

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



please ask for Sandra Hobbs
direct line 0300 300 5257
date 17 June 2010

NOTICE OF MEETING

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date & Time

Tuesday, 29 June 2010 10.00 a.m.

Venue at

Room 15, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

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

[Named Substitutes:

Cllrs: I Dalgarno, Mrs S A Goodchild, J G Jamieson, Mrs M Mustoe and A M Turner]

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 27 April 2010.

3. **MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

To receive from Members any 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	LEARNING TRANSFORMATION To receive a presentation on Learning Transformation from the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children's Service.	Presentation to follow
10	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN: MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION To provide Members with an overview of the progress made with the priorities within the Making a Positive Contribution aspect of the Children and Young People's Plan.	11 - 18
11	CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN - BE HEALTHY To provide Members with an overview of the progress made with the priorities within the Be Healthy aspect of the Children and Young People's Plan.	19 - 28
12	TASK FORCE UPDATE - YOUTH FACILITY PROVISION To update Members on the progress of the Youth Facility Provision Task Force.	Verbal update
13	14 TO 19 COMMISSIONING To advise Members on the transfer of function from the Learning & Skills Council to Central Bedfordshire Council regarding 14 to 19 Commissioning.	29 - 34
14	WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11 AND EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN To consider the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2010 – 2011 and the Executive Forward Plan.	35 - 54

This page is intentionally left blank

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in Room 14, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford on Tuesday, 27 April 2010.

PRESENT

Cllr J Street (Chairman)

Councillors: P A Blaine
D Bowater
N B Costin
Dr R Egan
P Hollick
K Janes
A Shadbolt

Parental Co-optees: H Copley
D Landman

Church of England Co-optee: J Reynolds

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Mrs A Barker
Mrs D B Gurney

Roman Catholic Co-optee Mrs F Image

Parental Co-optee Mr B Sear

Substitute: Cllr J G Jamieson for Councillor Mrs A Barker

Officers in Attendance: Mr B Carter Overview & Scrutiny Manager
Mrs S Hobbs Democratic Services Officer
Mr M Pratt Deputy Director Children Families and Learning and Assistant Director Specialist Services

CS/10/1 **Minutes**

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 30 March 2010 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CS/10/2 **Members' Interests**

(a) **Personal Interests:-**

None.

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

None.

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

None.

CS/10/3 **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Children' Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2010/11 Municipal Year. The changes to the membership of the Committee were as follows:-

- Councillor Ian Dalgarno had become a substitute;
- Councillor Mrs Angela Barker was now a member of the Committee and no longer a substitute; and
- Councillors James Jamieson and Andrew Turner had become substitutes.

The Chairman stated that the Members had worked well as a team during 2009/10 and had been very effective.

The Chairman confirmed that at the Council meeting on 22 April 2010 Members noted the names of the co-optees that had been appointed to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee until 31 March 2013. Members requested that notification be sent to Mr Sear who was not in attendance and confirm his position on the Committee.

CS/10/4 **Petitions**

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

CS/10/5 **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.

CS/10/6 **Call-In**

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

CS/10/7 **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.

CS/10/8 **Children and Young People's Plan - Corporate Parenting**

Members received a presentation from the Deputy Director of Children's Services on Corporate Parenting and Children in Care. The presentation set out:-

- the definition of the corporate parenting role including the roles and responsibilities of Members;
- Member engagement with Children Looked After (CLA);
- what Members need to know;
- the specific responsibilities of Overview and Scrutiny;
- the routes that are taken for a child to become looked after, including the routes to ending the child being looked after;
- comparison figures between 31 March 2009 and 31 March 2010 of the number of looked after children;
- statistical information about which area Central Bedfordshire children are housed, ethnicity, age and disability; and
- why care matters.

Members were advised that the presentation relating to the 14 - 19 education and training agenda had provisionally been scheduled for 23 November 2010. Members requested that if possible that this item be brought forward to an earlier meeting.

Members discussed the processes for assessing the age of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people. Specially trained Social Workers had a strict assessment procedure to follow which included a medical assessment. These assessments to determine the age of an unaccompanied asylum seeking child usually took around 7 days to determine.

There were currently 32 unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children within the care of Central Bedfordshire Council. If the child was found to be under the age of 18 then Local Authorities had the responsibility to look after these children until they turned 18 when they could either seek asylum or be deported.

Education performance of looked after children was poor nationally. Central Bedfordshire was trying to improve this situation and in doing so a virtual school with its own head teacher had been set up to work with children in care and develop personal education plans including supporting young people whom were in care when they turn 18 to find employment. 68% of children in care within Central Bedfordshire had found employment. Many of these issues were scheduled in the Corporate Parenting Panel's work programme. Members requested to receive the education performance information once this was available.

As at 31 March 2010 there were 161 children being looked after by Central Bedfordshire Council. Members also discussed the fostering and adoption process. Central Bedfordshire Council had foster placements within Central Bedfordshire as well as in Luton and Bedford. Members requested a breakdown of the number of placements outside of the Central Bedfordshire area. The adoption process was highly regulated and set in statute as Local Authorities had a huge responsibility to match the child with the correct parents. The Court process for people adopting a child could take anywhere between 6 weeks to 18 months. It was easier to find parents for young children, but it was a lot harder to find people to adopt teenagers, ethnic minorities and disabled children. The Council had policies for Adoption Financial Support, Residence Order Support and Special Guardianship Financial Support.

NOTED

the presentation.

CS/10/9

Children and Young People's Plan - Staying Safe

Members considered the report of the Deputy Director Children's Services that provided Members with the priorities within the Stay Safe aspect of the Children and Young People's Plan. Members were advised that the Stay Safe Delivery Group's three priorities were:-

- Priority 6 – Protect children and young people from harm by providing a co-ordinated and effective safeguarding process.
- Priority 7 – Reduce the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people.
- Priority 8 – Reduce the incidence and impact of bullying on children and young people.

Members commented that the report had insufficient information on the outcomes and performance to enable in-depth scrutiny. Members requested that in future the progress reports on the Children and Young People's Plan needed to contain detailed information.

Members were advised that data was still being collated on safeguarding children, but an early survey carried out by Ofsted indicated that children worried about bullying had reduced. The number of children reporting bullying was still at 50%, but this had reduced by 6% in Central Bedfordshire.

A comment was made about the efficiencies and effectiveness of the current structure of all the different Boards and Delivery Groups. Members were advised that the Children's Trust and the Local Safeguarding Board were statutory bodies. Although there were separate Safeguarding Boards for Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Officer resources were shared and there was a close link with the lead Members. Officers were currently in the process of investigating sharing resources with the Luton Safeguarding Board.

NOTED

the report.

CS/10/10

Work Programme 2010 - 2011 & Executive Forward Plan

Members considered the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Manager which set out the draft Committee work programme and the latest Executive Forward Plan.

A request was made that future meetings be held at the Dunstable Office as the Children's Services team were now based there. The Chairman agreed to review this at the next meeting.

Members were reminded that the meeting scheduled for 25 May 2010 was a reserve date and would be utilised only if there was a need to discuss urgent business. Members requested that the presentation on the 14-19 agenda be brought forward from the November meeting to the meeting on 25 May 2010. Members were advised that confirmation would be sought from the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services to seek her availability to give the presentation.

Members were advised that there was a small budget available to enable Officers to call upon expert witnesses to provide evidence to Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Overview and Scrutiny Manager stated that expert witnesses may be used when the Committee scrutinised the draft Child Poverty Strategy in September 2010.

Meetings of the Youth Provision Task Force were being scheduled for May 2010. The Chairman of the Task Force updated Members on progress and visits to youth facilities in Toddington and Barton-le-Clay. Members requested an update report at the next meeting.

Members were advised that the Cultural Strategy Task Force now reported into the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee due to the organisational restructure.

Members requested information on the Learning Transformation Board including its terms of reference, membership, powers and work programme. The Chairman agreed that this information would be circulated to Members.

The Chairman stated that if any Member of the Committee would like an item to be included on the work programme this should be directed through him and not direct to the Officers.

NOTED

the report.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and concluded at 12.20 p.m.)

Chairman

Dated

Meeting: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 29 June 2010
Subject: Children and Young People's Plan – Make a positive contribution
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Summary: The report provides an overview of the progress made with the priorities within the Make a Positive Contribution aspect of the Children & Young People's Plan

Contact Officer: Martin Pratt
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The Make a Positive Contribution plan is one of the five outcome plans which supports delivery of the Central Bedfordshire Children & Young People's Plan (2009-11). It also relates to the second of the Council's key priorities:

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

Financial:

Working with partners to deliver services together in a more integrated way, with a focus on prevention and early intervention, is a key driver of the Children and Young People's Plan and through pooling and aligning resources will deliver efficiencies.

Legal:

The Children's Trust and the Children and Young People's Plan enable the Council and its partners to exercise the 'duty to co-operate' under sections 10 & 11 of the Children's Act 2004.

Risk Management:

Risk management is a key part of delivery planning for the Children and Young People's Plan and is managed and mitigated through this process.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

During the development of the plan equalities issues and impacts were considered and included in the priorities are a number of strategic actions which identify children and young people who are in vulnerable circumstances.

Community Safety:

Safeguarding Children is a fundamental aspect of community safety and public protection. Through delivery of the plan partners are actively contributing to improving community safety in order to engage children and young people in positive activities, thereby reducing anti-social behaviour and youth offending.

Sustainability:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee comments on the progress made with the priorities in the Make a Positive Contribution aspects of the Children & Young People's Plan.

Make a Positive Contribution Delivery Plan

1. Make a Positive Contribution is one of the five outcomes which make up the Children's and Young People's Plan for Central Bedfordshire.
2. The plan has been established by :
 - analysing evidence and consulting with children and young people;
 - holding workshops with key stakeholders to consider the evidence and identifying priorities for the plan;
 - consulting on the emerging priorities; and
 - finalising the draft plan at Delivery Group meetings and considering the analysis of feedback from the consultation, partner agencies and Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
3. The Make a Positive Contribution Delivery Group is responsible for four of the priorities within the Children and Young People's Plan:

Priority 12 – Develop and promote children and young people's positive contribution to communities across Central Bedfordshire.

Priority 13 – Reduce youth offending and anti-social behaviour.

Priority 14 – Promote and provide activities and information for all children and young people and their families, ensuring that the hard to reach and those with disabilities can take part in mainstream activities.

Priority 15 – Strengthen and improve relationships within families by encouraging positive parenting.

Strategic Actions

4. The following strategic actions have been developed for each of the priorities in the Plan:
5. **Priority 12** – Develop and promote children and young people’s positive contribution to communities across Central Bedfordshire.
 - Develop a positive image campaign to promote and champion children and young people’s achievement and contribution to their communities.
 - Offer and promote positive activities for children and young people at key times including Friday evenings and weekends.
 - Create opportunities for young people to engage in volunteering.
 - Improve access to a range of high quality outdoor formal and natural play spaces.
6. **Priority 13** – Reduce youth offending and anti-social behaviour.
 - Reduce re-offending rates amongst young people.
 - Reduce first time entrants into the Youth Justice System.
 - Reduce the high level of custodial sentences.
7. **Priority 14** – Promote and provide activities and information for all children and young people and their families, ensuring that the hard to reach and those with disabilities can take part in mainstream activities.
 - Increase children and young people’s participation in positive activities.
 - Enhance and further develop accessible information, advice and guidance provision for children, young people and families and the professionals who work with them, through the design and development of the Central Bedfordshire Family and Youth Information Service.
 - Ensure the quality of information provision through the development of a comprehensive, informative, advice and guidance strategy which meets national standards.
 - Develop integrated working between providers to enhance existing opportunities for children, young people and families as part of the leisure and culture strategy.

- Develop and promote play, leisure, sport and cultural opportunities for children and young people of all ages and in particular those aged 8-12.
- Shape and deliver services in our youth and leisure centres, creating a welcoming and inclusive approach for children and young people with disabilities and special needs.

8. **Priority 15** – Strengthen and improve relationships within families by encouraging positive parenting.

- Strengthen communities through innovative family and community involvement.
- Implementing Think Family reforms across Children, Health and Adult services, developing protocols across Children's Health and Adult services for identifying, referring and planning how the needs of other family members can be met alongside those of their client.
- Delivery of Parenting Early Intervention Programme.
- Support and maintain existing parenting support services.
- Delivery of the strengthening families 10-14 and Triple P parenting programmes across Central Bedfordshire.
- Start up and delivery of the Family and Intervention Project, project intensive support to families in the greatest difficulty with children at risk of offending.

Progress with the Make a Positive Contribution Delivery Plan

9. The priority to **develop and promote children and young people's positive contribution to communities** is progressing well and the Youth Parliament is now in place and a positive image campaign has been developed with young people and will be launched in June 2010.
10. The priority to **strengthen and improve relationships within families** is on track and a number of parenting and strengthening families programmes have been delivered alongside work to embed the 'Think Family' approach with partners.
11. Performance on the priority to **reduce youth offending and anti-social behaviour** has over the year shown a mixed picture. Data shows that targets for the number of young people receiving custodial sentences and re-offending rates are both on track. However the number of first Time Entrants has been a concern. In quarter 3 the number of first time entrants fell significantly in comparison to quarters 1 and 2 and exceeded the target.

12. The milestones to deliver the priority **to promote and provide activities and information for children, young people and their families** are all on track. Good progress has been made in:

- ensuring a strong infrastructure is in place to accurately measure young people's involvement in positive activities across Central Bedfordshire;
- mapping existing opportunities publicising these widely to children, young people and their families to maximise take-up;
- recognising young people's achievements through positive activities with accredited awards; and
- ensuring a greater focus on awarding youth opportunity funds when young people are most likely to take part, namely Friday evenings and weekends. Additionally, the youth service has increased the service available to 13-19 year olds on Friday evenings.

However this priority is measured by an indicator collected through the Tell Us survey and the results show that 69% of young people consulted participated in positive activities. Although our performance is in the upper-middle quartile of our statistical neighbours and is seen as good performance, we have missed our target of 77.9% for this year and it is unlikely that we will achieve the Local Area Agreement target of 82.9% for 2011/2012. It is important to note that the sample of data used in Bedfordshire to determine the baseline (73%) was not robust and the Tell Us survey has been revised this year so comparisons with previous years are not possible.

13. Work to deliver the cross cutting priorities **to increase opportunities for children and young people to play an active part in influencing the decisions that affect their lives and well-being** and **to develop the Family and Youth Information Service** are also making good progress. Young people have allocated £260,000 worth of funding for 40 projects and the Young Inspectors programme is up and running.

14. The priority **to develop a locality based approach to delivering integrated services** is now making progress. This programme is now called 'Team around the child and family' and in order to understand the types of services and teams needed, a profile of the following four areas is being developed. These are closely linked to the natural clusters of upper, middle and lower schools:

- Dunstable and Houghton Regis
- Leighton Buzzard
- Sandy and Biggleswade
- Rural Central Bedfordshire.

15. A review of how other Children's Trusts are bringing multi-disciplinary teams together is being done and will contribute to the development of the Children's Trust's understanding of models of integrated working. A number of opportunities to pilot models of co-located or co-delivered multi-disciplinary service in different work contexts have also been identified. Evaluation of these Pathfinder Pilots will inform and develop the learning of the Trust as it moves forward with the Team around the Child and Family programme.

Performance

16. There are six performance indicators relating to Make a Positive Contribution, three of which are critical indicators and are also LAA indicators (see Appendix A). These are:

NI 19 – Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders
NI 110 – Young People's Participation in positive activities
NI 111 – First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17.
17. NI 19 – Re-offending performance is measured by tracking a cohort of young people entering the criminal justice system in Jan – March 2009. The national target is to reduce the rate of proven re-offending by 10% by 2011, compared to the baseline set in 2008/09. The method of measurement has changed; whilst it is not possible to compare like for like, Central Bedfordshire Council continues to show a reduction and we are on track to meet the target. However, we have some concerns that the rate of reduction has slowed across both unitary authorities. The Bedfordshire Youth Offending Service Chief Officers agreed to convene a multi-agency sub group to investigate and monitor performance in this area and to identify barriers and propose solutions.
18. NI110 – The Tell Us survey reported that we achieved 69% of young people consulted participated in positive activities - putting us in the upper middle quartile of statistical neighbours. We have participated in a national audit of positive activity for which results have not yet been released. Central Bedfordshire's Youth Parliament is now in place and has identified the following areas as some of the priorities for their campaign: Transport, Financial advice within schools, improved careers guidance, improved sexual health education in schools, positive images for young people and affordable access to the right positive activities.
19. In addition to the youth parliament, young people have been recruited and trained to be involved in the following initiatives for this financial year: Street Cred- Young Opportunities/Youth Capital Fund grants allocation group; Young Inspectors.
20. Friday and weekend provision is in place in parts of the authority and will be rolled out further in the coming months. The positive images campaign is being developed and young people have been consulted on the design. This is due to be launched in June 2010.

21. NI 111 - The number of first Time Entrants in quarter 3 fell significantly in comparison with quarter 1 & 2 and exceeds the target. Bedfordshire Youth Offending Service is not yet in a position to confirm quarter 4 figures for First Time Entrants. Data will be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for validation on 30th April 2010. Validated figures will be available by the end of May.

Conclusion

22. The Make a Positive Contribution Delivery Group will continue to coordinate work on the priorities described in this paper ensuring a strong alignment between the work of the PCT and Health Partners, the Schools, the Council, and the Children's Trust partners.
23. A cycle of meetings has been established with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to have reports from each outcome group which contributes to the review of the Children and Young People's Plan.

Appendix A

Performance Information

Priority	Indicator Ref	Title	Good is	Outturn			Target 09/10	Year End	RAG
				National 09/10	Group 08/09	CBC 08/09			
13	NI19	Re-offending Performance	Low	1.03	0.78%	0.93%	NT	Validated data not available.	Not available
12 and 14	NI110	Young people's participation in positive activities	High	65.8%	69.90%	Revised	77.9%	69%	Red
13	NI111	The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system. Aged 10-17.	Low	-18.7%	-23.6%	-15.6%	-5%	-11.60%	Green

Meeting: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 29 June 2010
Subject: Children and Young People's Plan – Be Healthy
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Summary: The report provides an overview of the progress made with the priorities within the Be Healthy aspect of the Children & Young People's Plan

Contact Officer: Martin Pratt
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The Be Healthy plan is one of the five outcome plans which supports delivery of the Central Bedfordshire Children & Young People's Plan (2009-11). It also relates to the second of the Council's key priorities:

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

Financial:

Working with partners to deliver services together in a more integrated way, with a focus on prevention and early intervention, is a key driver of the Children and Young People's Plan and through pooling and aligning resources will deliver efficiencies.

Legal:

The Children's Trust and the Children and Young People's Plan enable the Council and its partners to exercise the 'duty to co-operate' under sections 10 & 11 of the Children's Act 2004.

Risk Management:

Risk management is a key part of delivery planning for the Children and Young People's Plan and is managed and mitigated through this process.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

During the development of the plan equalities issues and impacts were considered and included in the priorities are a number of strategic actions which identify children and young people who are in vulnerable circumstances.

Community Safety:

Safeguarding Children is a fundamental aspect of community safety and public protection. Through delivery of the plan partners are actively contributing to improving community safety.

Sustainability:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee comments on the progress made with the priorities in the Be Healthy aspects of the Children & Young People's Plan.

Be Healthy Delivery Plan

1. Be Healthy is one of the five outcomes which make up the Children's and Young People's Plan for Central Bedfordshire.
2. The plan has been established by :
 - analysing evidence and consulting with children and young people;
 - holding workshops with key stakeholders to consider the evidence and identifying priorities for the plan;
 - consulting on the emerging priorities; and
 - finalising the draft plan at Delivery Group meetings and considering the analysis of feedback from the consultation, partner agencies and Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
3. The Be Healthy Delivery Group is responsible for five of the priorities within the Children and Young People's Plan:

Priority 1 - Ensure a healthy start to life – including early access to antenatal care, reducing smoking and improving nutrition in pregnancy, promoting breastfeeding and increasing immunisation and vaccinations;

Priority 2 - Ensure children and young people are able to make responsible decisions in relation to drugs, alcohol and sexual health;

Priority 3 - Promote, protect and treat the mental and emotional health of children and young people;

Priority 4 - Support children and young people to lead healthy lifestyles including reducing smoking and childhood obesity and increasing physical activity and healthy eating; and

Priority 5 - Transform services for disabled children.

Strategic Actions

4. The following strategic actions have been developed for each of the priorities in the Plan.

5. **Priority 1** - Ensure a healthy start to life – including early access to antenatal care, reducing smoking and improving nutrition in pregnancy, promoting breastfeeding and increasing immunisation and vaccinations:

- Improve choices for women to book by increasing numbers of midwifery led and community based booking clinics.
- Promote multi-agency approaches to improved ante, peri and postnatal care for women, making use of acute and community healthcare services and Children's Centres.
- Improve antenatal and postnatal breastfeeding support, through the implementation of the Health Child Programme and targeted programmes of work such as peer counsellors.
- Achieve UNICEF Baby Friendly status in the community.
- Expand stop smoking services for pregnant women, both through the Bedfordshire Stop Smoking Service and increased training provision to maternity and Children's Centre staff.
- Support women to prevent re-starting smoking after delivery.

6. **Priority 2** - Ensure children and young people are able to make responsible decisions in relation to drugs, alcohol and sexual health:

- Ensure services are targeted in line with identified need, particularly teenage pregnancy services.
- Improve the quality of Personal, Social and Health Education in schools.
- Enhance our family services, particularly services for young parents and those affected by drugs and alcohol issues and support the delivery of parenting programmes which address harmful and risky behaviours.

- Improve the quality of specialist drugs/alcohol treatment, particularly planned discharges.
- Roll out new locality sexual health services across Central Bedfordshire.
- Continue to increase uptake of Chlamydia screening services.

7. **Priority 3** - Promote, protect and treat the mental and emotional health of children and young people:

- Further develop and integrate early intervention services to ensure prompt and timely support for children and young people with emerging mental health problems.
- Continue to develop the knowledge and skills of all those working with children and young people.
- Develop services for children and young people with complex mental health needs.
- Align Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) and Children's Learning Disability Services.
- Support the delivery of parenting support programmes with a focus on improving the emotional wellbeing of children and young people.

8. **Priority 4** - Support children and young people to lead healthy lifestyles including reducing smoking and childhood obesity and increasing physical activity and healthy eating:

- Promote the Change 4 Life programme to all communities.
- Increase the capacity of childhood obesity management programmes.
- Expand current 0-5 years healthy living programmes.
- Deliver the National Child Measurement Programme to regional and national targets.
- Provide a range of programmes within the extended services communities to give parents the skills and information they need to better manage their children's healthy weight.
- Support the further roll-out of the National Healthy Schools programme.
- Ensure the delivery of 2 hours of physical activity per week in schools, moving towards 5 hours per week where possible.

9. **Priority 5** - Transform services for disabled children.

- Ensure the delivery of the Aiming High for Disabled children programme, in particular the transformation of short break services in line with the national indicators, priorities and timescales.
- Ensure that the strategic objectives of Better Care; Better Lives are implemented.
- Improve data available on numbers of disabled children and types of disability.
- Continue the roll out of the Early Support programme for disabled children 0 – 5 years.
- Deliver the Transition Improvement Plan to provide a smooth transition into adulthood.
- Ensure parents, disabled children and young people are fully involved in the shaping and delivery of services.
- Develop the workforce to deliver transformation.

Progress with the Be Healthy Delivery Plan

10. Very good progress has been made on the priority **to ensure a healthy start to life**. We have exceeded the target for reducing smoking in pregnancy and early access to maternity services targets and the breastfeeding target has also been met.
11. In relation to the priority **to ensure children and young people are able to make responsible decisions**, we have met the Chlamydia screening target and although not on target for teenage pregnancy, the numbers have started to fall. The CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) target which measures our progress for the priority to promote, protect and treat the mental and emotional health of children and young people has been achieved.
12. Our priority **to support children and young people to lead healthy lifestyles** is progressing and work is in place to prevent children from starting to smoke and to support smokers to quit. However the focus has been on young people aged 16 and over and work needs to be strengthened in relation to younger children. In relation to childhood obesity we have exceeded the heights and weights targets for measuring children in Reception year and year 6, but levels of obesity in children in year 6 have risen. We are reviewing childhood obesity programmes and additional funding has been identified by NHS Bedfordshire.
13. Our priority for the **transformation of services for disabled children** is being delivered principally through delivery of the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme which includes both revenue and capital investment in services, particularly short break provision, for disabled children. All of the timescales required are being met.

14. Progress has been made this year on **ensuring a healthy start to life, including early access to antenatal care, reducing smoking, improving nutrition in pregnancy, promoting breastfeeding and increasing immunisations** but there is a degree of underperformance in the following area:
- Uptake of Immunisations – This has been underperforming and although we have not yet met targets, work to address data collection has already identified increased uptake. In addition a new service specification for Child Health along with a new data system should see a good improvement for 2010/11.
15. Good progress has been made with:
- Breastfeeding - 90% coverage was obtained and the target of increasing the number of women continuing to breastfeed for 6 – 8 weeks to 42% was met.
 - Smoking in pregnancy - Targets were met with less than 15% of mothers smoking during pregnancy.
 - The percentage of women in Bedfordshire who seek early access to maternity services (by 12 weeks and six days) - Despite a lack of data from the Luton and Dunstable Hospital we have exceeded the target. We are working with Luton and Dunstable Hospital on improving data.
16. Good progress has been made on delivering the priority **to ensure children and young people are able to make responsible decisions in relation to drugs, alcohol and sexual health**. This includes:
- Chlamydia Screening - We exceeded the target and screened 26.2% of 15 – 25 year olds across Bedfordshire.
 - Substance misuse – We exceeded our target in reducing the number of young people misusing substances to 9.2%.
17. The area in relation to this priority where progress is being made but there is underperformance is in reducing teenage conception rates. The target for teenage pregnancy has not been met across Central Bedfordshire. The work has been commended by our regional office, but as with the rest of the country, the rates remain above target. Currently, Central Bedfordshire is performing better than the east of England and England, which is a significant achievement, and recent data shows rates decreasing.
18. Good progress has been made this year and the target to **promote, protect and treat the mental and emotional health of children and young people** has been achieved. Achievements include:
- A full range of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) services for children with learning disabilities has been commissioned.
 - 16-17 year olds have access to appropriate services for their age and level of maturity.

- 24 hour cover has met urgent mental health needs.
 - A range of early intervention support services has been commissioned by the local authority and Primary Care Trust in partnership therefore we anticipate meeting the target next year.
19. Work to deliver the priority to **support children and young people to lead healthy lifestyles, including reducing smoking and childhood obesity and increasing physical activity and healthy eating** is making progress. In relation to smoking reduction - 7 upper schools across Central Bedfordshire are offering in-house level 2 support (one to one advice on smoking cessation) to young people, enabling some of them to quit smoking and preventing many from starting to smoke. Measurement has been difficult in this area and data collection of young quitters has not been possible to date. This is because the smoking quitter target related to people aged 16 and over. However we are putting systems in place to ensure that data can be captured.
20. Overall progress is mixed for childhood obesity. Although we have over achieved heights and weights measurement, targets for Reception Year and Year 6, childhood obesity in year 6 has increased. This is partly because more children have been weighed. Be Healthy is reviewing the childhood obesity work programme and through its prioritisation process additional funding has been identified by NHS Bedfordshire to tackle obesity.
21. Our priority to **transform services for disabled children** is meeting all of the timescales required by Together for Disabled Children. There has been an increase in the range and number of short break places being provided from 320 to 624. These have been provided by a number of voluntary organisations and have ranged from social club placements and play schemes to a performance of Romeo and Juliet by a group of children with complex needs. The additional places have been provided for children with a wide range of disabilities.
22. Disability awareness training has been delivered to 20 staff in play and leisure services to improve access for disabled children and young people. A programme to train a further 140 workers in this area, extended schools and childcare settings is in place. A Disability Champion training pack is currently being discussed which will provide a higher level of training to mainstream service providers.
23. Additional staffing has been provided to promote additional Family Placement places and additional Occupational Therapist hours have been provided to support disabled children's access to short break services.
24. A joint children and adult services transition post has been agreed to further improve the transition process. A joint bid with Luton has been submitted under the Innovation and Outcomes programme for transition for funding. If the bid is successful the funding will be used to design a single assessment for disabled young people in transition and to develop a lead professional pack for transition workers.

25. Links with the Playbuilder programme have enabled funding to be used to plan essential changing places for disabled young adults who have outgrown the baby changing facilities available to them. The new facilities are to be placed at Dunstable Downs and Marston Vale in order to promote access for families with a disabled child. A feasibility study is underway for the planned family resource centre which will provide the one stop shop for families with a disabled child.
26. An effective and constructive parent forum is in place. The Forum has assisted in rewriting eligibility criteria, training staff in disability awareness, running a parent conference and supporting delivery groups and workshops. This partnership is recognised by Together for Disabled Children as being very effective.
27. The NI 54 indicator for parental satisfaction with services for disabled children and young people was 62% set against the national average of 61%. This figure relates to Bedfordshire and has yet to be separated for Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedford Borough Council. The results from this parental satisfaction survey were provided directly from the DfE.
28. The challenges for this area are the timescales in which to make significant changes and it has not been possible to engage the PCT in funding the transformation through the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme despite the Department of Health indicating that it is a priority for them.

Performance

29. There are 16 performance indicators for Be Healthy, the majority of which are local indicators. Three of the indicators are critical and are also LAA indicators (Appendix A). These are:
 - NI 51 – Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health
 - NI 56 – Obesity among primary age school children
 - NI 115 – Substance misuse by young people
30. **NI 51** – this annual indicator relies on a self assessment. It is made up of four elements, 24/7 provision, provision for 16/17 year olds, children with a learning disability and jointly commissioned early intervention services. Each area is scored out of 4, giving a total out of 16. Areas of focus in the forthcoming year are learning disabilities and early intervention.
31. **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 carried out the fieldwork achieving an increase in the number of pupils measured. Co-ordinated action is to be taken by Leisure and Culture, Schools and Health services to improve performance. This is being overseen through the Children's Trust.

32. **NI115** - Data from the Tell Us survey highlights that an estimated 9.2% of young people in Central Bedfordshire have a substance misuse issue. This means that we have surpassed our target for 2009/10 that was set at 11.8%. However, the sample of data used in Bedfordshire to determine the baseline was not robust. A good level of performance in service delivery has been sustained into quarter 4. In the coming year priority will be given in the drugs/alcohol plan 2010/11 to ensure a continued focus on vulnerable young people and an improvement in service quality. Delivery against the plan will require ongoing investment from Central Bedfordshire Council and NHS Bedfordshire to agree a framework for joint commissioning appropriate capacity to commission drugs/alcohol services and maintenance of funding in front line services.

Conclusion

33. The Be Healthy Delivery Group will continue to coordinate work on the priorities described in this paper ensuring a strong alignment between the work of the PCT and Health Partners, the Schools, the Council, and the Children's Trust partners.
34. A cycle of meetings has been established with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to have reports from each outcome group which contributes to the review of the Children and Young People's Plan.

Appendix A

Performance indicators

Priority	Indicator Reference	Title	Good is	Outturn			Target 09/10	Year Ending 31 Dec	RAG
				National 07/08	Group 07/08	CBC 08/09			
3	NI51	Council's self assessment of progress on four elements of the implementation of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) framework - LAA	High	14	13	13	15	15	Green
4	NI56	Obesity among primary school are children in Year 6 - LAA	Low	17.5%	15.7%	16.0%	13.5%		Red
2	NI115	Substance misuse by young people PSA - LAA Source: Tellus3 Survey	Low	9.8%	9.7%	9.2%	11.8%	9.2%	Green

Meeting: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Meeting
Date: 29 June 2010
Subject: 14-19 Commissioning
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Summary: This report provides information on national changes to the commissioning of education and training provision for 16-19 year-olds.

Contact Officer: Sylvia Gibson, Assistant Director, Learning & Strategic Commissioning
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The transfer of Learning and Skills Council (LSC) responsibilities to the Local Authority will contribute to improvements in educational attainment and relates to the second of the Council's key priorities:

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

Financial:

The Council is directly accountable for value for money for 16-19 education and training, with strengthened ability to hold providers accountable for the value for money provided. The resource level following the transfer of funding to the local authority from April 2010 is £24.2m for commissioning providers (including sixth forms) and an operational budget funded through the Special Purposes Grant of £193,000.

Legal:

There are no legal implications.

Risk Management:

There are no immediate strategic or service risks now that the transfer process has been completed and plans for managing the transition are being implemented.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

TUPE arrangements apply to the transfer of LSC staff to the Local Authority. Arrangements are in place to develop Central Bedfordshire staff expertise and understanding of the relevant commissioning and financial accountabilities.

Equalities/Human Rights:

The new arrangements will strengthen the Council's ability to ensure that 16-19 education and training provides effective access for all groups of young people and all types of needs.

Community Safety:

None

Sustainability:

14-19 commissioning aims to ensure that people have the right skills for working life. Commissioning the right provision will increase:

- productivity and competitiveness;
- skills; and
- employee satisfaction and retention.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee comments on the arrangements for 14-19 commissioning.

Background

1. In spring 2008, the Government published the White Paper, 'Raising Expectations: enabling the system to deliver' which proposed significant changes to arrangements for the education and training of 16-19 year-olds and skill development for adults.
2. Following the passing of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009, the key changes in respect of young people are as follows:
 - Funding for post-16 education and training passed from the Learning and Skills Council to local authorities on 1 April 2010.
 - From April 2010 local authorities will commission and fund sixth form provision directly and will collaborate in formal sub-regional groupings to commission further education (FE) provision for the sub-region.
 - A new national Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) has been established to help the Local Authority to plan, allocate and fund a coherent offer to all young people, to ensure budgetary control and to provide nationally consistent funding and commissioning frameworks.

3. The Local Authority now has a key role as a strategic planner to:
 - meet the learning needs of all learners resident in the local authority area, including learners with specific needs;
 - meet collective learning needs across travel to learn areas;
 - support collaborative working through the Children's Trust and the 14-19 Partnership;
 - produce a 16-19 commissioning plan; and
 - develop the market and ensure provider quality.

The Sub Regional Group

4. Sub Regional Groups (SRGs) have been established taking account of travel to learn patterns for Further Education provision. The proposed pattern for sub-regional groupings in the East of England is:
 - Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough, Hertfordshire, Luton;
 - Essex, Southend and Thurrock; and
 - Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
5. The aims of the SRG are:
 - to provide a greater range of choice for young people;
 - to give young people the knowledge and skills that employers, the economy and the region need to prosper in the 21st century; and
 - to provide all young people with personalised learning opportunities and an equal opportunity to succeed.
6. The SRG will jointly commission FE and apprenticeship provision. This commissioning is set in the context of planning other 16-19 and 14-19 provision such as those young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and pre-NEET interventions, school sixth form provision, apprenticeships and Foundation Learning/Progression Pathways provision.
7. The overall plan will be included in the Central Bedfordshire Children and Young People's Plan and will link to Children's Trust targets and to the adult skills and economic agendas.

14-19 Commissioning

8. The Local Authority will have a direct commissioning relationship with:
 - Schools
 - 14-19 Consortia
 - NEET and pre-NEET/alternative provision
 - Sixth Form Colleges
 - FE Colleges (through sub-regional grouping arrangements)
 - The National Apprenticeship Service
 - Young People's Learning Agency.

9. On 1 April 2010 the Local Authority took on responsibility for elements of three separate commissioning cycles:
 - the final five months of the 2009/10 academic year commissioning cycle (April 2010 to August 2010) and for payments to colleges, schools, and other providers;
 - delivering the plans and allocations made by the former LSC up to 31 March 2010 for delivery in the academic year August 2010 to July 2011; and
 - responsibility for the whole process in the 2011/12 academic year, underpinned by the National Commissioning Framework.

Governance Arrangements

10. Individual local authorities are financially accountable for the resources allocated to them. 16-19 funding decisions in Central Bedfordshire will be routed through the Children's Trust for approval and where appropriate to Schools Forum as agreed by the Executive at its meeting on 21 July 2010.

11. Reports on the activities of the SRG will go to the Economic Wellbeing sub-group of the Children's Trust and from there to the Children's Trust Board. These reports will set out the outcomes achieved in the previous year and the commissioning priorities and intentions for the following year. The timing of these reports will be aligned with the 16-19 business planning cycle and the annual review of the Children and Young People's Plan.

14-19 Strategic Partnership

12. The 14-19 Strategic Partnership brings together stakeholders from education, training providers and other groups in order to plan and monitor the implementation of the 14 - 19 curriculum reforms. Its key purpose is to ensure that children and young people in Central Bedfordshire achieve economic well-being through the implementation of the 14 -19 reform agenda. This includes joint curriculum planning and delivery in order that all young people can access the full range of general and vocational options that meet their needs and aspirations.

- 13 The partnership promotes and supports collaboration across stakeholders, refreshes the 14-19 Plan annually and monitors performance. In doing this it ensures alignment with economic development plans and develops 14-19 learning in line with future employment and skills needs. The partnership is the key vehicle for ensuring that young people will meet the requirement, by 2013, to stay in some form of education or training until 17 and then 18. It is also a key driver in ensuring that our young people do not become NEET (Not in education, employment or training).

Conclusion and Next Steps

14. In the autumn 2010, the Local Authority will start the process of planning and commissioning provision for the 2011/12 academic year.
15. 14-19 commissioning will need to make strategic links with the local economic development agenda and skills strategy to ensure that the right provision is in place for young people. Work is being done with Sustainable Communities to align the work of the Economic Wellbeing delivery group of the Children's Trust with the work to develop an Employment and Skills Board. This is an important development area.

This page is intentionally left blank

Meeting: Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 29 June 2010
Subject: Work Programme 2010 – 2011 & Executive Forward Plan
Report of: Chief Executive
Summary: The report provides Members with details of the currently drafted Committee work programme and the latest Executive Forward Plan.

Contact Officer: Bernard Carter, Overview & Scrutiny Manager
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The work programme of the Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee will contribute indirectly to all 5 Council priorities.

Financial:

n/a

Legal:

n/a

Risk Management:

n/a

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

n/a

Equalities/Human Rights:

n/a

Community Safety:

n/a

Sustainability:

n/a

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **that the Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee:**
 - (a) **considers and approves the work programme attached, subject to any further amendments it may wish to make;**
 - (b) **considers the Executive Forward Plan; and**
 - (c) **considers whether it wishes to add any further items to the work programme and/or establish any Task Forces to assist it in reviewing specific items.**

Work Programme

1. Attached at Appendix A is the currently drafted work programme for the Committee.
2. Also attached at Appendix B is the latest version of the Executive's Forward Plan so that Overview & Scrutiny Members are fully aware of the key issues Executive Members will be taking decisions upon in the coming months. Those items relating specifically to this Committee's terms of reference are shaded in light grey.
3. The Committee is now requested to consider the work programme attached and amend or add to it as necessary. This will allow officers to plan accordingly but will not preclude further items being added during the course of the year if Members so wish and capacity exists.

Task Forces

4. In addition to consideration of the work programme, Members will also need to consider how each item will be reviewed i.e. by the Committee itself (over one or a number of Committee meetings) or by establishing a Member Task Force to review an item in greater depth and report back its findings.

Conclusion

5. Members are requested to consider and agree the attached work programme, subject to any further amendments/additions they may wish to make and highlight those items within it where they may wish to establish a Task Force to assist the Committee in its work.

Work Programme for Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee 2010 - 2011

Ref	Indicative OSC Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue to be considered	Comment
1.	29 June 2010	Learning Transformation	To receive and discuss a PowerPoint presentation from the Director of Children's Services regarding this issue	
2.		Children and Young People's Plan: Making a Positive Contribution	Members to look at the outcome area within the Children and Young People's Plan and scrutinise whether the outcomes identified are being achieved and whether they are making a difference to the lives of children, young people their families and carers in Central Bedfordshire	
3.		Children and Young People's Plan: Be Healthy	Members to look at the outcome area within the Children and Young People's Plan and scrutinise whether the outcomes identified are being achieved and whether they are making a difference to the lives of children, young people their families and carers in Central Bedfordshire	
4.		Task Force report on Youth Facility Provision	To receive a verbal update regarding progress with this Task Force	

NB: - (R) denotes a 'reserve' meeting

Ref	Indicative OSC Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue to be considered	Comment
5.		14 to 19 Commissioning	To receive a brief report on the transfer of function from the Learning & Skills Council to Central Bedfordshire Council regarding 14 to 19 Commissioning	
6.	03 August 2010 (R)	Quarter 1 Budget Information	To receive the directorate's budget monitoring information for the first quarter of 2010/11.	As this is a reserve meeting and in light of the summer holidays, this report will be circulated to Members by email.
7.	14 September 2010	The Youth Agenda	To receive a report and presentation covering the Council's approach and objectives regarding its youth agenda	
8.		Task Force Report on Youth Facility Provision	To receive the final report of the Task Force, which will outline the aims, process and key findings of the review	
9.		Summary of O&S Comments regarding the 5 Outcome Areas of the Children & Young People's Plan Reviewed during 2010/11	This report will summarise the comments made by the Committee during 2010/11 regarding the 5 outcome areas of the Children & Young People's Plan, which will inform production of the new Plan	
10.	19 October 2010 (R)			
11.	23 November 2010	Child Poverty	To receive a presentation and consider current thinking regarding child poverty and its impact on Central Bedfordshire, which will inform Member consideration of the Council's own, early draft, Child Poverty Strategy	

NB: - **(R)** denotes a 'reserve' meeting

Ref	Indicative OSC Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue to be considered	Comment
12.		Budget 2011/12	To receive directorate proposals regarding the draft revenue budget 2011/12	
13.		Quarter 2 Budget Information	To receive the directorate's budget monitoring information for the second quarter of 2010/11.	
14.	21 December 2010 (R)			
15.	25 January 2011	Review of School Places in Dunstable & Houghton Regis	To consider proposals in light of early consultation regarding the review of School Places in Dunstable & Houghton Regis	TO BE CONFIRMED – completion of these early proposals cannot be accurately dated as yet
16.	01 March 2011 (R)			
17.	29 March 2011	Children and Young People's Plan: New Plan for 2011/12	To receive and consider the new Children and Young People's Plan for 2011/12	
18.		Quarter 3 Budget Information	To receive the directorate's budget monitoring information for the third quarter of 2010/11.	
19.	14 June 2011	Children and Young People's Plan: Achieve Economic Well-Being		New Municipal Year – this item to be confirmed
20.		Children's Trust Annual Report	To receive the annual report of the Children's Trust	As above
21.		14 to 19 Commissioning	To receive a first annual report on 14 to 19 Commissioning	As above

NB: - **(R)** denotes a 'reserve' meeting

Ref	Indicative OSC Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue to be considered	Comment
22.		Quarter 4 Budget Information	To receive the directorate's budget monitoring information for the final quarter of 20010/11.	As above

NB: - **(R)** denotes a 'reserve' meeting

**Central Bedfordshire Council
Forward Plan of Key Decisions
1 June 2010 to 31 May 2011**

- 1) During the period from **1 June 2010 to 31 May 2011**, Central Bedfordshire Council plans to make key decisions on the issues set out below. “Key decisions” relate to those decisions of the Executive which are likely:
- to result in the incurring of expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant (namely £200,000 or above per annum) having regard to the budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
 - to be significant in terms of their effects on communities living or working in an area comprising one or more wards in the area of Central Bedfordshire.
- 2) The Forward Plan is a general guide to the key decisions to be determined by the Executive and will be updated on a monthly basis. Key decisions will be taken by the Executive as a whole. The Members of the Executive are:

Member	Portfolio
Cllr Mrs Tricia Turner MBE	Chairman of the Executive and Leader of the Council
Cllr Richard Stay	Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Policy and Performance
Cllr Mrs Rita Drinkwater	Portfolio Holder for Housing
Cllr Mrs Carole Hegley	Portfolio Holder for Social Care and Health
Cllr Maurice Jones	Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and People
Cllr Mrs Anita Lewis	Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services
Cllr Steve Male	Portfolio Holder for Customers, Systems and Assets
Cllr Ken Matthews	Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Skills and Regeneration
Cllr David McVicar	Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities and Healthier Lifestyles
Cllr Tom Nicols	Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development

- 3) Those items identified for decision more than one month in advance may change in forthcoming Plans. Each new Plan supersedes the previous Plan. Any person who wishes to make representations to the Executive about the matter in respect of which the decision is to be made should do so to the officer whose telephone number and e-mail address are shown in the Forward Plan. Any correspondence should be sent to the contact officer at the relevant address as shown below. General questions about the Plan such as specific dates, should be addressed to the Head of Democratic Services, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ.
- 4) The agendas for meetings of the Executive will be published as follows:

Meeting Date	Publication of Agenda
08 June 2010	27 May 2010
13 July 2010	24 June 2010
17 August 2010	05 August 2010
28 September 2010	16 September 2010
02 November 2010	21 October 2010
7 December 2010	25 November 2010
11 January 2011	23 December 2010
8 February 2011	27 January 2011
15 March 2011	3 March 2011
5 April 2011	24 March 2011
31 May 2011	19 May 2011

Central Bedfordshire Council

Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1 June 2010 to 31 May 2011

Key Decisions

Date of Publication: 14 May 2010

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
1.	Community Engagement Strategy and Delivery Plan -	Approval of the finalised Strategy and Delivery Plan which follows the key principles agreed at the October Executive.	8 June 2010		Report	Cllr Richard Stay Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Ian Porter, Assistant Director Policy, Partnerships & Performance ian.porter@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6529
2.	Sustainable Community Strategy for Central Bedfordshire -	To agree the Sustainable Community Strategy for Central Bedfordshire which sets out the Local Strategic Partnership Board's vision and priorities for the Central Bedfordshire area.	8 June 2010	Wide range of consultation activity with residents, partners and stakeholders, including through: Town & Parish Council Conference (4/11/09), Central Bedfordshire Forum (14/01/10), MORI Residents' Panel (23/1/10) and Third Sector Assembly (3/2/10).	The Central Bedfordshire Sustainable Community Strategy	Cllr Mrs Patricia E Turner MBE Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Peter Fraser, Head of Partnerships & Community Engagement peter.fraser@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6740

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
3.	Care Homes Contract Extension -	a) agree to waiver of standing orders b) approve extension of contract	8 June 2010		Report	Cllr Mrs Carole Hegley Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: David Jones, Transformation Project Director Social Care, Health & Housing david.jones3@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6190
4.	Conservation Area Reviews -	To consider a three-year timetable for the review of Conservation Areas in Central Bedfordshire; including a review of the boundaries and the production of Conservation Area Character Statements with a view to adoption as guidance for Development Management Purposes.	8 June 2010		Report	Cllr Tom Nicols Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Fiona Webb, Team Leader, Conservation Project Design fiona.webb@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4405
5.	Creasey Park Community Football Development Centre -	To award the building contract to build the Football Development centre.	8 June 2010	Stakeholder group Ward members PFH	Football Foundation Grant Conditions	Cllr David McVicar Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Jill Dickinson, Head of Leisure Services jill.dickinson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 2258

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
6.	Budget Setting Process 2011/12 -	To consider the Budget Setting Process for 2011/12 – 2015/16	8 June 2010		Report	Cllr Maurice R Jones Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Matt Bowmer, Assistant Director Financial Services matt.bowmer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6147
7.	Budget Management - Provisional Outturn 2009/10	To provide information on the budget outturn as at 31 March 2010.	8 June 2010		None.	Cllr Maurice R Jones Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Matt Bowmer, Assistant Director Financial Services matt.bowmer@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6147
8.	Harmonisation of Terms and Conditions -	To review the position.	8 June 2010		Report	Cllr Maurice R Jones Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Gordon McFarlane, Acting Assistant Director Human Resources and Organisational Development gordon.mcfarlane@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel 0300 300 6651

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
9.	Highways Contract Novation -	Following the paper received on 14 April 2009, this paper updates the Executive on progress made on negotiations with Bedford Borough Council (BBC) to secure highways services in Central Bedfordshire. The paper will inform Members of expected dates for novating the existing highways contract and identify any risks/costs to service provision.	13 July 2010		Report	Cllr David McVicar Comments by 15/06/10 to Contact Officer: Basil Jackson, Assistant Director Highways & Transport basil.jackson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6171
10.	Asset Disposal Policy -	To approve the Policy.	13 July 2010		Report and Policy	Cllr Stephen F Male Comments by 15/06/10 to Contact Officer: Peter Burt, MRICS, Head of Property Assets peter.burt@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5281

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
11.	Approval of additional services to be included in the BEaR Project Procurement -	To approve additional services.	13 July 2010		Report	Cllr David McVicar Comments by 15/06/10 to Contact Officer: Alan Fleming, BEaR Project Director, Sustainable Communities alan.fleming@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6968
12.	Acquisition of Land in Flitwick -	To approve the purchase using GAF funding.	13 July 2010		Report	Cllr Stephen F Male Comments by 15/06/10 to Contact Officer: Peter Burt, MRICS, Head of Property Assets peter.burt@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5281
13.	The Remodelling of Customer Services -	To approve the Customer Services remodelling proposals.	13 July 2010		Report	Cllr Stephen F Male Comments by 15/06/10 to Contact Officer: Clive Jones, Assistant Director Business Transformation & Customer Services clive.jones@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4168

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
14.	Award of the Day to Day Response and Programmed Electrical Maintenance Contract to Council Houses South of the District -	To award the contract.	13 July 2010		Tender report	Cllr Mrs Rita J Drinkwater Comments by 11/05/10 to Contact Officer: Basil Quinn, Housing Asset Manager Performance basil.quinn@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 300 300 5202
15.	Supporting Excellence: An Adult Social Care Workforce Strategy for Central Bedfordshire -	To approve the workforce strategy.	13 July 2010	Healthier Communities & Older Peoples Partnership Board Social Care, Health & Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Report	Cllr Mrs Carole Hegley Comments by 15/06/2010 to Contact Officer: David Jones, Transformation Project Director Social Care, Health & Housing david.jones3@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6190
16.	Consultation on the Draft East of England Plan to 2031 -	To agree the Council's response to the draft plan.	13 July 2010		Report	Cllr Tom Nicols Comments by 15/06/10 to Contact Officer: Richard Fox, Head of Development Plan richard.fox@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4105

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
17.	Executive arrangements under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 -	To consider the requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 in respect of the Council's executive arrangements and how the council should respond to those requirements.	13 July 2010		Report	Cllr Mrs Patricia E Turner MBE Comments by 15/06/10 to Contact Officer: Kathrin John, Head of Democratic Services kathrin.john@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4380
18.	Central Bedfordshire Housing Strategy 2010 - Draft for Consultation -	The Executive are asked to approve the draft strategy and the detailed action plan as the basis for consultation.	17 August 2010	15 January 2010: Key Stakeholders and Partners 28 January 2010: members consultation event Web based consultation December 2009 - February 2010	The Central Bedfordshire Housing Strategy 2010	Cllr Tom Nicols Comments by 17/07/10 to Contact Officer: Zoe Cox, Housing Research & Policy Officer zoe.cox@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4479
19.	Development of Strategic Planning for Central Bedfordshire -	To approve the proposed key medium term outcomes of the Council under each of the 5 stated priorities.	17 August 2010		Report	Cllr Mrs Patricia E Turner MBE Comments by 17/07/10 to Contact Officer: Ian Porter, Assistant Director Policy, Partnerships & Performance ian.porter@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6529

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
20.	Policy for Charging for Non-Residential Social Care Services -	To approve the revised Policy.	17 August 2010	Overview and Scrutiny Task Group (dates tba) Public Consultation (April - July 2010)	Report and Policy	Cllr Mrs Carole Hegley Comments by 17/07/10 to Contact Officer: Tim Hoyle, Head of Business Systems tim.hoyle@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 3065
21.	Visible Presence -	To consider the options available for Central Bedfordshire to undertake enforcement of a range of environmental and community safety legislation (including the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) and Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (CNEA)) and exploring the role that a uniformed team has in that respect.	28 September 2010	Relevant Portfolio Holders Key Stakeholders	Report	Cllr David McVicar Comments by 31/08/10 to Contact Officer: Jane Moakes, Assistant Director Community Safety & Public Protection jane.moakes@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5441

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
22.	CCTV Service Options -	To consider options available to move to a common approach to the provision of a CCTV service within Central Bedfordshire.	28 September 2010	Portfolio Holder (Safer and Stronger Communities) Key Stakeholders Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee – May 2010	Report	Cllr David McVicar Comments by 31/08/10 to Contact Officer: Jane Moakes, Assistant Director Community Safety & Public Protection jane.moakes@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5441
23.	Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document for Submission -	To agree the Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document for Submission. This relates to the LDF North area.	28 September 2010	Stakeholders Members of the public Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Report and draft document	Cllr Tom Nicols Comments by 31/08/010 to Contact Officer: Richard Fox, Head of Development Plan richard.fox@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4105
24.	Central Bedfordshire Validation Checklist for Planning Applications -	To adopt a harmonised local validation checklist for planning applications within Central Bedfordshire.	28 September 2010	stakeholders including agents and statutory consultees	Report	Cllr Tom Nicols Comment on 31/08/10 to Contact Officer: Andrew Davie, Head of Development Management (North) andrew.davie@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4426

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
25.	Carbon Management Plan -	Adoption of the Carbon Management Plan to set out how the Council will reduce it's carbon footprint, identify the opportunities and projects this will involve and strategy for funding this.	28 September 2010	Key staff consulted via Climate Change Management Board. CMT consulted at February and March meetings. Executive consulted at May meeting. Consultation with the Portfolio holder on-going.	Draft Carbon Management Plan and supporting documents. The Council's Climate Change Strategy	Cllr Tom Nicols Comments by 31/08/10 to Contact Officer: Elaine Malarky, Head of Policy elaine.malarky@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5517 Stephen Mooring, Corporate Policy Advisor (Climate Change/Sustainability) stephen.mooring@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6241

Ref No.	Issue for Key Decision by the Executive	Intended Decision	Indicative Meeting Date	Consultees and Date/Method	Documents which may be considered	Portfolio Holder and Contact officer (method of comment and closing date)
26.	Child Poverty and Early Intervention Strategy -	To agree the strategy which sets out how the Local Authority and its partners intend to reduce child poverty by 2020. This includes 4 targets (relative low income, material deprivation, absolute poverty and persistent poverty). This also includes a needs assessment to describe the characteristics of child and family within Central Bedfordshire and a joint child poverty strategy which will outline the steps and accountability for the Local Authority and partners.	2 November 2010		Report	Cllr Mrs Anita M Lewis Comments by 05/10/10 Martin Pratt, Deputy Director Children Families and Learning and Assistant Director Specialist Services martin.pratt@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4392
27.	Local Economic Assessment -	To approve the Central Bedfordshire Local Economic Assessment.	7 December 2010	Stakeholders Members of the public Full public consultation undertaken between August - October	Draft final Local Economic Assessment	Cllr Ken C Matthews Comments by 16/11/10 to Contact Officer: James Cushing, Head of Economic Policy james.cushing@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4984

Postal address for Contact Officers: Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ

**Central Bedfordshire Council
Forward Plan of Decisions on Key Issues**

For the Municipal Year 2010/11 the Forward Plan will be published on the fifteenth day of each month or, where the fifteenth day is not a working day, the working day immediately preceding the fifteenth day, or in February 2011 when the plan will be published on the fourteenth day.

Date of Publication	Period of Plan
14.05.10	1 June 2010 – 31 May 2011
15.06.10	1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011
15.07.010	1 August 2010 – 31 July 2011
13.08.10	1 September 2010 – 31 August 2011
15.09.10	1 October 2010– 30 September 2011
15.10.10	1 November 2010 – 31 October 2011
15.11.10	1 December 2010 – 30 November 2011
15.12.10	1 January 2011– 31 December 2011
14.01.11	1 February 2011 – 31 January 2012
14.02.11	1 March 2011 – 28 February 2012
15.03.11	1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012
15.04.11	1 May 2011 – 30 April 2012