



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

[No.]

The Cabinet

On 17 July 2007

Report Title: **Response to the report of the Council Committee Scrutiny Review of Extended Services in and Around Schools**

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable): **N/A**

Report of: Director **The Director of the Children and Young People's Service**

Wards(s) affected: All

Report for: Non Key

### 1. Purpose

1.1 To set out the response to the report of the Scrutiny Review of Extended Services in and Around Schools

### 2. Introduction by Executive Member

2.1 Scrutiny have carried out a review of the development of extended services around schools in Haringey.

2.2 The Executive Member is pleased to accept recommendations 2-5, several of which are already in hand.

### 3. Recommendations

3.1 That the Cabinet notes the response.

3.2 That the Cabinet agrees recommendations are progressed by the Children and Young People's Service, with progress reported at regular intervals to the Cabinet and the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board.

Report Authorised by:

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**Director**  
**The Children and Young People's Service**

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#### **4. Executive Summary**

4.1 The Scrutiny Review concentrated on the areas of:

- the advantages resulting from schools providing extended services;
- the Government's targets and the advice given by them and other bodies;
- the action being taken by the Council and local schools to implement the Government's targets.

3.2 The report also considered the current position in Haringey regarding the provision of extended services in and around schools, to ensure there was a good use of existing resources, thereby providing value for money. The review was to make recommendations on:

- the problems and restraints in providing extended facilities and possible solutions;
- the way in which services needed to meet demand are identified in consultation with the local community, taking account of the local authority's strategic role, the process for determining how shortfalls should be met and that new services are sustainable;
- the specific action being taken to reach disadvantaged children, people with special needs and hard to reach groups.

#### **5. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)**

5.1 None

#### **6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

6.1 Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee 'Scrutiny Review of Extended Services in and around Schools' May 2007

6.2 Higher Standards, Better Schools for All - More Choice for Parents and Pupils. White Paper 2005

6.3 Access to Opportunities and Services for All - An Extended Schools Prospectus published by DfES 2005

#### **7. Background**

7.1 An extended school is one that provides a range of services and activities often beyond the school day to help meet the needs of children, their families and the wider community.

7.2 The idea of extended schools has been developed over the past decade as the Government has tackled ways in which to improve pupil attainment, and in particular support pupils in disadvantaged communities. The need to drive up standards has been emphasized in a range of government publications including the 2005 White Paper entitled "Higher Standards, Better Schools for All - More Choice for Parents and Pupils".

73 Extended schools whilst linked, particularly through OFSTED, to the educational agenda have also been developed in the context of other government agendas such as widening participation, neighbourhood renewal and programmes including Learning Communities. The concept is also closely linked to the Government's plans to improve services to children and families, focused on the five key outcomes identified in the Every Child Matters programme and enshrined in the Children Act 2004 and the Childcare Act 2006.

7.4 In June 2005 the Department for Education and Skills published "Access to Opportunities and Services for All - An Extended Schools Prospectus" which set out a core offer of extended services. The Government expects these to be available in, or through, schools by 2010. These may be summarised as:-

- a varied menu of activities (including study support) with the aim of motivating and re-engaging children and young people;
- parenting support, including family learning sessions;
- swift and easy referral to a wide range of specialist support services e.g. speech therapy;
- high quality childcare from 8am to 6pm, either on a school site or through other local providers;
- wider community access to school buildings facilities.

7.5 The Government envisages that working with other agencies and organisations to offer access to extended services will help to drive forward improvements and ensure that schools make an important contribution to the "Every Child Matters" outcomes. In effect their proposals are based on the realisation that how a child performs in the classroom depends on more than what takes place in the classroom.

7.6 The Department for Education and Skills believes that schools developing extended services can:

- improve pupil attendance and motivation;
- re-engage hard-to-reach children;
- respond to pupils' individualised needs with a personal offer;
- enhance children's and family's access to services;
- improve parental engagement;
- enable teachers to focus on teaching and learning.

7.7 Ofsted have stated that, "the major benefits of extended services were the gains children, young people and adults made in their self-confidence and the development of more positive attitudes to learning and to what they might achieve." Evidence from pilot and pathfinder projects supports this view and the Association of Teachers and Lecturers consider that extended schools, "impact positively on pupil attainment, motivation, attendance, punctuality and behaviour".

7.8 Haringey Council, like every other authority in the country, is dealing with the complex changes required to bring about the Government's vision for children and young people. The development of Children's Trust arrangements is just one aspect of this work, but an essential linchpin to it is the idea of schools providing extended services not just to pupils and their parents, but to the rest of the community. Schools are seen

as having facilities which could be used by the whole community thereby, increasing the cost effectiveness of public services.

7.9 In order to assist the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee set up a scrutiny review panel to consider the current position in Haringey regarding the development and provision of extended services in and around schools to ensure there was a good use of existing resources, thereby providing value for money. The review was to make recommendations on:

- the problems and restraints in providing extended facilities and possible solutions;
- the way in which the services needed to meet demand are identified in consultation with the local community, including the local authority's strategic role, the process for determining how shortfalls should be met, and that the new services are sustainable;
- the specific action being taken to reach disadvantaged children, people with special needs and hard to reach groups.

## **8. Description**

8.1 In total the Scrutiny Panel made five recommendations [see Appendix 1]. Four of the five recommendations are agreed in principle [numbers 2-5].

8.2 Recommendation 1 concerns proposed action on the part of the Leader of the Council and as such this report cannot comment on it.

## **9. Consultation**

9.1 The Scrutiny Panel sought the views of a range of stakeholders from within the Council, schools, Haringey PCT, Job Centre Plus, Connexions, community groups and service users.

9.2 Many of the recommendations made have already been discussed with stakeholders and this consultation will continue as any changes to policy and service delivery are made.

## **10. Summary and Conclusions**

10.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Review involved the review of extended services in and around schools provided across Haringey by the Council and schools in collaboration with partners. Many recommendations are straightforward and some already in hand.

10.2 However, Members may wish to take a view on recommendation one, which is specific to the Leader.

## **11. Recommendations**

11.1 The Cabinet is asked to consider and endorse the response to the Overview and Scrutiny Review.

## **12. Financial Implications**

- 12.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of approval of the recommendations contained within this report.

## **13. Comments of the Acting Director of Finance**

- 13.1 The Director of Finance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no specific comments to make.

## **14. Comments of the Head of Legal Services**

- 14.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted on the content of this report and has no specific comment to make.

## **15. Equalities Implications**

- 15.1 Extended schools are part of the Government initiative to respond to the provision of services and support to children, young people and their families living in disadvantaged communities. They are provided to promote the achievement of children and young people from all communities and provide them and their families with a wider range of opportunities than otherwise might have been available.

## **16. Use of Appendices / Tables / Photographs**

- 16.1 Appendix 1 lists the recommendations of the review and proposed actions.

**Cabinet Responses to the Scrutiny Review of Extended Services in and Around Schools**

<b>Scrutiny recommendation</b>	<b>Proposed Response</b>	<b>Ownership</b>
<p><b>1</b> That the Leader writes to the Secretary of State for Education and Skills supporting the proposal that he should commission an independent review:</p> <p>a) to ensure that a viable extended schools funding regime is in place; and</p> <p>b) to look at the way people pay for extended services, including the new child care centres and the manner in which the benefits structure relates to this. <b>(Paragraph 7.3)</b></p>	<p>Since this recommendation was drafted the results of a consultation on school, early years and 14-16 funding 2008-2011 have been reported in a letter from the Director, School Resources Group. This letter includes funding arrangements for Extended Schools.</p> <p>In addition in March the Executive (now the Cabinet) agreed a flat fee and a commensurate hourly rate for Extended Schools' activity.</p> <p>It is therefore the view that a letter from the leader is not required at this point. This position can remain under review.</p>	<p>Leader of the Council</p>
<p><b>2</b> That senior staff from the Children and Young People's Services, in consultation with the Executive Member, have discussions with Highgate and Channing Schools about partnership arrangements whereby they provide extended services to local residents and schools and report on the results in the update to</p>	<p>The Extended Schools Development Manager will meet with the Heads of both schools shortly to explore the possible support that can be offered to Haringey schools in relation to extended services. A progress report will be represented to the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee prior to the Cabinet meeting in October.</p>	<p>Extended Schools Development Manager</p>

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed Response	Ownership
<p>Overview and Scrutiny Committee before the recommendations are carried forward to the Executive in October 2007. <b>(Paragraph 7.4)</b></p>		
<p><b>3</b> That the existing Children's Network structure identifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the extended services required by the wider community together with information as to how this need is met;</li> <li>• a comprehensive list of suppliers who could most cost effectively meet the local community's needs;</li> <li>• the schools in the area covered by each Children's Network which are best able to provide the facilities for each service and the arrangements for so doing;</li> <li>• the arrangements for identifying which Children's Network provides services to those residents who live on the borders of an area covered by the Network. <b>(Paragraphs 7.5, 7.6 and 7.7)</b></li> </ul>	<p>There are presently a number of systems in place which provide information on local provision within each network. Local partnership boards are being developed, one in each network, to identify needs and feedback on services being delivered.</p> <p>There are a number of well established and more recent providers of services operating within Haringey. It is proposed that a database of service providers will be made available to schools.</p> <p>This work is being developed through our Network Learning Communities (NCLs) structure.</p> <p>The Children's Networks Panel presently carry out this role in relation to children who are referred. For wider services, this will be developed through the NLCs and will be made available.</p>	<p>Extended Schools Development Manager</p> <p>Extended Schools Development Manager</p> <p>Extended Schools Development Manager</p> <p>Extended Schools Development Manager</p>

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed Response	Ownership
4	Copies of the DVD will be made available to each Network Learning Community by October.	Extended Schools Development Manager
5	<p>A report will be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in October addressing the points raised in recommendation 5 and providing a progress update on the other recommendations .</p>	Director of the Children and Young People's Service
<p>That Schools be encouraged to purchase the Millfield Community School's excellent DVD on creating a successful extended day programme. <b>(Paragraph 3.2)</b></p>	<p>Copies of the DVD will be made available to each Network Learning Community by October.</p>	Extended Schools Development Manager
<p>That the Director of Children and Young People reports on all the recommendations to the October 2007 Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting including progress on:</p>	<p>A report will be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in October addressing the points raised in recommendation 5 and providing a progress update on the other recommendations .</p>	Director of the Children and Young People's Service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• progress in helping schools to develop appropriate arrangements for the development of extended services;</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the action being taken to ensure that there are effective lines of communication to ensure that Council staff and other agencies are kept informed of current developments;</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the action being taken to ensure provision of services continues as children and young people move</li> </ul>		



	<b>Scrutiny recommendation</b>	<b>Proposed Response</b>	<b>Ownership</b>
	from one educational establishment to another;		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The action being taken to try to ensure that charges and concessions levied by schools are consistent;</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The way in which services are advertised. <b>(Paragraph 7.8)</b></li> </ul>		

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