

APPENDIX 2

Progress in response to recommendations made and issues requiring action raised by the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

Committee date: 11 Dec 2009

Safeguarding and Vulnerable Children	
Recommendations	Response/Action
a) The Director of Children's Services discuss with the Cabinet Member (Children's Services) whether the Herefordshire Registered Social Landlords (RSL) be approached to encourage their further engagement in accommodation provision for under 18 year olds who cannot live at home.	Director and Cabinet Member for Children's Services discussed on 11 February 2010. It was felt that it needed further consideration as part of the Strategic Housing Review
b) That a report on the programme and timetable to roll out mobile ICT working systems to Social Workers be presented to a future meeting;	Listed in the Committee work programme for consideration.
c) To enable further efficiencies in working practices The Director of Children's Services consider the further integration of the Police and social Services Teams;	We are currently exploring possible structures, accommodation and ways of working with the police.
d) The duties as Corporate Parents be made clear to all Council Members, and suitable training be carried out;	Briefing note prepared and sent to Committee Members on 4 March 2010.
e) A report responding to the 10 questions set out in the CfPS publication 'Safeguarding Children Scrutiny Guide' be presented to the March 2010 meeting;	Report included in this agenda.
f) A briefing note be provided to Committee members on the transition procedures in place, (including their further	Briefing note prepared and sent to Committee Members 2 March 2010

education and housing opportunities), that ensures that children in need/vulnerable children undertake an efficient transfer to the Adult Social Care system.	
g) A briefing note be provided to the Committee members on the Kinship Carers provision including the number and funding thereof.	Briefing note prepared and sent to Committee Members 2 March 2010
h) A briefing note be provided to the Committee members on the range of services offered to children and families when relationships are at breaking point.	Briefing note prepared and sent to Committee Members 2 March 2010

Introduction and implications of Nursery Education Funding	
Recommendations	Response/Action
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b)The Committee considered that the administration of the schemes, especially for schools, be made clear and as efficient as possible.	We have now received formal authorisation to go forward as a Pathfinder for NEF – and the formula devised has been shared with schools and nursery settings. Schools Forum has recently considered a detailed paper on this and supported the proposal.
c) Schools be reminded that other funding sources may be available.	All grants and funding streams applicable for this area of delivery will be publicised to all settings.

Herefordshire Schools Task Group	
Recommendations	Response/Action
a) The Schools Task Group be commended for their work and the clarity of their report;	Letter sent by the Chairman.
b) The Cabinet Member (ICT, Education and Achievement) be encouraged to work closely with Scrutiny concerning future proposals in this mater;	Cabinet Member has noted this request.

<p>c) The Cabinet Member (ICT, Education and Achievement) encourage schools and cluster groups to be innovative in their working and approach to the future of education and learning provision in the County.</p>	<p>This is ongoing.</p>
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<p align="center">Capital Budget Monitoring</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	<p>Response/Action</p>
<p>a) The report be noted and a briefing note be provided to the Committee members on the condition of school properties (as identified through the Condition Survey, Schedule of Works, Asset Management Strategy) and an indication be given of budget requirement / allocation to meet maintenance needs.</p>	<p>Briefing note prepared and sent to Committee Members on 4 March 2010</p>
<p>b) Members be kept informed by briefing note of progress concerning the provision of a co-located Children's Centre north of the City.</p>	<p>Options for the location of a second Hereford City co-located services site are still being explored and involve commercially sensitive negotiations which are at a crucial stage. Officers are mindful of the need to secure the best possible site and deal in the interests of Hereford residents and the County as a whole. For this reason, I ask that the requested briefing paper be deferred until the outcome of the commercially sensitive negotiations is known. If negotiations are no longer commercially sensitive at the time of the next Committee on 19 March 2010, I shall be very happy to provide Members with a verbal update at that time</p>

<p align="center">Revenue Budget Report</p>	
<p>Additional Actions</p>	<p>Response/Action</p>
<p>b) a report be provided to a future meeting concerning the provision to Travellers Children following the bringing 'in-house' of the service from the</p>	<p>Item listed in the Committee work programme for a report to 1 October 2010 meeting.</p>

West Midlands Traveller Service	
c) A briefing note be provided to the Committee members on how RSLs, the Council's Housing Team and HomePoint were providing accommodation for under 18 year olds who cannot live at home;	Briefing note prepared and sent to Committee Members 2 March 2010.