

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

14 June 2010



Agenda

- Overall headlines
- Safeguarding children – headlines and key issues
- School organisation and leadership – headlines and key issues
- Attainment – headlines and key issues
- Children's Trust and multi agency working – headlines and key issues

Overall headlines

- Leadership – interim and permanent Director of Children's Services
- Directorate restructure
- New Children and Young People's Plan
- Maintaining and improving educational attainment and standards in the context of falling rolls and reducing budgets
- Achievement of LAA indicators
- Maintaining and strengthening performance and improving quality

Safeguarding Children Councillor Hyde



Safeguarding Children headlines

- Overall improvement in performance across the range of safeguarding performance indicators – particularly significant improvement in the timeliness of initial assessments
- Strengthening of support for children in care – Corporate Parenting Strategy, Children in Care Council, Royal Visit, new Looked After Children and Young People Team
- Strengthening of Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board – new Independent Chair; revised constitution
- Review of services to Vulnerable Children – LAC team; CIN teams aligned to localities, stronger safeguarding and review function
- Development and implementation of multi agency policies – Levels of Need, Children in Need policy

Safeguarding Children – key issues

- *Implementation of Service Review*
- *Implementation of new multi-agency policies and procedures – consistency across all agencies*
- *Continuing to strengthen performance, improving quality*
- *Embedding learning from Serious Case Reviews*
- *Pressure on budgets – placements for children with complex and specialist needs*

School organisation and leadership

Councillor Price



School organisation and leadership – headlines

- Herefordshire Schools Task Group recommendations
- Falling rolls and reducing budgets
- School leadership – vacancies / models
- Strategies – standards / performance
- Small Schools By Design – entitlement

School organisation and leadership – key issues

- *Clusters: each to submit plan for sustainable quality provision – September 2010*
- *Managing vacancies and supporting leadership in schools*
- *Improving standards and performance in the context of falling rolls and reducing budgets*
- *Key role of School Improvement Partners – working with schools at risk of falling into an Ofsted category*

Attainment

Councillor Price



Attainment – headlines

- Early Years: turned the curve
- Declining performance at Key Stages 1 and 2
- Key Stage 4, 5A*-Cs grades (including English and Maths): improvement above national average but below target
- Behaviour and Attendance: figures below national and regional averages
- Narrowing the gap

Attainment – key issues

- *Early Years – focus on raising standards*
- *Key Stage 1 attainment*
- *Key Stage 2 – raise performance in target schools/ consistency*
- *Improve percentage achieving 5A*-C including English and Maths*
- *Improve percentage making 3 levels progress between Key Stages 2 and 4*
- *Reduce attainment gap, particularly for those on Free School Meals and their peers*
- *Young people not in education, employment or training – LAA indicator*

Children's Trust development and multi-agency working

Councillor Hyde



Herefordshire Children's Trust – headlines

- Commitment by partners, including GP representation in advance of DCSF guidance
- Focused Children's Trust priorities for 2010/2011, leading into the development of the new Plan
- 5 Outcome Groups – new chairs, vice chairs and refreshed membership
- More robust accountability and challenge to and from Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board

Multi-agency work – headlines

- No Wrong Door and locality development
- Multi-agency reviews of Teenage Pregnancy, Children with Disabilities and CAMHS to develop stronger delivery models
- Development of an Adolescent Health Strategy
- Development of a children and young people's participation framework and strategy

Children's Trust and multi-agency working – key issues

- *Implementation of No Wrong Door approach to locality working*
- *Developing a new Children and Young People's Plan from 2011*
- *Setting top priorities and delivering – active vehicle that adds value*
- *Establishing the commissioning framework in terms of priorities, capacity, skills*
- *Enabling effective commissioning of substance misuse services by the Children's Trust 2010/11*
- *Relaunch of the Information Sharing Protocol across all agencies*