



Haringey Council

NOTICE OF MEETING

Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee

THURSDAY, 6TH MARCH, 2014 at 18:30 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Councillors Allison, Brabazon, Dogus, Reece, Solomon, Stennett and Waters (Chair)

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

2. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of late items of urgent business. Late items will be considered under the agenda item they appear. New items will be dealt with at item 11 below.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the consideration becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgement of the public interest.

4. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 6)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 19th December 2013.

5. MATTERS ARISING (PAGES 7 - 10)

6. ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE HEAD OF THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL (PAGES 11 - 26)

To consider the work of the Virtual school in meeting their aims and objectives for supporting children in care and care leavers. To further consider a summary of the educational attainment for children in care and care leavers with comparisons to national data.

7. UPDATE ON THE WORK TO RECRUIT AN EXTERNAL PROVIDER TO RECRUIT AND INCREASE THE NUMBER OF INTERNAL FOSTER CARERS, ALONG WITH INFORMATION FOR NOTING ABOUT THE LAC SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY (PAGES 27 - 34)

8. CHILDREN'S SERVICES BUDGET 2013/14 AND 2014/15 (PAGES 35 - 40)

The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee at their meeting in December requested an update on the Children's Services budget, including the focus for spending plans in 2014-15. The attached report provides an update on the Children's Services budget position for 2013/14 (including progress on making savings) and gives an update on Financial Planning for 2014/15.

9. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any new items of business as per item 2.

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of items as they contain exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985): paras 1 & 2: namely information relating to any individual, and information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Date of next meeting 16th June [this date is provisional and subject to agreement as part of the municipal council diary to be considered at Full council on the 9th June]

12. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any new items of exempt urgent business as per item 2.

Bernie Ryan
Assistant Director – Corporate Governance and
Monitoring Officer
5th Floor

Ayshe Simsek
Principal Committee Co-ordinator
Tel: 0208 489 2929
Fax: 0208 489 2660

River Park House
225 High Road
Wood Green
London N22 8HQ

Email: ayshe.simsek@haringey.gov.uk

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MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2013

Councillors Allison, Brabazon, Dogus, Reece, Solomon and Stennett

Apologies Councillor Waters

Also Present: Lisa Redfern, Chris Chalmers, Marion Wheeler, Tracy Hutchings, Paul McCarthy, Denise Gandy.

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
TEX270.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from the Chair, Cllr Waters.</p> <p>Cllr Brabazon was elected to chair the meeting.</p>	
TEX271.	<p>URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>There were no items of urgent business put forward.</p>	
TEX272.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest put forward.</p>	
TEX273.	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 03rd October were agreed for accuracy.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Agreed that information is gathered by the Virtual School on how the Looked after children element of the pupil premium grant is spent across schools . This is to inform a report to the Committee on the 6th March 2014.</p> <p><u>Outsourcing of Fostering recruitment Activities</u></p> <p>The Children’s service has gone out to the market and are seeking possible organisations that can work with the council in increasing the number of internal foster carers. The tenders of potential providers would be ready for assessment at the end of January , earlier than expected , with an organisation expected to be recruited by this time. The Committee were pleased to note, that there were already 15-20 new foster carers in the pipeline for recruitment following past council recruitment activities. It was noted that the council team will continue to provide the newly recruited foster carers with support and supervision. Agreed a brief report back come to the meeting in March.</p>	<p>Tracy Hutchings</p> <p>Paul McCarthy</p>

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	<p>Councillors spoke about anticipating and providing information in 'bite sized chunks' at the appropriate time in a young person's or care leaver life so they are best placed to act on the information given and seek their entitlement. There was also a need to keep in mind the range of ages of children in care and care leavers and ensure correspondence was designed accordingly .</p> <p>Agreed that the recommendations, at page 19 of the parliamentary report, be used as part of a self evaluation tool to understand whether young people in care and leaving care are accessing the full benefits of their entitlements. This exercise will also help identify the particular groups of young people more work needs to be done with to raise awareness of their entitlements..</p>	<p>Chris Chalmers</p> <p>Chris Chalmers</p>
<p>TEX276.</p>	<p>HOUSING PROVISION, YOUNG ADULTS SERVICE</p> <p>The Head of the Young Adults Service provided a brief overview of the arrangements in Haringey to meet the housing needs of care leavers and young people facing homelessness.</p> <p>Key information noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a social housing quota of 60 properties a year allocated to care leavers [There are 15 properties provided in each quarter of the year and young people need to attend a tenancy workshop, as part of the arrangement, for receiving the accommodation] • Care leavers studying, outside London ,at university are still entitled to come back to the borough and be placed in Band A for housing. • A property in Conway Road N17 had been identified for the council to covert into a shared living space for care leavers. They would be supported by a permanent support worker living in the property. • Some supported lodgings for young people being taken forward by the YMCA. • The work with care leavers who have no recourse to public funds • Current procurement of semi independent accommodation • The legal legislation which the council in following in terms of housing young people. <p>Members reported back the following issues raised by Aspire in the previous meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of two bedroom accommodation included in the quota, • The poor quality of semi independent accommodation , • Lack of inspection of shared housing and semi independent accommodation before provision to a young person • The need to timetable placement checks to ensure the landlord is 	

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	and how this compares to other local authorities, working with a similar cohort.	Chris Chalmers
TEX277.	<p>BRIEF UPDATE REPORT ON THE IMPACT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S WELFARE REFORMS ON SPECIAL GUARDIANS AND FOSTER CARERS</p> <p>The Committee wanted to ensure that foster carers, special guardians were not adversely affected by the reforms and were able to continue looking after the children placed in their care. The report indicated that, to date, the reforms have only had a minor impact on Haringey's Foster carers and Special Guardians.</p>	
TEX278.	<p>PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT : CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</p> <p>The report set out performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children for the period ending in October.</p> <p>Committee Members asked for the following information to be included in the report to Committee in March:</p> <p>IRO reviews - It would be important for Members to understand how many children/ young people were present at these meetings and the efforts being made to seek the child's / young person's participation. The Assistant Director agreed that this information was extractable and could be added to the next report.</p> <p>In terms, of the young people that were coming into the care of the council following a court decision to place them on remand, there was a need for the committee to be aware of the offers being made to the judiciary beforehand i.e. seeking bail .</p> <p>Agreed that the forthcoming report, from the court manager, include information on how the council is being proactive in its permanency planning before issuing care proceedings and also contain comments on how the council is working to reduce the number of children that need to become subject to care proceedings.</p>	<p>Chris Chalmers/ Margaret Gallagher</p> <p>Chris Chalmers/ Margaret Gallagher</p> <p>Eileen Flavin/ Chris Chalmers</p>
TEX279.	<p>REVIEW OF PROGRESS TO DATE APRIL - OCTOBER 2013</p> <p>Committee Members received a 6 monthly update on the key area of progress and achievement for safeguarding and social care elements of the children and Young People's service.</p> <p>They considered the recent downward trend in the number of children subject to a child protection plan, the performance for completing assessments and visits and suggested officers look at this information as a whole, together with the age breakdown of children, to understand if there are any areas for concern.</p> <p>Suggested that the Children's service budget could be a further item for consideration in March Committee meeting. This would help the Committee understand the focus and spend of the service for the</p>	<p>Interim Dir CS</p> <p>Interim Dir CS</p>

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	<p>coming financial year.</p> <p>Members noted the imminent departure of Marion Wheeler, the Assistant Director for the Children's service . The Committee placed on record their thanks and appreciation to Marion for all her hard work for the Children's service, over the last 5 years.</p> <p>The Committee placed on record their thanks and congratulations to the Virtual school team for the excellent number of looked after children in higher education.</p>	
TEX280.	CORPORATE PARENTING QUESTIONS FOR COUNCILLORS	
	Noted.	
TEX281.	NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	
	Noted.	
TEX282.	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC	
TEX283.	EXEMPT BUSINESS	
	Noted.	
TEX284.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	<p>The next meeting was due to take place on the 6th March at 6.30pm. This meeting would be followed by a joint meeting with the Children's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee on the same night at 7.30pm.</p>	

Cllr Zena Brabazon

Chair

Corporate Parenting meeting Date	Agenda Items	Lead Officer
<p>06 March 2014 2014 6.30pm-7.30pm</p>	<p>Aspire and CPAC meeting from 6.00-6.30pm</p> <p>1.Update on Aspire Actions</p> <p>2. Progress and status against the All Party Parliamentary report on the access to entitlements of children in care and care leavers. The recommendations of the All party parliamentary group are to be used as a self evaluation audit tool in compiling this report.</p> <p>3. Aspire Item</p> <p>Corporate Parenting Committee 6.30-7.30pm</p> <p>1. Annual Report on LAC Attainment</p> <p>2. An update report on the work to recruit an external provider to recruit and increase the number of internal foster carers. This will include information for noting about the LAC sufficiency strategy</p> <p>3. Suggested that the Children's service budget could be item for consideration in March so the committee understand the focus and spend of the service for the coming financial year.</p> <p>Reports will need to be published on</p>	<p>Chris Chalmers</p> <p>Chris Chalmers</p> <p>Tracy Hutchings</p> <p>Paul McCarthy Edward Wallace</p> <p>Wendy Sagar</p>

Corporate Parenting Agenda Planning 2014

	<p>the 26th February and sent to Lisa Redfern by the 21st Feb.</p>	
<p>06th March 7.30pm</p>	<p>Joint meeting with Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee 7.30-9.00pm</p> <p>Reports will need to be published on the 28th February and sent to Lisa Redfern by the 21st Feb.</p> <p>Performance information relating to both Safeguarding and Looked after Children.</p> <p>Quality Assurance Update</p> <p>NORTH LONDON CARE PROCEEDINGS PROJECT (NLCPP):QUARTERLY REPORT Agreed at the joint meeting [5th November] the Court manager to undertake some quality assurance activity in relation to the compilation of court reports and report back findings to Corporate Parenting Committee.</p>	<p>Margaret Gallagher</p> <p>Myra O'Farrell</p> <p>Eileen Flavin/Chris Chalmers</p>
<p>June 16th 2014 Provisional</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are 55 (16-17) year olds not living with a family in separate accommodation. Agreed that a report is compiled which is focused on this group of young people and sets out the council's support and how this compares to other local authorities, working with this similar cohort. 2. Performance 	

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Items to be added

1. Support for the Special Guardianship role(Agreed on 19.02.2013)
2. Scrutiny Review update on Corporate Parenting

Agreed that information is gathered by the Virtual school on how the **pupil premium grant** is spent across schools in relation to LAC inform a report to the Committee on the 6th March 2014. This information was sent out separately on the 28th February to the committee members to consider.

CPAC agreed on the 19.12.2013 that the Adults safeguarding protocol is considered at the next meeting to understand which areas can be applied in connection to the council's responsibilities for the standard of accommodation for young people in care and care leavers. This protocol was sent out to CPAC on 11th Feb for comments .

OfSTED Thematic Inspection on Neglect - Councillors to be notified to be when published by OFSTED.

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HARINGEY VIRTUAL HEAD ANNUAL REPORT

October 2013

Aim and Objectives of Haringey Virtual School

Increase educational attainment of children looked after by Haringey Council, narrowing the gap.

Ensure that professionals are appropriately advised and supported to help children to engage and make educational progress.

To monitor and track attendance and advise on processes and systems to ensure children remain in school and engage in education for positive future outcomes, achieving their potential.

Provide a service and support schools and education provisions to improve attainment of Haringey LAC. Increase number of young people who achieve level 2 qualification at end of KS4. 5 GCSE's A*-C including Maths and English and number of children who achieve level 4 at end of KS2.

Work with Social Workers, Independent Reviewing Officers and Foster carers providing advice and support in order that they can promote and support children and young people to be in school, attending and making progress.

Promote engagement of young people in culture and leisure activities

Develop information sharing and gathering systems. Purpose: To provide intelligence alongside research to inform the direction of the work

Consult, listen and respond to young people and those who work with them.

Contribute to planning for cohorts and individual young people in multi-agency contexts

Introduction and Overview from Acting Virtual Head.

It is with great pleasure that we present this interim report which documents the progress of Haringey Children in Care over the last year. This report is set in the context of a Virtual School which encourages high student aspiration, alongside raised levels of adult expectation and the provision of opportunities alongside encouragement to engage with mainstream and bespoke activities, all of which are held within robust systems which facilitate successful outcomes.

This year the Virtual School Head of eight years, Attracta Craig left her post, although we are fortunate to still be benefitting from her legacy. It is in this context that this year we have continued to remain focused on strengthening areas of work already established, while continuing to develop our practice and processes to ensure the best outcomes for our children and young people.

With funding changes and adjustments in legislation we continue to develop and evaluate our work in line with research and well-evidenced best practice

The key research documents that support our work include the following:

- Research-based Government policy documents
- Impact of 'Out of Hours Learning' on attainment of Children in Care (2004)
- Prof Sonia Jackson's research on the impact of a significant adult in school showing interest in a child's progress (2005)
- Prof Sonia Jackson 'Looking Ahead Aiming Higher' (2012)
- DFE findings – The significant impact of 1:1 tuition on the attainment of CiC
- Neurological research into the effects of Trauma
- Research into the positive impact of the 'Creativity' supporting brain development
- Ofsted report on impact of Virtual Schools (2013)

In response to the above research and policy documents, we have continued to support and provide out of hours school learning and further developed the trauma recovery work, as well as supported staff training and development. We have also worked to ensure our children and young people remain in mainstream systems and have challenged interventions to ensure that they are well-focused and often utilised time-limited use of support, specifically in regards to the LAC/PPG.

One particular highlight this year was our attendance at the first National Virtual Heads conference held at Bath University. Ceri May –ourSenior Teacher, delivered one of the workshops on Trauma Recovery which was attended by over 20 people and was very well recieved.

Meeting the young people at events and supporting them to contribute to planning has enabled them to build additional support and skills and often they bring new ideas and provide opinions which can positively impact on our service provision. Particularly special this year was the primary aged children's party where secondary aged children from study club helped out and created snacks and drinks, acting as important role models for the younger children at the party.

The upcoming Children and Families bill in February 2014 includes the proposed statutory role of the Virtual Head, which emphasises the importance of supporting and having high aspirations for our children in care - specifically in relation to their education.

Building on our online award nomination form last year, we have also created an electronic form to collect data from schools which we will now be developing systems to collate mid-year attainment figures for each year group.

Overall, with both existing and new developments, we continue to build on and adapt our work with a view to continuing our upwards trend into next year and beyond. For those young people who are working below their potential or where there are concerns, we will continue to communicate to both schools and social workers, to support, advise and challenge to ensure the best educational outcomes for our children and young people.

Summary of the education attainment Haringey Children in Care.

Year 11s in care for a year prior to 1st September 2013

There were 46 young people in care in Year 11 (i.e. in care as of Sept 1st 2012 and continued to be in care at the point of taking examinations). All references to 'GCSEs' includes qualifications equivalent to GCSEs

The results for 2013 are:

5+ GCSEs at grades A*-C incl. English and Maths	: 28.3% (13/46)
5+ GCSEs at grades A*-C	: 39.1% (18/46)
5+ GCSEs at grades A*-G	: 58.7% (27/46)
1+ GCSEs at grades A*-G	: 65.2% (30/46)
Other qualifications	: 19.6% (9/46)
No qualifications	: 15.2% (7/46)
SEN	: 21.7% (10/46)

Comparing with similar previous Year 11 cohorts (provisional)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of young people	48	48	49	44	46
5A*-C with Eng & Maths	N/A	16.7% (8/48)	12.3% (6/49)	20.5% (9/44)	28.3% (13/46)
5A*-C	31.3% (15/48)	31.3% (15/48)	18.4% (9/49)	36.4% (16/44)	39.1% (18/46)
5A*-G	52.1% (25/48)	37.5% (18/48)	36.7% (18/49)	52.3% (23/44)	60.9% (28/46)
1A*-G	66.7% (32/48)	66.7% (32/48)	65.3% (32/49)	79.1% (35/44)	65.2% (30/46)
Young people with Statements	25% (12/48)	27% (13/48)	22.4% (11/49)	22.7% (10/44)	21.7% (10/46)

This is a strong set of GCSE results, building on the legacy of previous years. Many of the young people have been entitled to support through the LACPPG over the last 3 years which has been used by the schools for a variety of support including, tuition, technical equipment and additional activities.

The young people have also benefited from additional input during their time in secondary school and have engaged with one or more of the following:

- 10 hours After school hours home tuition in English or Maths per year
- 'Big Green Envelope' to help them build their own 'libraries' and support the learning environment with foster carers (2008-2011)
- SAM-Learning, an online revision programme (2010-2011)
- University taster days
- Weekly Study Club – local academic support
- Cooking Club through Tottenham Hotspur Foundation (THF)

Early Years Foundation Stage Scores 2012

The 'Early Years Foundation Stage Profile' (EYFSP) is the statutory end of year assessment tool for children reaching the end of the 'EYFSP; before they transfer to Year 1.

Children are therefore assessed during the summer term of their Reception year to establish their rate of progress. This year marks a change in the EYFSP. Comparison of data with previous years is therefore not possible. Children are now measured as 'Emerging', 'Expected' or 'Exceeded'. They are measured across 17 Early Learning Goals, and need to achieve 'Expected' in at least the first 12 areas to be considered to be making a 'good level of development', ie average progress. The expectation is that these children will make national average progress during Key Stage 1.

The areas of 'Communications and language' and 'Personal, social, and emotional development' are known to be significant for children in care with those not achieving 'Expected' in these areas as being at high risk of long-term low outcomes.

There were 25 children in care and of 'Reception' age during the academic year 2012-2013. The data is based on complete data sets received from education providers. If the data is incomplete, or if the children achieve 'Emerging' in just one of the first 12 Early Learning Goals, then the children are measured as functioning at 'Emerging' level.

Number of children achieving a 'good level of development'	: 20%	(5/25)
Number of children achieving 'Exceeded'	:12%	(3/25)
Number of children with statements	:12%	(3/25)
Number of children whose data was not submitted upon request:	16%	(4/25)
Number of children whose data was incomplete	:52%	(13/25)

Three of the children achieved 'Exceeded' in some Early Learning Goals, but were counted as 'Emerging' because they have also achieved 'Emerging' on some of the Early Learning Goals.

Haringey Virtual School is continuing to work with Haringey's Early Years Advisory Service to extend their understanding on how to effectively intervene so that the gap between these children and their peer group can be narrowed during foundation stage and key stage 1.

This year LAC in Early Years provisions in Haringey benefited from the roll out of a training programme on Trauma Recovery. This was planned by Early Years, in partnership with Haringey Virtual School and Kate Cairns Associates, with some Early Years practitioners also regularly attending the Trauma Recovery Forum.

Key Stage 1 results 2013

There were 24 children in care in Year 2 (i.e. in care as of Sept 1st 2012)

The results for 2013 are:

Level 2 in English	: 60% (12/20)
Level 2 in Maths	: 60% (12/20)
Level 2 in English and Maths	: 60% (12/20)
Number of children assessed	: 95% (19/20)
Number of children with Statements	: 15% (3/20)

Comparing with similar previous Year 2 cohorts

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of children	11	11	14	17	20
Level 2 in English	90.1% (10/11)	54.5% (6/11)	71.4% (10/14)	82.4% (14/17)	60% (12/20)
Level 2 in Maths	90.1% (10/11)	45.5% (5/11)	57.1% (8/14)	82.4% (14/17)	60% (12/20)
Level 2 in English and Maths	90.1% (10/11)	45.5% (5/11)	57.1% (8/14)	76.5% (13/17)	60% (12/20)
Children with Statements	0% (0/11)	0% (0/11)	21.4% (3/14)	0% (0/17)	15% (3/20)
Children in special provision	0% (0/11)	0% (0/11)	7.1% (1/14)	0% (0/17)	0% (0/20)

The English SATs results were lower this year, with under two thirds achieving the national average or above, though we would look to improve these again for next year through current and specific interventions informed by case information and attainment data. Reading Club intervention and training of foster carers have additionally supported the improvement of the literacy levels of primary children in care. We also plan to reinstate the mailing out of the Big Green Envelope to children in years 2 and 3, as this has had a positive impact on attainment in previous years. We will continue to promote English through all of our work e.g. promotion of books at the cinema event and linking our Reading Club into the Black History Month half term library programme.

The Maths results are encouraging, as two thirds of the children achieved the national average or above. However, we are looking to improve on these again for next year using current interventions. We plan to link with mainstream primary maths specialists from local schools to re-instate the Maths Club, previously run in partnership with the Haringey Maths Advisor. We will focus on 'Understanding pattern in number, as research (National Strategies Primary Research Project, 2010) indicates that these elements can present barriers to basic understanding of Maths.

Key Stage 2 results 2012

There were 21 children in care in Year 6 (i.e. in care as of Sept 1st 2011)

The results for 2012 are:

Level 4 in English : 77.3% (17/22)

Level 4 in Maths : 72.7% (16/22)

Level 4 in English and Maths : 68.2% (15/22)

Number who sat SATs : 100% (24/24)

Number of children with Statements : 18.2% (4/22)

Comparing with similar previous Year 6 cohorts

	2009	2010*	2011	2012	2013
Number of children	22	17	28	21	22
Level 2 in Reading	X	X	X	X	86.3% 19/22
Level 2 in Writing	X	X	X	X	63.6% 14/22
Level 4 in Maths	45.4% (10/22)	52.9% (9/17)	53.6% (15/28)	47.6% (10/21)	72.7% (16/22)
Level 4 in Reading, Writing and Maths	X	X	X	X	59% (13/22)
Level 4 in English	50% (11/22)	52.9% (9/17)	42.8% (12/28)	66.7% (14/21)	77.3% (17/22)
Level 4 in English and Maths	45.4% (10/22)	47% (8/17)	39.2% (11/28)	47.6% (10/21)	68.2% (15/22)
Children with Statements	45.4% (10/22)	23.5% (4/17)	17.9% (5/28)	23.8% (5/21)	18.2% (4/22)
Children in special provision	22.7% (5/22)	17.6% (3/17)	10.7% (3/28)	15% (3/21)	13.6% (3/22)

This is a good set of results, with an increase in the number of children achieving a level 4 in both English and Maths. The split of English into Reading and Writing has highlighted that there is some work to be identified in regards to supporting children with their writing. It is good to see that so many of the children at the end of key stage 2 are reading at the national standard. Overall, the results are particularly pleasing as they show an overall upward trajectory. We have supported young people in Key Stage 2 through the provision of the Book Club, working in partnership with the Library Service and also the Cinema Event which promotes books and reading. We plan to reinstate delivery of the Big Green Envelope Club this year to continue to promote a love of reading and to further narrow the learning gap. Haringey LAC have also been prioritised for Into University homework club after school.

Attendance

Using the information from the company Welfare Call we are able to identify young people whose attendance is poor and below national average. Since January 2013 we have been running the attendance forum which is attended by representatives from the Education Welfare Service, Behaviour Team, Youth Offending Team, Fostering Service, Children in Care Team and Independent Reviewing Officers. The Attendance Forum specifically track children who have missed 10 or more days of school, have a B on the register identifying that they have been educated off the school site, or have had an exclusion. The forum meets to share information and to set interventions and actions

For children who were in care for the whole of the academic year 2012-2013 78% of pupils attended school 95% and above for the whole year (202/256), this is an increase from 62% last year (204/327). During the past academic year 18% of pupils had attendance of less than 85%, this included children who missed school due to change of placement and school (47/256). This is a slight increase of 1% from last year. We will continue to support the improvement in the attendance for all children in care through the work of the forum, training and challenging others where required.

Alternative Provisions

At the end of the year 10% of children in care of statutory age were in an alternative provision (36/357). This included a hospital, PRU, secure unit or YOI, college placement or a provision commissioned by a school.

Exclusions

Last year 47 children had an exclusion from school of half a day or more. 24 children had an exclusion between 0.5 and 4 days. 13 children had an exclusion between 5 and 9 days. 3 children were excluded for 10 days or more and 3 children were permanently excluded.

	Total	In borough	Out of borough	Primary	Secondary
4 days or less	26	4	22	2	20
5-9 days	14	8	6	4	10
Over 10 days	3	2	1	1	2
Permanent	3	0	3	0	3
TOTAL	46				

Post 16 update 2012

Update for Haringey young people in care in current year 12.

Many of our young people will follow the national pathway and enter college or 6th form.

As of September 2013 there are 53 children in year 12.

	53 young people
Number in College or 6 th form	47/53
No in Employment	0/53
No in Training/Apprenticeship	2/53
NEET – refusing to engage absconding	1/53
To be confirmed due to change of placement	1/53
Specialist School	2/53

Studying at College or 6th form: 47 young people

	47 young people.
A levels	11/47
ESOL	8/47
Other qualifications	8/47
BTEC	19/47
GCSE's	2/47

Subjects being studied include:

- **A levels:** Biology, Psychology, Law, Sociology, Maths, Art, French, Economics, History Social Sciences.
- **BTEC:** Sport, Engineering, Car mechanics, Media, Art and Design, Child Care, Travel and Tourism, Hair and Beauty.
- **Apprenticeships include:** Hairdressing and Retail

As of September 2013 young people leaving Year 11 will be required to remain in Education, Employment or Training (ETE) until the end of the academic year in which they are 17, in 2015 this will increase to 18.

We aim to support young people to remain in their current education and college courses. Each young person in care has a Personal Education Plan that accompanies them during their journey through care. As an additional monitoring system, there are plans to review the ongoing PEP's at the transition panel where a representative of the Virtual School is present and can provide additional advice and guidance regarding the current and future plans in place and ensure all efforts are being made to sustain current educational/training provision.

We expect that young people will have had careers guidance at school and completed PEP's outlining aspirations and education progress throughout their time in care. We work within a context of young people knowing that we have high aspirations and expectations for their future.

We have provided detailed up to date information post A levels and GCSE's this year to social workers and personal advisors in regards to how they can access appropriate support for their young people depending on need. This includes information on University, raising participation age, careers advice, as well as bursary and funding information.

An overview of young people's level 3 and above educational achievements

University

- 8 young people have graduated from University
- 33 are progressing onto their next year at University
- 20 are proposing to start University September 2013

Level 3 qualifications

- 7 young people in years 13 and 14 achieved a level 3 A level qualification.
- 1 young person completed a BTEC level 3 course in accounting.

Due to confidentiality constraints regarding the disclosure of a young person's care status, all post 16 education information has to be gathered via Social Worker, Personal Advisor or the young person.

Strategies to support the educational progress of Haringey Children in Care

Work with professionals

- Joint Trauma Recovery Conference for Designated Teachers for LAC and SENCo's in July; delivered by Kate Cairns
- Trauma Recovery Forum x 3 over the year.
- Introductory and Phase II sessions, each held at least once each half term; multi-agency training
- Training including PEP's and LACPPG
- Consultation with Designated Teachers and Social Workers to think about best practice in terms of the LAC PPG spend.
- Training for Foster Carers to support children in reading, reading comprehension, writing and using books to support children who have experienced trauma; via the Book Club

- Training to Governors on the education of Looked After Children
- Training to Fostering and Placements Departments on Trauma Recovery
- Work with Foster Carers, Fostering Training and Development and Placements Department to develop a tool, using the trauma recovery model, to support placement stability and link in with one already developed and being used in schools; creating a common language for Foster Carers, school staff and Social Workers
- Training to Foster Carers on sensory self regulation; how to use food and physical activity to facilitate self regulation and help calm
- Provides social workers with logins to monitor and track attendance at school for our children in care
- We have set dates for two Transition Forums specifically for carers of children in care going into reception and secondary school later in the Autumn Term.

Work directly with young people.

- Weekly Study Club. At the start of the year moving we relocated to Tottenham Hotspur Football Club. In practice, however, the new space did not support collaborative and interactive learning so it was decided to move to Bruce Grove the new space of Tuition Service. We have a regular group of young people who attend.
- Three of our young people in years 10 and 11 took part in an overnight residential with Hertford University involving pottery, inspirational activities and a theatre trip. One of those who attended, had been excluded from school 6 months earlier and another was in an alternative provision due to difficulties in mainstream.
- Cookery Club – using the facilities at the Octagon we ran a 5 week cookery course with Tottenham Hotspur Foundation. This is always really enjoyed by the young people and they keep asking when we will be running it again!
- Summer Party for primary aged children which included training for Foster Carers and Cookery Club for secondary aged students.
- Book Club in partnership with the Children's Library.
- Specific reading books were sent out to primary aged children over the summer.
- 'Good luck' with your exams cards were signed by Cllr Waters and Libby Blake.
- Cinema event for Primary aged children and carers, 'Sammy's Great Escape'.
- Awards event 2012 involved many care leavers in the planning and the presentation of the event. This year will be the 10th Educational Achievement Awards event for Haringey children in care held at Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.

Nursery to University:

We continue to update this booklet for the use of Foster Carers, Social Workers and IRO's to support them in regards to PEP meetings, understanding education processes and systems. We are planning to create a version for use by Designated Teachers and School Improvement Officers.

Haringey Virtual School Website:

www.haringey.gov.uk/hvs - we are currently in the process of updating the website.

Carers, schools and social worker used the website in the Summer term to nominate young people for the education achievement awards.

An eform was created and used to gather attainment data in partnership with our IT department. We are very pleased with the amount of information received in response to a follow up letter, we are looking develop this further in the coming year.

Partnerships with other organisations:

We continue to build and develop our partnerships which provide our young people with greater opportunities and develop a sense of community and aspirations.

Tottenham Hotspur Foundation

Following on from previously funded projects the work with THF continues, this includes;

the Annual Education Awards Ceremony, this will be the 10th Awards ceremony; Study Club support; 'Let's get Cooking' and Summer Party.

Highgate Independent School

At the end of the summer term, we took the young people who had attending study club, cooking club and the book club to Highgate School to experience the inspirational chemistry presentation by Dr Szydlo.

Building on work developed over the years with Haringey, Highgate are now running the Chrysalis project with seven Virtual Schools in North London. The aim is to inspire and enhance the opportunities and aspirations for young people with potential to go to University to attend Russell group Universities. This project links the young people into University opportunities including Cambridge and working with an organisation called Future Foundations.

Wood Green Library

The Book Club has been running for a number of years and is highly valued by young people and carers, who ask when the next one is running when we meet up for other events in the HVS calendar. As well as providing an opportunity for the children to develop reading, writing and comprehension skills, it also increases their vocabulary and provides an opportunity for carers to observe how to enjoy a book with their child and to maximise the educational impact. Book Club offers a safe space to enjoy

literature, with familiar adults and environments. This encourages our children to be comfortable and confident in the library and to perceive themselves as library users.

Big Green Bookshop

Working with the staff at the Big Green Bookshop in Wood Green we identify and choose appropriate books to send out to young people in our 'Big Green Envelopes'. The bookshop facilitates competitions, letters from authors and book signing to support the engagement of young people in reading.

Youth, Community and Participation Service

The Virtual School also has strong links with the Youth, Community and Participation service, who are able to support care leavers in a variety of ways including:

- The Junction supports young people aged 16 to 19 or up to 25 for with learning difficulties or disabilities.
- Youth Contract for young people in Haringey works with those aged 16 or 17 who are in care, have 1 GCSE or less or are at risk of offending

We are referring young people who need additional advice and support to the Junction and the identified worker for LAC.

Wilkommen

Three young people aged 18-25 from Haringey had the opportunity to be part of the Wilkommen project. This is funded by the European Commission and is coordinated by Care2Work. Another three young people will have the opportunity to take part in work experience at the Marriott Hotel in Grosvenor Square London followed by 2 weeks at the Renaissance Hotel Karlsruhe in Germany in March 2014.

The Eighteen Project

The project currently has 40 young people aged 15-20 being mentored by coaches from the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation.

The two year project started in June 2011 with funding from the GLA Sports Participation fund and the four local authorities of Haringey, Barnet, Enfield and Waltham Forest. The project is currently under review and sourcing new funding opportunities.

The Eighteen project with Tottenham Hotspur Foundation has given us excellent opportunities and outcomes, engaging some of our most hard to reach older children in care and care leavers in enriching and confidence building activities to engender their interest in further education and employment.

Tottenham Hotspur Foundation have now secured money from the Postcode Heroes Trust of £40,000 each year for 3 years to support young people in care in Haringey, Barnet, Enfield and Waltham Forest.

Goals2Work

Young Adults Service for care leavers 18+ are working with Tottenham Hotspur Foundation in regards to working with identified young people including some of those who were part of E18HTEEN.

This project is a partnership with NCAS and Catch 22 on a project called Goals2Work funded by Comic Relief. This presents a great opportunity for 60 care leavers in Haringey, Essex and Islington to participate in football whilst developing their employability and life skills.

Mentoring programme in 6th Forms

The School Improvement Team in partnership with HVS have secured funding for a mentoring programme for Haringey 6th forms and Haringey LAC will be prioritised for this support.

Summary of developments during Academic Year 2012/13

Attendance Forum

- The re-introduction of attendance forum – this is a fortnightly meeting which uses the data from Welfare call in regards to attendance concerns for young people, those who have missed 10 days or more, have a B on the register (alternative education provision, or E (exclusion). The forum is made up of staff including, social workers, Independent Reviewing Officers, Behaviour Support Team, Education Welfare Service, Fostering and Youth Service.

PEP and PEP audit

- We have updated the Haringey PEP to reflect the changes in the Early Years Foundation Profile and created a Young Person Form for those 16+. The joint training for which is co-delivered by a Haringey DT and SW and is scheduled to be repeated termly during 2012/13.
- We have also started to audit the quality of sample PEP's on a monthly basis with social worker managers in order to improve the quality of the PEP's and support social workers and managers to use the information in an informative and proactive manner.

Trauma Recovery

- This year we have developed the '*Emotionally Friendly Classroom*' tool and are in the process of consulting with schools, with very positive feedback received so far. The purpose of this tool is to help schools to create a school and classroom culture which is helpful to children who have experienced trauma and loss and who often find it difficult to regulate their emotions and behaviour.
- We are also now working with foster carers, Foster Carer Learning and Development and Placements to develop '*How to BE.....*'; the '*Emotionally Friendly Home*'. This document has a home focus and is written with carers / parents in mind. The aim is to develop a tool which makes accessible to carers the language and idea of trauma.

The intention is to provide foster carers with information and strategies which could improve outcomes for LAC, stabilise placements and provide carers with the language and information to be able to speak confidently with school staff to identify needs and strategies, which will provide safety and stability for LAC in their care.

- Also developed this year is the '*How to BE is Key*' document. The aim of this document is to provide information about how our personal interactions can help others to feel safe and regulate their emotions and behaviour. It offers some suggestions of how we can BE which will help children to feel safe and learn to self regulate.

Education pathways specifically post 16

- A specific form C for 16+ young people has been created as part of the PEP.
- Links have been developed with **Into University**, who offer support and advice relating to personal statements.
- Distribution of the Higher Education Guidance and information emails to social workers and PA's to support planning.
- A teacher from the Virtual School attends the fortnightly transition panel for young people approaching 18.

Future plans for Academic year 2013/2014

- Establish a Designated Teacher Intelligence Sharing Forum termly.
- Develop links with School Improvement Partners, to ensure challenge and scrutiny of educational attainment of children within the virtual school
- Consolidate use of the Trauma Recovery work within schools and social care, for the common language and understanding to be shared.
- To build on the work of collating attainment information from schools and using it to identify areas of concern.
- To apply the learning from PEP audits to develop training
- Stabilise the Virtual School Team through the identification of a permanent Virtual Head.
- Consolidate our use of data and reporting systems in partnership with the performance team and the frameworki team.
- Work to gather regular updates from team managers in both YAS and CiC 1 in regards to ensuring an education, employment or training provision is in place for young people post 16. Including where required level and subject information.
- Continue to be involved in a reduced but effective E18HTEEN project.
- Continue to make links and share information, support and advice with other professionals, including the contribution of the Virtual School at the Resources and Transition panel.



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Report for:	Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee 6 th March 2014	Item Number:	
Title:	Update on the work to recruit an external provider to recruit and increase the number of internal foster carers, along with information for noting about the LAC sufficiency strategy		
Report Authorised by:	Lisa Redfern Director, Children's Services (Acting)		
Lead Officer:	Paul McCarthy, Interim Head of Service (Commissioning and Placements)		
Ward(s) affected: All	Report for: Non-key decision		

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the work to recruit an external provider to recruit and increase the number of internal foster carers. As requested by committee. This report also includes information for noting about the Looked After Children (LAC) sufficiency strategy.
- 1.2 There has been much progress over the past nine months. There has been extensive consultation with Haringey foster carers to better understand their motivations and needs. We have looked at alternative ways of delivering the service, leading to the decision to outsource the recruitment and assessment of new foster carers and to focus our in house staff on delivering an improved support offer to approved foster carers.
- 1.3 The new Placements Sufficiency Strategy highlights a number of successes over recent years, including a safe and persistent reduction in the number of looked after children, a positive move from residential to family placements, improving placement stability and a strong level cost control. It also points to further opportunities for improvement and savings and sets out what more can be done to realise them. The fostering project is now focused on delivering these further changes.



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2. Cabinet Member introduction

I fully support the project activity and forward plans and feel this will significantly move the fostering work forward with improved outcomes for children and young people.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Fostering Service Review (May to August 2013) recommended that:

- a refreshed Placements Needs Analysis and Sufficiency Strategy be completed;
- the in-house fostering recruitment and assessment function be externalised at pace; and
- plans be formulated for the continuous improvement of the in-house fostering service.

3.2 The Fostering Implementation Project was put in place in October 2013 to deliver these recommendations. This project concluded on 31 January 2014 and made further proposals to support the growth and success of the in-house fostering service. Specifically, the creation of a 'Continuous Improvement Plan' ('CIP') was agreed which will bring the staff teams together with Haringey foster carers to re-design the service and jointly implement the changes needed. This work will respond directly to the 'customer insight' from local foster carers in the Fostering Service Review, including points of direct feedback, and will run until March 2015.

3.3 It is an important feature of the work that it is designed and delivered jointly through the staff teams and foster carers (to maximise engagement and ownership and improve relationships). There is capacity to carry out this work although a requirement for change management resource has been identified and this has been sourced through the Strategic Partnership. Additional detail as to this work is set out in Section 5.

4. Alternative options considered

In addition to the externalisation of the recruitment and assessment function – the option recommended and approved - a range of alternative options were considered and appraised regarding the future delivery model for the in-house fostering service. These are set out in previous reports to this committee and to Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

5. Background information

5.1 The Council is committed to maximising the number of local family placements available to Haringey's looked after children to deliver improved outcomes and to offer value for money. In support of this, the Council engaged iMPower in May 2013 to carry out a review of the in-house fostering service, encompassing both in-house improvement opportunities and alternative delivery options.

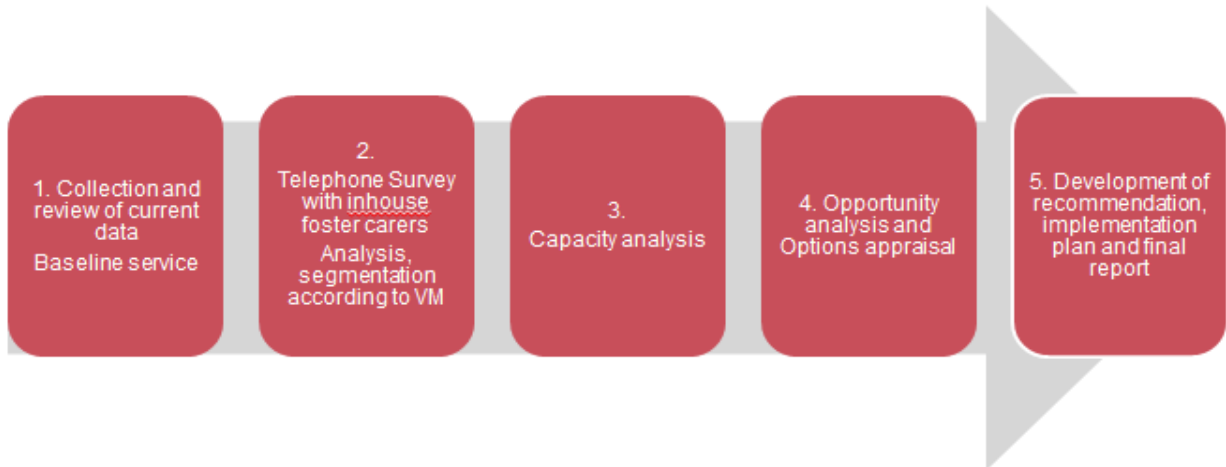
This work confirmed that the service has a low, and reducing, level of local fostering placements and that an immediate strategic and tactical response was required.



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5.2 Work carried out

5.2.1 Fostering Service Review (May to August 2013)



In addition to identifying and appraising options for how the in-house service could be delivered in the future, the Fostering Review also conducted in-depth engagement work – through telephone surveys and focus groups - to enable a better understanding of the needs of foster carers and prospective foster carers. This work canvassed direct feedback on service experience and also applied a psychographic system called ‘Values Modes’ to understand the values and motivations of foster carers. This work revealed a common values set amongst foster carers – a finding since validated by national Department for Education (DfE) research – which can be used to target service development, as well as specific and immediate improvement opportunities.

5.2.2 Fostering Implementation Project (October 2013 to January 2014)

The Fostering Implementation Project was subsequently commissioned through iMPower to advance the recommendations of the Review. This work concluded on 31 January 2014 and delivered the following:

- (a) Placements Sufficiency Strategy, including Needs Analysis
- (b) New model for assessment and recruitment of foster carers
- (c) Service performance framework, and
- (d) Continuous Improvement Plan (including pledges from staff and foster carers).

(a) **Placements Sufficiency Strategy**

A new Sufficiency Strategy has been developed which sets out the ambition, direction and required actions for placements sufficiency. This includes:

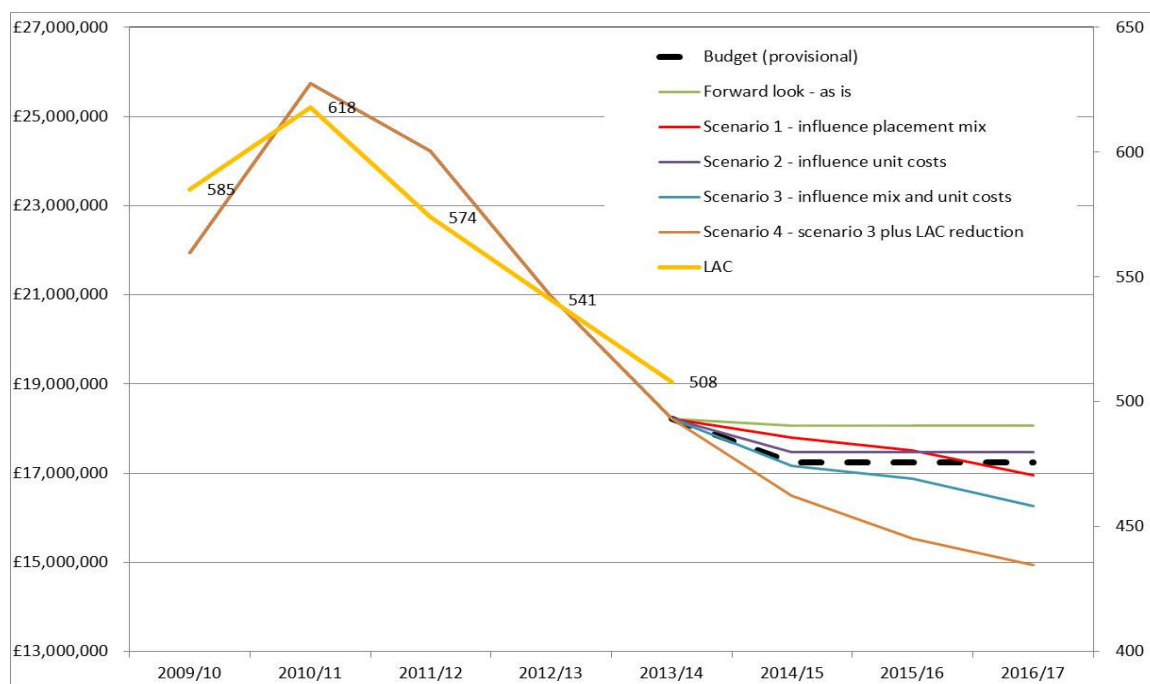


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- Investment in the growth and development of the in-house fostering service to provide greater local family placement sufficiency (across all CYP cohorts);
- Transition from 32% in-house fostering placement share to 60% over three years;
- Specific foster carer recruitment targets based around the needs of looked after children;
- Development of a clear specialist foster care offer and foster carer development pathway;
- A general rationalisation of commissioning routes and reinforcement of practice; and
- More active market management, particularly in relation to local residential provision.

The Sufficiency Strategy was co-produced with Finance in order to ensure the financial context is clear, accurate and understood. To this end the document examines a number of impact scenarios (set out in the graph below) in which the effect of changes in the different 'cost drivers', unit costs, mix of placement types and LAC numbers can be seen.

In order to achieve short term sustainability, both unit costs and the placement mix must be influenced at pace. A continued reduction in LAC numbers will add further comfort over both the short and long term.





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(b) Progress in implementing the new model for recruitment of foster carers

The new model for the recruitment and assessment of foster carers has now been commissioned and implemented. NRS Limited was appointed following a process of market engagement and a formal tendering exercise which was co-ordinated by the Procurement Team. A number of organisations were approached and invited to submit bids under the Council's "Request to Quote" procurement process. The decision to award the contract to NRS Limited was based on an analysis of the organisation's track record in this specialist area, our confidence in their ability to provide consistently high quality, and also value for money considerations.

A formal contract with NRS is at present being finalised and we expect to have it authorised by Friday 7th March.

Following formal contract sign off, NRS Limited will be leading on the recruitment of new foster carers, including the production of publicity materials and the placement of advertisements in a range of media. The Council's Communications Team will have oversight and final approval of all advertising and publicity materials.

We will be increasing the number and accessibility of Fostering Information sessions for the public. These will be delivered by our professional fostering staff and NRS staff.

During the period March 2014 to May 2014, leading up to Fostering Fortnight, we will be aiming to raise the profile of fostering in the borough. Our aim is to get the message out that Haringey is engaged in a drive to recruit many new foster carers so that we can better ensure that our looked after children and young people stay in or close to their home community, to their schools and to their families.

Within the terms of our contract with NRS Limited, any new prospective foster carers can be assured of a prompt, friendly, welcoming and professional response to their initial enquiry. This will be followed up by a telephone screening interview, then by a home visit at a time convenient to the prospective foster carer. Fostering assessments will be completed by a qualified social worker within 16 weeks, barring exceptional circumstances, during which time carers will receive three days of preparatory training. Before an assessment is presented to our Fostering Panel, there will be a second opinion visit to the foster carer by a Haringey fostering manager.

NRS Limited have a substantial pool of self employed qualified social workers, most of whom have many years of social work experience. NRS Limited provide professional supervision to the independent social workers. NRS Limited ensure that all their associates have up to date DBS checks and



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suitable references. Each of the independent social workers carrying out the assessments has a contract with NRS Limited. There is no possibility of these social workers ever being deemed employees of Haringey Council or acquiring employment rights.

NRS Limited has over twenty years experience in recruiting and placing temporary social care staff. In the past five years they have diversified into the provision of independent social worker assessments, supervised contact services and assessment of foster carers. NRS Limited are already delivering the fostering recruitment and assessment services for the London Boroughs of Lewisham, Southwark and Hackney. In Lewisham, NRS Limited have successfully recruited 100 new fostering households in a period of 20 months.

Our target is to recruit 45 new fostering households by the end of March 2015. NRS Limited will be paid on a "payment by results" basis, in other words, they will receive an agreed payment for each completed assessment delivered to the Fostering Panel, subject to the work meeting the agreed quality standards.

(c) **Service Performance Framework**

Provider performance, in terms of the number and quality of foster carer assessments delivered and the forward 'pipeline' of applicants, will be monitored through a new 'service performance framework'. This framework spans the entire fostering service, including support, supervision, utilisation and retention of foster carers and will be operated through the new Continuous Improvement Plan Project Board (see below).

(d) **Continuous Improvement Plan ('CIP')**

The CIP, which is based on and responds directly to what foster carers recently told us, puts foster carers at the heart of the service. Engagement work tells us that:

- approved foster carers have very mixed experiences of the service and there are opportunities to make them feel more valued;
- foster carers want to be involved in the fostering service, and this involvement shouldn't start or end with the placement;
- equally, prospective foster carers would value greater and earlier contact with approved foster carers, highlighting the power of 'peer advocacy' through word-of-mouth referral campaigns ;
- foster carers are already active in and have a deep reach into our communities and are willing to help, along with the Council's partners, generate word-of-mouth opportunities, and



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- this principle also applies to support and the Council has an opportunity to help build a community of mutual support in which foster carers have a greater stake.

The plan comprises four elements (project 'workstreams') and will be delivered over 12 months starting in February 2014:

1. Recruitment and assessment (complementing the work of the external recruitment provider)
2. Support
3. Utilisation
4. Specialist Offer

6. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications

- 6.1 The latest 2013-14 budget for fostering placements is £16.84m comprising £13.821m (82%) independent fostering and £3.019m (18%) in-house. Assuming the numbers of LAC in foster placements and unit costs remain constant, implementation of the transition to 60% in-house foster care would save £3.8m over the 3 year period. Rationalisation of commissioning routes is expected to reduce unit costs from their current levels.
- 6.2 Implementation of the proposed sufficiency strategy, through changing the placement mix and reducing unit costs, is expected to deliver £2.25m savings in order to contribute to the CYPS savings target in 2014-15.
- 6.3 Further analysis will be required to clarify the level of future savings to be delivered through the sufficiency strategy which will be required to contribute to further, challenging MTFP targets from 2015-16 onwards.

7 Head of Legal Services and legal implications

n/a

8 Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

n/a

9 Head of Procurement Comments

- 9.1 The External Recruitment Provider was commissioned with the advice and guidance of Procurement and is fully compliant with the Procurement Code of Practice.
- 9.2 A competitive process was undertaken to ensure Value for Money was achieved.



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9.3 Contract management arrangements for the external recruitment provider are in place, ensuring KPI's are met and allowing early identification of any non-compliance.

10 Policy Implication

10.1 The work carried out with regard to fostering supports the Council's wider commitment to accommodating children in family settings, where possible locally, as set out in a number of policies. Those which underpin the Council's approach to the accommodation of children becoming looked after specifically are:

- Placements and Permanency Policy (published 2013), and
- Family and Friends Policy (published 2013).

10.2 The Placements Sufficiency Strategy and project activities do not propose to revise these policies but to strengthen their effective delivery whilst securing best value for money.



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Report for:	Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee 6th March 2014	Item Number:	
Title:	Children's Services Budget 2013/14 and 2014/15		
Report Authorised by:	Lisa Redfern Director of Children's Services (Acting)		
Lead Officer:	Wendy Sagar Interim Head of Finance Children's Services		
Ward(s) affected: ALL	Report for Non Key Decision		

1. Describe the issue under consideration:

- 1.1 The Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee has requested an update on the Children's Services budget, including the focus for spending plans in 2014-15.
- 1.2 The following report provides an update on the Children's Services budget position for 2013/14 (including progress on making savings) and gives an update on Financial Planning for 2014/15.

2. Background information

- 2.1 Financial performance including any forecast variation against agreed budgets is monitored regularly by Council officers and reported quarterly to Cabinet. The most recent such report was made based on the position at the end of period seven (October) and reported to Cabinet at their meeting on 17th December.
- 2.2 Similarly Financial Planning is regularly discussed by Cabinet, most recently at the meeting on the 11th February when the Revenue Budget for 2014/15, and the Medium Term Financial Plan 2014 to 2017 were approved.



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3. Revenue Budget Monitoring Position

- 3.1 The relevant paragraphs of the report to Cabinet on 17th December 2013 relating to Children's Services are:
- 3.2 In overall terms the CYPS directorate is reporting a balanced position with the application of grant funding being used against allowable costs. There are however, individual pressures within the service which are identified below.
- 3.3 The Children and Families Service is projecting a minor underspend with the numbers of Looked After Children now holding steady at around 470 (excluding 30 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children); a reduction of 33 since the start of the year. In addition to the successful delivery of £3.25m savings in 2013/14, an underspend of c£100k is currently projected.
- 3.4 The number of clients with no recourse to public funds continues to increase, showing a projected overspend of c£600k. Since May 2013 a dedicated Home Office worker has been assigned to the service in order to contain the overspend.
- 3.5 Additionally, the costs of accommodating homeless families is creating a pressure of c£400k; these families are being evicted due to the non payment of rent although the council owes a duty of care to them because of the risk of harm to children in the family.
- 3.6 The Children and Families Legal services budget is now projecting a £254k underspend. Some caution needs to be exercised because of the potential for late billing by Chambers and the chance of receiving an unusually high bill for a particularly complex individual case, although clearly this risk reduces as the year progresses.
- 3.7 The Prevention and Early intervention service is now projecting an overspend of £190k due to under recovery of income at the Professional Development Centre and pressures within the Early Years service.
- 3.8 Director. An overspend of c£400k on the school related redundancy and premature retirement budget is currently projected. Other underspends within the service have reduced the pressure to c£250k.

4. Update on Progress in Making Savings in 2013/14

There are no issues to report concerning progress in making savings. All savings continue to be monitored as part of the ongoing budget monitoring process.



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5. Financial Planning 2014/15

- 5.1 Financial planning for 2014/15 to 2016/17 was agreed at Cabinet on 11th February 2014. The details of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan for Children's Services are shown as Appendix 1.
- 5.2 The service has a total savings target of £4,712k for 2014/15 and £480k for 2015/16 making a total of £5,192k. Plans to achieve these savings are progressing well and will be monitored throughout the 2014/15 financial year.
- 5.3 The service has been awarded permanent growth of £120k to enhance pupil's finance and music skills and Children's Services will work in collaboration with schools on these initiatives.
- 5.4 Temporary funding of £1,122k (£400k in 2014/15 and £722k in 2015/16) has been made available from the Transformation Reserve to fund the Haringey 54k programme.
- 5.5 The Children's Service transformation project, Haringey 54,000, moved into phase 3 transformation via commissioning on 1 February 2014. One of the key outcomes of the transformation, to be delivered in association with our strategic partner (iMPOWER), will be to shift budgets from high end intervention to prevention and early intervention in a sustainable manner. This will require savings over and above those required to meet Medium Term Financial Plan requirements to be generated to enable investment in early help.

6. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1: Haringey Council Medium Term Financial Plan to March 2017



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Appendix 1 Medium Term Financial Strategy for Children's Services

Savings - Children's Services

Item	Detailed Efficiency & Saving	2014/15 £'000	2015/16 £'000	2016/17 £'000	Total £'000
1	Children & Families - staffing reductions	270	480	0	750
2	Education Psychology Service - staffing reductions	60	0	0	60
3	Reduction in LAC Placements.	2,250	0	0	2,250
4	Review of Early years services	150	0	0	150
5	Net reduction in staffing requirements following early intervention processes and reductions in numbers of LAC.	150	0	0	150
6	Reduction in Legal Services budget as a result of fewer care proceedings.	50	0	0	50
7	Reduction in the need for Contact Services following reductions in numbers of LAC.	50	0	0	50
8	Review of the Fostering and Adoption services to achieve better value for money outcomes	75	0	0	75
9	Reduction in SEN transport costs	150	0	0	150
10	Consolidation of arrangements for Youth Offending, Alternative Provision and Behaviour Support services to achieve efficiencies.	100	0	0	100
11	Children and Families Finance Team - cut staffing budget by 50%	210	0	0	210
12	Delete 1 FTE screening post in C&F Admin	26	0	0	26
13	Income generation - Attendance and Welfare; Education Psychology following academy conversions	50	0	0	50
14	Delete 3 Education & Safeguarding posts	100	0	0	100
15	Reorganise 3rd tier - delete a further 2 Heads posts	170	0	0	170
16	Delete 7 admin scale 5 posts	210	0	0	210


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17	Delete vacant 4YP Nurse post	64	0	0	64
18	Delete balance of an additional Contact post (reduction of 3 posts in 2013/14 & 2014/15)	10	0	0	10
19	Delete 2 placement officer posts as LAC numbers reduce	78	0	0	78
20	Fostering Review (balance of £155k saving after £125k pre-agreed)	30	0	0	30
21	Delete remaining Trainee social worker capacity	42	0	0	42
22	Delete 2 Independent Reviewing Officer posts as numbers of Looked after Children reduce.	130	0	0	130
22	General reduction in supplies and services across the department	112	0	0	112
22	Raise income by utilising adoption assessments where there are no Haringey children to match	100	0	0	100
22	Offering support services to schools and Academies from alternative providers.	75	0	0	75
		4,712	480	0	5,192

Growth - Children's Services

Item	Proposed Use of Investment & Justification (KPIs etc)	2014/15 £'000	2015/16 £'000	2016/17 £'000	Total £'000
1	Haringey 54,000 - to be funded from transformation reserve	400	722	(1,122)	0
2	Enhancement of secondary school pupil's personal finance skills	60	0	0	60
3	Extend free music tuition to year 6 pupils	35	0	0	35
4	Saturday Morning Music Centre at Gladesmore	25	0	0	25
		520	722	(1,122)	120

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