services which improve health and wellbeing including weight management services, smoking cessation services, mental health services, exercise on referral schemes etc. Also through the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative programme, all mothers in Warwickshire are offered breastfeeding support - frontline staff offering this support are also experienced in signposting ante natal physical and mental well-being and signpost post natal mothers to other services which aim to improve health and wellbeing.

c) Sexual Health

Spring Fever – development of a comprehensive & evidenced based RSE / Safeguarding scheme of work for primary aged pupils. Due to be piloted in 5 schools in 2014 and rolled out widely across Warwickshire in subsequent years.

Web site / App – relationship and Sexual Education / Health online resource and website. Increased hits from under 600 a month to regularly over 6000 in 2013.

Uses behaviour change model to help overcome barriers to accessing services. Coventry University evaluation shows a statistically significant increase in access to information and a similar increase in young men attending services.

RYC training programme – for professionals that work with young people. Supports a clear understanding of available Sexual Health services, as well as issues and protocols to consider when working with young people.

2014-17

RSE Youth Council – groups in 4 schools will be used to develop materials and highlight unmet needs, ensuring that what RYC does meets the requirements of its audience.

Secondary RSE programme – development of an RSE programme for 11-18 year olds. Will draw heavily on www.respectyourself.info resources - ensuring that young people are better informed and aware of what services are available. School staff will be offered training to support effective delivery.

RYC training programme development – in response to reduced RYC capacity, the training programme will now offer its core sessions only. These are being adapted to use blended learning (to reduce the face to face time required)

Year	Appeals Gains £	Take Up Gains £	Total £
2011-12	2,036,405	1,644,545	3,680,950
2012-13	1,901,217	1,871,532	3,772,749
2013-14*	1,724,504	2,131,837	3,856,341
2011-2014	5,662,126	5,647,914	11,310,040
Year	Appeals Gains £	Take Up Gains £	Total £
2011-12	2,036,405	1,644,545	3,680,950
2012-13	1,901,217	1,871,532	3,772,749
2013-14*	1,724,504	2,131,837	3,856,341
2011-2014	5,662,126	5,647,914	11,310,040

Further website development

In response to RSE youth council representation new service will be developed for the site. Resources in progress cover topics such as: Grooming, Child Sexual Exploitation and Sexting.

Priority Three: Improving Financial Capability and Awareness

- a) WWRAS BENEFITS Maximisation
- b) CAB'S

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE

Frontline Workers Toolkit

- Frontline Workers Toolkit – Training delivered to frontline workers on how to use the toolkit effectively to help their service users.

MoneyActive Project – Funded by the Nationwide Building Society

- MoneyActive project – Supporting volunteers in delivering financial capability to the local community which included the training of a financial capability trainer (PTLLS 4).

LPSA 2 – Financial Capability and Children's Centres

- Working with the five children's centres in North Warwickshire to develop financial capability for families with young children.
- Provision of regular newsletters to children's centres highlighting current issues such as Welfare Reform changes.

- Delivery of training and raising awareness in specific subjects to frontline workers and families including 'Economic Abuse'.
- Attendance at CAF meetings to give ongoing support to families providing a holistic approach to problem solving.
- Welfare Reform training delivered to Managers of Children's Centres and Area and Regional Representatives at Northgate House, Warwick including specific case studies.
- Employment advice offered to families particularly around the areas of flexible working and maternity rights.
- Case study highlighting one family's saving of over £20,000 after approaching caseworker at children's centre.
- Successful bid to buy baby sleeping bags which were distributed to disadvantaged families within the five children's centres.
- Delivery of group sessions to both statutory and voluntary sector organizations e.g. health visitors/family support workers on a variety of topics linked to financial capability.
- Working with organizations such as the Fire Service to raise awareness of issues related to child poverty. (This was as a result of discussions with Chief Fire Officers who stated that officers had identified concerns within home safety check visits of issues beyond their remit concerning child poverty).

Idea£ Project

- Successful bid (based on previous financial capability work) to the Lottery. Aimed at providing an integrated and seamless debt and financial capability service to clients and recruiting and training volunteers to assist with debt and financial capability advice.

North Warwickshire Advice Services Partnership (NW ASP) funded by the Big Lottery

- In conjunction with partners Warwickshire Employment Rights and Warwickshire Welfare Rights, up-skilling volunteers and staff in the four subject areas of Employment, Benefits, Housing and Debt training.
- Training of e-volunteers aimed at reducing digital inclusion working closely with NWBC and the Community Hubs.
- Embedding financial capability within all areas of our work.

Energy Best Deal (Group Sessions), Energy Best Deal Extra (One to One Sessions) and Financial Capability

- North Warwickshire CAB have developed their own energy saving 'tools' in house which have been further utilised by a number of colleagues that attend the Financial Capability Forum and these are now available on CabLink for bureaux across the country to use for their Energy Best Deal work.
- Promotion of events such as Big Energy Week and Thrift Week, assisting groups such as Atherstone Blind and Visually Impaired group in conjunction with our partners NWBC, Severn Trent and National Energy Action.
- Delivering Energy Best Deal presentations to frontline workers/community groups and families. (One client saved £324 per annum, was taken off Economy Seven which was not appropriate for her circumstances and a free smart meter was fitted ahead of the timescales).
- One to one sessions promoting energy efficiency and savings through Energy Best Deal Extra reaching over 80 clients within just two promotions.

Community Empowerment Partnership (CEP) and Financial Inclusion Partnership (FIP) involvement

- Delivered consumer **focused** events at the community hubs (reaching 91 members of the public). As part of the sessions, the Fire Service offered those in attendance free fire home safety checks.
- At North Warwickshire FIP/CEP meetings, regular updates and information sharing regarding consumer related issues are conveyed to those attending resulting in a strong awareness of the types of consumer issues that affect people in their day to day lives.
- On a continuing basis, the bureau promotes current scams using social media such as Twitter and Facebook and has promoted the Standards for circulation by our partners including North Warwickshire Neighbourhood Watch.

Integrated Money Advice Project

- Successful bid by NWCAB to deliver the Integrated Money Advice Project (Martin Lewis) – One of only 16 bureaux across the country chosen). As part of this project we offer money focused interviews looking at the client's income and expenditure and how savings can be made.

Annual figures relating to debt and financial gains

Financial Year 2011/2012

Debt – £1,985,903.00

Fin. Gains - £530,676

Financial Year 2012/2013

Debt - £1,915,844.00

Fin. Gains - £471,300

Financial Year 2013/2014

Debt - £620,163.00

Fin. Gains - *£271,051 *Partial figure as Petra Report not available.

*Please note that in the financial year beginning 2013/2014 due to cuts in funding we have only one part-time debt advisor funded by NWBC to deal with a specific issue (homelessness project).

Financial Capability Work

Fin. Gains - £128,328.47

514 one to one appointments

60 sessions delivered to community groups

390 frontline workers received training

GOOD PRACTICE

- Share resources and training where possible to avoid duplication.
- Development of new relationships with organizations to share knowledge and experiences..
- Attendance at appropriate meetings (WFIP/CEP), provision of regular updates and information sharing conveyed to attendees.

- The bureau's focus is on embedding debt and financial awareness within all aspects of our work.

CHALLENGES, ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

There are a number of challenges ahead.

- It is becoming more difficult to obtain funding to deliver services and accordingly we are becoming more reliant on project funding which is not always successful.
- Core funding is being reduced which has an impact on core services.
- At present only have one part-time debt worker (funded by NWBC) specifically employed to prevent homelessness. Two full-time debt caseworkers have been lost due to projects not being re-funded.
- Engagement of clients can be difficult particularly where clients present with emergencies (e.g. repossession) but then once helped with the immediate problems do not engage when offered financial capability assistance. (The revolving door syndrome).
- Often client's problems are complex and time-consuming and there are underlying issues such as mental health issues which require a number of sessions which due to resources can be difficult to provide.
- Providing access to services due to geographic and financial restraints.
- Giving clients choices and through support, the confidence to deal with their own finances.
- Improving lifestyles for clients by financial inclusion and ultimately improving their health and wellbeing.
- Over the past twelve months North Warwickshire CAB has continued to play an active role in promoting financial capability and consumer education. We aim to embed consumer awareness within all appropriate strands of work. Having a number of approaches has allowed us to be successful in engaging community groups, as well as front line workers and senior officers.
- We are currently working with community groups including frontline volunteers who assist at the hubs and particularly trying to engage clients who have not approached the CAB before. The community hubs are a North Warwickshire Borough Council initiative and we are working closely with them to assist in their objective of bringing communities together, increasing digital inclusion and providing access to services.

BRANCAB

BRANCAB provides free, confidential, impartial and independent advice on all aspects of social welfare law including welfare benefits, debt, consumer issues, employment, housing, relationships, legal issues, education and health matters. Of these enquiry areas approximately 60% of the problems / issues presented by local people relate to welfare benefits or debt.

During recent years we have developed an integrated money advice service which includes bringing together our debt management service, income maximisation (welfare benefits and tax credits take up), financial capability education and financial awareness. The service is designed to offer support and solutions for those with entrenched debt problems as well as offering a range of 'early intervention' services helping people to recognise, or seek help at an early stage where there is a possibility of a debt situation occurring, possibly through a change of circumstances, or where payments are starting to be missed. The other aspect of the service is financial awareness which helps people to develop their confidence and

understanding to make informed financial and consumer product decisions and avoid loan sharks, rogue traders, lenders who charge extortionate interest and illegal money lenders.

Integrated money advice and support can be tailored to suit individual needs and adapted to fit different scenarios supporting people and families from diverse backgrounds and of all ages and abilities.

A) Debt Management and Provision

We offer a range of advice options to assist people manage their debt problems. We assist people who only have one debt through to those with complex multiple debt problems. Depending on the extent of the problem and our clients' ability to help themselves we can offer self-help packs including budgeting sheets and template letters to send to creditors, generalist advice or ongoing casework support for those with more complex multiple debt problems. The service, at all levels, is designed to help people to maximise their income, budget for their regular household expenditure items, pay their priority payments such as rent, mortgage, council tax, utility bills etc. and when it is possible also make payments to non-priority creditors such as credit cards, personal loans and pay day lenders.

We negotiate on behalf of clients with both priority and non-priority creditors making sure that arrangements are put in place firstly with priority creditors such as housing landlords or mortgage providers, local authorities with regards to council tax and utility companies. This is to prevent homelessness and ensure families can remain in their home and that essential services are maintained. Any remaining household income after essential expenditure, including payments towards priority debt arrears is taken into account is then shared pro-rata between any non-priority creditors.

Our caseworkers are all authorised through the Insolvency Service as Debt Relief Order (DRO) Intermediaries and are able to help local residents apply for a DRO which effectively writes off their debts. Caseworkers can also help people apply to be declared bankrupt. Both DROs and bankruptcy can have other consequences that might not be in the applicant's best interests and when this is the case these are clearly explained to clients in order that they can make an informed decision.

Debt can overwhelm individuals and families leaving them with a feeling of powerlessness that affects all members of the household including children and lead to further problems. By helping families get their finances back on track and negotiating affordable payments BRANCAB is helping to relieve stress and anxiety as well as removing barriers to employment and other development opportunities by putting families back in control. During the financial year 2012/13 we assisted people manage over £9.5million of accumulated debt and managed to get over £1million of debt written off.

B) Welfare Benefits & Tax Credits Advice

Over the last two years the demand for welfare benefits and tax credits advice has overtaken debt as the largest area of enquiry we receive. This is mainly due to the Welfare Reforms programme being introduced by central government. From April 2013 benefits claimants became eligible to pay Council Tax for the first time and others have been affected by the Under Occupation Subsidy (Bedroom Tax). We also receive a substantial number of enquires about Employment Support Allowance (ESA), Housing Benefit and Working / Child

Tax Credits. Our advisers are trained to assess opportunities to maximise family / household income and this is an embedded part of our debt advice process. During the financial year 2013/14 BRANCAB identified 898,366 of additional benefits / tax credits that our clients could claim.

C) Financial Capability and Budgeting

BRANCAB has been offering financial capability support and training for local people for over 10 years helping individuals and groups to feel more confident about managing their financial affairs and to make informed choices with regards to their financial products options. Financial capability work was extended across Warwickshire and the Warwickshire Citizens Advice Bureaux were funded for two years via LPSA2 funding until September 2012 however whilst work continued throughout 2013/14 the activities have been somewhat limited due to the loss of funding. We have managed to secure funding from the WLWS for 2014/15 to reinvigorate this work across the county. The results from the LPSA 2 project are detailed below:

The funding from LPSA2 has enabled the Citizens Advice Bureaux in Warwickshire to employ 4 x 0.5FTE Financial Capability Workers who are based at CAB offices across the county. This has enabled us to develop a co-ordinated approach to delivering money management courses to individuals and groups across the whole county. The project was funded from 1st July 2010 to 30th September 2012.

D) Key Achievements

1. The project's 4 x 0.5FTE Financial Capability Workers have worked co-operatively together to deliver community based money management group training courses and one to one sessions. The FC Workers have gained new skills and confidence in this area of work and have met regularly for peer support and to share experiences / training materials etc. They have also linked into the wider financial inclusion agenda by regularly attending the multi-agency West Midlands Financial Capability Forum meetings held in Birmingham.
2. Between July 2010 and March 2012 our FC Workers have delivered one to one financial capability sessions to over 500 people, 337 group sessions held in Children's Centres and other community venues attended by over 1200 people. Additionally they have provided 48 courses attended by 384 frontline workers of local community based organisations giving them knowledge and skills to cascade to their service users.
3. The FC Workers assisted with the development of the Warwickshire Frontline Workers' Toolkit, attended the launch events held in each Borough / District in Warwickshire and delivered 51 sessions to 573 frontline workers to introduce this resource and to help them make effective use of the Toolkit.
4. Because we had FC Workers in post we have been able to attract additional short term funding opportunities that has enabled us to train 6 volunteers who can then assist with the promotion and delivery of one to one and group sessions which enables us to increase access to financial capability work. Also to become involved in national promotion work.

5. Our Financial Capability Workers have also developed links with other community workers in their areas and regularly attend networking meetings and community events to promote financial capability work and provide information and advice.
6. The FC Workers have also become involved in national and local promotional events such as Save Xmas (helping people avoid post-Christmas debt), Energy Best Deal and Big Energy Week (helping people to find the most competitive gas/ electric prices and providing energy saving advice) as well as local events to highlight scams, provide information about loan sharks and promote local financial services such as Credit Unions.
7. Our work has attracted publicity via local newspapers and BBC Coventry & Warwickshire Radio which has enabled us to support promotions and market the service across the county.
8. The FC Workers are also helping to market the Legal Advice Warwickshire (LAW) Electronic Referral System which securely links frontline community based organisations and services to LAW enabling frontline workers to refer their service users with social welfare law problems such as debt, welfare benefits, housing, employment and family issues direct. Events are being held across the county to encourage organisations to link to the system.

Benefits of the Project

The project is enabling us to provide a co-ordinated and integrated money advice service across the county that helps people resolve their debt problems, develop their confidence in handling their finances and selecting appropriate financial products in consideration of their circumstances.

The project fits with the objectives outlined in Warwickshire County Council's Corporate Business Plan to 'Get Closer to Communities' which aims to:

- Help Communities to Help Themselves – so that individuals and communities are supported to help themselves through local community action. Financial Capability and advice work helps empower individuals and gives them knowledge and skills to help themselves and others and brings local people together.
- Transparency and Engagement – so that people are well informed and can influence local services. Our financial capability, advice and social policy work help local people understand their rights, entitlements and responsibilities and increases their confidence in being able to influence local services.
- Accessible and Responsive Services – so that services are designed and delivered closer to communities – our financial capability work is designed to meet diverse individual and community needs and can be tailored to suit the group / individual and is delivered locally at convenient community venues.
- Help where it is most needed – so that resources are targeted at the individuals, families and communities most in need – our project has worked to encourage participation of those who are most at risk of social / financial exclusion and to

additionally 'skill up' front line workers to enable them to assist their service users. Also to provide a direct link for local frontline workers to refer their service users for advice.

Stratford CAB- Improving Financial Capability and Financial Awareness

Advice, information and training on financial matters which may be preventing families from being economically active:

- Debt management and provision

We handle around £5M per year of debt of which £2M is for vulnerable clients. This total is made up of over 3,000 individual debt queries per year.

We have a small Money Advice Team consisting of one paid worker (funded by the Town Trust and smaller charity contributions) and two volunteer caseworkers, with volunteer admin support. The team also runs a hardship fund for Stratford Town Trust, allocating sums of money to those in distress.

As part of our BIG Lottery funding we are looking to up skill everyone in the Bureau on money advice work so that our clients get the help they need as quickly as possible.

- Welfare Benefits and Advice

In the light of the challenging financial environment, and the changes to welfare benefits we have been putting extra focus on helping clients with welfare benefits including:

- Using the Stratford Town Trust Reach Out and Help project and core funding to offer all clients a "Quick Benefits Check" to help them to check what benefits they are entitled to – this has identified an additional £730K of annualised entitlements in its first year;
- Using BIG Lottery funding to up skill everyone in the Bureau on welfare benefits including: WWRAS one to one mentoring of advisers in the Bureau on specific client cases; a suite of training at all levels from gateway assessors through to the most experienced caseworkers; sharing our training with other organisations.

- Financial Capability and Budgeting

Financial capability has become a key element of our service, with regular programmes of one to one and group work for clients and frontline workers over the last few years.

We have developed this into other areas, with financial capability in schools at all ages and even "Mini Money Magic" for pre-school children which has featured in the Citizens Advice national publicity for financial capability.

- Financial awareness

As part of our Reach Out and Help project we are taking displays and running drop in / delivering talks at a number of venues around the town. We are also running campaigns e.g. Scams awareness, Pay Day Loans, and the Prepayment Meters campaign, Left Out in the Cold.

We are also working locally with Barclays Bank, running drop ins at the local branch and looking to collaborate with them and the local college to help students with budgeting and training on issues such as what your payslip means. We are running awareness sessions for Barclays staff so that they understand the work of the CAB and the financial context for our client group.

Challenges

The main challenges over the last years have included:

- Client issues becoming more entrenched and more complex; we see more clients now with multiple issues; some volunteers comment that it is getting harder to make a real difference to people in one interview than it used to be, because clients often need several interviews and quite a bit of work for us to make real progress;
- In Stratford District the cost of living is high and although there are jobs available, they are often low paid or part-time and thus people struggle to afford to live here;
- Seeing people in need of food parcels; we hold vouchers and emergency food parcels and we support the local Foodbank (Sue Green is on its management committee).

Looking forward:

- We have been able to diversify our funding with projects such as those mentioned above – but we need stable core funding to be able to support those projects;
- The ongoing welfare reforms are likely to create greater pressures for our client base; we are already seeing this with the under-occupancy penalty and it will become more acute if support for council tax is cut;
- Our changing demographic – with the population growing older – brings advantages but also challenges to services and we are addressing that by working in collaboration with Age UK e.g. on our Comic Relief Web Wise project;
- We increasingly see clients with physical and / or mental health issues (the latter often linked with their financial worries) and we would like to build on our Healthwatch work; our GP surgery drop ins and the recent MECC session hosted by Stratford CEP, to build links with the health service and potentially run some jointly funded services for clients;
- Our outreach services and home visiting service around the District are greatly appreciated and we are committed to maintaining these as far as possible; with our BIG Lottery funding and the support of Stratford District Council and Orbit we are looking at setting up video access terminals for clients to supplement the face to face outreach.

Warwickshire Financial Inclusion Partnership (Activity Since 2011)

Activities 2011/2012

The Financial Inclusion Partnership was established in 2010 and chaired by Mark Ryder. A report was submitted to the O & S Committee in 2011 to show progress to date and planned activities going forward. Initial Work was overseeing the delivery of the LPSA 2 Funded Projects delivered by CAB's, WWRAS and CWCDA (listed above).

Activities 2012/2013

1. WWRAS

WWRAS undertook benefits take up work as part of our FIP activity during 2011/12.

Headline Figures

- During 2011/12, 266 clients were advised and raised a total of £322,302 in increased benefit entitlement for Warwickshire residents.
- Working with Stratford District Council on a fuel poverty campaign, £66,000 was raised in increased benefit entitlement for Stratford residents
- Raised over £100,000 for residents of Southam who were in fuel poverty
- Working with North Warwickshire Borough Council to undertake a fuel poverty campaign in the Borough which raised just under £98,000 in additional benefit entitlement
- Free School Meals campaign in conjunction with North Warwickshire Borough Council and 6 schools in the Borough.
- Working with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council on benefit take up linked to a Community Action Week, which was a multi-agency approach to tackling financial inclusion in the Borough.
- A take up campaign with Rugby Borough Council in conjunction with its Revenue and Benefits Team using MOSAIC and Council data to highlight areas of the Borough where there were typically "hard to reach" families who were likely to be financially excluded
- Worked with Warwick District Council Revenue and Benefits Team to provide advice and assistance to clients who had recently come off benefit and were going back to work, in order to maximise the take up of in-work benefits which are often vastly under-claimed.

2. CWCDA

From Apr 2010-March 2012

- 562 people received a range of advice on money management, budgeting, basic bank accounts and Credit Unions

- support to 5 credit unions this included offering training in many areas including loan portfolios, credit collection, directors training and collection training
- updated Credit union computer systems that will allow members being able to operate their accounts on line
- 3 new School banks have been established
- Development work will assist Credit Unions to offer service level agreements to housing authorities to accept universal credits and pay rent direct
- Work to assist Warwickshire Credit unions to submit tenders to the Credit Union modernisation fund

3. CAB

Financial Capability Project

The aim of the project was to help local people to become more confident in dealing with their financial affairs and to make informed choices with regards to choosing financial products. Helping people in this way is a proactive debt prevention measure.

- Courses include household budgeting, opening and maintaining a bank account, choosing appropriate forms of credit (and what to avoid), savings, debt awareness, maximising income and the difference between wants / needs.
- develop a co-ordinated approach to delivering money management courses to individuals and groups across the whole county. The project is funded from 1st July 2010 to 30th September 2012.

Key Achievements

- The project's 4 x 0.5FTE Financial Capability Workers have worked co-operatively together to deliver community based money management group training courses and one to one sessions.
- Between July 2010 and March 2012 FC Workers have delivered one to one financial capability sessions to 411 people, 287 group sessions held in Children's Centres and other community venues attended by 1068 people. Additionally they have provided 48 courses attended by 384 frontline workers of local community based organisations giving them knowledge and skills to cascade to their service users
- The FC Workers assisted with the development of the Warwickshire Frontline Workers' Toolkit, attended the launch events held in each Borough / District in Warwickshire and delivered 51 sessions to 573 frontline workers to introduce this resource and to help them make effective use of the Toolkit
- The FC Workers have also become involved in national and local promotional events such as Save Xmas (helping people avoid post-Christmas debt), Energy Best Deal and Big Energy Week (helping people to find the most competitive gas/ electric prices and providing energy saving advice) as well as local events to highlight scams,

provide information about loan sharks and promote local financial services such as Credit Unions

- The work has attracted publicity via local newspapers and BBC Coventry & Warwickshire Radio which has enabled us to support promotions and market the service the county
- The FC Workers are also helping to market the Legal Advice Warwickshire (LAW) Electronic Referral System which securely links frontline community based organisations and services to LAW enabling frontline workers to refer their service users with social welfare law problems such as debt, welfare benefits, housing, employment and family issues direct. Events are being held across the county to encourage organisations to link to the system.

Other Activities

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Since June 2009, the activity provided by various Council divisions, and externally by our key partners, the CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau), WWRAS (Warwickshire Welfare Rights Advice Service) and the CWEDA (Coventry and Warwickshire Cooperative Development Agency) has been delivered under the now Nationally acclaimed B.O.B (Branching Out Bus) brand.

The B.O.B brand has quickly become recognised by customers of the borough as being the vehicle under which we are delivering a wide ranging financial inclusion programme that is meeting the needs of local communities by taking information, advice and services into communities. It is a brand that has no barrier or stigma attached to it and this has been a key feature attributed to its success.

This holistic approach is enabling the Council to deliver commitments on its three corporate priorities of

- Improving access to services,
- Addressing alcohol, obesity and the impacts of fuel poverty and
- Helping to raise education attainment skills and aspirations.

The infrastructure put in place in the Council in recent years means we are well placed to address the outcomes of these challenges via the ongoing commitment to fund the B.O.B bus to March 2013 and the commitment to setting up a number of B.O.B hubs in support of the mobile bus activity in key locations in 2012/13. This investment has seen considerable improved take up and maximisation of benefits and increased opportunities to access debt advice and affordable lending

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

- Launch of the Frontline Workers Toolkit. Training for all front line staff in how to use the toolkit and 'z' cards. Article also appeared in the local press

- Community Action Weeks – Took place in two Super Output Areas. Key agencies took part along with council departments such as Housing, Benefits & Revenues. Authority is evaluating the success with a view to rolling out to other areas.

Stratford District Council

Fuel Poverty project “Addressing Fuel Poverty in low energy homes” progressed in partnership with Act on Energy, WWRAS. This was a jointly funded SDC/Public Health project which focused in Shipston. The aim was to: -

- Work closely with residents to combat fuel poverty in Shipston and other local areas where properties are identified as having a SAP (energy rating) below 35 (the threshold for decent homes). SAP ranges from 1 to 100, with the average rating in England being 53.
- To provide advice and support to ‘at risk’ households through a combination of home visits and/or telephone advice, enabling vulnerable residents to access the most appropriate support to ensure they have warm and healthy homes. This will also ultimately lead to improved health outcomes, such as:

Benefits include:

- Warmer Homes
- Reduced visits to GP and hospital
- Reduced fuel bill
- Improved understanding of bills, energy consumption, heating
- Improved mental health: less perceived financial strain, more and longer visits from family, increased community engagement, improved attachment to the home

SDC now have a Housing and Financial Inclusion Officer. His role will focus on sustaining households in their current accommodation or enabling them to solve their own accommodation problems by accessing benefits and grants, maximising their income, rescheduling debts and the maximisation of benefit take-up where they currently receive benefits.

Activities 2013 – 2014

Outlined below are some of the main activities undertaken by the Partnership over the last 18 months...

Free School Meals

3,100

DfE calculation of unclaimed free school meals in Warks



£56,000

Nuneaton & Bedworth Pupil Premium

In 2012, North Warwickshire Borough Council working with Warwickshire Welfare Rights Advice Service targeted six schools to raise the uptake of free school meals – resulting in £20,000 for schools in previously unallocated pupil premium and an additional £200,000 worth of benefits for families who were not claiming their full entitlements.

Following the success in North Warwickshire, this project has been rolled out across Warwickshire...

<p>£636,453 <i>Nuneaton & Bedworth unclaimed benefits</i></p> <p>£29,900 <i>Rugby Pupil Premium</i></p> <p>£ 170,000 <i>Rugby unclaimed benefits</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nuneaton & Bedworth - 8 schools targeted • Rugby – 6 schools targeted <p>The DfE calculation shows that there are 3,100 unclaimed free school meals in Warwickshire, which equates to at least £2.8m.</p> <p>After hearing the success in Warwickshire the Coventry Financial Inclusion Partnership is keen to undertake a similar project across Coventry.</p> <p>WWRAS has been successful in getting funding from the Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme to extend the FSM project across the County to target 18 schools across the County.</p>
<p>Loan Sharks / Credit Unions</p> <p><i>Publications</i> <i>Loan Shark – Hotspot Index</i></p> <p>500 <i>Beer mats produced via POCI funding</i></p> <p>6,000 <i>leaflets produced– Dangers of using Loan Sharks</i></p> <p>£2,000 <i>Donated to produce a Loan Shark film, which will be used Nationally</i></p> <p>7 <i>Community Forums in Loan Shark Hot Spot Areas attended</i></p> <p>60+ <i>Servicemen attended financial capability event</i></p>	<p>Leaflets with dangers of Loan sharks on one side and benefits of Credit Unions on the other were produced and included in Camp Hill Newsletter, left in pubs, coffee shops, CAB Offices, Children Centres and used at Community Forums</p> <p>Staff Training took place in NWBC, SDC and NBBC on the dangers of loan sharks, affordable credit and debt related issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents Events - North Warwickshire held a week-long event in October focusing on debt, poverty etc. this work was recognised and reported in the Stop Loan Sharks - National Newsletter. • Community Forums which are in Loan Shark Hot Spot Areas have been targeted for presentations, information circulation etc. These include 4 Community Forums in Stratford area and 3 in the Rugby area • Community Events were also attended by members of the WFIP to share information on all issues around Debt and Welfare reform e.g. Whitnash Children's Centre and St Michaels Children's Centre, Camp Hill festival • Event in Gamecock Barracks, with 60 plus servicemen <p>Various Credit Union promotional campaigns have been undertaken with LA Staff...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness among staff to increase the Credit Union membership among County and District/Borough staff • Drip feed communication approach – articles in Core Briefing, Internet articles all aims to encourage staff to join, plus staff drop in sessions
<p>Welfare Reform Films</p> <p><i>Website hits...</i></p> <p>8,120</p> <p><i>Housing Benefits changes</i></p> <p>72,650 <i>Council Tax</i></p>	<p>The Partnership has funded BRANCAB to produce a range of promotional films, focusing on the various Welfare changes – Housing, Council Tax and Universal Credit.</p> <p>Chris Connor from the (BIMLT) has committed funding for the commissioning of a generic film on Loan Sharks, which will be used nationally.</p> <p>The films are being shown at organised events as well as being shown in LA reception areas, one stops shops, children's' centres etc.</p> <p><i>See the links below...</i></p> <p>Changes to Council Tax Benefit & Housing Benefit http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=cP4ThvRUx2E</p> <p>Affordable Borrowing http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtmbsD8DAec</p>

	<p>Financial Capability http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wg1pRlIUw4o</p> <p>Loan Sharks http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhF2EOn37Jc</p> <p>Orbit tenants and financial capability http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zjs73bnisrY</p>
<p>Money & Debt Signposting Webpages</p> <p>http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/moneyanddebt</p> <p>30 <i>Parents Consulted</i></p> <p>97% <i>'information on the pages is useful & easy to understand'</i></p> <p>92% <i>'would recommend the website to others'</i></p> <p>217 <i>Website hits since launch in Jan 2014</i></p>	<p>The partnership agreed to develop a signposting webpage, which residents can access to get information and advice on a wide range of financial queries /problems.</p> <p>The pages were developed and then tested via the Family Information Services 'Parent Panel'. The parents were asked to test out the pages to see if the right information was posted to the webpage, if was easy to find and to spot any things that were missing.</p> <p>The majority thought that the webpage was easy to navigate, and the information was easy to understand and useful.</p> <p>Consultation results have been circulated to all partners as some of the questions related to their areas of work – e.g. the majority could recognise the signs of a loan shark but less were aware of how to report a loan shark!</p> <p> FIP Website Responses (4).pdf</p>
<p>Food Poverty Conference and Big Food Week</p> <p>170%↑ <i>increase in the numbers of people using their food banks between 2011-12 and 2012-13</i></p> <p>464.5 kgs <i>Food donations by LA staff</i></p> <p>£117 <i>WCC staff dress down day donation</i></p> <p>80 <i>Delegates attend Food poverty Conference</i></p> <p>91% <i>Felt it would be beneficial to hold further 'themed' annual conferences</i></p> <p>10,000 <i>Z cards produced in North</i></p>	<p>The Partnership held their first annual conference in November 2013 – which focused on Food Poverty...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80 delegates attended • 464.5 kgs of food donations • Good feedback from workshops – quick wins and longer term aspirations • Action Plan drafted to take forward the work – owned and monitored by WFIP <p>Big Food Week – to raise the awareness of food related issues, including food poverty and healthy eating on a budget, amongst community groups, including schools and staff ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bake Offs in schools, coffee mornings and cookery demonstrations in community venues • Living on £10 challenge • Staff food donations to Foodbanks • A dress down day raised - £117 which was donated to the Salvation Army, to give festive food parcels to families in need over the Christmas period <p>For more detail please see the attached briefing sheet</p> <p> Briefing Note .doc</p>

Warwickshire and Stratford



£457,944
unclaimed benefits

180,000
thermocards printed

40
Frontline staff trained

2,146
Calls to AoE

23
households have been provided with emergency heating so far this year

668
People in remote areas received advice from the mobile library

£347,000
In rural fuel poverty funding given to targeted homes in Rugby & Wolvey

Affordable Warmth

Maximising Benefit Checks: Warwickshire by Welfare Rights Advisory Service helped 500 vulnerable households, generating £457,944 in previously unclaimed benefits.

Thermocards: This year 180,000 thermocards were printed for distribution in Warwickshire. Every patient who received a seasonal flu jab also received a thermocard from their GP.

Frontline Staff Training: Over 40 people have attended training this year, delivered by AoE.

Freephone Line, Referrals and Home Visits: AoE has received over 2146 calls on its Freephone Line since April 2012. 235 of these households have been referred for home improvements. AoE provides home visits to vulnerable households to give advice on reducing energy bills, fuel debt, improving energy efficiency, energy switching and staying warm over the winter months.

Cold Weather Referrals: Frontline staff are trained to identify households who could benefit from support and advice.

Home Fire Safety Checks and Chimney Sweeping: Age UK in partnership with Warwickshire Fire Service are providing Free Home Fire Safety Checks and a Chimney Sweeping Scheme available to vulnerable households.

Boiler Servicing & Repair Scheme: Local Councils are providing a Boiler Servicing & Repair Scheme for work up to £300 to qualifying low income households. Carbon monoxide detectors will be fitted for all households who qualify for these schemes.

The NRS Emergency Heating Scheme: 23 households have been provided with emergency heating so far this year, some of these households also received warm packs, circuit breakers, carbon monoxide detectors and cold monitors.

Green Deal and ECO Funding: Warm & Well in Warwickshire through AoE has established referral mechanisms to local contractors for boiler replacements, loft, cavity and solid wall insulation.

DECC Rural Fuel Poverty Project: Warwickshire County Council submitted a successful bid to DECC for a Rural Fuel Poverty Project in 2012. Act on Energy with support from Rugby Borough Council targeted 400 homes in Wolvey and Rugby. 92 homes with 132 potential improvement measures were identified, 54 measures were installed including insulation to 32 solid walls, 3 cavity walls and 8 lofts, with 11 inefficient boilers replaced with a total cost was £347,000.

The project also included the creation of a new Warwickshire and Coventry

	<p>website which includes a home calculator to identify cost effective improvements, find local case studies and local contractors and feedback on their work (www.energysavinghomes.org.uk).</p>
<p>Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme</p> <p>£143,245 <i>Secured from successful bids</i></p>	<p>The partnership has recently submitted bids to the WLWS to undertake a range of activities to help the most vulnerable in Warwickshire. The following were successful...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BRANCAB - Financial Capability Training, £79,745 • WWRAS – take up of Free School Meals Project, £63,500 <p>In addition to these bids, the WLWS has supported projects from...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Warwickshire Foodbank • Warwick Foodbank • Stratford Foodbank • CHESS Foodbank • Brunswick Healthy Living Centre Jobs Club
<p>Links with other groups / WFIP Membership</p>	<p>Links were made with the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Food for Health Group • Food Poverty Network – WCC hosted the regional meeting on 27th February 2014 <p>Membership of the WFIP – has been extended to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foodbanks • The Royal British Legion • DWP • Coventry Financial Inclusion Partnership
<p>Looking to the future... Key priorities going forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare Reform • Affordable Credit • Food Poverty • Affordable Warmth • Overseeing delivery of FSM & Financial Capability <p>The WFIP's second Conference will be held in September 2014.</p>	

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3rd June 2014

Priority Families Programme

Recommendations

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Notes and comments on the current position and progress made by the Priority Families programme in relation to Phase One of the national Troubled Families programme; and
- 2) Makes such recommendations as it thinks fit to the Priority Families Programme Board (6th June 2014) and Cabinet (22nd July 2014) regarding the Programme and its future operation.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report has been prepared in response to a number of questions raised by the Committee about the Priority Families Programme (known nationally as the Troubled Families Programme) as follows (this report is also being considered by the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 3rd July 2014):

- How many families are involved and how are families identified?
- What funding is available to support this initiative?
- How will it make a difference?
- How has it made a difference so far?
- How is the initiative being monitored and evaluated?
- How does the initiative link with the Child Poverty Strategy and the support provided by Children's Centres?
- How can the Programme be sustained beyond 2015?

1.2 The report aims to address each of these questions in turn and also sets out a number of key issues / challenges that the Programme currently faces. Additionally, we are including the information that is currently available about the Government's intention to extend the national Troubled Families Programme beyond its original end-date of 31st March 2015 (Government calls this extension 'Phase 2' of the Programme).

- 1.3 It should be emphasised that, at the time of preparing this report, we are waiting for clarification from Government on a number of matters relating to Phase 2 and that we hope that this information might be available by the time of the Committee meeting. We also need to make clear that the information which has been included from Government represents current thinking and is subject to ministerial approval.

2.0 Background to the Priority Families Programme

- 2.1 We have now started the final year of this three year Programme which started on 1st April 2012 and is due to finish on 31st March 2015.
- 2.2 The main Programme (which provides the focus for this report) is administered by central government via the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). There it is overseen by a national team 'The Families Team' which is headed by Louise Casey CB, the Director General Troubled Families (formerly the 'Homelessness Czar' and 'Victims Commissioner'). Ms Casey took up her position in November 2011.
- 2.3 The immediate context for the national programme was in the aftermath of the 2011 English Riots, following which the Prime Minister made clear his personal ambition to change what he perceived to be repeating generational patterns of poor parenting, abuse, violence, drug use, anti-social behaviour and crime.
- 2.4 Warwickshire County Council, along with all 151 other upper tier authorities and after much consideration and debate, agreed to join the DCLG Programme with effect from 1st April 2012.
- 2.5 The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) developed a separate and non-connected Programme which was launched in December 2011 and funded through the European Social Fund aimed at providing employment related support for 'families with multiple problems'. This Programme is delivered via procured contractors and is also now set to continue until the end of March 2015. It is recognised both nationally (via the Public Accounts Committee) and locally that the DWP Programme has not been an effective Programme and that the failure by central government to jointly plan the DWP and DCLG provision is the root cause of this.
- 2.6 In its report, the Public Accounts Committee praised the "commitment" of those involved in each scheme, but questioned why they had been designed and set up separately, describing this as 'baffling' and arguing this had resulted in 'confusion and a lack of integration'.
- 2.7 In Warwickshire and elsewhere, extensive efforts have been made by local authorities and their partners to make the DWP Programme as effective as possible but with only limited success. For this reason, this report focuses on the DCLG administered Troubled Families Programme, known locally as the Priority Families Programme.

2.8 Although the DCLG Programme is due to finish at the end of March 2015, the coalition government announced in the Spending Review 2013 that it would be extended for a further year to 2016 and its intention, if re-elected, to further extend until 2019/2020. However, the criteria for the extension to the Programme remain unclear (see paragraph 9 of this report).

2.9 In Warwickshire, the Priority Families Programme has deliberately been developed in such a way as to complement and enhance a range of existing services, as opposed to starting up a new service. These include the Youth Justice Service's Family Intervention Project (introduced in 2009-10 and funded via a combination of LAA Reward Grant and partnership funding), the Attendance Compliance and Enforcement (ACE) Team, and a number of other services in the People Group's Early Intervention and Targeted Support Business Unit including Family & Parenting Support and Family Group Conferencing.

3.0 How many families are involved and how are families identified?

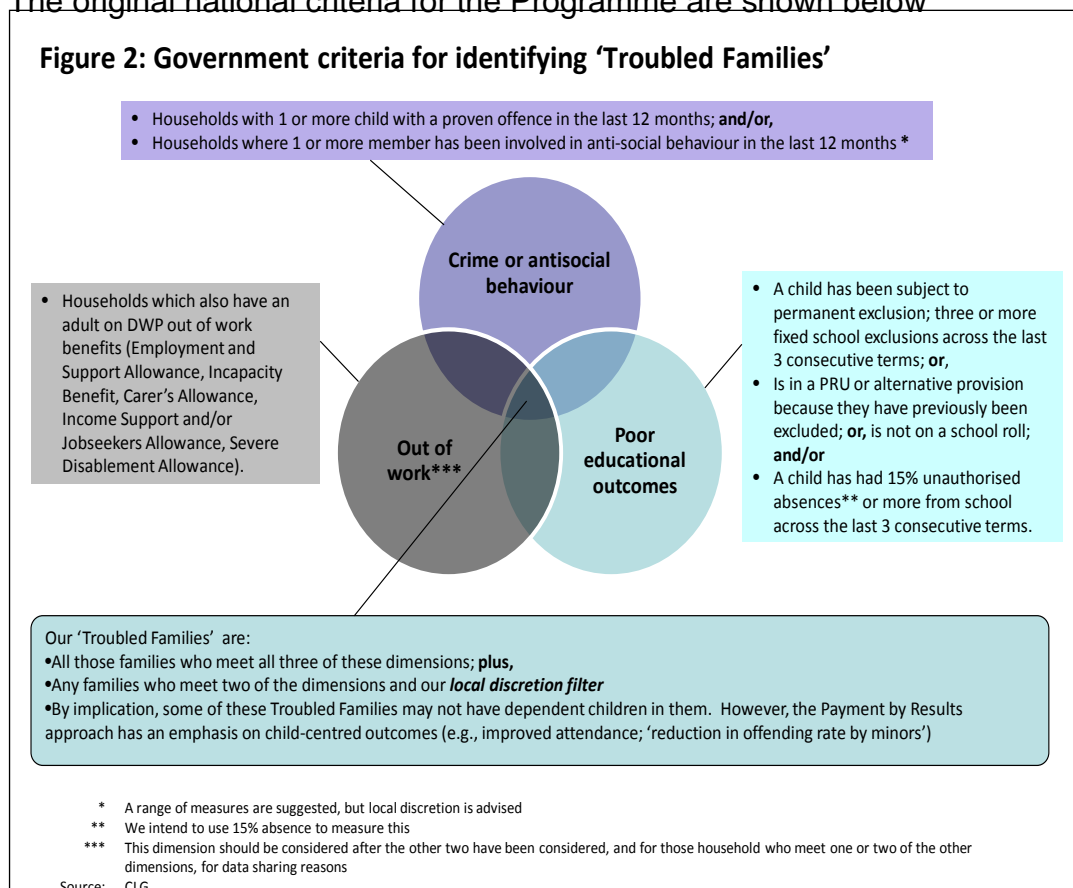
3.1 Over the three year DCLG Programme, Warwickshire's target is to identify and 'turn round' 805 families (0.67% of 120,000 families nationally). This target was given to Warwickshire by the Department of Communities and Local Government and was not negotiable.

3.2 The national (and therefore local) targets were extrapolated by the previous Government's Cabinet Office and Social Exclusion Unit from an assessment of the numbers of families affected by multiple and entrenched problems. This was done using a set of criteria that is very different to the criteria that applies to the Priority Families Programme.

3.3 For the Priority Families Programme, families are identified through three national criteria: (1) Crime / ASB, (2) Education, and (3) Worklessness. All three must be present for a family to be deemed eligible (or two of them plus a local criterion – see 3.6 below).

3.4 The diagram below illustrates the national criteria:

The original national criteria for the Programme are shown below



3.5 A significant change was made to the Education criterion in April 2013 which enables the inclusion of a child whose attendance levels exceed 85% “*where a Head Teacher certifies that the pattern of behaviour relating to that child is of 'equivalent concern.'*”

3.6 Local criteria are developed independently by individual local authorities but must relate to the high cost of service delivery to families affected by the issues that are defined. In Warwickshire we have developed the following list of local criteria:

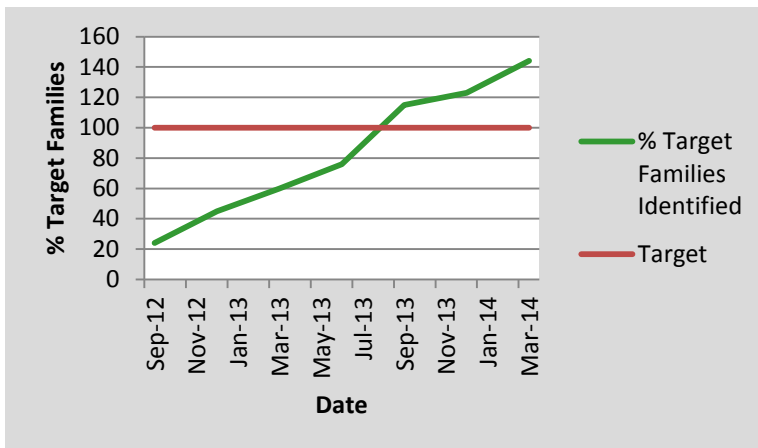
	CRITERIA	EVIDENCE
LOCAL	(1) Child Protection / Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families with a child/children on a Child Protection Plan OR Families which have had a CPP in the previous 3 years OR Families who have had a child / children looked after in the last 3 years
	(2) Health/Emotional / Physical Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families with a child / parent / carer with mental health / emotional wellbeing needs OR Families affected by drug / alcohol misuse OR Families affected by domestic abuse OR Families with Young Carers (a child or YP whose life is affected by their caring role or at risk of taking on caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult)

	<p>(3) Financial Inclusion/ Housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a family is homeless / living in inadequate accommodation or where security of accommodation is at risk OR • Families affected by Poverty / Low Income / Debt OR • Where a 16-18 year old in the family who is NEET and a member of one of the defined vulnerable groups / or a child under 16 at risk of NEET (RONI)
	<p>(4) Reduce Crime/ ASB/ Promote Rehabilitation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families with a child/ children that include a member who is subject to the Integrated Offender Management Programme OR • Families living in areas defined as one of the 10% most deprived nationally or as a Warwickshire Police Partnership Priority area OR • Frequent police call outs / District Council call outs to nuisance families OR • District Council frequent call outs to nuisance families / Housing ASB/ Environmental Health ASB OR • Fire related ASB OR • Where a family member is currently serving a prison sentence or otherwise in custody

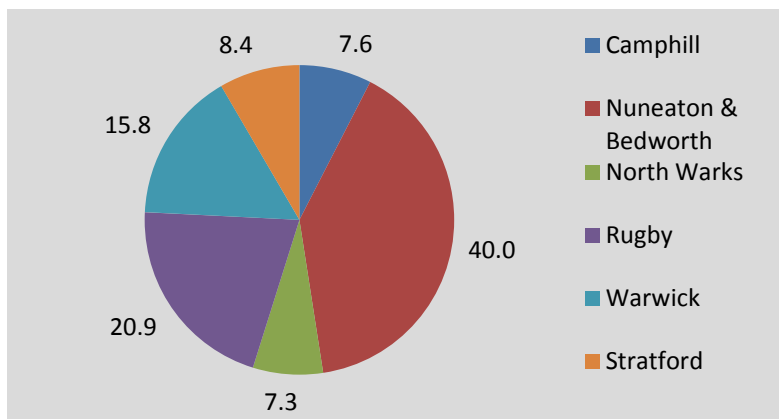
3.7 The latest information for families identified (March 2014) shows that we have now identified 1,165 families (360 more than the DCLG target figure).

3.8 The two charts below illustrate respectively the percentage of families identified as eligible for the Programme and families identified by area:

Percentage of Families Identified as Eligible for the Programme



Percentage of Families Identified as Eligible for the Programme by Area March 2014



3.9 Data is updated at least once every year and we estimate that the data refresh currently underway is likely to produce a further 200 families (estimated total 1350) which would mean that we would have exceeded our families identified target by about 60%.

3.9 At every data refresh, we produce a ward by ward table of priority families, the latest version of which is attached as Appendix One. This is accurate as at October 2013 and will be update following the current data refresh. Whilst the overall number of families will be larger, we anticipate that the proportionate ward by ward split is likely to remain more or less the same.

4.0 What funding is available to support this initiative?

4.1 The table below illustrates the composition of the DCLG funding in terms of the numbers of families that we have committed to work with each year, attachment fees and potential Payment by Results (PbR) payments over the three years of the Programme:

Year	Families WCC committed to work with (NB1)	Attachment Fees Maximum £ (NB2)	PbR Maximum £ (NB3)	Total £ Maximum
2012/13	300	800,000	200,000	1,000,000
2013/14	402	804,000	536,000	1,340,000
2014/15	103	137,334	206,000	343,334
Totals	805	1,741,334	942,000	2,683,334

NB1 No of Families: Warwickshire’s target number of families over the three years of the Programme is 805. DCLG will pay for five out of six (670) families.

NB2 Attachment Fees: Are ‘up front payments’. In Year 1 of the Programme, the sum due was paid in advance on the commencement of the programme. In Years 2 and 3 this is paid either in one amount (if the numbers of families worked with / identified meet a prescribed level) or otherwise in two or more instalments.

NB3 Payment by Results (PbR): Payments in arrears from DCLG actioned when we provide evidence that a family has ‘turned around’ - i.e.

- All children in the family meet both the education and crime / asb outcomes (£700 per family); or
- An adult within the family has gained employment and has stayed in that job for at least six months (£800 per family)

- A further category of PbR arises when we can show that either an adult within the family volunteers for the Work Programme (most unlikely as the vast majority are mandated to the Work Programme) or to DWP's Supporting Families ESF funded Programme (£100 per family).

4.2 The total maximum payment per family is £4000, made up of Attachment Fees (paid in advance at the start of each year) and Payment by Results (PbR) claimed per family in arrears as set out in 4.3 below.

4.3 The maximum amount available through the Programme is £2,683,334. Achievement of this amount would be dependent upon identifying and 'turning round' all 805 families that make up the target figure. No payment is made by central government for working beyond the target number of families.

4.3 The overall payment per family supported by DCLG throughout the programme remains constant at £4000. However, the respective proportions of that amount which relate to attachment fees and PbR change each year as follows:

Total funding available per family = £4000		
Year	% of payment offered as upfront attachment fee	% of payment offered as a results- based payment in arrears
2012/13	80%	20%
2013/14	60%	40%
2014/15	40%	60%

4.4 In addition to attachment fees and PbR payments, DCLG currently pays an annual salary grant of £100k as a contribution towards the Priority Families Coordinator and other programme management costs. In Warwickshire, we have limited our Coordinating Team to the following key posts:

Priority Families Coordinator	Nick Gower Johnson	0.95 f.t.e.
Specialist Practitioner	Gill Bishop	0.6 f.t.e
Employment Adviser	Jo Prosser	(0.8 f.t.e) nb1
Data Analyst	Sarah Powell	Full Time nb 2
Administrative Assistant	Louise Timms	0.6 f.t.e

Nb1 Jo is seconded to the Programme from DWP at no cost to the Council

Nb2 Sarah is line managed through Warwickshire Observatory

4.5 We are fortunate in that, in addition to the small coordinating team we receive high quality and pro-active support from colleagues in Finance, Performance Management, Warwickshire Observatory, Internal Audit and Information Governance.

- 4.6 As mentioned in paragraph 2.9 above, staff in the Family Intervention Project resourced via LAA Reward Grant and partnership funding work as part of the Priority Families Programme. This funding is time limited to the end of Phase One of the Programme (31 03 2015).
- 4.7 With this and Phase 2 in mind, the County Council has already agreed (in the One Organisation Plan) an annual revenue allocation of £425k for each of the three years 2015/16 to 2017/18 subject to continuation of continuation of Central Government funding. This allocation has been made in anticipation of partnership funding being continued at a level at least equivalent to the amounts invested by partners at the commencement of the Family Intervention Project.
- 4.8 All in all, from a financial perspective, the Programme is in a healthy state in that:
- It was assumed for the purpose of the programme budget should be no more than £2,024,300, and the Programme's initial three year expenditure plans were based on that figure (see 4.8 below)
 - As at 14 February 2014 we had made 438 successful PbR claims for families 'turned around' yielding a total of £310,100 in PbR money. We have received the attachment fees for 2012/13 and 2013/14 in full (£1,604,000) and have claimed in full attachment fees for 2014/15 (a further £137,334)
 - We can be certain that we have or will receive at least £2,051,434 for the three year programme with the prospect of a maximum further amount by way of PbR of £632,000.
- 4.9 We can state with confidence that all expenditure over the three years of the Programme is already covered by DCLG payments received / successfully claimed and pre-existing partnership funding for the Family Intervention Project. In fact current surplus is £27,134 with the prospect of increasing this to approximately £500k by the end of March 2015.
- 4.10 In summary, the three year expenditure plan for the Programme was as follows:

	£k
9 <u>Extra</u> Family Intervention Project Key Workers	586
8 <u>Extra</u> Family Support Workers	554
Support for ACE Team	200
Enhancing Common Assessment Framework	100
Enhancing FIP Management Capacity	158
Supporting Programme Management	112
Clinical Supervision of Children Centre staff	24

Family Expenses	60
Specific Interventions for individual families	150
General Contingency	80
Total	2024

4.11 Taking all of this into account, we are now beginning to look at ways in which any 'surplus' might be used. Whilst much will depend on the outcome of discussions about Phase 2 of the Programme, some ideas that the Priority Families Programme Board is exploring with partners and practitioners include:

- Supporting 'low-level' support for families through volunteer led parent support / mentoring programmes.
- Enhancing the accessibility of mental health / emotional well-being services available to parents, children and families.
- Working with locally based community organisations to help their engagement with the programme / local families.
- Supporting the engagement of the Programme with schools and Children's Centres.
- Supporting the delivery of targeted support to older young people especially those who are either at risk of NEET or NEET / in care or at risk of being in care.

5.0 Where is Warwickshire in comparison to other authorities and is the Council on track to achieve the April 2015 target?

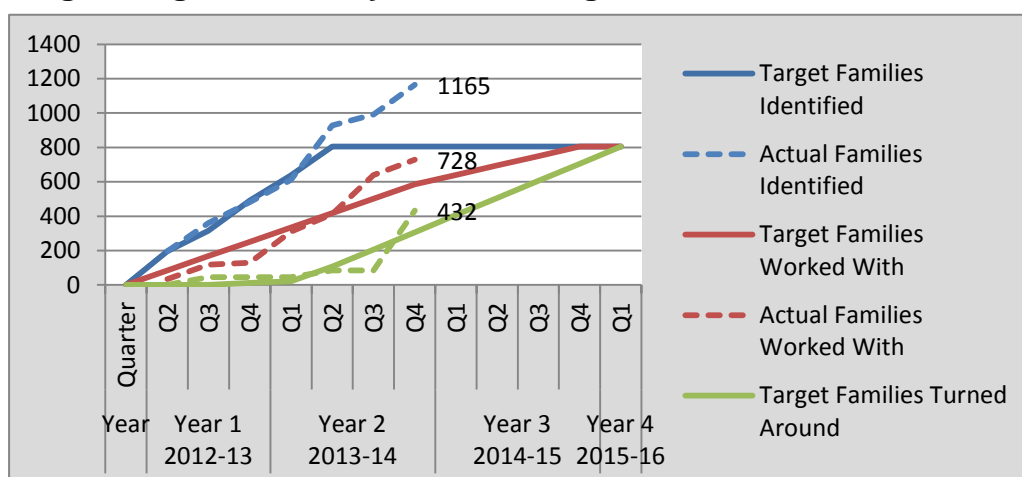
5.1 DCLG requires us to report on a quarterly basis on the following key factors:

- The number of families that we have identified
- The number of families that are being worked with
- The number of families in respect of whom we would anticipate making a PbR claim in the next 'claims window'

This information on all participating authorities is consolidated into quarterly progress information which is then published via Government websites and the national press.

5.2 The graph and remaining information in this paragraph shows that we are well on track to reach the DCLG target of identifying, working with and turning round 805 families.

Progress against Priority Families Targets March 2014



- 5.3 There is an opportunity to lodge PbR claims with DCLG on four occasions in each year. Claims involve providing evidence that outcomes have been achieved. This evidence is then verified by the council's auditor before a claim is submitted and is subject to 'spot-checking' by DCLG.
- 5.4 The table below shows the comparative performance of West Midlands based authorities as at 31st March 2014 (derived from DCLG's Progress Information published on 1st May 2014).

The full table can be seen by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications> and search by 'Troubled Families'.

Troubled Families Programme: Comparative Performance Information: West Midlands Authorities

Authority	Target No of Families set by DCLG	Families Identified as at 31 03 2014 NB1	% of Target No. Identified as at 31 03 2014	Families worked with as at 31 03 2014	% of Target No. worked with as at 31 03 2014	PbR Claims as at 31 03 2014	% of Target Number subject to PbR claims	Rank NB3
Warwickshire	805	805	100%	728	90%	438	54%	1
Dudley	740	740	100%	720	97%	327	44%	2
Herefordshire	310	310	100%	289	92%	140	45%	3
Coventry	905	905	100%	887	98%	244	27%	4
Solihull	355	355	100%	303	85%	117	33%	5
Shropshire	455	455	100%	437	96%	83	18%	6
Sandwell	1115	1032	93%	1018	91%	269	24%	7
Worcestershire	900	900	100%	763	85%	198	22%	8=
Stoke on Trent	835	835	100%	644	77%	249	30%	8=
Telford Wrekin	365	365	100%	323	88%	98	27%	10=
Walsall	795	652	82%	564	71%	315	39%	10=
Staffordshire	1390	1258	90%	1070	77%	439	32%	12
Birmingham	4180	3694	95%	2635	63%	1191	28%	13
Wolverhampton	810	710	88%	582	72%	109	13%	14
West Midlands	13,960	13,016	93%	10,963	79%	4217	30%	////
National	118,082	111,574	94%	97,202	82%	42,880	36%	////

Based on Information Available 31 03 2014

- NB1** DCLG does not publish information on numbers of families identified that exceed the target set.
NB2 This is the aggregate of the numbers of families (as at 31st March 2014) achieving continuous employment, the number of families achieving the crime /asb + education result and the number of families achieving the progress to work outcome –see 4.1 above)
NB3 Ranking is based on the aggregate of the percentage scoreS

5.5 In order to gain a perspective about our performance when compared with all other local authorities engaged in the national programme, we have carried out an analysis of the progress information table.

5.6 The Table below shows that Warwickshire is currently 16th out of 154 participating Councils. We have included, for context purposes, the target number of families applicable to each Council (some numbers are very small)

Rank NB1	Local Authority	Target Number of Families	PbR as a % of Target Number of Families NB2
1	Wakefield	930	116%
2	Scilly	2	100%
3	Leicestershire	910	91%
4	Bristol	1370	75%
5=	Somerset	870	70%
5=	West Berkshire	145	70%
7=	Oxfordshire	810	61%
7=	Southampton	685	61%
9	Plymouth	745	60%
10	Trafford	360	58%
11=	Liverpool	2105	56%
11=	Stockport	565	56%
11=	Rutland	56	56%
14 =	Tameside	620	55%
14=	Hartlepool	290	55%
16=	Warwickshire	805	54%
16=	Bath & NE Somerset	215	54%
18	Havering	415	53%
19	Blackpool	515	52%
20	Bradford	1760	51%

Troubled Families Programme : Table of top 20 performing authorities as at 31 March 2014

NB1: There are 154 upper tier local authorities signed up to the Programme.

NB2 : This is the aggregate of the numbers of families (as at 31st March 2014) achieving continuous employment, the number of families achieving the crime /asb + education result and the number of families achieving the progress to work outcome

5.7 In conclusion, we believe that there is good evidence to show that the Priority Families Programme in Warwickshire:

- a) Is likely to meet its target of identifying and turning round 805 families and appears, subject to ministerial sign-off to be the top performing authority in the West Midlands (once latest progress information is released, we will be able to judge our position against the performance of authorities nationally);

- b) Is in a healthy state financially with all commitments over the three year period of the Programme met and, depending on future PbR claims, a possible surplus of up to £500k;
- c) Is in a sound position to take up the Government's offer of joining a second Phase of the Programme beyond March 2015 (should it be deemed that this is in the best interests of the Council, its partners and families / communities in the County)

5.8 It must be placed on record that all of this is down to the commitment, expertise and sheer hard work of a considerable number of individuals and partners both within and outside of the Council:

- *Strategically*: via the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board
- *Locally*: via the Local Coordinating Groups for Priority Families (Six – one for each District + through the Camp Hill Partnership)
- *Operationally*: via the focused activity of a wide range of services that work with families (both County Council and outside)
- *Technically*: Through a wholehearted cross-Council effort and the commitment of all partners.

5.9 This progress has not been lost on central government. In a recent communication (16th May 2014) our link person at Department for Communities & Local Government said:

"I just wanted to say Warwickshire's latest claim evidences the excellent progress you've strived so hard to achieve and I wanted to register my and the team's huge thanks.

What's really clear is that the strategic and partnership commitment to and investment in family intervention over the last 2 years and before has led to better services and improved outcomes for troubled families in Warwickshire.

Warwickshire have now turned around 60% of the 805 families committed to (which will put you well above the national average) and this is a fantastic achievement and helping lead the way for the rest of the country." (DCLG Families Team: Russ Aziz email, 16th May 2014)

5.10 Since the publication of the national progress information, we have made a further successful Payment by Results Claim (14th May 2014). This was as follows:

- 63 Crime/ASB/Education
- 4 Continuous Employment
- 5 Progress to Work

This means that we have now made claims for 505 out of our target figure of 805 families (63%) and are continuing well on the quest to achieve our three year target by 31 March 2015.

6.0 How will the Programme make a difference and has it made a difference so far?

6.1 The Programme has the potential to make a significant difference in a wide variety of ways as follows:

6.1.1 Primary Programme Objectives:

Through improving the lives and opportunities of eligible families by improving the attendance of all children in a family at school, reducing offending by all children in the family, reducing the involvement of adults and children in anti-social behaviour, and helping family members progress to work and gain / retain continuous employment.

6.1.2 Secondary Programme Objectives:

Through a combination of rigorous challenge and support helping eligible families to address a wide range of challenges in their lives and reduce the levels of chaos upset and demotivation that may well have dominated their existences and prevented them from fulfilling their potential.

Through work with eligible individuals and families to reduce the negative impact of their behaviour on their local communities.

At a time of unprecedented fiscal pressure on local authorities and their partners providing a welcome source of funding and resilience to important front line services that are under extreme financial pressure.

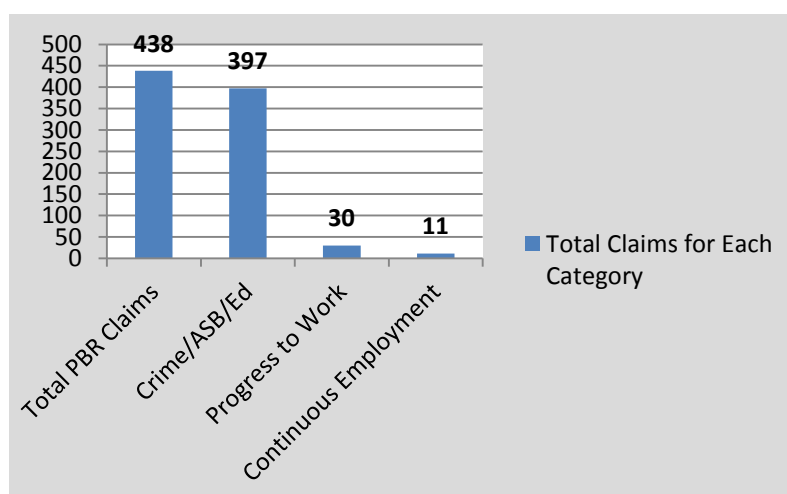
To support the achievement by partner agencies of their own priorities for working with marginalised groups and individuals.

To reduce duplication of provision to individual families and to provide the opportunity for a much more coordinated service offer for them.

To inform the future configuration of services that support and challenge families with a view to making the best possible use of limited resources and saving taxpayers money.

6.2 Undoubtedly, the Programme is succeeding in its primary objectives of improving school attendance, reducing crime / anti-social behaviour and (to a lesser extent) bringing about continuous employment / progress to work as shown in the table below:

Successful Payment by Results (PBR) Claims Submitted (31 3 14)



- 6.3 Whilst the prospects are very positive, it is too early to judge either whether the programme is on track to succeed in its secondary objectives or whether the improvements brought about in terms of its primary objectives will be sustained. It has been recognised nationally that the impact of the Programme on supporting Early Help / Early Intervention is limited in view of the national criteria that determine eligibility. One of the aspirations of Phase 2 of the Programme is that it should better support intervention before families reach a crisis point.
- 6.4 A publication by the Families Team at DCLG 'The cost of Troubled Families' (published in January 2013) considers the financial case for local authorities and other local agencies to invest in effective services for troubled families, in order to make savings.
- 6.5 There are figures and examples in this report that make this case starkly. We spend disproportionately more on troubled families than the 'average' family. For example, in West Cheshire, the council is spending an average of £7,795 on an average family in its area, compared to £76,190 for a troubled family. In Solihull, local services spend an average of £5,217 on an average family, compared with £46,217 on a troubled family. The amount spent on a troubled family is estimated at nearly £100,000 in the London Borough of Barnet.
- 6.6 While not all of these costs can be averted, the projected financial benefits of investing a comparably small amount in family intervention services are compelling. For example, in Leicestershire, the council is projecting average savings of around £25,700 per troubled family, in West Cheshire, the local authority is estimating savings of around £20,000 per troubled family and in Manchester, the city council is estimating savings of around £32,600 per troubled family. Although calculations are at an early stage, savings of this sort scaled up to a national level would run into billions of pounds.

6.7 The Priority Families Programme Board is very keen to undertake whatever work may be necessary to demonstrate the cost: benefits of the Programme. However, it has been prevented from doing so by ongoing delays in the introduction of an agreed cost: benefit calculator by the national evaluators, ECORYS (see 7.1 below)

7.0 How is the initiative being monitored and evaluated?

7.1 The Programme is being monitored and evaluated in five distinct ways:

- Via the regular reporting to DCLG - as described in 5.1 above;
- Via our participation in the National Evaluation Programme sponsored by DCLG and delivered through ECORYS – there have been considerable delays in introducing this programme which have, in turn heavily impacted on our own evaluation work;
- Through regular reports to the Priority Families Programme Board against a developing suite of Key Performance Indicators and through its Evaluation Group – The Board has taken its time to develop the suite of indicators but at its last meeting received a relatively comprehensive performance report;
- Via regular meetings of the six Local Coordinating Groups for Priority Families -one for each of the Districts/ Boroughs and via a separate group for Camp Hill families via the Camp Hill Partnership which is administered via Bromford Housing; and
- Via regular reports to the Warwickshire Health and Well Being Board and the Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board.

7.2 The Priority Families Programme Board has established an Evaluation Group to oversee work in this regard. Much will depend on the national programme developing some long-awaited impetus.

7.3 The suite of Key Performance Indicators developed by the Priority Families Partnership Board is as follows:

KPI 1	Number of Families Identified
KPI 2	Families Worked With (Active Plan of Support)
KPI 3a	Successful Payment By Results Claims Submitted
KPI 3b	Families 'turned around'
KPI 4	Attachment Fees Received
KPI 5a	Successful Payment By Results Funding Achieved
KPI 5b	Total Funding Secured by Programme
KPI 6	Agencies / Services Represented at Local Co-ordinating Group Meetings
KPI 7	% of families achieving the Participation of Children and Young People Outcome
KPI 8	% of families achieving the Crime & ASB Outcome
KPI 9a	% of Families Achieving the Out of Work Outcomes - Employment
KPI 9b	% of Families Achieving the Out of Work Outcomes – Progress to Work
KPI 10	% of Families Satisfied with the Programme
KPI 11a	% of Identified Families Choosing not to Enlist on the Programme – County

KPI 11b	% of Identified Families Choosing not to Enlist on the Programme – Area
KPI 12a	% of Families within the Programme Worked with by Intensive Family Intervention (Youth Justice Service)
KPI 12b	% of Families Worked With via Referrals by Intensive Family Intervention (Youth Justice Service), expressed as a percentage of maximum capacity
KPI 13a	% of Families within the Programme Worked with by Moderate Family Intervention (WCC Family and Parenting Support)
KPI 13b	% of Families Worked with via Referrals by Moderate Family Intervention (WCC Family and Parenting Support), expressed as a percentage of maximum capacity

7.4 At its meeting in April 2013, the Board received a report in respect of performance against KPI's 1- 6 with a view to a fuller report being prepared in time for its meeting in June 2014.

8.0 How does the initiative link with the Child Poverty Strategy and the support provided by Children's Centres?

8.1 There is no direct linkage between the Child Poverty Strategy and the Priority Families initiative as the Child Poverty Strategy was approved in Spring 2011 and predates the Priority Families Programme. Elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting, there is recognition of this and the fact that the Child Poverty Strategy needs to be updated to reflect this and the wider climate of change.

8.2 While the Priority Families Programme is important for helping families, it is not a way of tackling child poverty, in that it tackles some issues caused or exacerbated by poverty, but does not necessarily tackle the root causes of that poverty.

8.3 Efforts have been made to ensure that work in relation to Child Poverty and Financial Inclusion is aligned as far as possible to the work of the Priority Families Programme. This is in recognition of the fact that the majority of families participating in the Programme are likely to be experiencing poverty. Some examples of this close working are:

- Participation of Citizen Advice Bureau on the Programme Board and direct links to the Local Coordinating Groups.
- Tailored support by CAB's and Warwickshire Welfare Rights Advice Service to priority families where poverty is a key factor in helping to 'turn around' the family's circumstances.
- Financial Awareness/Capability Sessions aimed at Priority Families.

8.3 Similarly, the Programme in its current form does not to any significant extent directly support the work of Children's Centres due to the national eligibility criteria (see 6.4 above). We have done what we can to emphasise the link with Children's Centres by:

- Involving an area representative of the Centres in the work of the six Local Coordinating Groups.

- Cross matching the data that we have on our Priority Families with the data available on parents and children registered with Children's Centres.
- Funding a Family Support Worker in the Family and Parenting Team to focus on families registered with a Children's Centre.
- Funding some levels of clinical supervision for Children's Centre staff.

8.4 We are keen to work closely with the Children's Centres following the completion of the current tendering process. We believe that there will be much to be gained by both this Programme and the offer made to local children and families via the newly constituted centres.

8.5 We also believe that the suggested emphasis on earlier intervention / work with families with younger children within the proposed Phase 2 of the Programme should in turn help these efforts (see 9 below) and that there is good reason to suggest that any future version of the Child Poverty Strategy should be closely informed by the criteria that will emerge for Phase 2 of this Programme.

9.0 How can the Programme be sustained beyond 2015?

9.1 In December 2013, we were given outline information by Government about a second phase of the programme (i.e. after March 2015). We were told that:

- £200m would be available nationally for 015/16 - the first of five further years investment through to 31.3.2020 (subject to the next spending review / General Election)
- Phase 2 of the Programme would be aimed at a further 400,000 families nationally (2680 in Warwickshire).
- There will be a targeting of families before they reach crisis point
- An average of £1800 funding would be available per family
- Entry to the second phase would be open to all 152 upper tier authorities but conditional on Phase One performance and the agreement of a multi-agency plan setting out how services will join up, reform and save taxpayers

9.2 On behalf of the Programme Board, we made a response to Government about these proposals. In summary we pointed out our concerns that:

- The detailed criteria have not yet been developed / published
- On the face of it the Council and its partners are being asked to work with three times as many families for less than half the money per family as is currently available for Phase One and
- No information has as yet been made available about the availability in Phase Two of up front attachment fees and the Troubled Families Coordinator Salary Grant

9.3 Whilst more details were due to be published in April 2014, it was announced by the Chancellor in the Budget Statement (20 3 2014) that:

- The Government will set out information about the types of families to reach in the expanded programme. This will involve continuing to reach families affected by poor school attendance, crime, anti-social behaviour and unemployment, but also reaching families with vulnerable children to try and get help to them when they are younger, plus a focus on big concerns such as family violence and mental and physical health problems. This is broadly in line with the response that we made to Government in January 2014 (attached).
- The Government has stated that if councils would like to and where progress on the current programme is *very strong*, they will have the opportunity to start working with up to 40,000 (268 in Warwickshire) of the 400,000 families during 2014/15 – and access the upfront funding available to do this.
- In order to qualify for consideration as one of the ‘early starters’, local areas will have to exceed certain performance thresholds on Phase One. There will be more than one chance, however, to reach those thresholds during 2014/15.
- It is likely that the first wave of early starters will be restricted to those areas that, as at 30th June 2014, are already working with 90% or more of their families and have claimed results for having turned around at least 50% of their families.

9.4 Our eligibility to apply as an ‘early starter’ depends on whether by 30 June 2014 we can show that:

- We are working with / have worked with at least 90% of our three year target number for families (724 families); and
- By that date have claimed results for families turned round for at least 50% of our three year target figure – (403) families.

We have already achieved these levels of success (728 and 436 families respectively) so we are in a position to apply for early starter status.

9.5 More details are being sought from DCLG on the financial and other aspects of the early starter opportunity and it is hoped that this information will be available very shortly. In order to preserve the opportunity, we have lodged a provisional expression of interest with Government.

9.6 As mentioned above, the County Council has already agreed a revenue allocation of £425k for each of the three years 2015/16 to 2017/18 subject to continuation of continuation of Central Government funding.

9.7 On 13th May 2014, we learned more about the current thinking that relates to Phase 2 of the Programme (DCLG are now calling this ‘the Expanded Programme’). The details that we have gleaned recently are set out in Appendix 2 of this report. **Particular care should be given to use of this information, as we have to make it clear that the it only reflects current**

thinking nationally and is subject to further development and ministerial approval (likely to be forthcoming in July 2014).

9.8 Key features are:

- The numbers of families have trebled (to be worked with over five years and not 3 years as in Phase 1).
- Government investment per family is likely to be £1,800 per family.
- In Warwickshire the likely investment from central government over five years would be £4.842m or £894k per annum.
- The criteria for families to be included in the Programme have been broadened (very much in line with our suggestions to Government in January 2014).
- There would be more opportunity to develop the Programme in such a way as to be more flexible and meaningful to Warwickshire agencies and communities.
- There will be a greater emphasis on demonstrating the savings that accrue to the taxpayer (and a tool to enable this to be calculated on a per family basis).
- The contribution of DCLG to the Council's central coordinating role (currently £100k per annum) will be increased 'significantly' in return for more specific reporting requirements.

10. Eight of the challenges that we face

Challenge 1: Continuing to Deliver and reach targets

We need to reach our target of 'turning round' 805 families and have another 368 to go. Our next PbR claims window opened on 16 April. In order to achieve 100% performance, in each of the remaining claims windows we need to be claiming for an average of 92 families.

Challenge 2: Sustaining Progress with Families

We need to explore ways of ensuring that ongoing low level support is given to families to ensure that they maintain their progress once 'signed-off' from the Programme. We are working out ways in which this might be provided through community organisations and mentoring programmes (including peer mentoring).

Challenge 3: Maintaining partner financial contributions to the programme

Even though WCC has agreed an indicative allocation in the next four year's revenue programme, we should do everything that we can to secure ongoing financial contributions to the Programme from key partners.

Challenge 4: Refreshing our list of Families

A data refresh is underway and this, coupled with the process for notifying families to the Programme, should enable us to identify families whose circumstances most currently meet the criteria.

Challenge 5: Engagement with schools

The full engagement of schools with the Programme will be supported by the data refresh. We intend to share with every school a bespoke list of those families that have been identified by us and we continue to try new ways of supporting the link with schools.

Challenge 6: The 'So-What' factor

Evidencing the value of the Programme over and above target figures – Cost: Benefits / Sustaining Family Progress / 'Real Life' stories, improved and simplified service delivery arrangements. Much of this is dependent upon the satisfactory implementation of the national evaluation programme developed by DCLG via ECORYS. ECORYS (formerly ECOTEC). This includes the introduction of a comprehensive cost: benefit analysis tool and calculator. There have been and continue to be long delays in rolling out this work which has in turn adversely impacted on our own efforts.

Challenge 7: Continuing to engage with Government on the details of Phase 2

This includes advocating a common sense approach to Phase Two of the programme with Government and gaining Council / Partnership agreement to 'signing up'. Once these details are known, it is our intention to request the Board to convene a partnership conference to review Phase One, and plan for Phase Two.

Challenge 8: The development of the multi-agency plan required for Phase 2

We must demonstrate via the Plan how services will join up, reform and save taxpayers. The development of this Plan is likely to prove to be a considerable challenge. The format and requirements are currently unknown but will require full engagement / agreement with a wide range of services both within and outside of the County Council and for this to be concluded in line with what will be a challenging timetable

11.0 Moving Forward

11.1 We will:

- Continue our dialogue with Government about Phase 2 (meeting arranged for this on 28th May);
- Share this information and the further details which will emerge fully with Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (3rd June), the Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (3rd July), Corporate Board (9th July) and Cabinet (22nd July); and
- Ensure full partner engagement via the Local Coordinating Groups, the Programme Board (6th June) and at a partnership event to be convened in July to be convened.

Appendices

Appendix A – Warwickshire Priority Families – By Ward as at October 2013
Appendix B – Troubled Families Programme Second Phase, ‘The Expanded Programme’: 2015 – 2020, Position Statement as at 14 May 2014

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Warwickshire Priority Families – By Ward as at October 2013

North Warwickshire Borough – 62 Families (by address) (6% of county total)

Ward Name	No. of Families	Proportion of Borough Total (%)
Arley and Whitacre	15	24%
Hartshill	11	18%
Polesworth East	6	10%
Atherstone Central	4	6%
Atherstone North	4	6%
Atherstone South and Mancetter	4	6%
Baddesley and Grendon	4	6%
Coleshill South	4	6%
Hurley and Wood End	3	5%
Dordon	2	3%
Newton Regis and Warton	2	3%
Water Orton	2	3%
Fillongley	1	2%

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough – 476 Families (by address) (48% of county total)

Ward Name	No. of Families	Proportion of Borough Total (%)
Wem Brook	86	18%
Camp Hill	85	18%
Bar Pool	69	14%
Abbey	53	11%
Kingswood	44	9%
Bede	20	4%
Poplar	20	4%
Slough	18	4%
Arbury	16	3%
Galley Common	15	3%
Heath	14	3%
Attleborough	13	3%

Ward Name	No. of Families	Proportion of Borough Total (%)
Exhall	9	2%
Weddington	6	1%
Bulkington	3	1%
St. Nicholas	3	1%
Whitestone	2	0.5%

Rugby Borough – 180 Families (by address)
(19% of county total)

Ward Name	No. of Families	Proportion of Borough Total (%)
Benn	40	22%
Newbold and Brownsover	38	21%
New Bilton	27	15%
Rokeby and Overslade	18	10%
Admirals and Cawston	15	8%
Eastlands	10	6%
Wolstons and the Lawfords	7	4%
Revel and Binley Woods	5	3%
Hillmorton	4	2%
Leam Valley	4	2%
Coton and Boughton	3	2%
Paddock	3	2%
Bilton	2	1%
Dunsmore	2	1%
Wolvey and Shilton	2	1%

Stratford District – 86 Families (by address)
(8% of county total)

Ward Name	No. of Families	Proportion of District Total (%)
Stratford Avenue and New Town	9	10%
Bidford and Salford	7	8%
Studley	7	8%
Alcester	6	7%

Ward Name	No. of Families	Proportion of District Total (%)
Southam	6	7%
Stratford Alveston	6	7%
Stratford Mount Pleasant	6	7%
Wellesbourne	5	6%
Harbury	4	5%
Sambourne	4	5%
Shipston	4	5%
Kineton	3	3%
Henley	2	2%
Kinwarton	2	2%
Quinton	2	2%
Snitterfield	2	2%
Stratford Guild and Hathaway	2	2%
Aston Cantlow	1	1%
Bardon	1	1%
Brailes	1	1%
Burton Dassett	1	1%
Ettington	1	1%
Long Itchington	1	1%
Stockton and Napton	1	1%
Tredington	1	1%
Vale of the Red Horse	1	1%

Warwick District – 151 Families (by address)
(16% of county total)

Ward Name	No. of Families	Proportion of District Total (%)
Brunswick	41	27%
Warwick West	16	11%
Crown	15	10%
Whitnash	14	9%
Willes	13	9%
Warwick North	11	7%
Warwick South	8	5%
Milverton	6	4%
Park Hill	6	4%
Clarendon	5	3%
St. John's	5	3%
Abbey	2	1%
Bishop's Tachbrook	2	1%
Cubbington	2	1%
Manor	2	1%
Radford Semele	2	1%
Leek Wootton	1	1%

Note: Numbers have been provided where postcodes have been mappable on the geographical information system

**Troubled Families Programme Second Phase
'The Expanded Programme': 2015 – 2020
Position Statement as at 14 May 2014**

This is the latest information available from Government and is subject to Change as the Programme is developed. The final details of the Programme are subject to Ministerial Approval and are likely to be released in July 2014.

1 What do we know about Phase 2

We have been given some more information by Government about the second phase of the programme (i.e. after March 2015). We know so far that:

- a) £200m is available nationally from 1st April 2015 - the first of 5 further years investment through to 31.3.2020 (subject to the next spending review / General Election)
- b) Phase 2 of the Programme is to be aimed at a further 400,000 families nationally
- c) There is to be a targeting of families before they reach crisis point and will be aimed at families that have multiple problems who are 'high cost'
- d) The identification of 'success' will be down to local determination but will involve a clear demonstration of the savings achieved per family via use of the cost benefit calculator to be introduced shortly
- e) An average of £1,800 funding available per family
- f) Entry to the second phase is open to all 152 upper tier authorities but is conditional on Phase One performance
- g) Government intends to invest more heavily than currently in the Council's coordinating and monitoring role – in return for which there will be clearer expectations and delivery requirements.

2 Number of families to be included within the Programme

We are told that the second phase of the programme is to be aimed at a further 400,000 families nationally.

We are assuming that the same proportions might apply to Phase 2 as to the first phase of the programme when the Warwickshire total of 805 families equated to 0.67% of the national number.

On this basis, phase 2 of the programme would appear to be aimed at a further **2680** families in Warwickshire to be worked with over five years

3 Targeting of families in Phase 2

We said (January 2014):

When asked for its views, the Warwickshire Programme Board said that it would want the second Phase of the Programme to be aimed at:

- Families affected by drug /alcohol abuse, domestic abuse and mental health problems
- Families affected by crime and anti-social behaviour – and we suggested that this should include crime perpetrated not only by young people but also by adults within the family unit
- Families affected by poor school attendance, fixed term / permanent exclusions and behaviour issues as defined by the existing phase one criteria subject to the increase of the threshold for absence to 90% and the reduction of the number of fixed term exclusions to one only.
- Families with at least one child under compulsory school age
- Families where none of the adults is in paid employment
- Families where one or more child / children are on a Child Protection Plan / have been identified as a Child in Need

DCLG now proposes (May 2014):

The following high cost families with multiple problems have been outlined for inclusion within the Programme – this is IN ADDITION TO the current criteria that relate to Education, Youth Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour and Worklessness:

- Families affected by Domestic Violence (whether between adults or involving children)
- Families with vulnerable children
- Families with a range of physical and mental health problems
- Families where there is a high risk of worklessness
- Families who have been involved in crime from generation to generation

The second phase of the Programme is to be aimed at bringing about improvements for families, for services and for the tax payer and should be based on:

- Integrating the whole family approach to multi agency working
- Continuing to establish Family Intervention workers as a recognised and valued work-force
- Demonstrating that data sharing case management and communication about families between agencies are not a barrier to identifying and working with them effectively

4 Average funding of £1,800 per family and increased support programme management, coordination and monitoring

Over five years of the Programme aimed at 2680 families this would amount to a maximum amount over the five years of the Programme of £4,842,400 or an average annual amount of £964,800 per annum.

This compares with the current maximum amounts for 805 families of £2,683,000 or an average of £894,000 per annum.

We would still welcome clarification on the following points:

- Is the figure of £1,800 per family based on payment by results only or is there an element of up-front payment via attachment fees?
- What amount does Government intend to pay to local authorities for the coordination role?
- What reporting and audit requirements does Government have in mind?

5 Multi Agency Plan requirement

When outlining the terms of Phase 2 last December, Government said that Local Authority entry to the programme would be conditional upon the agreement of a multi-agency plan setting out how services will join up, reform and save taxpayers. The Programme Board welcomed this requirement and we would ask that, as soon as possible, DCLG lets us know whether it remains a requirement and if so the details and time-scales involved.

6 Moving Forward

We will:

- Continue our dialogue with Government about Phase 2 (meeting arranged for this on 28th May).
- Share this information and the further details which will emerge fully with Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee (3rd June), Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (3rd July), Corporate Board (9th July) and Cabinet (22nd July).
- Ensure full partner engagement via the Local Coordinating Groups, the Programme Board (6th June) and at a partnership event to be convened in July (t.b.c).

Nick Gower Johnson
Priority Families Coordinator
Warwickshire County Council
14 May 2014

**Children and Young People
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

3rd June 2014

Integrated Disability Service – Public Consultation

Recommendations

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider the public consultation exercise in respect of the proposed changes to the Local Offer.

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 At its last meeting on 2nd April 2014, the Committee received an update on the impact of the savings programme on priorities and service delivery in respect of the Integrated Disability Service. The savings agreed by Council for the current savings plan amounted to £1.76 million and subsequently public consultation would be undertaken on a range of options to achieve the required savings.
- 1.2 The public consultation exercise is due to commence in June, with the preferred option to be considered by Cabinet on 22nd July 2014.
- 1.3 The Committee has requested that an update on the public consultation exercise and proposed options be presented at its meeting on 3rd June 2014. The Head of Early Intervention will be in attendance to provide a verbal update on the latest position.

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3rd June 2014

One Organisational Plan and Implications of Budget

Recommendation

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Note and comment upon the One Organisational Plan savings relating to Children and Young People Services and associated functions; and
- 2) Note that at the point of approval by Full Council, the One Organisational Plan did not take into account the impact of either the Children or Families Act or the transfer of some health responsibilities to Public Health as local impact had not been scoped at this stage, but is now underway.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 The One Organisational Plan for Warwickshire County Council was agreed at full council in February, 2014.
- 1.2 Within this, savings for Children's services and associated functions totalled over £16m million by 2018. These functions include statutory services, such as those provided by the Safeguarding Business Unit, but also Early Help and Targeted Supports services, Learning and Achievement and Strategic Commissioning capacity and social care or 'access' front door services, now provided via key partnership and WCC, Family Information Service, Priority Families.
- 1.3 Work has been underway since the agreement of the savings plans, to progress the projects and developments that are intended to deliver the savings. Some of these are now 'live' and underway, while those to be delivered later in the lifespan of the One Organisational Plan may only be in the very early stages of progress.
- 1.4 Health services that have transferred to Public Health are funded via the Public Health ring-fenced budget which is in place until 2016. These services (forming part of the local authority mandate for public health) are prescribed by national guidelines and are managed via the pre-birth to 19 Joint Commissioning Group, a sub-committee of the Joint Children and Young People's Commissioning Board.

1.5 The following table provides a summary of the relevant savings plans:

Saving Ref	Short Title	2014/15 £'000	2015/16 £'000	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000
SG-A	Single placement foster care scheme	(30)	(80)	(160)	(260)
SG-B	Looked after children placement numbers	(420)	(835)	(1,670)	(2,508)
SG -C	Legal costs	(200)	(300)	(500)	(500)
SG - D	Redesign Sexually Inappropriate Behaviours Service	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
SG-E	Leaving care and asylum teams	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)
SG -F	Court ordered contact arrangements	(100)	(200)	(200)	(200)
SG-G	Renegotiate Individual Personal Advisor service for care leavers.	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)
SG-H	Screening service linked to contact centre	0	(70)	(150)	(150)
SG-I	Kinship care placements.	0	(30)	(60)	(60)
	Sub total - Safeguarding	(896)	(1,661)	(2,886)	(3,824)
SCS-O	Transitions From Childrens Services	0	(100)	(300)	(600)
	Sub total - Social Care and Support	0	(100)	(300)	(600)
STC-J	Service Savings - Meals, Equipment, Advocacy, Carers, CAMHS	0	(240)	(240)	(240)
STC-O	Inspection Co-ordination	0	0	0	(120)
	Sub Total - Strategic Commissioning	0	(240)	(240)	(360)
EI-A	All age Common Assessment Framework	(34)	(67)	(91)	(134)
EI-B	Attendance, Compliance, and Enforcement service	(31)	(47)	(91)	(158)
EI-C	Education Visits	(3)	(8)	(15)	(15)
EI-D	Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	(26)	(26)	(26)	(26)
EI-E	Targeted Support Young People - Teenagers in Care programme	(25)	(75)	(100)	(148)
EI-F	Head of Service Management Overheads	(160)	(160)	(160)	(160)
EH-G	Childrens Centres	(42)	(42)	(42)	(42)
EH-H	Family Information Service.	(100)	(200)	(200)	(200)
EH-J	Family Group Conferencing	0	(50)	(50)	(50)
EH-K	Family Centres	0	0	0	(700)
EI-L	Employment support adults with learning difficulties	0	0	(293)	(293)

	Sub Total - Early Help and Targeted Support	(421)	(675)	(1,068)	(1,926)
LA-A+B	Education Planning	(150)	(150)	(150)	(150)
LA-D	Restructure Assessment Statementing and Review Service	0	(250)	(250)	(250)
LA-E	Virtual School	0	(275)	(275)	(275)
LA-F	Early Years Quality Team, and Sector Led Improvement	0	(446)	(446)	(446)
LA-C	Education Psychology Service Trading Income	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)
LA-G	Transport - Mainstream, Looked After Children, and Special Educational Needs	0	(2,300)	(4,300)	(6,300)
LA-H	General business unit support	0	0	(1,000)	(1,000)
LA-I	Redundancy costs in schools	0	0	(1,000)	(1,000)
	Sub Total - Learning and Achievement	(250)	(3,521)	(7,521)	(9,521)
	Total - People Group	(1,567)	(6,197)	(12,015)	(16,231)

- 1.6 It is relevant to note that some savings plan areas need input from officers who sit outside the People Group, with particular reference to LA-I, LA-G and SG-D.
- 1.7 The scale of the challenge, and the oversight needed to manage all of the changes, many of which are interdependent on each other, has meant that a 'programme approach' is needed. This is so that progress can be monitored and any shortfalls and mitigation actions can be identified quickly. The People Group is refining the current programme structure to enable this to happen, alongside the other savings plans in the People Group and across the council as a whole. The group will monitor delivery of savings and milestones.
- 1.8 The Children and Families Act, particularly the Reform of Adoption and SEND and Integration agenda will also require many changes. The intention is that the programme approach is skilfully utilised to incorporate all the changes, developments, savings and new statutory requirements. This is important both to make sure that available management capacity is used as wisely as possible, but also to avoid projects overlapping or duplicating work.
- 1.9 Children services have been forecasting to end the year with an underlying rate of overspending driven by demand for services for Looked After Children and Out of County Placements and driven by difficulty in delivering some existing savings targets in services to children with disabilities. Savings plans to cover these issues will also be incorporated into the programme.
- 1.10 In this context, it is important to appreciate that an element of flexibility will be required. For savings and changes of this size and scale, it is most likely to emerge that some of the savings plans will not be fully realisable when fully scoped. On the other hand, some may deliver additional savings over and above the initial estimation, and new ideas may subsequently be identified. This

underlines the importance of close monitoring and the requirement for the rigour of a programme approach, as per the above.

- 1.11 In the context of the work to date, there is therefore relative confidence that Year 1 savings are deliverable; however, there are too many uncertainties to give guarantees about the precise nature of future savings projects at this stage.

2.0 Timescales and next steps

- 2.1 The first year of the One Organisational Plan is now live. This means that there is a focus on delivery of the 'Year 1' savings targets. However, as mentioned, the longer term savings targets also need progressing so that plans are in place for their subsequent delivery. Additionally, as national information emerges, the impacts of the Better Care Fund / Integration agenda will need to be addressed in the context of CYP health issues.
- 2.2 Taking this into account, the 'top three' projects for particular current focus, bearing in mind the size of the targets and the risks associated with their delivery are:

SG-B looked after children placement numbers – from analysis and benchmarking we are aware that our rate of placements is relatively high, but to amend this feature we will need a project that tackles a range of professional behaviours and practice. We have already:

- Revised the threshold for intervention document which sets out criteria for intervention
- Begun to create options for a multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH)
- Revised internal placement decision making process under Heads of Service for consistency
- Established new processes to commission unique care packages to be child centred and outcome focused

LA-G – A business case has been developed to identify all aspects of this spend, and to action all aspects that do not involve a change in policy. Papers will be delivered from Transport and Learning and Achievement to address those matters requiring policy change to bring WCC in line with other Local Authorities.

SG-C Legal costs – The current recharge to Legal Services is in excess of £3million, a substantial part of which (over £1m) relates to external legal fees such as court fees, expert fees and barrister costs. We have established a project board with Legal Services to manage and monitor this project and have already:

- Introduced an approval process for social workers to access legal advice to help manage demand

- Made arrangements for court hearings to be handled by our own internal lawyers wherever possible
- Introduced an approval process for instructing barristers
- Standardised our working practices through the legal electronic case management system and other ICT initiatives
- Started work on revising the guide to using legal services as a demand management mechanism

We will be exploring further how case advice is sought and areas where expert Social Work professional advice may be used to reduce the demand on qualified legal advice.

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