

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**

**Q 'N' A: Item 6, Cabinet Member Questions - Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Children and Young People**

No	Page/ Point	Question/Observation	Answer (Where applicable)
<b>Questions from Yvonne Denny, Co-optee</b>			
1	General	Why it is that the special unit for children with autism at Heartlands School will open in 2011 and not with year 7 entries in 2010 so that all the children start and enjoy a complete a full year together. It always seems that Haringey children with special needs always have to follow in second place.	The building programme for Heartlands High School has been challenging. We are confident that the capacity available at the start of the coming school year will meet the needs of 162 mainstream year 7 pupils. There will not be space, however, to give the children with autism, who have associated communication and learning difficulties, the safe and specialist facilities that they need. These facilities will be available in 2011 when the first group of these pupils will be welcomed.
2	General	There are a number of secondary schools (including Thomas Moore R.C.) where pupils are starting GCSEs at 13 - is this a pilot scheme or are they mock exams; do results count towards final mark?	<p>Secondary schools have for several years given some students the option to begin GCSE examination courses early, generally at the start of Year 9. This will lead either to a longer period of study with the examinations being taken at the end of Year 11, or the regular two year period of study with examinations being taken early, usually at the end of Year 10.</p> <p>This is not a pilot scheme. These are full GCSE examinations. This is common practice in schools in local authorities throughout the country.</p>
3	General	What is the process for help and support for children who have Dyspraxia and Dyslexia?	Support for children and young people with Dyspraxia and Dyslexia includes early identification and assessment by school staff and some children will have formal assessments carried out by Educational Psychologists and health professional including Speech and Language Therapists and Occupational Therapists. This is followed by the implementation of a wide range of interventions including regular and structured reading and writing, fine and gross motor programmes. The National Inclusion Development Programme



**Haringey Council**

			<p>(IDP from the DfE 2008) provided all schools with detailed guidance on the identification and assessment of Dyslexia and recommended programmes. Where young people have severe and complex needs, statutory assessments are undertaken and statements of special educational needs are issued where appropriate. A significant number of SENCOs have completed the OCR certificate or diploma in Dyslexia. There is also a professional support group for staff from all schools run by the SEN Lead Consultant. The Consultant is a specialist in Dyslexia and Dyspraxia so is well placed to provide advice and strategies to Schools. In addition she chairs a meeting with additionally qualified teachers in Dyslexia and through the termly SENCO forum meetings there is opportunity to share good practice and update SENCOs on developments in this field. In addition information has been sent to all Headteachers and SENCOs re the new national programme on free training for teachers on dyslexia. The launch of the IDP was led by Neil McKay who wrote the 'Dyslexia Friendly Classroom'. Dyslexia Action also attended the conference. The NQT and new training for SEN includes an overview of SEN and more detailed information on dyslexia. Some schools have been supported to set up group for parents of children with dyslexia and how they can help with their children with their learning at home. The EPS has a lead Education Psychologist for dyslexia who provides advice to schools and families including IT support such as voice recognition software,. The SEN Consultant provides training and advice to schools re access arrangement for examinations.</p>
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4	General	What cuts are being implemented for Special Needs throughout the Borough's services around under 16s?	No decisions have been made.
<b>Questions from Cllr. Newton</b>			
5	p.7 Children's Services: General - Children's Centre Provision	What progress is being made on Children's Centre provision for Fortis Green and the satellite provision for Muswell Hill at the Muswell Centre?	<p><b>Fortis Green</b> North Bank community centre has been designated as the children's centre by Together for Children, and an action plan is in place to progress partnership and sign-posting arrangements across the ward.</p> <p>Delivery of health visiting, midwifery and drop-in services continues at the community centre. Work is currently being undertaken to further embed these services as part of our children centre service delivery framework and improve the centre's capacity for service coordination, monitoring and outreach.</p> <p>Meetings are taking place with Muswell Hill Methodist Church representatives to progress a formal service level agreement.</p> <p>A further visit to nearby Coppetts Wood Children Centre in Barnet has been undertaken - the centre is keen to work with Haringey to improve access to services for local children and families in Fortis Green ward.</p> <p>Current focus of the development work is on establishing a partnership framework and mechanisms for outreach and sign-posting to services between North bank and other providers. We are also trying to establish further meetings with Coldfall Primary school to strengthen their engagement in the provision of children's centre services.</p>



			<p><b>Muswell Hill</b></p> <p>Progress, in securing the agreement of the Muswell Hill Community Centre’s Management Committee for the premises to be used to offer satellite children’s centre services, has been slow. Efforts have been made to progress this through direct face to face meetings with representatives from the centre and continual dialogue. Stonecroft Children’s Centre had been asked to explore alternative options for spaces in the ward for the delivery of satellite service whilst negotiations continue.</p> <p>Stonecroft Children’s Centre have been encouraged to focus on establishing outreach services that target the more vulnerable families in the ward, and in doing so, have developed service plans to meet the needs of families living in temporary accommodation in the ward, as well as teenage parents.</p> <p>Through this work, the children’s centre have opened up discussions with Muswell Hill library, the owners of the church hall on Duke’s Avenue and the managers of the hostel for homeless families on Queen’s Avenue to explore the availability of spaces from which satellite services can be offered.</p> <p>The children’s centre continues to explore; with partners such as health visiting, teenage parent support services and agencies, such as CARIS, any opportunities that exist for partnership working to engage the more vulnerable families from within the ward.</p>
6	Children's Services: General - School Exclusions	Please provide details of Haringey Pupil Support Centre, Coppetts Road N10 as I understand this is still being used: How many children are currently at the centre including ages and from which schools? How many staff are currently at the centre?	This site is in a process of renewal and refurbishment for use by the Primary Pupil Support Service (PPSC). The Primary Pupil Support Service offers day 6 provisions to children in keystages 1&2 and seeks to support them back into mainstream provision after a period of support and learning in a highly structured environment staffed by professionals with expertise and experience at managing the range of challenges involved in improving their behaviour and



		<p>How long do you envisage continuing to use the centre and will this be for a particular age range? What future plans are there for the site?</p> <p>Please also provide details of the number of children currently excluded in the borough and from which schools?</p>	<p>academic achievement.</p> <p>The refurbished building will be ready for occupancy in October of this year and will provide a base for the service for the foreseeable future. The long term plans for the building are still under review.</p> <p>The Centre currently has 10 children on roll. 1 from Belmont Primary School 1 Chestnuts Primary School 2 from Devonshire Hill Primary School 1 from St Gilda's RC Primary School 2 from Nightingale Primary School 2 from The Green CoE Primary School 1 from Lordship Lane Primary School</p> <p>The centre is currently staffed as follows; 1 x Head / Centre Manager 1 x Deputy Head 2 x Teachers 2 x Teaching Assistants</p> <p>Please see attached schedule regarding exclusions</p>
7	P.3 FISD	<p>How is the Information Services Directory monitored for use and effectiveness and is this only an online facility?</p>	<p>The Family Information Service Directory (FISD) is monitored monthly against targets set for unique visitors and page views and is underpinned by a communications plan. Feedback is received through the online mailbox and the Haringey website mailbox. The information on FISD is available to Haringey residents via the Customer Services Centres and the telephone.</p>



8	P.18 2.03 Mechanisms for young people to be involved	Please provide detail of how young people are to be involved in development of policies, plans and strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NHS You're Welcome</b> – Youth Councillors trained by the Department for Health to assess local health provision</li> <li>• <b>David Lammy MP &amp; Lynne Featherstone MP</b> visit HYC to help better understand the issues affecting young people within their constituency. The Youth Council trust that their insights have helped inform their future policy proposals.</li> <li>• <b>Leader of the Council, Cllr Clare Kober</b> – the two co-chairs of the HYC have set up regular feedback sessions with Cllr Kober, to ensure the views and opinions of young people impact on the decisions taken at the top.</li> <li>• <b>Peter Lewis, Director of Children's Services</b> – the HYC have begun inviting Peter to some of their formal meetings at the Civic Centre, to again ensure the voices of young people are being heard (feeding into the children's plan).</li> <li>• <b>'Labels are for clothes, not for people'</b> mental health campaign – Youth Councillors have been working alongside Young Minds, Shaun Collins, Assistant Director, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and Eve Richardson from CHAMS. They are hoping the 40 minute mental health &amp; well being workshop they created will help inform local decision makers within mental health service. The HYC also engaged in a consultation with CHAMS (awaiting feedback). The HYC are hoping to collaborate with the British Youth Council on their national manifesto 'our minds matter' and present to MPs at the House of Commons (TBC).</li> <li>• <b>Haringey COMPACT</b> – consultation with the HYC to see how young people can feature in the COMPACT (awaiting feedback).</li> <li>• <b>SRE consultation</b> - Rob Mack from Scrutiny and Haringey Link have both had consultations with the HYC (awaiting feedback).</li> <li>• <b>Nia project</b> - visit from Lisa Bellis visited HYC to discuss how to help prevent violence from young girls.</li> </ul>
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9	PP.17-22 Appendix 2b	<p>Can you update on actions not achieved / not on track:</p> <p>1.19 implement and train staff on Critical Incident De-briefing model</p> <p>2.03 determine how groups should be involved in delivery of JAR</p>	<p>There is a rigorous reporting regime established around the Safeguarding Plan, the robustness of which has been independently validated by Ofsted through their inspection framework. This includes monthly reporting on all active milestones and performance indicators at chief officer level across the partnership, from where any interventions required can be instigated.</p> <p>The reporting processes also include quarterly reporting to Overview &amp; Scrutiny, along with reports to Cabinet and the Children’s Trust. This represents a significant amount of reporting on the programme, which provides the maximum degree of reporting and challenge within the resources currently available, although this may require to be reviewed in light of financial pressures across the partnership.</p> <p>This has been superseded within the refreshed plan which provides more focussed actions designed to deliver appropriate engagement with individuals / groups for specific purposes</p>



		<p>2.07 Use of FW-1 extended to Children in Care Health Team</p> <p>2.08 New plan implemented</p> <p>2.11 Why were both Domestic Violence and Risk assessment training reconsidered and will the new training being proposed be available for all staff or just supervisors.</p> <p>3.07 Please update on all three milestones</p>	<p>FW-I roll-out is happening as part of a planned approach. This aspect is currently being delivered, but not yet concluded due to other priorities in the FW-I development programme.</p> <p>As stated in the comments, the end date for this was revised to June 2010 and the programme of delivery of mobile technology has now reached its conclusion. Approximately 50% of staff have access to mobile technology, prioritised around those that are most in need and will use it. No further expansion of the programme is planned.</p> <p>There has been an increased emphasis placed upon domestic violence over the past year, and with the linkage to the First Response multi-agency team, coupled with the domestic violence murder at new year, the need to refine the approach to domestic violence has been highlighted. It is important if we are to provide outstanding safeguarding services to children and young people that we continue to review and improve the approaches that are currently in place – domestic violence is an excellent example of this. Whilst the existing approach may work, it needs to be aligned to the multi agency team, thresholds need to be established across the partnership and a single approach needs to be agreed. Until now, that has not been the case. Once this approach is agreed (based on the Barnado’s model) training will be rolled out to appropriate staff (not just managers) across the partnership.</p> <p>At the time the plan was written, this action and milestones were developed and put forward by the PCT. Since then, it has been decided that it is not within the remit of the PCT to be able to influence this to the degree required and alternative actions that are within the remit of the PCT have been developed within the refreshed plan. It is also important to note that the recent government announcement around health and the future of PCTs / role of GPs will bring about significant changes, the detail of which has yet to be realised</p>
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		<b><u>Questions from Cllr Alexander</u></b>	
10	P6 Children's Services	Is the council confident that Heartlands High School will be ready to open in September 2010 (bearing in mind the current stage of the works)? In any case are there contingency plans in place if it is not ready – what are these plans?	Yes, we are confident.  In the unlikely event that it is not, we have plans in place to teach the pupils for a short time at a nearby building, formerly the council's call centre. This has dedicated training rooms which can function as classrooms.
11		Press reports this week suggest that the new Heartlands School may not be ready for its September 2010 opening and that the old call centre on the link road will be utilised as a stop-gap. Assuming that this contingency plans needs to be put into action what will be the cost of refurbishing the call centre for this purpose?	Please see question 10 above. In the unlikely event that it is not ready, the refurbishment of the call centre would cost up to £250,000. We are currently assessing the need to use this contingency on a daily basis in order to minimise the spend whilst maintaining the availability
12	Children's Services	What are we doing to get our less well performing secondary schools to achieve the national averages of 49.8% (5 GCSEs A-C inc English and Maths) and 70 % (5 GCSEs A-C). Have we set ourselves a timeframe for this?	We have an annual system of reviewing the performance of our schools, and negotiating with senior leaders the support and challenge that we offer schools. This is provided through senior officers, the School Improvement Partner, specialist consultants and, in some cases, support from National Challenge advisers. Schools set targets in negotiation with the Local Authority and the DfE. These targets strive to improve results year on year and aim to move towards reaching the national average.
13	Page 2	In relation to NEETs please explain what "unknown" means – I am not sure how you calculate an unknown	This is a DfE category and means that the destination of the young person is unknown and information cannot be gained from other reliable sources about his/her whereabouts. This category is used to record those young people who, for example, have completed at course at college but whose new destination has not yet been determined. Therefore, all young people fall into one of three categories : In Education, Employment or Training (EET), Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), Unknown (we have no information as to their status).



14	Page 2	In relation to the dispute with DfE, has this now been resolved and if not does the council envisage when it will get a decision so that it can plan ahead?	It has not yet been resolved. DfE officials have twice cancelled meetings at short notice. The Leader has written to Michael Gove asking him to intervene to require them to meet us. We have also sent a letter before action making it clear that if the matter is not resolved soon we propose to seek judicial review.
<b>Questions from Cllr Winskill</b>			
15	P1	<p>The increase in the number of Looked after children in Haringey is substantially higher than the average national rate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does it compare to the London average increase?</li> <li>• What accounts for the large increase in haringey?</li> <li>• What are the long term trends for Haringey?</li> <li>• What are the resource implications?</li> </ul>	<p>Statistical neighbour and national benchmarking data not yet available and will not be until October. ADCS survey indicated rise in the care population nationally is 17% against a rise in Haringey of 23%.</p> <p>Reasons for the increase are many faceted – to some extent it is children who should have received more formal intervention earlier and the system is now better at identifying them but equally there remains some degree of risk aversion across all children’s agencies. An increasing number of young people are coming into care as a consequence of the Southwark judgement as well. Progress in improving the social care service continues as does improved working partnerships with others – however, it is probably a little early to suggest where the population may eventually settle at.</p> <p>Cost pressures are felt on placement costs; social work capacity; legal costs for those going through care proceedings; contact officer time and reviewing officer resources.</p>
16	P2	Please provide an update on the funding arrangements for the Rhodes Avenue expansion programme.	<p>I am delighted to confirm that we are able to go ahead with the full programme of works to expand and improve Rhodes Avenue Primary School, despite major government cuts. Quite simply, it is the right thing to do.</p> <p>We have faced difficult decisions since the new government’s emergency budget statement in June. The council’s budgets have been reduced substantially and we are faced with the prospect of further cuts in the October budget statement. Because of this we can no longer rely on having the funds to pay for the borrowing that enables capital investment to take place and are reviewing all capital expenditure. We have now agreed to work to identify savings across the council to fund the Rhodes Avenue project</p>



17	P3	FISC: Please indicate the number of unique visits per month over the first year.	The Family Information Services Directory (FISD) opened in June 2008. The average number of unique visits per month in 2009/10 was 3795, with these visitors viewing an average of just over 20000 pages a month. The peak was reached in March 2010 with 5415 unique visitors viewing 24323 pages.
18	Agenda Item 7 P13	Safeguarding plan milestone report: this is dated 27 May 2010: how often is it updated?	<p>There is a rigorous reporting regime established around the Safeguarding Plan, the robustness of which has been independently validated by Ofsted through their inspection framework. This includes monthly reporting on all active milestones and performance indicators at chief officer level across the partnership, from where any interventions required can be instigated.</p> <p>The reporting processes also include quarterly reporting to Overview &amp; Scrutiny, along with reports to Cabinet and the Children's Trust. This represents a significant amount of reporting on the programme, which provides the maximum degree of reporting and challenge within the resources currently available, although this may require to be reviewed in light of financial pressures across the partnership.</p>
19	Agenda Item 7 P18 & 1.19 2.09	One of the key themes enshrined in the JAR is the importance of multi-agency working and, presumably, training. Why has this training been delayed and when will it take place?	<p>Whilst there have been some delays in some of the multi-agency training, much has gone on over the last 12 months. The LSCB has provided regular multi-agency training, as have both the PCT and the Police. The police provided MACIE training to a broad group of staff across the services and is repeating that during the Borough's LSCB Conference in September.</p> <p>A number of improvements have been made to the multi-agency training programme over the past months and this remains a key area for continued focus and development. Full details of the extensive range of multi-agency training offered are available from the LSCB. In addition to this, each of the partner organisations deliver their own training programmes.</p>



20	Agenda item 8 NI 59 NI 60	<p>This committee has commented several times before on the seeming lack of progress in achieving the (amended) targets for initial and core assessments. On page 4 of the report, for NI 59, we achieve 28.3% against a target of 72% and for NI 60 achieve 45.9% against a target of 81%. Worryingly, over a period of months, there seems to be no clear upward trend towards achieving these targets. Please comment.</p>	<p>First, the targets quoted for 2010/2011 were draft targets still subject to discussion prior to the publication of these papers, prompted by the government's changes to the CAA and related reporting arrangements. Given that we cannot anticipate what is to come forward, we have reviewed the scheme used by CSCI prior to the CAA – a scheme worked up over many years and felt to provide a more stable and reliable format. In that, 'banding' was used to group performance. The proposal is therefore to have a target for IAs in the range 65% – 70% which CSCI would have rated Satisfactory. The target for CAs will be in the range 70 – 75% which CSCI would have rated as Good.</p> <p>Second, the performance figure quoted is the average for 2009/2010. Since April this year, the average performance for IAs has been 68% and for CAs has been 60%. There is an upward trend in both performance measures and concentrated effort continues to be applied to make sure that assessments are done as quickly as is safe to do so whilst keeping a focus on quality.</p>
21		<p>Please tell us what work has been done to assess the possible impact of the proposed cuts to the area based grant. Please indicate on what basis any changes to service provision will be assessed.</p>	<p>The time between notification of cuts to the ABG and the need to identify where they may happen was very short. We have tried to focus on those areas where we can make cuts safely, notwithstanding that all cuts will have some impact. Since the majority of cuts are to services provided by the council, assessment of impact has been with managers in those services. Where there is commissioning or support for external services, discussions have been taking place with those affected.</p>

		<b>Questions from Cllr Allison</b>	
22	Looked After Children (LAC)	How many LAC are currently looked after in borough and out of borough? Please compare the educational attainment of the LAC educated in Haringey to those educated and placed out of borough.	As at the end of June there were 99 school aged children in care in borough and 278 out of borough. However, the cohorts at any Key Stage are quite small and there are no obvious patterns of differential achievement for each group. Equally, some children placed out of borough are educated in borough and vice versa. However, for those in borough it is easier to link them in with other activities and support systems - educational psychologists, further education sites, EWOs, support from the Spurs Foundation etc. We are working on a more sophisticated reporting of educational progress for children whilst they are in our care and will be reporting that back through CPAC when complete.
23	LAC	What is the Statement of Purpose for Muswell House children's home?	The Statement of Purpose is currently being rewritten to more accurately reflect the aspirations for the service, particularly through its partnership with the Tavistock and the provision of a therapeutic input to the residents and their families. Currently, it's statement of purpose is to provide an emergency admissions unit for teenagers with a view to a short stay and then move on
24	LAC	External Reg 33 visitors were flagging up problems for months before Muswell House was put into special measures by Ofsted last year. When visitors make recommendations for actions in their Reg 33 reports how are these dealt with and in what time frame? Why do issues remain unaddressed over successive visits?	All Reg 33 reports go to Corporate Parenting Committee where they are scrutinised and progress tracked. We have introduced a system whereby all newly completed Reg 33 reports now go to the Unit managers for response prior to them going to CPAC. This should ensure a more active response to recommendations.
25	LAC	Does the cabinet member consider that bringing the inspection regime (Reg 33 visits) in-house will provide a sufficiently robust challenge to the management of Haringey's children's homes? Please explain your answer.	Yes – we will gain a more comprehensive view given reports are now completed by officers familiar with best practice, young people who bring a unique perspective to this and Councillors.



26	LAC	Permanent staff were supposed to be in place at Muswell House before Christmas 2009. Please explain why 8 months later most staff are still not permanent. What has been the cost of this delay?	There was some delay in the necessary processes being completed to set up the new posts as a consequence of an agreed Delegated Authority. People were interviewed and 10 people were to be taken forward. The current position is that six people remain interested in the positions and we are actively pursuing their paperwork. We have references in from most and CRB checks either complete or expected very soon. For these posts, agency costs are no greater than permanent positions with on-costs are added
27	LAC	Due to the lack of progress at Muswell House, and given that Ofsted has once more judged the home to be inadequate, has the council considered the possibility of outsourcing the running and management of the home to a third party – whether other borough, charity, agency or private sector?	The report from Ofsted arrived 14 <sup>th</sup> . It makes judgements against the five 'Every Child Matters' outcomes. The report found 3 were good, one satisfactory and the fifth was inadequate. This relates to the Stay Safe judgement and the report was critical of the fact that evacuation procedures were not always well recorded and that one of the HR files did not evidence an up-to-date CRB check and on another the reference had not been taken up prior to appointment. Stay Safe is a limiting judgement hence the overall conclusion of inadequate. A full action plan will be constructed to respond to all the recommendations made. The longer term future of the home will be subject to on-going discussion and the potential benefits of outsourcing will be considered within those discussions.
		<b>Questions from Cllr Ejiofor</b>	
28	Schools Standards & Inclusion	What proposals are afoot to meet the increased demands for primary school places?	This was addressed in detail in the report on school places to Cabinet on 13 July 2010.  Our planning has been disrupted by the withdrawal of £8.57m of capital grant which would have enabled us to put in place longer-term and sustainable plans and by significant uncertainty over all capital funding beyond March 2011. Without this funding we plan to address the expected growth in numbers for 2011 and 2012 with a combination of bulge classes and bringing back into use some limited spare capacity in some of our larger school buildings



29	Children & Families	Does the Cabinet member accept that there is concern at the continued low level of Initial and core assessments completed on time?	I am committed to making sure that our work is both high quality and delivered as quickly as if safe. First, the targets quoted for 2010/2011 were draft targets still subject to discussion prior to the publication of these papers, prompted by the government's changes to the CAA and related reporting arrangements. Given that we cannot anticipate what is to come forward, we have reviewed the scheme used by CSCl prior to the CAA – a scheme worked up over many years and felt to provide a more stable and reliable format. In that, 'banding' was used to group performance. The proposal is therefore to have a target for IAs in the range 65% – 70% which CSCl would have rated Satisfactory. The target for CAs will be in the range 70 – 75% which CSCl would have rated as Good.
30	Children & Families	The Cabinet member commissioned Independent analysis that addressed how the quality of assessments (NI59 & NI 60) being completed was improving. Could she share the outcome of this analysis with the Scrutiny Committee please?	I cannot share the detailed content of the analysis. However, I can report that the proportion of assessments judged to be satisfactory or better rose from around 12% in March 2009 to over 80% in December 2009. When Ofsted reviewed progress in January 2010 they examined 10 files in great detail. There were no issues raised in 7 of those cases. Of the other 3, minor points were raised which Ofsted decided were of no material impact on the safeguarding of the children involved.
31	Children & Families	How does she perceive is the best way to drive up standards going forward?	The best way to drive up standards as we go forward is to maintain our efforts hitherto and further increase the focus on quality. We have worked hard to restore the confidence and skills of our social workers and related services, the joint working with partners and our work in the courts. The determination and resolve of all concerned is undiminished and it is in maintaining that resolve to deliver the Safeguarding Plan that has been agreed by all partners, Ofsted and the Secretary of State.

32	Business Support and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is Haringey Council's standard spending assessment for education services? Is this adequate?</li> <li>• How much does Haringey spend on these services?</li> <li>• What does the cabinet member perceive as the principle pressures that national government budget cuts will put on education services in Haringey?</li> </ul>	<p>The government stopped using Standard Spending Assessments (SSA) to distribute resources to Council's in 2006-07 and instead distributes Formula Grant based on Relative Needs Formulae (RNF) Unfortunately it is not possible to express a Council's RNF as a monetary amount as it measures each authorities relative need for resources and is expressed as a ratio. It is in this way that the Children's Services, Service Block is funded which covers Youth and Community, Local Authority Central Functions and Children' Social Care.</p> <p>However, the Council also receives an allocation of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which is intended to cover spending on pupils and schools. This is a ring-fenced grant and the final 2010-11 DSG allocation amounts to £172.129m; the majority is used to fund the delegated budgets of schools. The Council and The Schools Forum have been pressing for a more equitable allocation of DSG for some time in particular to reflect the fact that Haringey is required to pay inner London salaries to its teaches but is treated as an outer London authority for funding purposes. It is estimated that this treatment costs the authority c£35m per annum in 'lost' DSG. A consultation on changes to the DSG allocation formula has just ceased and the outcomes are now awaited.</p> <p>The Council is required to apply the DSG fully in support of the Dedicated Schools Budget; unspent resources, predominantly schools accumulated balances, are required to carry forward between years.</p> <p>The cuts announced so far have impacted on the ABG allocation to the Children's trust and the withdrawal of capital funding referred to in question 21. The cessation of the national strategies programme is anticipated and the Council expects reductions in its overall Formula Grant allocation which will impact on those activities in the Children's Services block described above.</p>
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33	School Standards and Inclusion	What are the principal factors that the Cabinet member ascribes as responsible for differential education attainment between children of different ethnic backgrounds. How can the Council address this?	
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