

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ



please ask for Sandra Hobbs
direct line 0300 300 5257
date 12 February 2010

NOTICE OF MEETING

CHILDREN, FAMILIES & LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date & Time

Wednesday, 24 February 2010 10.00 a.m.

Venue at

**Committee Room 1, Council Offices, High Street North,
Dunstable, LU6 1LF**

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the CHILDREN, FAMILIES & LEARNING
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

Cllrs J Street (Chairman), Mrs D B Gurney (Vice-Chairman), P A Blaine,
D Bowater, N B Costin, I Dalgarno, Dr R Egan, P Hollick, K Janes and
A Shadbolt

[Named Substitutes:

Cllrs: Mrs A Barker, Mrs S A Goodchild and Mrs M Mustoe]

Co-optees: Ms Chapman (Parent Governor), Ms Image (Roman Catholic
Diocese), Mr Landman (Parent Governor), Mr Reynolds (Church of England
Diocese) and Mr Sear (Parent Governor)

All other Members of the Council - on request

**MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS
MEETING**

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence and notification of substitute members.

2. **MINUTES**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 2 February 2010.

3. **MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

To receive from Members declarations and the **nature** in relation to:-

- (a) personal interests in any agenda item
- (b) personal and prejudicial interests in any agenda item
- (c) any political whip in relation to any agenda item.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman and any matters of communication.

5. **PETITIONS**

To receive petitions from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in Annex 2 of Part A4 of the Constitution.

6. **QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS OR DEPUTATIONS**

To receive any questions, statements or deputations from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in Annex 1 of part A4 of the Constitution.

7. **CALL-IN**

To consider any matter referred to the Committee for a decision in relation to the call-in of a decision.

8. **REQUESTED ITEMS**

To consider any items referred to the Committee at the request of a Member under Procedure Rule 3.1 of Part D2 of the Constitution.

REPORTS

Item	Subject	Page Nos.
9	FOLLOW UP REPORT ON HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY To continue discussions on the proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy, to take effect from April and September 2010.	13 - 42
10	QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE MONITORING INFORMATION - QUARTER 3 The report provides Members with the quarter three performance information for the Children, Families and Learning Directorate.	43 - 52
11	QUARTERLY BUDGET MONITORING INFORMATION - QUARTER 3 The report provides Members with the quarter three budget monitoring information for the Children, Families and Learning Directorate.	53 - 98

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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CHILDREN, FAMILIES & LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in Room 15, Priority House, Chicksands, Shefford on Tuesday, 2 February 2010

PRESENT

Cllr J Street (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs D B Gurney (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: P A Blaine
Dr R Egan
P Hollick
K Janes
A Shadbolt

Parental Co-optees: H Copley
D Landman

Church of England
Co-optee: J Reynolds

Roman Catholic
Co-optee: F Image

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs D Bowater
N B Costin
I Dalgarno
Parental Co-optee B Sear

Substitutes: Cllrs Mrs M Mustoe

Members in Attendance: Cllrs P N Aldis
J G Jamieson
Mrs A Lewis
Mrs C Turner

Also in Attendance: Adrian Rogers, Headteacher

Officers in Attendance: Mrs E Grant Deputy Chief Executive and Director
of Children, Families and Learning
Mrs S Hobbs Democratic Services Officer
Mrs K Partington Strategic Finance Manager
Mr J Partridge Overview & Scrutiny Officer
Ms K Peddie Head of Policy & Strategy - Children,
Families & Learning
Mrs S Reed Head of Commissioning

CFL/09/71 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 5 January 2010 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CFL/09/72 **Members' Interests**

(a) **Personal Interests:-**

None.

(b) **Personal and Prejudicial Interests:-**

None.

(c) **Any Political Whip in relation to items on the agenda:-**

None.

CFL/09/73 **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

The Chairman reminded Members that the quorum for the Committee was 4 councillors and 2 co-opted members whenever considering education matters and 3 councillors at all other times. A co-opted Member stated that financial assistance was not provided to co-optees for child care, but was provided to Councillors. He had queried this with Officers, who were looking into this. The Chairman agreed to follow this up and provide a written answer.

CFL/09/74 **Petitions**

The Chairman announced that no petitions had been referred to this meeting.

CFL/09/75 **Questions, Statements or Deputations**

There were no applications from members of the public to speak under the Public Participation Procedure allowed for under Part A4 of the Constitution.

CFL/09/76 **Call-In**

No matters were referred to the Committee for a decision in relation to call-in of a decision.

CFL/09/77 Requested Items

No items were referred to the Committee for consideration at the request of a Member under Procedure Rule 3.1 of Part D2 of the Constitution.

CFL/09/78 Home to School Transport Policy

Members considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning which proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy, to take effect from April and September 2010.

The Portfolio Holder for Children's Services introduced the report explaining that in 2009/10 Central Bedfordshire Council adopted the Home to School Transport Policy previously in place in the legacy authority, Bedfordshire County Council. There were 31,000 children in Central Bedfordshire with 6,200 benefiting from free transport to school. The Council was reviewing the most effective use of resources available due to the current economic climate. The Policy was being considered to enable any changes to come into force during the 2010/11 financial year.

In accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in paragraph 2 of Annex 1 of Part A4 of the Constitution, the Chairman then invited those members of the public who had registered to speak on this item to address the Committee. Each speaker was permitted a maximum of three minutes. Statements were received from four speakers raising the following queries/concerns:-

- the financial impact on the parents if they had to start paying to transport their children to school;
- what was the cost to the Council to educate a child and therefore what the additional cost would be to the Council if children currently attending denominational schools were to transfer in to a mainstream school;
- which benefits would be taken into account as part of the eligibility criteria for families with low income and in receipt of working tax credit;
- the impact of proposals on the children if they had to change schools especially those who currently attend a denominational school; and
- the different education system in Central Bedfordshire compared to Bedford and Hertfordshire.

Members were advised that the Children, Families and Learning budget was allocated to cost codes. The 2009/10 Home to School Transport budget was currently overspent by £0.6 million. The average cost of providing transport for a child to a denominational school was £2,000 per pupil, per year compared with the average cost of transport to a mainstream school which was in the region of £775 per year.

Members were advised that the consultation period was taking place from 6 January to 12 February 2010. Officers and the Portfolio Holder had viewed the responses so far and this showed that public opinion was equally weighted for those in favour or against the rationalisation of school transport at that point in time. Officers were working closely with the Passenger Transport Team, which was currently reviewing the Transport Policy to get the best value for money.

A concern was raised regarding the consultation process and it was proposed that Members needed to consider the full results of the consultation to enable the Committee to make an informed decision before making any recommendations to the Executive. The consultation document and questionnaire had been distributed to schools for circulation to parents. A copy could also be found on the web site at:-

<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations/transport-consultation.aspx>.

Members raised concerns that not all parents had received the consultation papers and Officers agreed to check with the schools that these documents had been circulated. Members were advised that there had been a one week delay in sending the letter to the Catholic Diocese and the Church of England Diocese, although Senior Officers had met with the Dioceses on 26 January 2010. As a result of this the consultation period was being extended from 12 February to 19 February 2010. Once the Council had a clearer direction, neighbouring authorities would be consulted. Members requested to receive further information regarding the consultation process including who had been involved and the full results of the consultation.

A motion was proposed and seconded:

“to hold a special meeting of the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to take place after the consultation closing date and before the Executive meeting on 9 March 2010 to discuss the Home to School Transport Policy.”

This motion was **carried**.

Members debated the following proposals:-

- (a) **Road Safety Transport** – to reassess the routes on road safety grounds from 1 April 2010. The reassessment might result in changes to the current entitlement to free transport on road safety grounds. The Committee was largely supportive of this proposal. The Chairman of Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who was present at the meeting, suggested that Officers work closely with other corporate teams on more sustainable solutions such as footpaths and a sustainable transport, benefiting the whole community.

- (b) **Denominational Transport** – to end the provision of transport to denominational schools with effect from 1 September 2010. This proposal would not affect the entitlement to transport for families with a low income. A joint letter from the Catholic Diocese of Northampton and the Church of England Diocese of St Albans was tabled at the meeting, making representations against the proposal to abolish free home to school transport for children who were attending Church of England and Catholic Schools. The letter set out facts and principles relating to denominational schools and the children attending them. The Dioceses representatives suggested that if the Council agreed to this proposal it should be phased in and free home to school transport should continue to be provided to children already in a denominational school and those children who had already made an application to a school. Members requested further information regarding the phasing out of denominational transport over a five year period as opposed to ending the provision with effect from 1 September 2010. Members debated this proposal extensively including raising the following:-
- if another religious school was built outside the Central Bedfordshire area would the Council have to transport additional children from home to school?
 - if the Council agreed to continue funding the current home to school transport policy then funding for other areas of Children, Families and Learning would need to be reduced;
 - the possible impact this would have on the intake at denominational schools and on increasing the intake at mainstream schools within Central Bedfordshire; and
 - those families on low income and just above the threshold. Members requested to receive further information on the low income criteria, particularly on the working tax credit threshold.
- (c) **Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers** – it was clarified that this related to unaccompanied asylum seeking children and the report to the Executive would need to make this clear.
- (d) **Special Educational Needs Transport** – it was being proposed that children with special educational needs be assessed as part of the Statutory Assessment process to determine the most appropriate mode of travel to school. For those children who lived more than the statutory distance between home and the nearest school that would meet their needs, transport would be provided.

For those children living within the statutory distance the Assessment would include consideration of whether, with parental support, a child would reasonably be expected to walk to school. An amendment was proposed and seconded to:-

“remove the words ‘with parental support’ from the proposal”.

This amendment was **carried**.

A concern was raised with regard to the Assessment process and the criteria when making a decision regarding the transport needs of a child with special needs. The Assessments would be held at an appropriate time with agencies and parents present. The majority of Members supported this proposal subject to the above amendment.

RESOLVED that prior to the proposals being presented to the Executive a Special meeting of the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee be scheduled after the consultation closing date and before the Executive meeting on 9 March 2010 to hold a further discussion in light of the consultation results.

CFL/09/79 **Educational Vision**

Members considered the report and a presentation from the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning regarding the vision for transforming learning in Central Bedfordshire. Members were introduced to Adrian Rogers, Headteacher who had been working closely with Officers.

The presentation set out:-

- where we were;
- where we are now;
- issues;
- current position of Trusts, Federations and Partnerships; and
- next steps.

Members raised concerns regarding the number of transition points in schools and the negative effect that this might have on levels of attainment. The number of transition points between schools needed to be reduced where possible and this should be a key principle for the educational vision.

Members discussed the differences between Trusts and Federations. Members were advised that it was a school's decision to become a member of a Trust. If a school became part of a trust the school and land would be handed over to the Trust. If the Trust was no longer in existence these assets would be handed back to the Council. There were opportunities for schools to work in partnership, which could provide collaborative benefits to schools, but a view was presented that there needed to be a fuller debate around the development of trusts, federations and partnerships and their potential benefits.

Members also raised the 2-tier and 3-tier education system and the education of children in the 0-19 age range to ensure that there is a 'one-phase' approach to learning. Officers agreed to revise the wording of the vision at paragraphs 2.2 where it stated that 2-tier and 3-tier debate was irrelevant and 12.1 where it is stated that the Council would review the number of transition points, so that these two sentences no longer contradicted themselves.

NOTED the contents of the educational vision.

RECOMMENDED to the Executive that the following comments on the principles of the educational vision for Central Bedfordshire be taken into consideration:-

- Members raised concerns regarding the number of transition points in schools and the negative effect that this could have on levels of attainment. The number of transition points needed to be reduced where possible and this should be a key principle for the education vision;
- the educational vision should focus on continuity of provision across the 0-19 age range to ensure that there was a 'one-phase' approach to learning; and
- there were opportunities for schools to work in partnership, which could provide collaborative benefits to schools, but views were presented that there needed to be a fuller debate around the development of trusts, federations and partnerships and their potential benefits.

CFL/09/80 **Work Programme 2009-2010**

Members considered the current work programme for the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Members were advised that the Chairman of Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CROSC) had been advised of the request for CROSC to scrutinise the performance of Mouchel.

NOTED the work programme for Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 10.10 a.m. and concluded at 1.30 p.m.)

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Meeting: Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 24 February 2010
Subject: Follow up Report on Home to School Transport Policy
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning
Summary: The report provides the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with the further information requested at its meeting on 2 February 2010.

Contact Officer: Sylvia Gibson, Assistant Director, Policy Planning and Commissioning
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Executive

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

As identified in the report to the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Home to School Transport on 2 February 2010, attached to this report as Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That Members consider the additional information requested at the meeting on 2 February 2010.**
- 2. That Members provide Officers with comments, which will be reported to the Executive at their meeting on 9 March 2010, and to contribute to the development of the Policy.**

Background

- At its meeting on 2 February 2010 the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report on proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy. Members raised a concern regarding the consultation process and requested that prior to submitting any comments to the Executive they be provided with an opportunity to receive the full consultation results for discussion. The Committee resolved (**Minute CFL/09/78 refers**) "that prior to the proposals being presented to the Executive, a Special meeting of the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee be scheduled after the consultation closing date and before the Executive meeting on 9 March 2010 to hold a further discussion in light of the consultation results."

Additional information requested

2. It was agreed that the public consultation period would be extended for a further week and close on 19 February 2010. The results of the consultation are to be tabled at the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee at the meeting on 24 February.
3. A financial Impact Evaluation of phasing in the proposed change to eligibility for free home to school transport to denominational schools was requested.
4. Clarification on Proposal 6, the requirement to support Asylum Seeking Children was requested.
5. Clarification on Proposal 7, the intention to provide independent travel support to children and young people with Special Educational Needs was requested.
6. The Committee wished to receive further information on the low income criteria, particularly on the working tax credit threshold.

Denominational Transport

7. (a) Consultation Process

The Consultation Process began on 8 January 2010 and was due to close on 12 February 2010. Following the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 2 February 2010, the consultation was extended by one week with a new closing date of 19 February 2010 to allow for further comments to be made by interested parties. A Consultation Questionnaire has been circulated widely and is available on the Council's Website.

All families with children at denominational schools received individual letters and copies of the consultation to their home address at the start of the consultation process.

Information was sent to all schools in Central Bedfordshire informing them of the proposals and of the consultation. Schools were asked to inform parents of the consultation and the web address.

Reminders were sent to schools following the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 2 February 2010 requesting that they inform parents of the consultation if they had not already done so, and informing them of the revised closing date.

Letters were sent to Directors of Children's Services in Local Authorities where Central Bedfordshire children are currently attending denominational schools.

The consultation closing date was amended on the Council's website and the communication and press team informed of the changed date.

Members of the Committee will receive at the meeting a summary of the responses to the consultation questionnaire, together with a breakdown of other comments and letters received.

(b) Impact Evaluation: Phasing in eligibility to free school transport to denominational schools

Consideration has been given to the financial impact of phasing in the eligibility to free school transport to faith schools.

The financial model is based on current usage of denominational transport, phased out on the basis that when a child moves to the next phase of schooling his/her entitlement ceases. Currently for Central Bedfordshire schools this is at the end of Years 4 and 8. For Local Authorities who operate a two tier system this is at the end of Year 6. The model assumes that those children currently at Upper or Secondary schools will remain at their current school until Year 13.

The financial impact to the authority of phasing out entitlement to denominational transport is reflected in the additional budget required in each financial year.

Phasing in the proposal to withdraw entitlement over the seven year period indicated below would require compensatory savings to be identified in Children's Services budgets. The budget impact will reduce over the period with the greatest impact being incurred in 2010-11.

Financial summary of phasing out of denominational Transport

		Financial Year							Savings	
		10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	In Yr	Cum
	Cost									625,670
Academic Year	10/11	(118,920)	(84,943)						(203,862)	421,808
	11/12		(102,936)	(73,526)					(176,462)	245,345
	12/13			(50,948)	(36,391)				(87,339)	158,006
	13/14				(52,996)	(37,854)			(90,850)	67,156
	14/15					(31,394)	(22,424)		(53,817)	13,338
	15/16						(7,781)	(5,558)	(13,338)	0
	Cum savings	(118,920)	(306,779)	(431,273)	(520,660)	(589,908)	(620,112)	(625,670)		
	Addt Budget Required	506,750	318,871	194,397	105,010	35,762	5,558	0		

Looked After Children and Unaccompanied Refugees and Asylum Seeking Children

- To avoid any doubt, Proposal 6 refers to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children and is modified in the Executive Report.

Special Educational Needs Transport

8. The population of children with Special Education Needs defined in Proposal 7 of the original report are those where they fall into the legal definition of special educational needs according to the 1981 Act as amended by subsequent legislation. To avoid doubt, this is a different definition from those classified as Children Looked After or Children in Need, who are referred to in social care legislation under the broader term of Safeguarding.
9. The intent to specify the provision through the statement process was intended to help with monitoring and evaluation, and not to imply that pupils who travel to special schools would have to travel to school independently as a matter of course. As they move toward adulthood, independence training will become relevant but this would be a matter of individual evaluation on a case by case basis. To make it clear, the wording *parental support* will be modified to represent the intention that the statutory walking distance would be based on the child/young person being able to *walk accompanied by an adult or unaccompanied safely as they reach independence*. This is modified in the Executive Report.

Low Income Criteria and the Working Tax Credit Threshold

10. The low income criteria set out in the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and in the 2007 Guidance for Home to School Transport (DCSF) is as follows:
If the family receive:
 - free school meals;
 - maximum rate Working Tax Credit¹;
 - Income Support;
 - Income Based Job Seeker Allowance;
 - Child Tax Credit, if not entitled to Working Tax Credit (WTC) and annual income does not exceed £16,040;
 - Support under S6 of Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; and
 - Guaranteed element of State Pension credit.

Conclusion

13. The Committee is requested to consider the proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy and to give their comments to be fed back into the development of the Policy.

¹ When tax credits are awarded, or following a change in their household circumstances, HM Revenue and Customs issue a “tax credits award notice” detailing the breakdown and amount of the award. Part two of the award notice gives details of the full WTC elements. This is the maximum amount a customer can receive in WTC in any year. It then lists any reduction due and shows the net amount payable. It is therefore readily apparent from the award notice whether a person is receiving maximum WTC or a reduced sum due to income.

Appendices:

Appendix A: Report to Overview and Scrutiny on Home to School Transport on 2 February 2010

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Meeting: Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 2 February 2010

Subject: Home to School Transport Policy

Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning

Summary: The report proposes changes to the Home to School Transport Policy, to take effect from April and September 2010.

Contact Officer: Sylvia Gibson, Assistant Director, Policy Planning and Commissioning

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Executive

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The proposals relate to the second of the Council's key priorities::

- Educating, protecting and providing opportunities for children and young people.

The proposals also support the priorities set out in the Children and Young People's Plan and the Local Area Agreement to ensure that children, young people and families:

- enjoy and achieve at school and meet their full potential;
- are supported in families with a low income;
- receive appropriate services if they have special educational needs or are identified as vulnerable.

The proposals also have an impact on National Indicator 198 (Mode of travel to school), which is a priority in the Local Area Agreement and a mandatory indicator in the Local Transport Plan. This target aims to reduce car use for journeys to school and to increase the number of children travelling by sustainable modes of transport.

Financial:

The proposed changes to Policy, if approved by the Council, would result in significant budget savings whilst ensuring that those entitled to support and those who are the most vulnerable are able to access school.

The current costs of providing home to School Transport are £8.1m. The 2009/10 Home to School Transport budget is overspent by £0.6m. By making the proposed changes to the Policy below to start in September 2010, it is possible that savings of approximately £0.6m can be made in the 2010/11 financial year and a further £0.4m in 2011/12. These savings are highlighted in the Council's current budget efficiencies work as potential red savings. Financial Information is included in Appendix B. All budget figures are projections and should be viewed as indicative savings. These projections do not take account of any costs which might be necessary to mitigate the effects of increased car use at schools.

Legal:

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 introduced some changes to the statutory arrangements for school travel, including the duty to promote sustainable modes of travel and in defining pupils who are eligible children and for whom the LEA must therefore secure that suitable home to school travel arrangements are provided. Bedfordshire County Council last reviewed its policy on school transport in September 2005 and it is therefore important that the Council undertakes a review before the academic year 2010/11 begins to ensure that its policies reflect the current statutory requirements.

This is a difficult area and one that is open to legal challenge. There is the potential for an adverse reaction from parents of children where policy changes result in the provision of previously free home to school transport being removed. Therefore, it is important that the Council conducts effective consultation on any proposed changes to the current policy and takes careful note of the outcome of the consultation before reaching decisions.

Risk Management:

Any changes to the policy will meet current legislative requirements and ensure that the assessment of eligibility for free home to school transport is fair and equitable for all families.

There is the potential for adverse reaction from parents of children where previous entitlement transport would be removed.

If the proposed changes are implemented, any potential road safety issues arising from increased car use would need to be assessed and might need to be mitigated.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

The removal of transport for certain children attending special schools could have an impact on the numbers of fleet drivers and escorts employed by the Council.

Equalities/Human Rights:

Central Bedfordshire Council has a statutory duty to promote race, gender and disability equality and to tackle discrimination experienced by other vulnerable groups. An Equality Impact Assessment is being undertaken as part of the development of the policy. This will be revised and updated once the outcome of the consultation on the proposals are known. The Central Bedfordshire Equality Forum will also consider the draft policy and equality impact assessments at its meeting on 25 February 2010.

Community Safety:

In providing home to school transport on road safety grounds, the proposals support the protection of vulnerable children.

Central Bedfordshire Council is developing a Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy for educational establishments, which is a statutory requirement for the Authority under the Education and Inspections Act (2006). The provision of safer walking routes to school forms a part of this strategy and supports the Council's agenda to provide safer and stronger communities.

Sustainability:

Central Bedfordshire Council is developing a Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy for educational establishments, which is a statutory requirement for the Authority under the Education and Inspections Act (2006). Any changes to the Home to School Transport Policy and their impact will be considered as part of the development of this Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers and comments on the proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy as set out in the report and Appendices A and B.

Background

1. A local authority has a statutory responsibility to provide free home to school transport for certain children of statutory school age. There are currently 31,032 children, aged 5 to 15 attending Central Bedfordshire Schools. Transport is provided daily for approximately 6,200 children to both mainstream and special schools. Transport is also provided for children who, due to their special educational need, attend a residential school. The total cost of providing this transport is in excess of £8 million per year.
2. For the academic year 2009/10 Central Bedfordshire Council adopted the Home to School Transport Policy previously in place in Bedfordshire County Council. This Policy was previously reviewed in September 2005.

3. As part of Central Bedfordshire Council's overall aim to make the most effective use of resources available and to ensure they are targeted where they are needed most, a review of entitlement to home to school transport has been undertaken. The proposals for changes to the policy set out below are now being consulted on.
4. This report sets out proposed changes to the policy and the consultation process taking place between 6 January and 12 February 2010.

Entitlement to Transport

5. Transport based on distance, nearest school policy and extended rights to free travel¹ meets the specific duties on a local authority as set out in the Education Act 1996 and the Education and Inspections Act 2006.
6. Free transport is provided for all statutory age children who live in Central Bedfordshire and who attend their catchment area or nearest school where the distance from home to school is over the statutory walking distance:
 - More than 2 miles from home for children aged under 8
 - More than 3 miles from home for children aged 8 and over

In addition, where children are in a family with a low income there is additional entitlement:

- Children aged 8 but under 11 must have travel arrangements made where they live more than 2 miles from the nearest or catchment school.
 - For children aged 11 and over free transport is provided in one of two ways; to a choice of 3 schools within 6 miles of the child's home and also to the nearest school preferred by reason of a parent's religion or belief up to a maximum of 15 miles from home.
7. Families with a low income are defined as those children entitled to free school meals or whose family is in receipt of maximum working tax credit.

Additional Transport

8. In addition to the specific duties under the Education Act 1996 and the Education and Inspections Act 2006 there is a general duty for local authorities to provide any transport it considers necessary, free of charge.
9. A review of the policy for providing such transport, taking account the responsibility on parents to make arrangements for their child to get to school where the distances are less than the statutory distances set out in paragraph 6 above, has also been undertaken.

¹ The Education and Inspections Act 2006 extended entitlement to transport, over and above the distance criteria set out in the Education Act 1996. Children living in "low income families" defined as entitled to free school meals or whose parents are in receipt of the maximum level of Working Tax Credit are now entitled to transport where previously they would not have been.

(a) Road Safety Transport

Where children live within the statutory walking distance of their catchment or nearest school, the local authority has to ensure that it is possible for them to walk to school, accompanied by a responsible adult if necessary. Where this is not possible, because the route to school is not safe, the local authority must make arrangements for free transport.

The current criteria used to assess routes are based on guidance from the late 1990's. To ensure that the Council is complying with current guidance it is proposed that any assessments from 1 April 2010 are based on the national guidance of the Road Safety Officer Association "Identification of Hazards and the Assessment of Risk of Walked Routes to School".

The Introduction of these guidelines may increase demand for provision of free school transport on road safety grounds.

Proposal 1

The Council proposes to start the re-assessment of routes on road safety grounds from 1 April 2010. These re-assessments may result in changes to current entitlement to free transport on road safety grounds. Parents will receive full and timely information of any proposed changes.

(b) Denominational Transport

In considering entitlement to free transport a council has to take into account any wish of a parent for their child to be provided with education or training at a particular school or institution on grounds of the parents' religion or belief. There is no statutory entitlement to such transport, as attendance at a denominational school is through parental choice.

Under the current Home to School Transport Policy, transport is provided for just under 300 statutory aged children to attend their nearest school of the relevant denomination where the 2 or 3 mile distance criteria are met. The average cost of providing this transport is £2,000 per pupil, per year, compared with the average cost of transport to a mainstream school which is in the region of £775 per year. There is clearly a disproportionate cost in providing such transport compared with the cost of other mainstream school transport.

Proposal 2

The Council proposes to end the provision of transport to denominational schools with effect from 1 September 2010. This proposal does not affect the entitlement to transport for families with a low income as set out in paragraph 5 of this report.

(c) Permanently Excluded Pupils

Where a pupil has been permanently excluded from school the pupil is first allocated a place in the Pupil Referral Unit and is then allocated a new school place through a process called the In Year Fair Access Protocol. Where a new school is allocated in this way a child will be entitled to transport to the new school as long as the 2 or 3 mile distance criteria or road safety criteria are met. Currently some pupils receive transport inside this statutory distance.

Proposal 3

The Council proposes to provide transport based on distance criteria, with all requests for transport inside the distance criteria referred for decision to the Director of Children, Families and Learning or nominee for consideration against criteria which will be agreed with the School Forum on an annual basis.

(d) Medical Needs

Where a child attends their catchment area or nearest school, transport is currently considered on medical grounds irrespective of distance between home and school. The medical condition can be temporary or long term and each application is considered on an individual basis. An application for transport has to be supported by a GP or consultant.

Proposal 4

The Council proposes to continue with existing arrangements where transport is requested on medical grounds for a child to attend their catchment or nearest school and where that need is endorsed by a child's GP or Consultant.

(e) Pupils in Years 10 and 11

Sometimes families and children, through no choice of their own, experience disruption in their home circumstances. This can cause particular difficulty for a child in their GCSE examination year if they have to move address and are not able to remain at their previous school where they have started a course of study.

Proposal 5

In order to help children achieve their full potential and to succeed in their GCSE examinations the Council proposes that where a child attending school in Central Bedfordshire in years 10 and 11 has to move in exceptional circumstances to a new address in Central Bedfordshire they will be provided with transport from their new address to their previous school as long as they have completed at least one term in year 10 at their previous school.

(f) Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Whilst representing only a very small number of the total school population, Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers can be some of the most vulnerable children in need of support. School places for these pupils are identified that can best meet a child's individual needs. The school will not always be the nearest school to their home address.

Proposal 6

The Council proposes that Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers are supported with transport, if required, to attend schools that best meet their needs. This may mean that transport will be provided to schools where the 2 or 3 mile distance criteria or road safety criteria are not met.

(g) Special Educational Needs Transport

Under the current home to school transport policy, all pupils who have a place in a special school or specialist provision in a mainstream school are provided with free transport. This means that in some cases transport is provided for children who live a very short distance from school.

The Council recognises that some children with special educational needs may not be able to walk even relatively short distances to school. However others may be able, with appropriate support, to walk or use alternative ways of getting to school.

Proposal 7

It is proposed that from September 2010 the need for transport for a child with special educational needs will be assessed as part of the Statutory Assessment process. For those children who live more than the statutory distance between home and the nearest school that can meet their needs, transport will be provided. As part of the Statutory Assessment the most appropriate mode of travel will be agreed.

For those children who live within the statutory distance the Assessment will include consideration of whether, with parental support, a child could reasonably be expected to walk to school. Where this is not possible the need for transport will be included in a child's Statement of Special Educational Need and will be provided free of charge. Entitlement to transport agreed in this way will be reviewed at every Annual Review.

To support this change, it is proposed that with effect from April 2010, supported travel training is introduced for children in special schools and specialist provisions in mainstream schools. This programme would support young people in making travel choices whilst at school but also when they move on to more independent living.

(h) Concessionary Places on School Contract Vehicles

The Council is committed to supporting children to access school. Where children are not entitled to free transport, parents can buy a pass for any spare seats on a school contract vehicle once those entitled have been allocated a place. Passes can be bought for one term at a time and are allocated on a first come first served basis. This does not apply to routes that are public registered services where children pay the bus company direct.

The charge for a concessionary place will be £133.95 from April 2010. Some families with a low income can be allocated seats free of charge.

Proposal 8

To ensure consistency it is proposed that the benefits taken into account when assessing whether a pass is to be issued free of charge will be the same as those for entitlement to transport for families with a low income. This will mean that certain families who are in receipt of working tax credit, but not at the maximum rate will no longer be allocated a free pass.

Consultation Process

10. The Consultation began on 6 January 2010 and will end on 12 February 2010. The Consultation questionnaire has been circulated widely and is available on the Council Website. The consultation document and questionnaire are attached at Appendix A. The Council will consider the proposals and responses to the consultation at its Executive Meeting on 9 March 2010.

Conclusion and Next Steps

11. The Committee is requested to consider the proposed changes to the Home to School Transport Policy and to give their comments to be fed back in to the review of the Policy.

Appendices:

- Appendix A: Consultation Document and Questionnaire
- Appendix B: Financial Information

Central Bedfordshire Council
Consultation on Proposed Changes to the Home to
School Transport Policy

Consultation Timescale
Wednesday 6th January - Friday 12th February 2010

Closing Date for responses 12 noon on Friday 12th
February 2010

1. Introduction

A local authority has a statutory responsibility to provide free home to school transport for certain children of statutory school age. The responsibilities are set out in the Education Act 1996 and the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

2. Background

There are currently 31,032¹ statutory aged children, 5 to 15, attending Central Bedfordshire Schools. Transport is provided daily for approximately 6,200 of these children to both mainstream (lower, middle and upper) schools and special schools. Transport is also provided for children who, due to their special educational need, attend a residential school.

For the academic year 2009/10 Central Bedfordshire Council adopted the Home to School Transport Policy previously in place in Bedfordshire County Council. The current cost to Central Bedfordshire of providing home to school transport is in excess of £8 million per year.

As part of Central Bedfordshire Council's overall aim to make the most effective use of the resources available, a review of the existing policy has been carried out. This review has identified potential areas of savings which could be achieved through revisions to the Home to School Transport Policy whilst continuing to target resources where they are most needed.

The Council is also seeking to ensure greater clarity in decision making regarding the provision, or not, of free home to school transport.

3. Why is Central Bedfordshire consulting with you?

Central Bedfordshire Council is committed to providing free home to school transport to meet its statutory obligations. In addition, the Council recognises that there are some children who do not meet the criteria for free home to school transport but who, nonetheless, would benefit from free home to school transport to enable them to access education and to achieve their potential.

¹ Census 2009, pupils aged 5 – 15 as at 31st August 2009, in mainstream and special schools.

The Council recognises that the proposals being put forward for consultation would, if agreed, have an impact on some families more than on others. However, we are keen to make this consultation as broad as possible and we would like to hear from any parents, schools, local residents, appropriate Members of Parliament and anyone with an interest in entitlement to home to school transport for pupils in Central Bedfordshire.

The Council is now consulting on proposals for changes to the Policy to take effect from 1 April 2010 and 1 September 2010.

You can respond to the consultation using the attached form, or you can respond through Central Bedfordshire Council's website www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations

We will be holding consultation meetings with the relevant Diocesan Authorities and also with Special School Head Teachers and Governing Bodies.

The Council will consider responses to the Consultation at its Executive Meeting on 9th March 2010.

4. Entitlement to transport

Free transport is provided for all statutory age children who live in Central Bedfordshire and who attend their catchment area or nearest school, where the distance from home to school is over the statutory walking distance

- More than 2 miles from home for children aged under 8
- More than 3 miles from home for children aged 8 and over.

In addition, where children are in a family with a low income there is additional entitlement:

- Children aged 8 but under 11 must have travel arrangements made where they live more than 2 miles from their nearest qualifying² school by the shortest available walking route.
- For children aged 11 and over free transport is provided in one of two ways:
 - to a choice of one of the three nearest qualifying schools provided it is more than 2 miles by the shortest available walking route, but not more than 6 miles by motorised route from the child's home.
 - and also to the nearest suitable school preferred by reason of a parent's, or those with legal responsibilities, religion or belief provided it is more than 2 miles by the shortest available walking route and not more than 15 miles by motorised route from home.

² A qualifying school is defined as a community, foundation or voluntary school; community or foundation special school, non-maintained special school; pupil referral unit or maintained nursery school, with places available that provides education appropriate to the age, ability and aptitude of the child and any special educational needs that the child may have.

Families with a low income are defined as those children entitled to free school meals or whose family is in receipt of maximum working tax credit. There is currently additional Government funding to meet the cost of transport for these children

The Council is not proposing any changes for children who are provided with transport on this basis.

5. Additional transport considerations

In addition to the specific duties to provide transport on distance grounds, there is a general duty for local authorities to provide any transport it considers necessary, free of charge. A review of the current arrangements has been carried out and the proposals for change are set out below.

A. Road Safety Transport

Where children live within the statutory walking distance of their catchment or nearest school, the local authority has to ensure that it is possible for them to walk to school, accompanied by a responsible adult if necessary. Where this is not possible, because the route to school is not safe, the local authority has to make arrangements for free transport.

The current criteria used to assess routes are based on guidance from the late 1990's. To ensure that the Council is complying with current guidance it is intended that any assessments from 1st April 2010 are based on the national guidance of the Local Authority Road Safety Officers Association, now Road Safety GB, "Identification of Hazards and the Assessment of Risk of Walked Routes to School".

Proposal 1

The Council proposes to start the re-assessment of routes on road safety grounds from 1 April 2010. These re-assessments may result in changes to current entitlement to free transport on road safety grounds. Parents will receive full and timely information of any proposed changes.

B. Denominational Transport

In considering entitlement to free transport a council has to take in to account any wish of a parent for their child to be provided with education or training at a particular school or institution on grounds of the parents' religion or belief. There is no statutory entitlement to such transport, as attendance at a denominational school is through parental choice.

Under the current Home to School Transport Policy, transport is provided for just under 300 statutory aged children to attend their nearest school of the relevant denomination, where the 2 or 3 mile distance criteria are met. The average cost of providing this transport is £2,000 per pupil, per year, compared with the average cost of transport to a mainstream school in the

region of £775 per year. There is clearly a disproportionate cost in providing such transport compared with the cost of other mainstream school transport.

Proposal 2

The Council proposes to end the provision of transport to denominational schools with effect from 1 September 2010. This proposal does not affect the entitlement to transport for families with a low income as set out in part 4 of this paper.

C. Permanently Excluded Pupils

Where a pupil has been permanently excluded from school the pupil is first allocated a place in the Pupil Referral Unit and is then allocated a new school place through a process called the In Year Fair Access Protocol. Where a new school is allocated in this way a child will be entitled to transport to the new school as long as the 2 or 3 mile distance criteria or road safety criteria are met. Currently some pupils receive transport inside this statutory distance.

Proposal 3

The Council proposes to provide transport based on distance criteria, with all requests for transport inside the statutory distance referred to the Director or nominee for consideration against criteria which will be agreed with the School Forum on an annual basis.

D. Medical Needs

Where a child attends their catchment area or nearest school, transport is currently considered on medical grounds irrespective of distance between home and school. The medical condition can be temporary or long term and each application is considered on an individual basis. An application for transport has to be supported by a GP or consultant.

Proposal 4

The Council proposes to continue with existing arrangements where transport is requested on medical grounds for a child to attend their catchment or nearest school and where that need is endorsed by a child's GP or Consultant.

E. Pupils in Years 10 and 11

Sometimes families and children, through no choice of their own, experience disruption in their home circumstances. This can cause particular difficulty for a child in their GCSE examination years if they have to move address and are not able to remain at their previous school where they have started a course of study.

Proposal 5

In order to help children achieve their full potential and to succeed in their GCSE examinations the Council proposes that where a child attending school in Central Bedfordshire in years 10 and 11 has to move in exceptional circumstances to a new address in Central Bedfordshire they will be provided with transport from their new address to their previous school, as long as they have completed at least one term in year 10 at their previous school.

F. Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Whilst representing only a very small number of the total school population, Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers can be some of the most vulnerable children in need of support. School places are identified that can best meet a child's individual needs. The school will not always be the nearest school to their home address.

Proposal 6

The Council proposes that Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers are supported with transport, if required, to attend schools that best meet their needs. This may mean that transport will be provided to schools where the 2 or 3 mile distance criteria or road safety criteria are not met.

G. Transport for children with Special Educational Needs

Under the current home to school transport policy all pupils who have a place in a special school or specialist provision in a mainstream school are provided with free transport. This means that in some cases transport is provided for children who live a very short distance from the school they attend.

The Council recognises that some children with special educational needs may not be able to walk even relatively short distances to school. However others may, with appropriate support, be able to walk or use alternative ways of getting to school.

Proposal 7

The Council proposes that from September 2010 the need for transport for a child with special educational needs is assessed as part of the Statutory Assessment Process. For those children who live more than the statutory distance between home and the nearest school that can meet their needs, transport will be provided free of charge. As part of the Statutory Assessment the most appropriate mode of travel will be agreed.

For those children who live within the statutory distance the Assessment would include consideration of whether, with parental support, a child could reasonably be expected to walk to school. Where

this is not possible the need for transport will be included in a child's Statement of Special Educational Need and transport will be provided free of charge. Entitlement to transport agreed in this way would be reviewed at every Annual Review.

To support this change, it is proposed that with effect from April 2010, supported travel training is introduced for children in special schools and specialist provisions in mainstream schools. This programme would support young people in making travel choices whilst at school but also when they move on to more independent living.

H. Concessionary Places on School Contract Vehicles

The Council is committed to supporting children to access school. Where children are not entitled to free transport, parents can buy a pass for any spare seats on a school contract vehicle once those entitled have been allocated a place. Passes can be bought for one term at a time and are allocated on a first come first served basis. This does not apply to routes that are public registered services where children pay the bus company direct.

The charge for a concessionary place will be £133.95 from April 2010. Some families with a low income can be allocated seats free of charge.

Proposal 8

To ensure consistency, the Council proposes that the benefits taken into account when assessing whether a pass is to be issued free of charge will be the same as those for entitlement to transport for families with a low income. This will mean that certain families in receipt of working tax credit, but not at the maximum rate, will no longer be allocated a free pass.

6. The Consultation Process

There is a period of six weeks during which you are asked to let us know your views on these proposals. You can write to us using the form attached to this consultation document, or you can complete your response on the Central Bedfordshire website –

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations

If you are a parent and you feel that you will be directly affected by the proposed changes you may also wish to contact your child's school to look at their School Travel Plan. The Plan will outline ways the school has identified to improve children's safety on the journey to and from school. It will also support healthy and sustainable transport options and the improvement of the environment around the school.

The Council will consider responses to the consultation at its Executive Meeting on 9th March 2010. Any changes will be implemented with effect from 1st April for Proposals 1, 6 and 8 or 1st September 2010 for all other proposals.

Home to School Transport Policy for Central Bedfordshire

Q1 Your name (optional):

Q2 Please indicate your interest in this consultation

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of a child at a mainstream school | <input type="checkbox"/> Employee or Governor of a mainstream school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of a child at a special school | <input type="checkbox"/> Employee or Governor of a special school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent of a child at a denominational school | <input type="checkbox"/> Employee or Governor of a denominational school |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below) | |
- _____

Q3 If you are a parent, do any of your children currently receive free transport to and from School?

- Yes No

Please read the proposals outlined in the consultation document before answering the next questions.
Please attach more paper if required.

Proposal 1 - Road Safety Criteria

The Council proposes to start the re-assessment of routes on road safety grounds from 1 April 2010. These re-assessments may result in changes to current entitlement to free transport on road safety grounds.

Q4 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 1?

- Agree Disagree Don't know

Q5 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 1?

Proposal 2 - Denominational Transport

The Council proposes to end the provision of transport to denominational schools with effect from 1 September 2010. This proposal does not affect the entitlement to transport for families with a low income as set out in the consultation document.

Q6 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 2?

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Q7 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 2?

Proposal 3 - Permanently Excluded Pupils

The Council proposes to provide transport based on distance criteria, with all requests for transport inside the distance criteria referred to the Director or nominee for consideration against criteria which will be agreed with the School Forum on an annual basis.

Q8 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 3?

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Q9 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 3?

Proposal 4 - Medical Needs

The Council proposes to continue with existing arrangements where transport is requested for a child to attend their catchment or nearest school and the need is endorsed by a child's GP or Consultant.

Q10 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 4?

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Q11 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 4?

Proposal 5 - Pupils in Year 10 and 11

The Council proposes that where a child in years 10 and 11 has to move in exceptional circumstances to a new address in Central Bedfordshire they will be provided with transport from their new address to their previous school, as long as they have completed at least one term in year 10 at their previous school.

Q12 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 5?

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Q13 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 5?

Proposal 6 - Looked After Children, Refugees and Asylum Seekers

The Council proposes that Looked After Children and Refugees and Asylum Seekers are supported to attend schools that best meet their needs. This may mean that transport will be provided to schools where the distance criteria are not met.

Q14 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 6?

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Q15 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 6?

Proposal 7 - Special Educational Needs

For those children who live more than the statutory distance between home and the nearest school that can meet their needs, transport will be provided. For those children who live within the statutory distance their Assessment will include consideration of whether, with parental support, a child could reasonably be expected to walk to school. Where this is not possible the need for transport will be provided free of charge. Entitlement will be reviewed annually.

Q16 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 7?

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Q17 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 7?

Proposal 8 - Concessionary Places on School Contract Vehicles

The benefits taken into account when assessing whether free transport will be provided will be the same as those for families with a low income.

Q18 Do you agree or disagree with proposal 8?

- Agree Disagree Don't know

Q19 Do you have any comments to make about proposal 8?

About You

The following information will help us when considering your opinions and will ensure that we are getting the views of all members of the community. The answers will not be used to identify any individual.

Q20 Are you male or female?

- Male Female

Q21 What is your age?

- Under 16 yrs 20-29 yrs 45-59 yrs 65-74 yrs
 16-19 yrs 30-44 yrs 60-64 yrs 75+

Q22 Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 a person is considered to have a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment which has a sustained and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

- Yes No

Q23 To which of these groups do you consider you belong?

- White British Mixed
 Black or Black British Chinese
 Asian or Asian British Other (please specify below)
-

Q24 What is your religion or belief?

Buddhist

Christian

Hindu

Jewish

Muslim

Sikh

No religion

Other (please specify below)

Q25 Does your child have a disability?

Under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 a person is considered to have a disability if he/she has a physical or mental impairment which has a sustained and long-term adverse effect on his/her ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

Yes

No

Thank you for your response

Please return your response form by 12th February 2010 to

school.transport@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or

**FREEPOST RSCB-ZCRL-LSAG
School Transport Consultation
Central Bedfordshire Council
PO Box 1395
Bedford
MK42 5AN**

Data Protection Act 1998

Please note that your personal details supplied on this form will be held and/or computerised by Central Bedfordshire Council for the purpose of analysing the responses to the consultation on the home to school transport policy for Central Bedfordshire. The information collected may be disclosed to officers and members of the Council and its partners involved in this consultation. Summarised information from the forms may be published, but no individual details will be disclosed under these circumstances.

Your personal details will be safeguarded and will not be divulged to any other individuals or organisations for any other purposes.

Appendix B

Home to School Transport Budget and Projections

The home to school transport budgets and forecasts affected by the proposed changes in Policy are as tabled below. For completeness, those budgets not affected have also been listed.

<u>Budget v Full Year Forecast as at November 2009</u>			
<u>Part of this Consultation</u>			
	Budget	FYF	Variance
Home to School Transport			
423700 Salaries	151,805	76,800	(75,005)
423710 Mainstream Transport - Lower	459,439	578,000	118,561
423720 Mainstream Transport - Middle	1,476,678	1,494,330	17,652
423730 Mainstream Transport - Upper	1,870,611	2,269,001	398,390
423750 Mainstream Transport Disc.	145,870	332,000	186,130
423760 SEN Transport -Out of County	290,335	331,600	41,265
SEN Transport - SN Schools			
423770 Bed	1,573,718	1,431,000	(142,718)
423780 SEN Transport - SN Units - Mai	776,582	815,000	38,418
423790 SEN Transport - Pupil Referral	354,800	375,000	20,200
SEN Transport - Oakbank			
423800 Special	343,007	343,007	0
423860 Miscellaneous Transport	68,000	58,000	(10,000)
	<u>7,510,845</u>	<u>8,103,738</u>	<u>592,893</u>
<u>Out of the scope of this Consultation</u>			
423740 Mainstream Transport - College	219,111	227,000	7,889
SEN Transport - Special			
423810 College	289,050	269,000	(20,050)
Looked After Children			
423820 Transport	129,759	150,000	20,241
423840 Extended Rights to Free Travel	0	0	0
423850 CWD Transport	77,763	77,763	0
General Duty on Sustainable			
423870 Transport	0	0	0
423880 School Trip Advisor	0	0	0
	<u>715,683</u>	<u>723,763</u>	<u>8,080</u>
Total Home to School Transport	<u><u>8,226,528</u></u>	<u><u>8,827,501</u></u>	<u><u>600,973</u></u>

The projected savings and additional costs of any change to Policy are as follows

Savings / (additional Costs)	7/12	5/12	Annual	Assume cost neutral
	2010/2011	2011/2012	Total Savings	
Road Safety	0	0	0	
Denominational Transport	421,476	200,860	622,335	
Permanently Excluded Pupils	12,250	8,750	21,000	

Medical Needs	11,667	8,333	20,000	
Pupils in Years 10 and 11	(22,050)	(15,750)	(37,800)	
Refugees and Asylum Seekers	0	0	0	Govt Funded no savings
Looked After Children	0	0	0	No savings
Concessionary Transport	9,845	7,032	16,878	
Special Educational Needs Transport	258,417	184,583	443,000	
Training Costs for Special Schools	(29,000)	(21,000)	(50,000)	
	662,604	372,809	1,035,413	

Road Safety

At this stage the assumption is that any changes will be cost neutral.

Assessment of one route has been commissioned to provide a comparison of the likely implications of moving to the nationally agreed standards. A further 4 to 5 routes will be assessed at a later date.

Denominational Transport

This has been based on current levels of pupils with entitlement on denominational grounds. A detailed analysis of pupils, routes and costs was completed to enable visibility of potential savings.

Permanently Excluded Pupils

In the first two terms of the 2009-10 academic year there have been 16 applications of which 2 would have been rejected on distance grounds following the proposed change to policy. This was pro rated to give a view of a full academic year with calculations as follows:

	2 terms	3 terms
Applications agreed since 1/4/2009	14	21
Applications that would have been rejected on distance criteria	2	3
	16	24
Percentage of savings predicted on distance criteria		13%
The average annual cost per child		7,000
Projected annual savings from change in Policy		21,000
	7/12	12,250
	5/12	8,750
		21,000

Medical Needs

Following a process of evaluation through assessment and monitoring, and by looking at the range of conditions that the pupils have, potentially there could be a saving as follows:

Projected annual savings from change in Policy		20,000
7/12		11,667
5/12		8,333
		20,000

Pupils in Year 10 and 11

This will add costs to the current budgets as this is not currently offered as part of the existing policy. The calculation is based on current information.

Pupils		4
Cost per day		50
Number of pupil days		189
Additional annual cost		(37,800)
7/12	(22,050)	
5/12	(15,750)	
	(37,800)	

Concessionary Transport

Currently there are spare seats on home to school transport buses. Following promotion and marketing, additional seats could be sold. Based on a projected sale of 42 seats the calculations are as follows:

Estimated sale of 42 seats		42
Termly charge from Sept 2010		133.95
Annual additional revenue		16,878
7/12	9,845	
5/12	7,032	
	16,878	

Special Educational Needs

An analysis based on distance of SEN pupils receiving free home to school transport was undertaken. Pupils attending Glenwood, Hillcrest and Sunnyside have been excluded from the analysis on the basis that these schools are for SLD pupils. Those remaining pupils that would no longer be entitled to free transport following a change to an assessment and monitoring methodology could potentially be 85.

	Pupils	Average Annual cost	£
Special Schools	87	5,091,90	443,000
	7/12	258,417	
	5/12	184,583	
		443,000	

Longer Term

There are other longer term factors that could impact on the home to school transport budgets as follows:

- Recent retendering of contracts which has delivered an average of 17% savings.
- Changes to the way distance is measured to a more accurate “walking distance”.
- Changes to the Behaviour and Support Strategy (this would include the PRU).
- Changes to SEN Strategy (includes Out of County).
- Extended Schools Agenda.
- Highways improvements to create walking routes.

Meeting: Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 24 February 2010
Subject: Performance report: Quarter Three
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning
Summary: The report provides members with the quarter three performance information for the Children, Families and Learning Directorate.

Contact Officer: Sylvia Gibson, Assistant Director, Policy, Planning and Commissioning
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The Quarterly Performance Report ensures that progress on the delivery of the Council's Priorities is monitored.

Financial:

None directly but there are possible investment decisions to improve performance.

Legal:

None.

Risk Management:

Areas of ongoing underperformance are a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None.

Equalities/Human Rights:

All indicators should take account of equalities/human rights issues.

Community Safety:

None.

Sustainability:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. that the Committee notes and reviews Quarter 3 performance.

Introduction

1. Central Bedfordshire Council's vision is to improve the quality of life of all in Central Bedfordshire, and enhance the unique character of our communities and our environment. In order to deliver this vision the Council has agreed the following five priorities which are set out in the Strategic Plan:
 - (a) Supporting and caring for an ageing population
 - (b) Educating, protecting and providing opportunities for children and young people
 - (c) Managing growth effectively
 - (d) Creating safer communities
 - (e) Promoting healthier lifestyles
2. The Children and Young People's plan has now been agreed and adopted by the Council and the Children's Trust and will support the delivery of priorities (b), (d) and (e) above.
3. The five Every Child Matters outcomes below provide the framework for the priorities in the Children and Young People's plan and members will note that these outcomes now provide the framework for reviewing the basket of critical indicators attached at Appendix A:
 - (a) Be Healthy
 - (b) Stay Safe
 - (c) Enjoy and Achieve
 - (d) Make a positive contribution
 - (e) Achieve economic wellbeing

Conclusion and Next Steps

4. Members will note that where performance information is not available for indicators a commentary has been provided.
5. Members are asked to note and review the performance for Quarter three.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Quarter 3 performance

Be Healthy																
Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	Outturn			Target 09/10	Reported Yearly	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Reported Yearly	Year Direction of Travel	RAG				
			AD	National 07/08	Group 07/08								07/08	08/09		
NI 8	Adult participation in sport and active recreation	H	RW	Not yet available	Not yet available	26.4%	22.8%	27.2%	Red	↘	Not yet available	Not yet available	Reported Yearly	↘	Reported Yearly	
<p>Commentary on NI 8: Indicator is delivered through a multi agency arrangement - the lead being the county sports partnership - Team Beds and Luton. This is the delivery arm of Sport England's strategy. As part of the LAA it falls within the Stronger Communities thematic partnership and outputs are reported to that body on a quarterly basis. This will also be reported to the LSP. A full 3-year delivery plan provides the detail of the activity undertaken.</p>																
Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	AD	National 07/08	Group 07/08	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09	Target 09/10	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Quarter Ending 30-June	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel
NI 51	Councils' self assessment of progress on four elements of the implementation of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) framework - LAA	H	MP	14	13	13	13	14	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	↘
<p>Commentary on NI 51: This indicator relies on a Self assessment due to be submitted in February to the DCSF, there will therefore be a detailed response in a later quarterly report.</p>																
Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	AD	National 06/07	Group 07/08	Baseline 06/07	CBC 08/09	Target 09/10	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly
NI 56	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 - LAA	L	MP	17.5%	15.7%	13.7%	14.2%	13.5%	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	↘
<p>Commentary on NI 56: Children are defined as obese if their body-mass index (BMI) is above the 95th centile of the reference curve for their age and sex according to the UK BMI centile classification. The BMI is calculated using a child's height, weight, date of birth and sex. The National Child measurement programme is completed at the end of each academic year. School nurses have carried out the fieldwork, analysis was not verified at time of writing. However early indications are that the target is unlikely to be achieved. Coordinated action is to be taken by Leisure & Culture, Schools and Health services to improve performance.</p>																
Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	AD	National 08/09	Group 07/08	07/08	08/09	Target 09/10	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly
NI 57	Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport Source: Independent Survey	H	PS	81%	78.0%	85.3%	91%	100%	↕	↕	↕	↕	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	↕
<p>Commentary on NI 57: The expectation, in the Government's PE and Sport Strategy for Young People for Young People (PESSYP), is that all 5 - 16 year olds will have two hours of PE and Sport within the curriculum each week by July 2010. Central Bedfordshire's schools currently provide two hours of PE and Sport a week for 91% of young people. This is an increase of 5% from last year.</p>																
Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	AD	National 08/09	Group 08/09	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09	Target 09/10	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Year Direction of Travel	RAG	Year to date 01 April - 31 Dec	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel
NI 58	Emotional and behavioural health of children in care Source: SSSA 903	H	MP	13.8	12	New	12.5	NT	No Target	Not Target	Not Target	12.9	18.0	10.3	↕	
<p>Commentary on NI 58: Looked after children experience significantly worse mental health than the general child population. An estimated 45% of looked after children aged 5 to 17 have mental health problems, over 4 times higher than for all children. This measure is intended to assess progress in improving the emotional and behavioural health of looked after children. Locally the majority of last year's Strengths & Difficulties Questionnaires (SDQs) were completed in the last quarter of the performance year (Jan-Mar). As these are annual questionnaires, the current performance profile is to be expected. Last year was the first for reporting against this indicator, therefore comparative analysis was not previously available. Baseline information has recently been established, with the national average score for 2008/09 being 13.8.</p>																
<p>47% so far completed (01/04 - 31/12)</p>																

Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Polarity	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 09/10	Reported Yearly	Year Direction of Travel	Reported Yearly
				National 08/09	Group 08/09	07/08				
NI 115	Substance misuse by young people PSA - LAA Source: Tellus3 Survey	GD	L	10.9%	11.5%	New	11.8%	New	NT	
<p>Commentary on NI 115: The data for this indicator is available on an annual basis. In 08/09, a baseline against the indicator was developed for Central Bedfordshire and set at 13.3%. This places Central Bedfordshire above our family group average of 11.5%, although, it has been acknowledged that the sample of data used in Bedfordshire was not large enough to offer a full accurate picture across the locality. For 09/10, our Harmful Risky Behaviours Plan and Performance Framework are in place. These documents outline what action we will take to address problematic drugs/alcohol issues in Central Bedfordshire and provide a range of local & national indicators that will highlight our progress. Regular reports will be made against key indicators to the Be Healthy group.</p>										
Stay Safe										
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Polarity	Outturn			Target 09/10	Year to date 01 April - 31 Dec	Year Direction of Travel	Quarter Ending 31-Dec
				National 08/09	Group 08/09	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09			Quarter Ending 30-June
NI 68	The percentage of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessments (Count of referrals divided by Initial Assessment Completed)	MP	H	64%	56%	71.0%	83.3%	84.0%	Green	74.7%
									Green	72.9%
									Green	89.7%
										269/300
<p>Commentary on NI 68: This indicator is a proxy for several issues: the appropriateness of referrals coming into social care, which can show whether local agencies are working well together; and the thresholds which are being applied in children's social care at a local level. This quarter's performance is above both the national and comparator authorities group. It does however indicate an increase in local contact patterns, diluting this indicator, due in part to heightened sensitivity of professionals following the death of baby Peter and the subsequent focus on safeguarding.</p>										
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Polarity	Outturn			Target 09/10	Year to date 01 April - 31 Dec	Year Direction of Travel	Quarter Ending 31-Dec
				National 08/09	Group 08/09	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09			Quarter Ending 30-June
NI 59	The percentage of initial assessments within seven working days of referral	MP	H	72%	76%	88.1%	92.6%	85.1%	Green	82.6%
									Green	86.4%
									Green	87.0%
										234/269
<p>Commentary on NI 59: Initial assessments are an important indicator of how quickly services can respond when a child is thought to be at risk of serious harm. As the assessments involve a range of local agencies, this indicator also shows how well multi-agency working arrangements are established in local authority areas. Reported performance is in line with the target and is significantly better than the annual average performance both nationally and for comparator Authorities.</p>										
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Polarity	Outturn			Target 09/10	Year to date 01 April - 31 Dec	Year Direction of Travel	Quarter Ending 31-Dec
				National 08/09	Group 08/09	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09			Quarter Ending 30-June
NI 60	The percentage of core assessments that were completed within 35 working days of their commencement	MP	H	78%	81%	80.7%	89.9%	72.6%	Red	70.2%
									Red	81.3%
									Red	69.1%
										130/188
<p>Commentary on NI 60: This indicator measures the percentage of core assessments which were completed within 35 working days. Core assessments are in-depth assessments of a child, or children, and their family, as defined in the Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families. Performance trajectory indicates that the target is unlikely to be met. This has primarily been caused by a rise in demand and difficulties in recruiting permanent staff. Recruitment has now taken place and two additional posts approved in the Intake & Assessment team. Performance is being closely managed by the Team Manager and performance is steadily improving.</p>										

Indicator Reference	Title	AD	National 08/09	Outturn			Target 09/10	Year to date 01 April - 31 Dec	Year Direction of Travel	RA G	Quarter Ending 30-June	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel	RA G
				Group 08/09	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09									
NI 62	The percentage of children looked after at 31 March with three or more placements during the year	L	10.7%	10%	10.6%	9.8%	6.2%	↑	Green	0.7%	3.8%	6.2%	Not relevant	NR	
<p>Commentary on NI 62: This indicator is an important measure of the stability of care that a child has experienced. On the whole stability is associated with better outcomes – placement instability has been highlighted as a key barrier to improving educational outcomes for example. Proper assessment of a child's needs and an adequate choice of placements to meet the varied needs of different children are essential if appropriate stable placements are to be made. Locally performance is good compared to both national and comparator group performance with just 10 of 162 children moving at least twice. It is in line with the target trajectory. The current rolling year performance is 8.0%.</p>															
NI 63	The percentage of looked after children aged under 16 at 31 March who had been looked after continuously for at least 2.5 years, who were living in the same placement for at least two years, or are placed for adoption.	H	67.0%	59%	62.6%	66.7%	66.7%	●	Green	61.4%	60.0%	66.7%	↑	Green	
<p>Commentary on NI 63: This indicator measures the long-term stability of children who remain in care for significant periods of time. Stability is associated with better outcomes. Performance is in line with target.</p>															
NI 64	The percentage of children who ceased to be the subject of a child protection plan, during the year ending 31 March, who had been previously the subject of a child protection plan, continuously for two years	L	6%	6%	4.4%	2.2%	7.4%	↓	Red	0.0%	13.0%	4.2%	↑	Amber	
<p>Commentary on NI 64: This indicator measures whether children and their families are receiving the services necessary to bring about the required changes in the family situation and to monitor performance in working towards the outcomes outlined in the child protection plan. During this period 24 of those children (14 family groups) have been able to have their CP plans discontinued due to improvements in their care, and one of these had a Child Protection Plan that exceeded 2 years duration. With relatively low numbers of child protection plans in place the percentage impact is emphasised, it is expected that performance will come closer to target by year end but may not achieve the target. During the period the number of children subject to Child Protection Plans rose from 108 to 125.</p>															
NI 65	The percentage of children who became the subject of a child protection plan during the year, who had previously been the subject of a child protection plan	L	13%	16%	15.1%	13.2%	15.7%	↔	Amber	45.5%	0.0%	11.1%	↓	Green	
<p>Commentary on NI 65: Low numbers are having a dramatic statistical impact on this percentage target. However, trajectory is consistently moving towards target as the impact of revised risk tolerance thresholds is absorbed into the performance profile. Performance is being closely monitored but decisions about child protection planning will be based solely on effective safeguarding practice rather than on achieving the target. Performance is as anticipated to be close to target at year end.</p>															

Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Polarity	Outturn				Target 09/10	Year to date 01 April - 31 Dec	Year Direction of Travel	RA G	Quarter Ending 30-June	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel	RA G
				National 08/09	Group 08/09	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09									
NI 66	The percentage of children looked-after cases which should have been reviewed during the year which were reviewed on time during the year	MP	H	90.9%	83%	98.4%	97.5%	97.4%	↕	Green	99.3%	97.8%	97.4%	↕	Green	
<p>Commentary on NI 66: The review is one of the key components within the core processes of working with children and families. The purpose of the review is to consider the plan for the child's welfare, to monitor the progress of the plan and amend it as necessary in light of changed information and circumstances. Good performance is reported which is in line with target and exceeds both national and comparator group performance.</p>																
NI 67	The percentage of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed	MP	H	99%	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	●	Green	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	●	Green	
<p>Commentary on NI 67: Reviews are a key element in delivering Child Protection Plans and effective reviews should ensure the provision of good quality interventions. This indicator is a proxy for the measurement of the effectiveness of the interventions provided to children with a Child Protection Plan. Very good performance is reported in line with the target.</p>																
NI 147	The percentage of care leavers at age 19 who are living in suitable accommodation	MP	H	89.6%	84%	71.0%	100.0%	92.9%	↕	Amber	100.0%	90.9%	92.9%	↕	Amber	
<p>Commentary on NI 147: Performance is slightly out of line with target. At the time of recording one young person was not in suitable accommodation as defined by regulations. They were in custody.</p>																
NI 148	The percentage of care leavers at age 19 who are engaged in education, training or employment	MP	H	63.0%	56%	56.0%	66.7%	71.4%	↕	Green	66.7%	90.9%	71.4%	↕	Green	
<p>Commentary on NI 148: Now showing 4 young people as NEET at time of recording. Performance in line with target and exceeding 2008/09 performance.</p>																
Enjoy and Achieve																
NI 89a	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures	PS	L	Not relevant	Not relevant	1	0	0	●	Green	0	0	0	●	Green	
<p>Commentary on NI 89a: Currently there are no schools in Special Measures or with a Notice to Improve in Central Bedfordshire.</p>																

Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 08/09	Year to date 01 Sep - 31 Dec	Year Direction of Travel	Quarter Ending 30-June	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel
			National 07/08	Group 07/08	08/09							
NI 89b	Improvement of time taken to come out of special measures	L	18	18	Not relevant	23	NT	Not relevant	Not relevant	Not relevant	Not relevant	Not relevant
Commentary on NI 89b: No schools in Central Bedfordshire have been in special measures.												
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 09/10	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold) PSA	H	72%	75%	75%	73%	82%	73%	75%	75%	73%	82%
Commentary on NI 73: This is a new indicator for 2009. Results indicate that 73% of pupils at Key Stage 2 achieved Level 4 or above in both English and mathematics combined. These figures place Central Bedfordshire 1% above the national average but 2% below that for statistical neighbours (ranked 9 out of 11).												
Statutory Target for 2008/09 Academic year was set for Bedfordshire in January 2008												
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 09/10	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09
NI 75	Percentage achieving 5+ A*-C, including English & Maths (all pupils)	H	49.7%	53.8%	51.0%	49.7%	56%	49.7%	51.0%	49.7%	56%	
Commentary on NI 75: Provisional results indicate that 49.7% of students at Key Stage 4 achieved 5A*-C including English and mathematics. This represents a decline of just over 1% compared with 2008, following a substantial improvement that year. These figures place Central Bedfordshire at the national average but 4% below that for statistical neighbours (ranked 10 out of 11). This is a baseline from which we need to improve. This is a current priority for improvement. Five upper schools are part of the Gaining Ground programme this year.												
Statutory Target for 2008/09 Academic year was set for Bedfordshire in January 2008												
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 09/10	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	L	5.6%	4.8%	3.4%	3.0%	3.00%	3.0%	3.4%	3.0%	3.00%	
Commentary on NI 87: Secondary persistent absence in Central Bedfordshire has been improved in 2008/09 to 3%. There are currently no national or comparator figures published although it is well below the 2007/08 figures both nationally (5.6%) and our comparators (4.8%) which represents good performance. The 2008/09 performance has already achieved the target for the following year and we reasonably expect to be in the top ten of all local authorities nationally.												
Statutory Target for 2008/09 Academic year was set for Bedfordshire in January 2008												
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 09/10	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09	08/09
NI 88	Number of Extended Schools	H	89%	88%	56%	88%	100%	88%	56%	88%	88%	
Commentary on NI 88: There are no statistical updates since the last report when excellent progress had been made and the 85% target of schools offering the Full Core Offer by September 09 had been exceeded. Updated figures are expected between Jan - end Feb 2010. However we are still well on target to achieve 100% by September 2010. The relative national figure is 94% and regionally 93%. The Commissioning Group of the Children and Young People's Trust are going to commission work to evaluate the quality and impact of the Extended Schools Programme.												

Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	Outturn (Academic Year)				Target 09/10	Reported Yearly	Year Direction of Travel		
			AD	National 07/08	Group 07/08	07/08			08/09	Data protection	Reported Yearly
NI 99	Children looked-after reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2 PSA	H	PS	46%	37%	50.0%	40%		NT	Reported Yearly	NT
<p>Commentary on NI 99: Central Bedfordshire data for 2007-8 shows results above the national. Improved processes to track the progress made by individual children in this group are being implemented and will be overseen by the work of the Virtual Head teacher. Due to the low numbers of pupils, under data protection we're unable to publish 2008-9 results. However all pupils in the 2009 OC2 cohort have been tracked and individual results are known.</p> <p>Statutory Target for 2008/09 Academic year was set for Bedfordshire in January 2008</p>											
NI 100	Children looked-after reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2 PSA	H	PS	44%	38%	50.0%	40%		NT	Reported Yearly	NT
<p>Commentary on NI 100: As above</p> <p>Statutory Target for 2008/09 Academic year was set for Bedfordshire in January 2008</p>											
NI 101	Children looked-after achieving 5 A-C GCSEs (or equiv.) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths) PSA	H	PS	Not reported	Not reported	12.5%	14.3%		NT	Reported Yearly	NT
<p>Commentary on NI 101: A key priority within the Enjoy and Achieve section of the Children and Young People's Plan is to continue to provide support to children in vulnerable circumstances and to ensure that their progress is carefully monitored and support reviewed on a regular basis. Due to the low numbers of pupils, under data protection we're unable to publish 2009 results. However all pupils in the 2009 OC2 cohort have been tracked and individual results are known.</p> <p>Statutory Target for 2008/09 Academic year was set for Bedfordshire in January 2008</p>											
NI 103a	The percentage of new statements of special educational needs (SEN) prepared within 26 weeks (EXCLUDING exceptions)	H	MP	New	New	New	95.0%	99%	Green	99%	Green
<p>Commentary on NI 103a: Good performance in line with target.</p>											
NI 103b	The percentage of new statements of special educational needs (SEN) prepared within 26 weeks (INCLUDING exceptions)	H	MP	New	New	New	77.0%	94%	Green	94%	Green
<p>Commentary on NI 103b: "Exceptions" within the descriptor for this target equate to delays beyond the control of the LA. In this case the delays are in receiving reports from Paediatricians. We will work on this indicator through the Children's Trust.</p>											

Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 09/10	Year to date 01 Sep - 31 Dec	Year Direction of Travel	Spring Term	Summer Term	Autumn Term	Term Direction of Travel
			National 07/08	Group 07/08	07/08							
NI 114	Rate of permanent exclusions from school	L	0.11%	0.12%	0.17%	0.12%	0.09%	↑	0.20%	0.18%	0.09%	↑
<p>Commentary on NI 114: Exclusions for the Autumn Term show a decrease from a similar period last year (Autumn 2008 - 0.16%). A priority within the Enjoy and Achieve plan is provide support within localities and to work with schools to improve inclusion, early identification of, and early intervention with children at risk of exclusion. Targets for exclusions are not part of the statutory target setting process by the DCSF, however a target of 0.12% has been set to ensure that Central Bedfordshire is in line with statistical neighbours.</p>												
Make a positive contribution												
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn			Target 10/11	Reported Yearly	Year Direction of Travel	Reoffending within 3 months to 30-June	Reoffending within 3 or 6 months to 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel	
			National 07/08	Group 07/08	07/08							08/09
NI 11	Engagement in the Arts	H	45.2%	Not yet available	42.8%	46.6%	↑	NA	NA	Not yet available		
<p>Commentary on NI 11: In light of the recent Active People survey results, the targets for this indicator have been changed and are now higher than originally agreed. The year end target for 2010/11 is now 47.8%. Indicator is delivered through a multi agency arrangement - the lead being Central Bedfordshire LA. As a local indicator in the LAA it falls within the Stronger Communities thematic partnership and outputs are reported to that body on a quarterly basis. This will also be reported to the LSP. A Central Bedfordshire delivery plan provides the detail of the activity undertaken.</p>												
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	12 month data looking at Jan - Mar 08 Cohort			Target 09/10	Year Direction of Travel	Reoffending within 3 months to 30-June	Reoffending within 3 or 6 months to 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel		
			National 08/09	Group 08/09	Eastern 08/09						CBC 08/09	
NI 19	Re-offending Performance	L	1.03	0.78	0.92	0.93	Not comparable	0.32	Not yet available	Not yet available		
<p>Commentary on NI 19: Bedfordshire Youth Offending Service is not in a position to confirm the re-offending performance data for Central Bedfordshire as yet. Qtr 3 figures will be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for validation on 30th January 2010. Validated figures will be available by the end of February. The target for this indicator is set nationally and is not currently available.</p>												
2007/08 figures (%) are not comparable with 09/10 onwards (number).												
Indicator Reference	Title	AD	Outturn (Academic Year)			Target 09/10	Reported Yearly	Year Direction of Travel	Reoffending within 3 months to 30-June	Reoffending within 3 or 6 months to 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel	
			National 08/09	Group 08/09	07/08							08/09
NI 110	Young people's participation in positive activities PSA Source: The TellUs survey	H	69.5%	73.7%	New	73.9%	77.9%	New	73.9%	77.9%	↑	
<p>Commentary on NI 110: The data from the yearly TellUs Survey is quite small and will not offer a full and accurate picture across the locality. Under the Making a Positive Contribution delivery group, plans are in place to collect actual activity in a coordinated manner. Young people's involvement in positive activity data will be collated by March 2010. Priorities included within the Children & Young People's Plan cover increasing the range of Youth Work provision on Friday & Saturday evenings and the creation of a new Youth Parliament. Elections for the Youth Parliament will take place in 2010. New local Targets are near to completion.</p>												

Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	Outturn				Year to date 01 April - 30 June	Year Direction of Travel	Quarter Ending 30-June	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel
			National 08/09	Group 08/09	BCC 07/08	BCC 08/09						
NI 111	The number of first timers in the youth justice system Actual National Indicator is expressed as a number	L	-18.7%	-23.6%	-28.5%	-15.6%	30.9%	↗	0.0%	Not yet available	Not yet available	↘
<p>Commentary on NI 111: Bedfordshire Youth Offending Service is not yet in a position to confirm Qtr 3 figures for First Time Entrants. Data will be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for validation on 30th January 2010. Validated figures will be available by the end of February. However, early indications, which should be treated with caution, suggest that the number of First Time Entrants has fallen in comparison with Qtr 2.</p>												
Achieve Economic Wellbeing												
Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	Outturn				Year to date 01 April - 30 Sept	Year Direction of Travel	Quarter Ending 30-June	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel
			National 07/08	Group 07/08	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09						
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty - LAA	L	New	New	New	New	NT	Not yet available	Not yet available	Reported Quarterly	↔	
<p>Commentary on NI 116: Still awaiting national guidance concerning the baseline. The Child Poverty Bill has 4 new national indicators, and guidance on these cannot be expected until Summer 2010. However, Central Bedfordshire is well placed to understand the local characteristics of poverty as measured through workless and low income households data, due to the work of the Bedfordshire Child Poverty Network. Currently there are 27% of children aged 1 to 16 living within such families (15% in low-income working families and 12% in workless households). A Draft Child Poverty Strategy has been written and is being discussed at the meeting of the Child Poverty Strategy Group on January 7th, and is scheduled to go to the Executive meeting of the council on 9th March. The Child Poverty Strategy Group is a sub-group of the Stronger Communities Thematic Partnership, in collaboration with the Local Strategic Partnership. Progress and monitoring of performance will be overseen by the Achieving Economic Well Being Delivery Group. The reduction of Child Poverty is a major priority contained within the new Children & Young Peoples Plan.</p>												
Indicator Reference	Title	Polarity	Outturn				Year Direction of Travel	Quarter Ending 30-June	Quarter Ending 30-Sept	Quarter Ending 31-Dec	Quarter Direction of Travel	
			National 08/09	Region 08/09	BCC 07/08	CBC 08/09						
NI 117	Connexions partnership data: Number and proportion of 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET). Note: Outturn figure relates to age group 16- <19	L	6.5%	5.9%	6.7%	6.2%	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	Reported Yearly	↔	
<p>Commentary on NI 117: Data is returned to the DCSF on a monthly basis and scrutinized by the 14-19 strategic forum and Achieve Economic Wellbeing delivery group. Last year the Connexions Service exceeded the 6.1% target and attracted reward money for Central Bedfordshire. Benchmarking for Central Bedfordshire in relation to overall performance will be measured during Nov 09-January 10. Statistical data for September 09 showed that 6.5% of 16-18 year olds were not in Education Training or Employment which was better than the regional and national average. The % of young people in Learning is also above the regional and national average. In September a total of 370 young people were not in Education Training or Employment, (6.5% the same outturn at the same period last year). It is expected that the economic climate will impact on this target within all Local Authorities. Locally we are using sophisticated management information to better target hot spot areas and individual young people, and have reorganised service delivery to good effect. Draft Figures for the 31st December show adjusted NEET at 6.4% (16 to 18) and Unknowns at 6.8%.</p>												

Meeting: Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 24 February 2010
Subject: Quarter 3 Budget Management Report
Report of: Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Learning
Summary: The report sets out the Budget Management position as at December 2009

Contact Officer: Edwina Grant, Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children, Families and Learning

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Financial:

The Financial implications are set out in the report

Legal:

None

Risk Management:

The Director is assessing the risks of the detailed actions from the Action Plan on Council Services

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

The effect of any proposed efficiency savings will need to be considered as part of the Equality Impact Assessments particularly in identified high risk areas.

Community Safety:

None

Sustainability:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. that the Committee notes and considers this report
2. that the Committee considers any issues from this report that could form part of their work programme.

Introduction

1. The report sets out the financial position as at the end of December 2009 and the forecast position at year end. Table A shows the net revenue position.
2. Members are aware that this is a relatively high risk budget as it is the first one produced by Central Bedfordshire and it is for this reason that robust monitoring has been in place since day one. The Quarterly Performance Report will be presented to the Committee at the same time as this Budget Management Report to provide a better link between performance and finance issues.

Quarter 2 – Key Messages

3. The net revenue position as at December is a £2.1m overspend. Work is continuing on the Directorate Action Plans to address the overspend.

Conclusion and Next Steps

4. The Committee is asked to note and consider this report.
5. The Committee is also asked to consider any issues from this report that could form part of its work programme.

Appendices:

Appendix A – (December Budget Management Report)

SUBJECT:	Budget Management Report for the period as at 31st December 2009
REPORT AUTHOR:	Finance Manager on behalf of Director of Children, Families & Learning
PURPOSE:	To provide information on the budget position as at 31st December 2009 to enable decisions to be taken on resource allocation and service delivery.
RECOMMENDATIONS:	<p>The Service Management Team/Portfolio Holder/Executive is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Note the current forecast projection is a £2.1m overspend and the associated service implications. b) Agree to any management actions proposed at paragraphs 2.1 and determine whether any other changes to service provision need to be made in the light of these. c) Note Budget virements since last report as stated in paragraph 5.0

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The report sets out the financial position to the end of December 2009 and the latest forecast position. Table A shows the net revenue position, Table B the forecast revenue movements compared to last month's forecast and Table C the capital position. These tables are now included within the Appendices to the report.

2.0 Executive Summary Revenue

The full year forecast position is £2.1m over budget compared to last month's position of £2.2m over budget.

The decrease in forecast has occurred within Children's Specialist Services and Policy, Planning & Commissioning, offset by a slight increase in the overspend forecast within Leisure and Culture and a small reduction in underspend within Learning & School Support.

The majority of overspend continues to come from Transport, Children's Specialist Services and Leisure.

The work to review and re-draft the transport policy has been completed and discussion with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services is ongoing. The mandatory consultation period has commenced and will complete on the 12 February 2010, after which the revised policy will go to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to the Executive on 9 March 2010. The revised policy will be implemented in September 2010, the start of the new school year.

The increase in numbers of looked after children is in line with the financial risk identified in October last year and is the consequence of revised risk thresholds. The Council still looks after relatively few children and young people compared to its statistical neighbours and the national average. CFL are continuing with the planned actions, namely, to delay recruitment and review organisational structure to reduce the salaries burden, establish realistic forecasts to allow informed and correct management of the directorate, and finally the close monitoring of Children's Specialist Service budgets that contain mainly demand led budgets constituting high risk to budget management.

Leisure overspend is due to poor budget build and continues to be a concern, efforts are being made to reduce the impact through savings in other services.

Variance to date excluding Schools is £447k underspend. This is disproportionate in comparison to the full year forecast and is mainly due to seasonal/term time expenditure patterns, vacancies, and the artificially low level of accruals within Children Specialist Services whilst awaiting the full impact of the SRM/SAP clean-up exercise. In Learning and School Support it is due to term time and expenditure lag along with vacancies and recharge due to be paid but not reflected due to lack of information/estimates from Bedford Borough. Integrated Services variance is due to the greater proportion of projected expenditure to be incurred in the latter part of the financial year.

Budget managers continue to be tasked with continuing scrutiny of budgets and improvement of forecast accuracy.

In order to transform services for disabled children the council has been allocated additional funding through the Aiming High for Disabled Children grant. The Grant revenue allocation is £284,094 for 2009/10 and £916,503 for 2010/11. There is also a Capital allocation of £136,740 for 2009/10 and £319,040 for 2010/11. The funds are ring fenced and are primarily to fund additional short break capacity.

2.1 Key Management Actions

- To ensure items within the action plan as contained in Appendix D are implemented and the projected savings are realised, while further action needs to be based on "Transformational Change". It must be stated that the directorate is unlikely to be able to mitigate the full overspend this year and hence will not come in on budget.

- To ensure that Finance and Procurement resolve the GL postings inaccuracy with SRM and continue to work with the directorate to clean up actuals erroneously posted. Top priority should be given by Finance and CFL colleagues to make the necessary corrections in order to allow for accurate forecasting on the Commissioning and Children's Specialist Services budgets. A specific strategy has been put in place to resolve the limitation caused by this problem and to deal with the backlog effect.
- Transport is subject to a major review over the next academic year to address the projected £593k forecast deficit. The policy reform continues to the agreed plan. Any changes to the policy will not be implemented until September 2010 and therefore any savings resulting from any policy change will not have an impact until the 2010/11 financial year. Existing route contracts will, with Sustainable Communities colleagues, continue to be renegotiated at every possibility, to ensure that VFM (value for money) is being secured. A review of routes, with a view to rationalisation where possible, is being carried out on SEN transport.
- Countryside & Archives projected overspend of £296k (increased by £20k from last month) is due to incorrect budget build. Adult and Community Learning has a projected overspend of £147k due to incorrect budget build and loss of income, reflecting the reduction in take up, due to the current economic situation. All vacancies in Adult and Community Learning are to be scrutinised by the responsible AD and only enacted if essential posts. There will be some vacancy savings against the forecast – this will be reflected accordingly.
- Close scrutiny of forecast by AD's/Heads of Service in conjunction with Finance to ensure forecasts reflect realistic projections to be met within the cash limits of each service area whilst also releasing/reflecting efficiency savings and underspends.
- Close monitoring of Children's Specialist Service budgets that contain mainly demand led budgets constituting high risks and are easily subject to change. Additional budget projection work will be done for highly volatile needs led budgets to build up a more accurate picture to inform future budget reports.
- Finance and Directorate AD's and Heads of Service should exert pressure on Bedford Borough colleagues to obtain reliable estimates of costs for shared services to reflect clear actual to date figures and improved forecasts for these services.

3.0 Executive Summary Capital

- 3.1** The 2009/10 programme was approved by Full Council on 19th November 2009 on the basis of an expenditure budget of £20.4m with £14.9m of external funding making a balance of £5.5m payable from Council Resources. An additional £0.1m of S106 income has been brought forward and so the net budget is now £5.4m. £15.1m of slippage to 2010/11 has been approved but additional slippage of £1.5m has since

been identified with £0.3m of associated funding so the current forecast is a balance of £4.2m payable by the Council.

4.0 Detailed Revenue Analysis by Operational Group

4.1 Table A – Revenue Actuals to date and Forecast Year End position

4.2 Table B – Movement on Forecast Year End Position (to previous month)

Table A and Table B are now included within the Appendices to the report.

4.3 Portfolio Holder's Synopsis – Children Services

4.3.1 Revenue

The full year forecast position for Children Services excluding Leisure and Culture is £1.5m over budget compared to last month's position of £1.7m over budget. The major change to the forecast position has occurred in Policy, Planning & Commissioning.

The areas contributing to the £1.5m forecast overspend pressure are Children's Specialist Services, £1.5m (Head of Specialist Services - £490k, Safeguarding and LAC Service - £552k, Children with Disabilities Service (CWD) - £449k) and Transport, £593k which have been offset by underspends in Integrated Services, £236k, Learning School & Support, £171k a decrease from the £213k reported last month.

4.3.2 Capital

The forecast capital spend position at the year end is £16.0m which is £1.5m below budget, with external funding of £13.4m. (See Table C within the Appendices to the report).

4.4 Portfolio Holder's Synopsis – Leisure & Culture

4.4.1 Revenue

The full year forecast position for Leisure & Culture is £582k over budget, no change to last month. The main areas contributing to the forecast overspend are Countryside & Archives – £296k, Adult & Community Learning – £147k and Arts Development - £105k. The reasons are predominately historic budget pressures together with disaggregation shortfalls.

Within School Organisation & Capital Planning, a proposed transfer from earmarked reserves has been reported of £364k regarding the PFI reserve.

4.4.2 Capital

The forecast capital position at the year end is £2.9m which is per budget, with external funding of £1.3m. (See Table C within the Appendices to the report).

4.5 Detailed Commentary on Director of Children, Families & Learning

The overall position is an actual net expenditure of £66k more than budget to date. Full year forecast on budget.

Explanation for Differential

- Director of Children Family & Learning profit centre - Full year forecast on budget. Actual to date is £66k overspend - Salaries have been paid out of these cost centres incorrectly, most of these salaries have now been cleared. Only one remains outstanding.

4.6 Detailed Commentary on Children's' Specialist Services

Full Year Forecast - £1.6m overspend (no change from last month)

Assistant Director – Children Specialist Services

Actual: Net expenditure £519k less than budget to date.

Forecast: £490k overspend.

Explanation for Differential

- The budgets for 'Service Contracts' i.e. Independent Fostering, Secure Accommodation, Residential Care Homes, and St Christopher's Contract have been transferred to a new cost centre under the AD for Specialist Services from Safeguarding and Looked After Children. The actual expenditure has not been transferred, and therefore a year to date underspend is currently showing, however this expenditure will be transferred during January. The full year forecast overspend is mainly Independent Fostering and Residential Care Home Placements.

SEN & Inclusion

Actual: Net expenditure £527k less than budget to date (last month £568k underspend)

Forecast: Underspend £20k (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- Psychology and Advisory Support –The full year overspend of £100k is due to an unachievable income target in this budget. Actual to date is an overspend of £70k.
- Special Res Lower Schools – Full year forecast is a £100k underspend due to project delays. Actuals to date are £100k underspent as this budget is to be used for set up costs for Holmemead later this year.
- Assessment & Monitoring £71k overspend forecast – This is due to salaries and consultant costs not covered by the current year budget. Actuals to date are £51k overspent.
- Therapies & High Cost Pupils – forecast is on target and actuals are £154k underspent to date as this budget is demand led and demand is expected to be greater in the final part of the year.
- Special Recoupmnt £159k underspend forecast - based on current placements. Actuals are underspent by £119k.
- Out of County is showing a £115k overspend, based on current placements. Actuals are £86k overspent.
- JC Professional Services – Full year forecast on budget. Actuals are £220k underspent, because of the problems with SRM, it has not been possible to forecast against this cost centre.

Safeguarding & LAC (previously Intake & Family Support)

Actual: Net expenditure £1.1m overspend (last month £497k overspend)

Forecast: £552k overspend (last month £1m overspend)

Explanation for Differential

- The budgets for Independent Fostering, Residential Care Home Payments, Secure Accommodation, St Christopher's, Action for Children and Christian Family Care have been transferred to a new cost centre under the AD for Specialist Services. The actual spend has not been transferred yet, which means the actual to date shows a large overspend, this is offset by underspending in the AD – CSS area above.
- LAC/Leaving Care Team - £123k overspend forecast on agency staff covering vacancies. Year to date overspend is £57k.
- Service Support - £79k overspend forecast due to unfunded posts. Year to date overspend £60k.
- Asylum Assessment Team - £33k overspend forecast following the Annex C Indicative Claim submission to the Home Office for 09/10.
- Social Work Pool - £50k overspend forecast due to unfunded posts. Year to date overspend £66k.
- Family Support Biggleswade - £89k overspend forecast on staff salaries and agency staff. Year to date £109k overspend.
- Intake & Assessment South - £188k overspend due to agency staff covering vacancies. Year to date £205k overspend.
- Externally Commissioned Placements – Full year forecast on budget, year to date £802k overspend. This budget has been transferred to the Assistant Director's area, the actual spend will be transferred in January (see above).
- Family Support budgets – Full year forecast on budget, year to date £196k underspend. Expenditure has now been transferred to the correct gl codes, following the SRM problems, however the full year forecast has not been revised, this will be actioned once the purchase orders on SRM have been corrected.

Children with Disabilities

Actual: Net expenditure £41k greater than budget (last month £141k overspend)

Forecast: Overspend £449k (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- CWD South - Forecast £108k overspend. Actual to date are £64k overspend. The overspend will continue due to additional locum costs required to cover vacancies as this is a high demand service.

- Home Support CWD - £119k underspend forecast. Actuals to date are £104k underspent, mainly due to vacancy savings.
- CWD Resource Manager - £64k underspend forecast. Actuals to date are £57k underspent mainly due to additional income from Luton PCT for placements and vacancy savings.
- CWD High Level Family Support is £175k underspent to date. Due to SRM errors it has not been possible to forecast against this cost centre, but purchase orders currently are being transferred, and a full year forecast will be input at the end of January.
- Maythorn - £177k overspend forecast. This is due to costs to cover a high dependency client with special needs. Actuals to date are £122k overspent.
- Foxgloves - £82k overspend forecast mainly due to additional budget care packages. Actuals to date are £71k overspent.
- Sunflower House -£185k forecast overspend. This is due to long term sick which is being covered by additional hours and overtime. Actuals to date are £127k overspent.

Quality Assurance

Actual: Net expenditure £38k underspend (last month £35k underspend)

Forecast: On budget (no change to last month)

Local Safeguarding Children's Board

Actual: Net expenditure £17k overspend (last month £18k overspend) Forecast: £15k overspend (last month £29k overspend)

The Local Safeguarding Children's Board cost centres have now been transferred from the Quality Assurance group.

There is a proposed transfer from Earmarked Reserves of £3k.

Fostering & Adoption

Actual: Net expenditure £48k underspend (last month on budget)

Forecast: £63k overspend (no change to last month).

Explanation for Differential

- Family Link - £41k underspend forecast due to underspending on Youth Carer Fees. Year to date £55k underspend.
- Foster Recruit & Support - £50k underspend forecast, this is due to a variance of income against profile. Year to date £31k underspend.

- In House Fostering - £115k underspend forecast, less payments made than budgeted for. Year to date £17k underspent.
- Fostering Recharge - £259k overspend forecast, shortfall on income received from Bedford Borough against profile. Year to date £195k overspend.
- Adoption & Permanence Support - £5k overspend forecast. Year to date £51k underspend this is due to a variance of income against profile.
- Adoption Allowances – Full year forecast on budget. Year to date £58k overspend, as income is yet to be received.
- Recruitment & Retention – Full year forecast £48k overspend, this is due to a variance of income against profile. Actual to date is an underspend of £62k. The forecast will be reviewed in January.
- Youth Care - £68k underspend forecast, this is due to a variance of income against profile. Year to date £100k underspend.

Service Implications

- There has been an increase in the cost of running the Children with Disabilities service as current resource allocation is currently insufficient to meet the statutory level of service delivery required.

Management Actions

- Close monitoring and implementation of an improved system of financial modelling of demand led budgets constituting high risks.
- A specific strategy has been put in place to resolve the limitation caused by the SRM coding problem and to deal with the backlog effect. Over the next 2 weeks, the commissioning manager will meet with finance to identify the correct cost centre/GL codes to reallocate all the actual costs in the dump code to the proper cost centres. All current purchase orders sitting on the dump codes as commitments (approx 200 PO's) will have to be cancelled while new purchase orders will have to be raised pointing to the correct cost centres as identified by the commissioning team.
- After completion of the reallocation of costs exercise accurate forecast to be input reflecting areas of potential over and underspends.
- Social worker recruitment strategy being implemented to reduce reliance on agency staff.

4.7 Detailed Commentary on Policy, Planning & Commissioning

Full Year Forecast including Transport - £379k overspend (last month £532k overspend).

Policy & Strategy

Actual: Net expenditure £77k less than budget to date (last month £68k underspend).

Forecast: £133k underspend (last month £44k underspend)

Explanation for Differential

Underspending on salaries as posts are not being recruited to. Underspends have increased following a finance meeting with the budget manager.

Partnership & Communications

Actual: Net expenditure £50k less than budget to date (last month £38k underspend)

Forecast: £71k underspend (last month £25k underspend)

Explanation for Differential

Underspending on salaries as posts are not being recruited to. Underspends have increased following a finance meeting with the budget manager.

JSCS – Transport

Full Year Forecast - £593k overspend (last month £601k)

Forecast Underspends

- £56k Transport Salaries due to staff vacancies. Actual to date is £34k underspend.
- £122k SN Schools Beds Transport, actual to date is £82k underspent.

Forecast Overspends

- £108k Mainstream Transport Lower
- £364k Mainstream Transport Upper
- £186k Mainstream Transport Discretionary

Explanation for Differential

Transport Salaries – increase £19k

This is due to agency staff.

Mainstream Transport – reduction of £52k

The retendering exercise has been completed, and a saving of £72k has been identified for Jan – March which has been reflected in the forecast. The Mainstream College forecast has increased by £20k to reflect the increased demand for College transport as more Young People are taking up College places due to the recession.

SEN Transport – increase of £17k

An increase in SEN transport of £37k as additional transport is requested, this is offset by a reduction of £20k on the Pupil Referral Unit forecast which is demand led.

LAC & CWD Transport – increase of £8k

An increase of £23k in LAC transport which is demand led, is offset by reductions in forecast for CWD Transport and the transport Training budget.

Management Actions

- Transport is subject to a major review to address the projected £593k forecast deficit. The review of the Home to School Transport Policy has been accelerated and a revised policy is due to go to the Executive in March 2010. Any changes to the policy will not be implemented until September 2010 and therefore any savings resulting from any policy change will not have an impact until the 2010/11 financial year. Eligibility, commissioning and procurement to be reviewed to ensure forecasts are accurate and incorporate best estimates and that VFM (value for money) is being secured. A review of routes, with a view to rationalisation where possible, is being carried out on SEN transport.

4.8 Detailed Commentary on Integrated Services

Full Year Forecast - £236k underspend (no change from last month)

Explanation for Differential

- £115k underspend Connexions - Actual to date is a £215k underspend due to vacancies. Following disaggregation of the budgets there was no SEN team for Central Bedfordshire Council. This team has now been recruited to. Underspend to be used for temporary staff and costs associated with moving to Dukeminster House and various other projects. 5% of grant has already been committed for spend by voluntary organisations. Voluntary sector spend has contributed to the underspend as spend only commenced in late August.
- £65k underspend in the Youth Service – Actual to date is a £205k underspend due to vacancies. Will be appointing to vacancy soon. Underspend to be used for the following:
 - Young Inspectors Programme Residential.
 - Trial Personal Curriculum Accredited Opportunities.
 - Further development of positive activities for through the voluntary sector and town and parish councils Volunteer training programmes.
 - Increasing Volunteering opportunities for young people, as part of the Making a Positive Contribution agenda.
 - Enhanced work on the positive images campaign, as identified within the Children and Young People Plan.

- Running planned residentials particularly through the Youth at Risk Programme.
 - Course fees for staff on professional training.
 - Development of the Youth Parliament campaign, leading to the creation of a new Central Beds Youth Parliament.
 - Ongoing Mapping and promotion of positive activities, particularly for harder to reach young people.
 - This will allow Central Bedfordshire Council to meet the Youth Services' 4 Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI).
- £45k underspend in Integrated Process Service – Actual to date is £98k underspend. This is due to staff taking up posts mid-year, plus vacancies.

Management Actions

- All staff have been costed to correct cost centres.
- All posts within Integrated Services have been allocated a salary budget.
- On target to achieve savings in 09/10.

4.9 Detailed Commentary on Learning & School Support

Full Year Forecast - £171k underspend (last month £213k underspend).

School Support Service

Actual: Net expenditure £241k less than budget to date.

Forecast: £50k underspend (last month £109k underspend).

Explanation for Differential

- EMTAS – Full year forecast £18k underspend (last month £43k underspend). Actual to date is £81k underspent – this is due to vacancies in periods 1 - 6. Staff have been appointed and are now in post. This is also due to an underspend in training, furniture and equipment, learning resources and printing and stationery.
- Greys Education – Full year forecast £50k overspend. This is newly forecast based on initial expectations on the recharge from Bedford Borough who are hosting the service. Detail information still to be received. Actual to date on budget.
- Governor Support – Full year forecast £52k underspend (no change on last month). Actual to date is £45k underspent. This is due to a vacant post which will not be appointed to.
- Governor Training – Full year forecast £28k underspend an increase of £18k from last month. Actual to date is £51k underspent. This is due to the post being vacant in periods 1 and 2, an underspend in professional services, conference expenses, venue hire and more income being received than expected.

Children's Workforce Development

Actual: Net expenditure £48k less than budget to date (last month £70k underspent)

Forecast: On budget (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- Children's Workforce Development - Full year forecast on budget. Actual to date £67k underspend due to 3 vacancies and more Income being received than budgeted for.

School Improvement

Actual: Net expenditure £756k less than budget to date (last month £731k underspent)

Forecast: £151k underspend (last month £135k underspend).

Explanation for Differential

- School Improvement Non Standards Fund - Full year forecast on budget. Actual to date is £134k underspent – Grants to schools from 'Schools Causing Concern' will be allocated in the autumn term.
- School Improvement - Full year forecast £60k underspend (no change to last month). Actual to date is £148k underspent. Due to vacancies, 2 members of staff started in September and the third post will not be appointed to, in order to make savings. Also no payments have been made for rent and rates.
- The contribution to the Bedford and Luton Education Business Partnership has been reduced to the budget available. Therefore the forecast overspend of £16k has been removed.
- Curriculum Strand - Full year forecast £73k underspend (no change to last month). Actual to date is £163k underspent. A number of posts still remain vacant, however some of these are being covered by Professional Services. £32k of the underspend will be used to offset the forecasted overspend on Maths Strand.
- English Strand – Full year forecast £24k underspend (no change to last month). Actual to date £76k underspent. This is due to 2 posts remaining vacant and greater expenditure in the remainder of the year.
- Area Based Grants for this area are allocated to Revenue over a 12 month period however expenditure is incurred from September and is of a seasonal nature hence large underspends during the early part of the financial year.

Standards Fund

Actual: Net expenditure £37k less than budget to date.

Forecast: On budget (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- Standards Fund – is currently showing an underspend of £37k due to timing of payments. Not all spend is incurred on a month by month basis.

Other School Budgets

Actual: Net expenditure £123k more than budget to date.

Forecast: £38k overspend (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- Official Duties – Full year forecast on budget. Actual to date is £57k underspent, where payment of official duties is demand led. Also only two members of staff are on the payroll - at the beginning of the year (April 09), it was anticipated that there would have been at least four members of staff.
- School Meals – Full year forecast on budget. Income and expenditure is being incurred on the Property Cost Centre, (as agreed by Edwina). A virement will be processed in January to transfer this budget.
- Cash Collection – Full year forecast £39k overspend. This is following notification of the recharge from Bedford Borough which is currently under discussion.
- An overspend of £133,922 has been forecast on Vandyke Sports Pitch. This is covered by a transfer from earmarked reserves.

Service Implications

- Standards Funds deadline for use of funds is the end of the academic year, August each year. Hence funds relating to 08/09 (April to August 09) academic year have been paid via Central Bedfordshire. This will revert to a nil effect once BCC balance sheet has been disaggregated.
- SLAs with the Borough - Greys Education (PRU) is now showing a £50k overspend following initial indications from the Borough and Admissions showing full year forecast on budget but not sure of actual costs as very little information is available from the Borough. These two areas could possibly result in further over/underspends.
- Education Trading Services - This is a Shared Service. Information has now been received from the Borough and it looks like this service could overspend significantly. Meetings are being arranged to try and find out the extent of the overspend and to question the level and type of charges being made.

Management Actions

- Planned restructure across the three services
- Freezing of all vacant posts
- Initial discussion with Bedford Borough to extend the SLA for Admissions. This would be more cost effective but increased statutory duties re in-year admissions will mean a budgetary pressure for this service for 2010/11.
- Initial discussions within Central Bedfordshire about the future of the Education ICT Service (i-tec)
- Initial discussions to move provision from the PRU into Central Bedfordshire localities still under the umbrella of the PRU
- Ending of the 14/19 SLA with Bedford Borough from April 1st 2010.
- Ending of the E Learning SLA with Bedford Borough from April 1st 2010.
- Removal of Lead School CWD Adviser
- Amalgamation of two 0.6 posts into a single CWD Coordinator post.
- Employment of external consultants only on condition of direct external income stream.
- Allocation of CWDC grant (£43K) contributing entirely to officer salaries.

4.10 Detailed Commentary on Leisure & Culture

Full Year Forecast - £582k overspend (last month £555k overspend)

Leisure Services

Actual: Net expenditure £55k greater than budget to date.

Forecast: £57k overspend (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- Full year forecast overspend is mainly due to an error in the original budget build in relation to the Outdoor Education SLA (missing £134k), combined with savings from three vacant posts, two of which are in the base budget but are fully funded by Big Lottery in 09/10.

Countryside and Archives

Actual: Net expenditure £200k greater than budget to date.

Forecast: £296k overspend (£276k overspend last month)

Explanation for Differential

- The increase in overspend on last month of £20k is following information received from the Borough for the cost of the

Records Management outsourcing for which CBC has to pay a proportional contribution.

- The forecast overspend is due to omissions in the original budget build as follows:
 - £200k due to an assumed disaggregation of 60:40 split that should have been 70:30
 - £170k for all Cost Centres from the Highways GL code
 - £167k expenditure on former SBDC (£117k)/MBDC (£50k) land/property grounds maintenance and site management, projects and staffing.

Adult and Community Learning

Actual: Net expenditure £128k greater than budget to date.

Forecast: £147k overspend (£149k overspend last month)

Explanation for Differential

- Forecast overspend is due to the omission of £65k original 09/10 budget allocation, a shortfall in funding and a reduction in fee income due to the current economic climate.
- ACL budgets have been realigned this month.

Arts Development

Actual: Net expenditure £53k greater than budget to date.

Forecast: £105k overspend (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- Leighton Buzzard Theatre is forecast to overspend by £119k. Confirmation of earlier concerns that the Original 09/10 budget was significantly short of the minimum amount required to run the service. The original budget build identifies omissions of payroll related costs and overstatement of achievable income.

Libraries

Actual: Net expenditure £4k less than budget to date.

Forecast: £4k overspend (£5k underspend last month)

Explanation for Differential

- The £4k forecast overspend can only be achieved by holding back £94k on the Book Fund and underspending on relief staffing to meet the unachievable income target of £287k disaggregated in error to the Hub Services cost centre. The Book Fund figure also includes the reduction of a further unachievable income target of £7k also disaggregated in error - total amount of unachievable income disaggregated in error is therefore £294k. This action has a direct impact on service provision (i.e. holding back 20% of the Book Fund which has an obvious affect on the amount of stock we can purchase and will lead to customer complaints) and on service delivery as we have to hold back on relief staffing meaning staff shortages in some

cases and a poorer level of service - if we hold back any further amounts from relief staffing it may well mean some libraries closing due to lack of staff.

Music Service

Actual: Net expenditure £1k less than budget to date.

Forecast: On budget (no change to last month)

School Organisation and Capital Planning

Actual: Net expenditure £249k greater than budget to date.

Forecast: £27k underspend (no change to last month)

Explanation for Differential

- An overspend on PFI is expected of £364k. A proposed transfer from earmarked reserves has been reported in November for this amount from the PFI reserve.

Management Actions

- Actual salary cost reallocation to correct cost centres in conjunction with HR has largely been completed. There are still a small number of errors that are currently being corrected.
- The overall forecast overspend of £582k for Leisure & Culture requires further management action to address the budget shortfall. A number of options have been identified with regards to reducing costs (e.g staff redundancies, freezing relief staffing, increasing fees above inflation etc) which will be subject to approval.

4.11 Schools

The Revenue and Capital Reserves brought forward to 2009/10 for Central Bedfordshire Schools are £8.2m and £0.8m, respectively. Please note the Capital Reserves do not include Devolved Formula Capital of £4m.

There are currently 19 Schools with an approved Licensed Deficit with a total value of £0.7m and a possible further 14 schools with which we are currently working. Schools are required by the Scheme for Financing Schools to submit a forecast out-turn during December.

5.0 Revenue Virement Requests

There were no virements that have a cost centre cumulative total of greater than £200k posted in December.

6.0 Key Risks

An invoice has been received from Bedford Borough Council for funding the Hub within Libraries for £453k. (There is an additional invoice for £41k that is costed to the Book Fund). This is currently being confirmed against prior year figures.

7.0 Key Cost Drivers

Looked After Children:

Total number of Looked After Children as at the end of November was 162 Children (excludes respite care) (previous month 162, April 09 - 131). December figures are not yet available.

- Residential Placements – 7 Children. There are currently 4 children in Residential Placements, and 3 children for whom Social Care make a contribution to their Educational Placement. Total forecast cost £858k, against a budget of £912k.
- Out of County Educational Placements – There are currently 28 children in Out of County Placements. Total forecast cost £1.7m, against a budget of £1.4m.
- IFA Costs – 52 Children. The daily average forecast cost is £119 for a child in an Out of County Independent Fostering Agency placement. The number of days forecast is 18,394, total forecast cost £2.2m against a budget of £1.7m.

8.0 Achieving Efficiency Savings

With an efficiency target of £4.2m for the directorate, £406k was reported in the forecast efficiency return (NI179). Therefore it can be considered that only 10% of this target is being met with a £2.1m forecast deficit.

9.0 Reserves Position

£501k has been reported this month as proposed use of reserves. £364k of the PFI reserve, £134k for the Vandyke Sports pitch and £3k for the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Please note Appendix E attached outlining current Earmarked Reserves for review.

10.0 Carry forward Requests

Nil

11.0 Detailed Capital Analysis

11.1 The following table shows the expenditure and funding implications of the budget movements including slippage.

<u>CFL Capital Spend Analysis - Showing Funding from Council Resources</u>			
<u>£m</u>	<u>Spend</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Net</u>
Original Budget	24.4	15.8	8.6
Slippage from 2008/9	6.1	4.1	2.0
Other Adjustments	5.0	4.6	0.4
Slippage to 2010/11	(15.1)	(9.6)	(5.5)
Approved Budget	<u>20.4</u>	<u>14.9</u>	<u>5.5</u>
Comm. Football Dunstable - S106	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.1</u>	(0.1)
Current Budget	<u>20.4</u>	<u>15.0</u>	<u>5.4</u>
Slippage to 2010/11			
Oakbank Sports Hall	(0.7)	0.0	(0.7)
Asbestos & Health and Safety	(0.2)	0.0	(0.2)
Holmemead School ASD Provision	(0.2)	0.0	(0.2)
Imps. To School Kitchen/Dining	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.0
Food Technology	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.0
Other	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Total Slippage to 2010/11	<u>(1.5)</u>	<u>(0.3)</u>	<u>(1.2)</u>
Total Budget Savings in 2009/10	<u>(1.5)</u>	<u>(0.3)</u>	<u>(1.2)</u>
Current Forecast	<u>18.9</u>	<u>14.7</u>	<u>4.2</u>

11.2 Table C – Capital Actuals to date and Forecast Year End position.

This is now included within the Appendices to the report.

11.3 Detailed Commentary on Capital

(A) The detailed commentary on the budget and forecast follow.

- Column A - The original budget of £24.4m is that which was approved in principle by the Shadow Executive in February 2009.
- Column B - The slippage of £6.1m is Bedfordshire County Council and the District Councils from 2008/09 and is itemised as follows:
 - £2,746k on Formula Capital being Standards Fund Grant devolved to the schools with 3 years to spend each year's allocation.
 - £1,057k on Children's Centres which is funded by the Sure Start Grant.
 - £448k funded by the Standards Fund Grant for Extended Schools.
 - £352k on Oakbank Special School for its sports hall.
 - £298k on Heathwood Lower School.
 - £178k on Roecroft Lower.
 - £172k on Reprovision of Children's Homes.
 - £135k for Refurbishment of South Beds Leisure Facilities.
 - £126k on Alameda Middle.
 - £115k on NDS Modernisation.
 - £107k on Electronic Social Care Record.
 - £100k on Countryside Health & Safety Enhancement.
 - £265k being the balance made up of items lower than £100k.
- Column C – This £5.0m increase in budgeted expenditure is the other adjustments to the programme of which £4.6m is externally funded.

Increases:

 - £3,600k on All Saints Academy, being the redevelopment of the Northfields School, of which all but £100k is funded by DCSF grant.
 - £1,992k on Formula Capital being 40% b/f from 2010/11 which all schools are being given this year.
 - £640k on Best Co-location Samuel Whitbread funded by DCSF grant.
 - £500k on Holmemead School ASD provision.
 - £473k on Playbuilder being part of £1.1m funding including 2010/11.
 - £311k on Improvements to School Kitchens and Dining Areas, again DCSF funded.
 - £299k on Oakbank Special School Improvements being the amount which BCC were to fund from revenue.

Decreases:

 - £1,292k on the VA schools programmes including £635k on Modernisation, £596k on Formula Capital and £61k on Access Initiative.
 - £1,177k on Harnessing Technology which is budgeted in revenue.
 - £650k on Saxon Pool / Sports Hall as this project has now been delayed for 3 years.
- Column D - Slippage of £15.1m into 2010/11 has been approved as follows:
 - £3,300k on All Saints Academy as work on site will not commence in this financial year.

- Formula Capital slippage has been forecast at £2,746k being the same as the slippage into 2009/10 from 2008/9 and follows the assumption that spend will be in line with the current year allocation from the DCSF – which now includes a 40% draw down from 2010/11 in the sum of £1,992k.
 - £2,500k on the Community Football Development Centre at Leighton Buzzard. Funding is undetermined until the section 106 and Football Association funding for this project is confirmed in December 2009 and by February 2010 respectively.
 - £2,290k on the Community Football Development Centre at Dunstable where the start on site is now likely to be early in 2010/11.
 - £1,330k on Roecroft Lower which is estimated to start on site in quarter 4 of 2009/10 involving fencing off the site (as a separate contract). The main works will start early in 2010/11.
 - £630k on Sandy Sports & Leisure Centre. This extension project to provide 2 dance studios, etc is not now expected to start on site until the new financial year – the whole project having been moved back on account of the Council reorganisation.
 - £500k on Temporary Accommodation as at the current time there is a lack of pressure for temporary units.
 - £317k on Tithe Farm Lower which will also not start on site until 2010/11 in part due to the scope of the scheme being reviewed.
 - £300k on Asbestos Health & Safety. The poor condition surveys have led to delays in identifying priorities.
 - £300k on Holmemead School ASD Provision as the £500k budget has just been approved.
 - £279k on Schools Access Initiative bringing the forecast down to £300k.
 - £217k on Public Open Space being all expenditure except that for the purchase of Rushmere Park and master planning / site surveys thereon.
 - £110k on Gilbert Inglefield for which various options are being considered after receiving an initial high costing from Mouchel. Facility needs to be in place for 'Teaching Practical Food Skills' to KS3 by September 2011.
 - £273k of slippages less than £100k on other projects.
- Column E – The current approved budget is £20,413k.
 - Column F - The actual to date stands at £9.6m compared to £15.3m budget (based on flat phasing the current budget over 9 months). A number of projects have only recently started due to the late approval process this year. Formula Capital has been accrued pro rata to budget.
 - Column G - The forecast outturn is £18.9m which is £1.5m below budget.
 - Column H – The variance above includes £1,479k of further slippage as follows:
 - £705k on Oakbank Sports Hall which is not now going down the urgency route for approval.

- £200k on Asbestos Health & Safety due to the lengthy approval process.
- £150k on Holmemead School ASD Provision.
- £124k on Improvements to School Kitchens, with the associated income.
- £93k on Food Technology with it's associated income.
- £207k of smaller variances with £100k of income.

- Column I – A couple of small variances have been identified based on Mouchel's latest cost estimates.

(B) No Service Implications have been identified.

(C) Management Actions at this stage principally involve the following:

- Ensuring that forecasts on SAP are kept up to date.
- Working in tandem with Finance to ensure that the data to support the 2010/11 capital programme approvals is robust and supported.

12.0 Workforce Data

- Not currently available.

13.0 Aged Debt Analysis

- Not yet available

14.0 Payments Indicator

- Not yet available

15.0 List of Appendices

Attached to report are the following Appendices

Appendix A	Overall Position for CBC by Directorate – not yet available
Appendix B	Table A – CFL Net Revenue Position
	Table B – Movement on Forecast compared to previous months
Appendix C	Table A Gross Expenditure
Appendix D	Table A Gross Income
Appendix E	Table C – Capital position
Appendix F	Overall Capital Monitoring – Summary – not yet available
Appendix G	Capital Monitoring – Detailed CFL
Appendix H	CFL Action Plan
Appendix I	Earmarked Reserves

Director	Annual Budget	Profiled Budget to date	Actual to date	Variance	Adjusted Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance	Revised Forecast Variance	Proposed Transfer to/from reserves/p rovisions	Forecast Variance after proposed new reserves.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Business Transformation	6,496	4,872	1,073	-3,799	8,134	1,638	1,638	-1,407	231
Chief Executive	309	232	366	134	274	-35	-35		-35
Children, Families & Learning (excluding Schools)	38,127	28,543	28,097	-446	40,729	2,602	2,602	-501	2,101
Corporate Costs	14,687	14,774	10,069	-4,705	14,546	-141	-141		-141
Corporate Resources (Excluding 7800 Corporate Costs)	19,698	11,015	12,813	1,798	20,127	429	429	-67	362
SCH&H	46,704	35,028	36,634	1,606	51,340	4,636	4,636	-104	4,532
Sustainable Communities	39,256	29,442	28,813	-629	39,035	-221	-221		-221
Repayment of Transitional Costs	4,600	3,450	3,450	0	4,600	0	0		0
TOTAL Excluding Schools	169,877	127,356	121,315	-6,041	178,785	8,908	8,908	-2,079	6,829
Schools only	766	575	286	-289	766	0	0		0
Total	170,643	127,931	121,601	-6,330	179,551	8,908	8,908	-2,079	6,829
Transitional Costs	3,762	2,822	3,926	1,104	4,762	1,000	1,000		1,000

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Table A NET EXPENDITURE

Cabinet Members Children, Families & Learning	Annual Budget £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual to Date £000	Variance £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Proposed transfers from earmarked reserves £000	Non-Discretionary Carry Forwards £000	Forecast Variance (E)-(A)-(F)-(G) £000
Director of Children, Families & Learning	359	269	335	66	359			0
Sub Total Director	359	269	335	66	359	0	0	0
Head of Specialist Services	4,861	3,646	3,127	(519)	5,351			490
SEN & Inclusion Service Management	5,338	4,003	3,476	(527)	5,318			(20)
Safeguarding and LAC Service	3,373	2,530	3,672	1,142	3,925			552
Children with Disabilities Service	2,606	1,955	1,996	41	3,055			449
Quality Assurance CRS Service	795	596	558	(38)	795			0
Local Safeguarding Children's Board	32	24	41	17	50	3		15
Fostering & Adoption Service	2,434	1,825	1,777	(48)	2,497			63
Sub Total Childrens Specialist Services	19,439	14,579	14,647	68	20,991	3	0	1,549
Commissioning Management	521	391	388	(3)	521			0
Policy & Strategy Service Management	250	187	110	(77)	117			(133)
Partnership & Communications Service	148	111	61	(50)	77			(71)
Joint Strategic Commission Service	569	427	392	(35)	559			(10)
JSCS - Transport	8,227	6,170	6,599	429	8,820			593
Sub Total Policy, Planning & Commissioning	9,715	7,286	7,550	264	10,094	0	0	379
Integrated Services Manager	1,425	1,069	1,047	(22)	1,443			18
Integrated Youth Support Service	1,476	1,107	580	(527)	1,296			(180)
Integrated Process Service Management	563	423	325	(98)	518			(45)
Early Intervention / Prevention	4,046	3,034	3,235	201	4,017			(29)
Sub Total Integrated Services	7,510	5,633	5,187	(446)	7,274	0	0	(236)
Learning & Schools	387	290	269	(21)	380			(7)
School Support Service	4,022	3,019	2,778	(241)	3,972			(50)
Childrens Workforce Development	375	281	233	(48)	374			(1)

School Improvement Standards Fund	2,707	2,030	1,274	(756)	2,556		(151)
Education Trading Services	0	0	(37)	(37)	0		0
Other School Budgets	125	94	0	(94)	125		0
	108	81	204	123	280	134	38
Sub Total Learning & School Support	7,724	5,795	4,721	(1,074)	7,687	134	(171)
Leisure, Culture & Adult Comm Leisure Services	230	173	168	(5)	230		0
Countryside & Archives	1,391	1,044	1,099	55	1,448		57
Adult & Community Learning	1,517	1,137	1,337	200	1,813		296
Arts Development	0	0	128	128	147		147
Libraries	321	241	294	53	426		105
Music Service	3,166	2,374	2,370	(4)	3,170		4
School Organisation & Capital Planning	533	349	348	(1)	533		0
	842	632	881	249	1,179	364	(27)
Sub Total Leisure & Culture	8,001	5,950	6,625	675	8,946	364	582
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools)	52,748	39,512	39,065	(447)	55,351	501	2,103
LSC/DSG (Non-Schools)	(14,623)	(10,968)	(10,968)	0	(14,623)		0
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools) inc LSC/DSG	38,125	28,544	28,097	(447)	40,728	501	2,103
Schools	143,717	107,787	107,782	(5)	143,717		0
Schools Specific Contingency	762	571	341	(230)	762		0
DSG Funding	(128,117)	(96,088)	(96,088)	0	(128,117)		0
ISB Related Grants	(15,595)	(11,697)	(11,750)	(53)	(15,595)		0
Sub Total Schools	767	573	285	(288)	767	0	0
Total Director of Children, Families & Learning (incl Schools)	38,892	29,117	28,382	(735)	41,495	501	2,103

Table B Movement on Forecast Year End Position

	Full Year Forecast Variance at December £000	Full Year Forecast Variance as at November £000	Forecast Variance Movement £000
Director of Children, Families & Learning	0	0	0
Sub Total Director	0	0	0
Head of Specialist Services	490	40	450
SEN & Inclusion Service Management	(20)	(20)	0
Safeguarding and LAC Service	552	1,042	(490)
Children with Disabilities Service	449	449	0
Quality Assurance CRS Service	0	0	0
Local Safeguarding Children's Board	15	29	(14)
Fostering & Adoption Service	63	64	(1)
Sub Total Childrens Specialist Services	1,549	1,604	(55)
Commissioning Management	0	0	0
Policy & Strategy Service Management	(133)	(44)	(89)
Partnership & Communications Service	(71)	(25)	(46)
Joint Strategic Commission Service	(10)	0	(10)
JSCS - Transport	593	601	(8)
Sub Total Policy, Planning & Commissioning	379	532	(153)
Integrated Services Manager	18	19	(1)
Integrated Youth Support Service	(180)	(180)	0
Integrated Process Service Management	(45)	(46)	1
Early Intervention / Prevention	(29)	(29)	0
Sub Total Integrated Services	(236)	(236)	0
Learning & Schools	(7)	(7)	0
School Support Service	(50)	(109)	59
Childrens Workforce Development	(1)	(1)	0

School Improvement	(151)	(135)	(16)
Standards Fund	0	0	0
Education Trading Services	0	0	0
Other School Budgets	38	39	(1)
Sub Total Learning & School Support	(171)	(213)	42
Leisure, Culture & Adult Comm	0	0	0
Leisure Services	57	57	0
Countryside & Archives	296	276	20
Adult & Community Learning	147	149	(2)
Arts Development	105	105	0
Libraries	4	(5)	9
Music Service	0	0	0
School Organisation & Capital Planning	(27)	(27)	0
Sub Total Leisure & Culture	582	555	27
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools)	2,103	2,242	(139)
LSC/DSG (Non-Schools)	0	0	0
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools) inc LSC/DSG	2,103	2,242	(139)
Schools	0	0	0
Schools Specific Contingency	0	0	0
DSG Funding	0	0	0
ISB Related Grants	0	0	0
Sub Total Schools	0	0	0
Total Director of Children, Families & Learning (incl Schools)	2,103	2,242	(139)

GROSS EXPENDITURE

	Annual Budget £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual to Date £000	Variance £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Proposed Transfers from Earmarked Reserves £000	Non- Discretionary Carry Forwards £000	Forecast Variance (E)-(A)- (F)-(G) £000
Cabinet Members Children, Families & Learning								
Director of Children, Families & Learning	651	488	405	(83)	651	0	0	0
Sub Total Director	651	488	405	(83)	651	0	0	0
Head of Specialist Services	4,924	3,693	3,174	(519)	5,414			490
SEN & Inclusion Service Management	8,032	6,025	5,578	(447)	8,132			100
Safeguarding and LAC Service	4,717	3,538	4,662	1,124	5,580			863
Children with Disabilities Service	4,434	3,325	3,312	(13)	4,912			478
Quality Assurance CRS Service	795	596	588	(8)	848			53
Local Safeguarding Children's Board	194	146	199	53	254			60
Fostering & Adoption Service	5,018	3,763	4,139	376	4,944			(74)
Sub Total Childrens Specialist Services	28,114	21,086	21,652	566	30,084	0	0	1,970
Commissioning Management	521	391	388	(3)	521			0
Policy & Strategy Service Management	250	187	110	(77)	116			(134)
Partnership & Communications Service	148	111	61	(50)	77			(71)
Joint Strategic Commission Service	1,467	1,100	771	(329)	1,458			(9)
JSCS - Transport	8,480	6,360	6,851	491	9,116			636
Sub Total Policy, Planning & Commissioning	10,866	8,149	8,181	32	11,288	0	0	422
Integrated Services Manager	1,493	1,119	1,100	(19)	1,514			21
Integrated Youth Support Service	3,032	2,274	1,757	(517)	2,883			(149)
Integrated Process Service Management	1,725	1,294	1,124	(170)	1,680			(45)
Early Intervention / Prevention	9,161	6,871	5,961	(910)	9,208			47
Sub Total Integrated Services	15,411	11,558	9,942	(1,616)	15,285	0	0	(126)
Learning & Schools	8,728	6,546	8,598	2,052	8,721			(7)
School Support Service	4,058	3,044	2,838	(206)	4,049			(9)
Childrens Workforce Development	575	431	623	192	1,007			432
School Improvement	6,175	4,631	4,296	(335)	6,862			687
Standards Fund	12,220	9,165	8,735	(430)	12,625			405
Education Trading Services	125	94	3	(91)	125			0
Other School Budgets	1,569	1,177	1,358	168	1,741			172
Sub Total Learning & School Support	33,450	25,088	26,451	1,350	35,130	0	0	1,680

GROSS EXPENDITURE

Cabinet Members Children, Families & Learning	Annual Budget £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual to Date £000	Variance £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Proposed Transfers from Earmarked Reserves £000	Non-Discretionary Carry Forwards £000	Forecast Variance (E)-(A)-(F)-(G) £000
Leisure, Culture & Adult Comm	230	173	168	(5)	230			0
Leisure Services	1,654	1,241	1,477	236	1,732			78
Countryside & Archives	1,592	1,194	1,417	223	1,966			374
Adult & Community Learning	2,753	2,065	2,006	(59)	2,753			0
Arts Development	589	442	443	1	637			48
Libraries	3,389	2,541	2,462	(79)	3,325			(64)
Music Service	3,287	2,465	2,483	18	3,205			(82)
School Organisation & Capital Planning	3,826	2,869	3,167	298	4,230			404
Sub Total Leisure & Culture	17,320	12,990	13,623	633	18,078	0	0	758
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools)	105,812	79,359	80,254	895	110,516	0	0	4,704
LSC/DSG (Non-Schools)	0	0	0	0	0			0
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools) inc LSC/DSG	105,812	79,359	80,254	895	110,516	0	0	4,704
Schools	176,050	132,038	137,414	5,376	102,944			(73,106)
Schools Specific Contingency	762	571	342	(229)	762			0
DSG Funding	0	0	0	0	0			0
ISB Related Grants	0	0	0	0	0			0
Sub Total Schools	176,812	132,609	137,756	5,147	103,706	0	0	(73,106)
Total Director of Children, Families & Learning (incl Schools)	282,624	211,968	218,010	6,042	214,222	0	0	(68,402)

INCOME

Cabinet Members Children, Families & Learning	Annual Budget £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual to Date £000	Variance £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Proposed Transfers from Earmarked Reserves £000	Non-Discretionary Carry Forwards £000	Forecast Variance (E)-(A)-(F)-(G) £000
Director of Children, Families & Learning	(292)	(219)	(70)	149	(292)	0	0	0
Sub Total Director	(292)	(219)	(70)	149	(292)	0	0	0
Head of Specialist Services	(63)	(47)	(48)	(1)	(63)			0
SEN & Inclusion Service Management	(2,695)	(2,021)	(2,102)	(81)	(2,814)			(119)
Safeguarding and LAC Service	(1,344)	(1,008)	(990)	18	(1,655)			(311)
Children with Disabilities Service	(1,827)	(1,371)	(1,316)	55	(1,857)			(30)
Quality Assurance CRS Service	0	0	(30)	(30)	(53)			(53)
Local Safeguarding Children's Board	(162)	(121)	(157)	(36)	(204)			(42)
Fostering & Adoption Service	(2,584)	(1,938)	(2,362)	(424)	(2,447)			137
Sub Total Childrens Specialist Services	(8,675)	(6,506)	(7,005)	(499)	(9,093)	0	0	(418)
Commissioning Management	0	0	0	0	0			0
Policy & Strategy Service Management	0	0	0	0	0			0
Partnership & Communications Service	0	0	0	0	0			0
Joint Strategic Commissioning Service	(899)	(674)	(384)	290	(898)			1
JSCS - Transport	(253)	(190)	(247)	(57)	(296)			(43)
Sub Total Policy, Planning & Commissioning	(1,152)	(864)	(631)	233	(1,194)	0	0	(42)
Integrated Services Manager	(68)	(51)	(53)	(2)	(71)			(3)
Integrated Youth Support Service	(1,557)	(1,167)	(1,177)	(10)	(1,587)			(30)
Integrated Process Service Management	(1,161)	(871)	(799)	72	(1,161)			0
Early Intervention / Prevention	(5,115)	(3,837)	(2,725)	1,112	(5,191)			(76)
Sub Total Integrated Services	(7,901)	(5,926)	(4,754)	1,172	(8,010)	0	0	(109)
Learning & Schools	(8,341)	(6,255)	(8,328)	(2,073)	(8,341)			0
School Support Service	(34)	(25)	(67)	(42)	(78)			(44)
Childrens Workforce Development	(200)	(150)	(389)	(239)	(632)			(432)
School Improvement	(3,468)	(2,601)	(3,022)	(421)	(4,307)			(839)
Standards Fund	(12,220)	(9,165)	(8,771)	394	(12,625)			(405)
Education Trading Services	0	0	0	0	0			0
Other School Budgets	(1,461)	(1,096)	(1,154)	(58)	(1,461)			0
Sub Total Learning & School Support	(25,724)	(19,292)	(21,731)	(2,439)	(27,444)	0	0	(1,720)

INCOME

Cabinet Members Children, Families & Learning	Annual Budget £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual to Date £000	Variance £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Proposed Transfers from Earmarked Reserves £000	Non-Discretionary Carry Forwards £000	Forecast Variance (E)-(A)-(F)-(G) £000
Leisure, Culture & Adult Comm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leisure Services	(263)	(197)	(379)	(182)	(284)			(21)
Countryside & Archives	(76)	(57)	(80)	(23)	(153)			(77)
Adult & Community Learning	(2,753)	(2,065)	(1,878)	187	(2,606)			147
Arts Development	(268)	(201)	(149)	52	(211)			57
Libraries	(223)	(167)	(92)	75	(155)			68
Music Service	(2,753)	(2,116)	(2,135)	(19)	(2,671)			82
School Organisation & Capital Planning	(2,983)	(2,237)	(2,285)	(48)	(3,051)			(68)
Sub Total Leisure & Culture	(9,319)	(7,040)	(6,998)	42	(9,131)	0	0	188
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools)	(53,063)	(39,847)	(41,189)	(1,342)	(55,164)	0	0	(2,101)
LSC/DSG (Non-Schools)	(14,623)	(10,967)	(10,967)	0	(14,623)	0	0	0
Director Children, Families & Learning (excl Schools) inc LSC/DSG	(67,686)	(50,814)	(52,156)	(1,342)	(69,787)	0	0	(2,101)
Schools	(32,334)	(24,251)	(29,633)	(5,382)	40,772			73,106
Schools Specific Contingency	0	0	0	0	0			0
DSG Funding	(128,117)	(96,088)	(96,088)	0	(128,117)			0
ISB Related Grants	(15,595)	(11,697)	(11,750)	(53)	(15,595)			0
Sub Total Schools	(176,046)	(132,036)	(137,471)	(5,435)	(102,940)	0	0	73,106
Total Director of Children, Families & Learning (incl Schools)	(243,732)	(182,850)	(189,627)	(6,777)	(172,727)	0	0	71,005

Table C		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
		Original Budget	Slippage from 2008/9	Other Adjustments	Slippage to 2010/11	Current Budget	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	Further Slippage to 2010/11	(Under)/Over Spend
		£K	£K	£K	£K	£K	£K	£K	£K	£K
Capital Expenditure										
	All Saints Academy	0	0	3,600	(3,300)	300	119	300	0	0
	Asbestos Health & Safety	500	0	0	(300)	200	0	0	(200)	0
	BEST Co-Location Samuel Whitbread	0	0	640	0	640	0	640	0	0
	Children's Centres	2,420	1,057	0	0	3,477	1,252	3,477	0	0
	Formula Capital	4,997	2,746	1,992	(2,746)	6,989	5,241	6,989	0	0
	Harnessing Technology	1,177	0	(1,177)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Heathwood Lower	0	298	(104)	0	194	205	205	0	11
	Holmemead School ASD Provision	0	0	500	(300)	200	0	50	(150)	0
	Improvements to School Kitchens	0	0	311	0	311	0	187	(124)	0
	NDS Modernisation	1,000	115	0	0	1,115	162	1,050	(65)	0
	Oakbank Special School Improvements	104	352	299	0	755	0	50	(705)	0
	Roecroft Lower Relocation	1,500	178	0	(1,330)	348	33	348	0	0
	Schools Access Initiative	579	0	0	(279)	300	35	300	0	0
	Stds Fund for Extended Schools	313	448	(3)	0	758	479	758	0	0
	Temporary Accommodation	500	0	0	(500)	0	0	0	0	0
	Tithe Farm Lower	377	0	0	(317)	60	0	50	(10)	0
	VA Capital	1,292	0	(1,292)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Children's Services (<£250k)	876	532	631	(160)	1,879	706	1,645	(225)	(9)
	SUB-TOTAL - SCHOOLS & SC	15,635	5,726	5,397	(9,232)	17,526	8,232	16,049	(1,479)	2
	Community Football Dev. Ctr - Dunstable	2,400	0	100	(2,290)	210	62	210	0	0
	Community Football Dev. Ctr - Leighton	2,500	0	0	(2,500)	0	0	0	0	0
	OAIP	250	0	(100)	0	150	24	150	0	0
	Playbuilder	0	0	473	0	473	0	473	0	0
	Public Open Space	1,250	0	(96)	(217)	937	917	937	0	0
	Rights of Way - Major Bridge H&S Works	275	0	0	(75)	200	34	200	0	0
	Sandy Sports & Leisure Centre	690	0	0	(630)	60	0	60	0	0
	Saxon Pool / Sports Hall	650	0	(650)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other Children's Services (<£250k)	724	373	(92)	(148)	857	314	857	0	0
	SUB-TOTAL LEISURE	8,739	373	(365)	(5,860)	2,887	1,351	2,887	0	0
	TOTAL - CFL	24,374	6,099	5,032	(15,092)	20,413	9,583	18,936	(1,479)	2

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General Fund	Original Budget 2009/10 £000	Slippage from 08/09 £000	In Year Budget Adjustments (incl. approved slippage to 10/11) £000	Current Budget Approved £000	Actual to Date £000	Forecast Outturn £000	Additional Slippage to 10/11 £000	Forecast Variance to Approved Current Budget £000	%
Director									
Business Transformation	304	727	(523)	508	166	374	0	(134)	-26%
Children, Families & Learning (schools & non sh	15,635	5,726	(3,835)	17,526	8,231	16,049	(1,479)	2	0%
Children, Families & Learning (leisure & culture)	8,739	373	(6,225)	2,887	1,351	2,887	0	0	0%
Corporate Resources	4,972	657	(1,537)	4,182	636	4,443	0	261	6%
Social Care Health & Housing	4,225	7,914	(3,130)	9,009	2,578	8,126	0	(883)	-10%
Sustainable Communities	31,111	4,334	(3,371)	32,074	12,257	26,866	0	(5,208)	-16%
Less Budgeted Net Slippage going forward	(15,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Expendiure	49,986	19,731	(18,621)	66,186	25,219	58,745	(1,479)	(5,962)	-9%
Grants & Contributions	(32,342)	(14,851)	7,448	(39,745)	(16,526)	(39,745)	0	0	0%
Revenue Contribution	(70)	0	0	(70)	0	(70)	0	0	0%
Borrowing	(8,787)	0	0	(8,787)	0	(8,787)	0	0	0%
Capital Receipts	(8,787)	0	0	(8,787)	0	(8,787)	0	0	0%
NET General Fund	0	4,880	(11,173)	8,797	8,693	1,356	(1,479)	(5,962)	

Housing Revenue Account	Original Budget 2009/10	Slippage from 08/09	In Year Budget Adjustments (incl. approved slippage to 10/11)	Current Budget Approved	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	Additional Slippage to 10/11	Forecast Variance to Approved Current Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000 %
Director								
SCH&H	5,686	(79)	0	5,607	3,101	5,578	0	(29) -1%
Total Expenditure	5,686	(79)	0	5,607	3,101	5,578	0	(29)
Grants & Contributions	(3,649)	0	0	(3,649)	0	(3,649)	0	0 0%
Revenue Contribution	(343)	0	0	(343)	0	(343)	0	0 0%
Borrowing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 0%
Capital Receipts	(1,694)	79	0	(1,615)	0	(1,615)	0	0 0%
NET Housing Revenue Account	0	0	0	0	3,101	(29)	0	(29)
NET TOTAL Capital Programme	0	4,880	(11,173)	8,797	11,794	1,327	(1,479)	(5,991)

CAPITAL MONITORING DECEMBER 2009 -														
	Original Budget	Slippage from 2008/9	Other Budget Adjustments	In Year Adjustments approved	Slippage to 2010/11	Current Budget	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	(Under)/Over Spend	Slippage to 2010/11	Income Budget	Income Forecast	Variance	Details
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
9														
Capital Payments														
CHILDREN, FAMILIES & LEISURE														
Schools & Children's Social Care														
Alameda MS (slip)		126	30	(66)		90	81	81	(9)				0	
Arnold MS (H&S - part of phase 3 project)	100				(50)	50		18	0	(32)			0	
Asbestos Health & Safety	500				(300)	200			0	(200)			0	
Int. Youth Supp. Service Co-Loc Dunstable				183		183		183	0		183		183	0 Stds Fund
Caddington Village School		60		122		182	182	182	0				0	
Children's Centres	2,420	1,057	0	0	0	3,477	1,252	3,477	0	0	3,477	3,477	0	GSSG
Children's Social Care SCP Contribution	28			(28)		0			0				0	
Electronic Social Care Record		107				107		107	0				0	
Etonbury MS - Additional Places	50					50			0	(50)	50	0	50	S106
Feasibility Studies	100			(100)		0			0				0	
Greenfield VC Lower Replacement School	50					50			0	(50)	50	0	50	PCP
Harnessing Technology	1,177		(1,177)			0			0				0	
Heathwood Lower		298		(104)		194	205	205	11				0	
Holmead School ASD Provision				500	(300)	200		50	0	(150)			0	
Integrated Children's System (ICS)	0	52	0	31	0	83	64	83	0		31	31	0	DCSF
NDS Modernisation	1,000	115	0	0	0	1,115	162	1,050	0	(65)	19	19	0	School
Oakbank Special School Improvements	104	352		299		755		50	0	(705)	0	0	0	
Reprovision of Children's Homes (slip)		172				172	104	172	0				0	
Roecroft Lower Relocation	1,500	178	0	0	(1,330)	348	33	348	0		170	170	0	PCP
Schools Access Initiative	579				(279)	300	35	300	0				0	
Section 106				170		170	32	170	0		170	170	0	S106
Short Breaks (AHDC)	137					137		137	0		137	137	0	GSSG
Stds Fund for Extended Schools	313	448	0	(3)	0	758	479	758	0	0	758	758	0	Stds Fund
St Swithuns				189		189	89	189	0				0	
Temporary Accommodation	500				(500)	0			0				0	
Tilthe Farm Lower	377				(317)	60		50	0	(10)	60	50	10	PCP
Youth Capital Fund	121					121	4	121	0		121	121	0	DCSF
Non Capital	50	0	(50)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Ring Fenced Grants														
All Saints Academy				3,600	(3,300)	300	119	300	0		200	200	0	DCSF
BEST Co-Location Samuel Whitbread				640		640		640	0		640	640	0	Inc. DCSF
Food Technology	180	0	0	50	(110)	120	0	27	0	(93)	120	27	93	Stds Fund
Formula Capital	4,997	2,746		1,992	(2,746)	6,989	5,241	6,989	0		6,989	6,989	0	Stds Fund
Harlington Trust Schools	60			75		135	135	135	0		135	135	0	Stds Fund
Improvements to School Kitchens				311		311		187	0	(124)	311	187	124	DCSF
Redborne - Specialist Schools Capital				25		25		25	0		25	25	0	Stds Fund
Sandy Upper TCF (slip)		15				15	15	15	0		15	15	0	Stds Fund
VA Capital	1,292	0	(1,292)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Schools & Children's Social Care	15,635	5,726	(2,489)	7,886	(9,232)	17,526	8,232	16,049	2	(1,479)	13,661	13,334	327	

CAPITAL MONITORING DECEMBER 2009 -														
9	Original Budget	Slippage from 2008/9	Other Budget Adjustments	In Year Adjustments approved	Slippage to 2010/11	Current Budget	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	(Under)/Over Spend	Slippage to 2010/11	Income Budget	Income Forecast	Variance	Details
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Capital Payments														
Leisure & Culture														
	135					135	121	135	0				0	
Capital Grant Aid To Voluntary Bodies														
Cemeteries Fund	50					50		50	0				0	
Community Football Dev. Ctr - Dunstable	2,400		100		(2,290)	210	62	210	0		100	100	0	\$106
Community Football Dev. Ctr - Leighton	2,500				(2,500)	0		0	0		0	0	0	??
Countryside - H&S / Enhancement	120	100		(120)		100		100	0		0	0	0	
Fitwick Leisure Centre				130		130	40	130	0				0	
Houghton Regis Pavillion & Pitch (parking)		2		(2)		0		0	0		0	0	0	??
OAIP	250			(100)		150	24	150	0		0	0	0	
Ouzel Valley Development		42			(42)	0		0	0				0	
Playbuilder				473		473		473	0		473	473	0	DCSF
Play & Open Spaces Strategy	75	73				148	21	148	0				0	
Public Open Space	1,250	0	0	(96)	(217)	937	917	937	0	0	673	673	0	Chalk Arc
Refurbishment of S. Beds Leisure Facilities	74	135	0	0	(36)	173	101	173	0	0	104	104	0	??
Rights of Way - Major Bridge H&S Works	275				(75)	200	34	200	0				0	
Rights of Way - Major H&S Surfacing	100				(20)	80	25	80	0				0	
Green Space Enhancements (RM)	20	12				32		32	0				0	
Sandy Library		9				9	6	9	0				0	
Sandy Sports & Leisure Centre	690				(630)	60		60	0				0	
Saxon Pool / Sports Hall	650			(650)		0		0	0				0	
Swiss Garden	150			(100)	(50)	0		0	0		0	0	0	
Total Leisure & Culture	8,739	373	100	(465)	(5,860)	2,887	1,351	2,887	0	0	1,350	1,350	0	
TOTAL CFL	24,374	6,099	(2,389)	7,421	(15,092)	20,413	9,583	18,936	2	(1,479)	15,011	14,684	327	
													327	

Details of planned action	Expected Full Yr Savings £000	Savings to date £000	Status (RAG)	Comment
Children Families and Learning				
To review Organisational structure and open vacancies for savings To ensure actual salary costs are allocated to the correct cost centres, in order to allow for pay pressures, vacancy savings and variances to be identified and built into forecasts accordingly. Finance /HR to ensure completion of this exercise in September/October, with confirmed structure charts and mapping by October. This will be effected via the current establishment reconciliation/clean-up exercise.	625	450	Green	Removal of posts through restructuring and vacancy removal. Forecasts to be adjusted by October to reflect reductions (2.9% of budgeted headcount)
To review forecasts for accuracy and opportunity for savings Forecasts need to be entered for all budgets. Salary forecasts need to reflect any vacancies, both to date and ongoing. It should not be assumed that individual services can spend these elsewhere, without senior manager approval. Posts have been held against the vacancy savings target of 5% and to pay for additional spend to be met within existing resources.	108	56	Green	Target savings excluding salaries of 0.5% 54m* 40% =21.6M * 0.5%
Transport is subject to a major review over the next academic year to address the projected £458k forecast deficit. Any changes to the policy will not be implemented until September 2010 and therefore any savings resulting from any policy change will not have an impact until the 2010/11 financial year. Eligibility, commissioning and procurement to be reviewed to ensure forecasts are accurate and incorporate best estimates and that VFM (value for money) is being secured. Mainstream routes are to be re-tendered to commence in September and January and SEN routes to commence in September. The results of this will feed into future forecasts. A review of routes, with a view to rationalisation where possible, is being carried out on SEN transport.	350	350	Green	SEN savings to be identified
Close monitoring of Children's Specialist Service budgets that contain mainly demand led budgets constituting high risks and are easily subject to change. Additional budget projection work will be done for highly volatile needs led budgets to build up a more accurate picture to inform future budget reports.	0	0	Red	Placement of children in county where possible discussions with BBC continuing. Close review of numbers and forecast timelines
Sub TOTAL	1083	856		

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Earmarked Reserves

Reserve	Balance Available 2009/10 £'000	Planned Use 2009/10 £'000	Proposed Balance as at 31/3/10 £'000	Notes
Grant Aid Fund	141		141	Capital Funded - cannot be returned to GF
Cemeteries Fund	97		97	Capital Funded - cannot be returned to GF
Community Project Programme Fund	99		99	Capital Funded - cannot be returned to GF
Village Investment Partnership Programme Fund	104		104	Capital Funded - cannot be returned to GF
Legal Expenses Fund	0		0	Recommend use GF reserve for such circumstances
Local Development Framework	116		116	Equalised annual revenue contributions from service
Priority Needs Homelessness	44		44	Committed to Aragon for temporary accommodation needs
Elections Fund	94	94	0	Equalised annual revenue contributions from service
Conservation Fund	34		34	Fairfield Hospital S106 works to listed building
Building Control	30		30	Equalise 3 year trading position
Planning Retention / Development Fund	188		188	Committed against future salary increases
Specialist Support Fund	88		88	Committed to short term consultants use
Benefit Subsidy Equalisation	1,438	1,002	436	2% "risk" would be £1.1m on Benefits business of £55m.
Recycling Officer Fund	157		157	Committed to funding of posts
Lease Car Reserve	344	154	190	Committed against scheme withdrawal over next 2 years
SNAP Dance	31		31	
Bedford & Luton Resilience Forum	12		12	This is money held on behalf of BLRF - MBDC acted as banker.
DEFRA	273		273	Capital set off
Policy	13	13	0	No information
Saxon Pool Profit Share a/c	-13		-13	
Biggleswade Rec Centre	18		18	
Sandy Profit Share a/c	27		27	
Home Crimebeat	12		12	
Lottery	8		8	Grant for play schmes - still in use
MEND Programme	30		30	Grant from o/s body, 18 month use over 2009-11
Adoption of Public Open Space	449		449	
Beds Conference Bureau	18		18	
Building Control - Surplus	62		62	Equalise 3 year trading position
Dunstable Master Plan	1,791		1,791	Masterplan due early in 2010
Business Process - Re Eng (HRA)	46		46	Belongs to HRA
Choice Based Lettings	13		13	This is to be spent imminently, per TK

Earmarked Reserves

Reserve	Balance Available 2009/10	Planned Use 2009/10	Proposed Balance as at 31/3/10	Notes
	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Local Development Framework	380		380	Equalised annual revenue contributions from service
Local Strategic Partnership	91	73	18	Committed to staff funding and projects in hand
Luton Airport Noise Cons.	0		0	Unused 08/9, suggest return as relatively small.
Major Repairs Reserve (HRA)	200		200	Belongs to HRA
Grove Theatre	0		0	Unutilised contingency, recommended to return.
Planning Delivery Grant	457		457	Statement of intended use has been evidenced from PR
Refuse/Recycling	54		54	Committed to funding of posts
Joint Facility Strategy	85		85	Really a contingency and should be kept for 09/10 then review
Leighton Buzzard Town Centre	15		15	Sensitive project, so suggest keep for now.
	7,046	1,336	5,710	

County Council Earmarked Reserves

Reserve	Balance Available 2009/10 £000's	Planned Use 2009/10	Proposed Balance as at 31/3/10	Notes
Insurance	2,543		2,543	Subject to actuarial assessment - summer 2009
Retention Incentive Scheme	0		0	N/A
Vandyke Sports Field	134	134	0	Replacement Artificial Pitch Summer 2009
Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Project	0		0	N/A
Mid Beds Private Finance Initiative (PFI)	7,567	263	7,304	Would need to be earmarked in later years if moved to GF
Other Childrens	836		836	All Schools/Children related - see split below
Statutory Plans	94		94	
Planning Income	0		0	N/A
Archaeology	154		154	Business b/e provision
Other Environment	277		277	See below
Other Community	210		210	See below
Schools Ring Fenced	671		671	Schools
School Reserves	8,219		8,219	Schools
School Capital Reserves	777		777	Schools
Teachers Pension Consultancy	6		6	Consultancy work due in 2009
Performance Reward Grant	273		273	Committed to delivery partners
Other Asst Chief Executive	3		(2)	
	21,764	402	21,362	

Detailed analysis of "other" services

	£000's	
Other Childrens:		
Long Term Absence	64	
Non-Discretionary CF's -		
Statementing	76	
Standards Fund	32	
School Meals	76	
LSCB	15	
Developing Specialist Provisions - ASD Lower	191	
Developing Specialist Provisions - ASD Middle	232	
International Links	27	
Family Link	73	
Connexions	50	
	<u>836</u>	
Other Environment:		
Cycling Initiative	15	Provide training to support the capital cycletown initiatives that are ongoing.
NIRAH	150	Sensitive scheme, best left in place for immediate future
Planning Salaries	94	Not committed, this is to top up when income falls below projections.
Knowledge Sector Promotional Material	18	Should complete June 09
	<u>277</u>	
Other Community:		
Archives and Records Office	7	Luton BC interest
Archives and Records Office	50	Mouchel commissioned to prepare scheme, no commitment on part of CBC yet.
Archives - Document's Purchase Fund	6	Luton BC interest
Maintenance of Pollution Interceptor	0	N/A
Houghton Regis Libraray	28	Should be spent by Summer 09
Social Care Reform Grant	92	Remaining grant to fund "Personalisation"
Supporting People Admin Grant	28	Required for Jan 2010 Needs analysis
	<u>210</u>	

ALL SPLITS SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT WITH BEDS BOROUGH COUNCIL