

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



please ask for Bernard Carter
direct line 0300 300 4175
date 14 February 2013

NOTICE OF MEETING

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date & Time

Tuesday, 26 February 2013 10.00 a.m.

Venue at

Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

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

Cllrs Mrs D B Gurney (Chairman), N B Costin (Vice-Chairman), Mrs A Barker, R D Berry, D Bowater, P Hollick, K Janes, D Jones and R B Pepworth

[Named Substitutes:

Mrs R J Drinkwater, Mrs S A Goodchild, B Saunders, A Shadbolt and N J Sheppard]

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

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 meeting of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 15 January 2013 and to note actions taken since that meeting.

3. **Members' Interests**

To receive from Members any declarations of interest and of 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 decision of the Executive referred to this Committee for review in accordance with Procedure Rule 10.10 of Part D2.

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	Executive Member Update To receive a brief verbal update from the Executive Member for Children's Services.	*
10	Attainment at KS2 and Ofsted Inspection Outcomes This report summarises the 2012 results in KS2 for schools in Central Bedfordshire, outlines some of the actions that contributed to the improvement on the 2011 results and summarises the outcomes of Ofsted school inspections so far for the current school year.	* 13 - 18
11	Commissioning New School Places for Implementation from September 2014 This report outlines five projects within the New School Places Programme 2013/14 – 2017/18 where local pressures of demographic growth require new school places to be provided from September 2014.	* 19 - 38
12	Children's Health and Children's Health Commissioning in Central Bedfordshire To receive a presentation on Children's Health and Children's Health Commissioning in Central Bedfordshire.	*
13	Outcomes of Ofsted Fostering Service Inspection To receive a presentation on the outcomes of the Ofsted Fostering Service Inspection.	*
14	Progress Report on the Implementation of the Post Inspection Ofsted Action Plan This report advises Members of the operational progress of the Ofsted Action Plan.	* 39 - 48
15	Work Programme 2012 - 2013 & Executive Forward Plan To consider the currently drafted Committee work programme and the latest Executive Forward Plan.	* 49 - 74

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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford on Tuesday, 15 January 2013

PRESENT

Cllr Mrs D B Gurney (Chairman)

Councillors:	Mrs A Barker R D Berry P Hollick	Councillors:	K Janes D Jones R B Pepworth
Parental Co-optees:	Mr S Court D Landman		
Church of England Co-optee:	J Reynolds		
Roman Catholic Co-optee:			
Apologies for Absence:	Cllrs	D Bowater N B Costin H Copley Mrs F Image	
Substitutes:	Cllrs		
Members in Attendance:	Cllrs	P N Aldis A L Dodwell Mrs S A Goodchild J G Jamieson M A G Versallion	Deputy Executive Member for Children's Services Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Executive Executive Member for Children's Services
Officers in Attendance:	Mr B Carter Mr P Dudley Ms D Hill Mr R Parsons Miss H Redding		Corporate Policy & Scrutiny Manager Assistant Director Children's Services (Learning & Strategic Commissioning) Senior Finance Manager - Children's Services Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning Head of Learning and School Support

CS/12/64 **Minutes**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11 December 2012 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CS/12/65 **Members' Interests**

There were no declarations of interest or political whip in relation to any agenda items.

CS/12/66 **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

CS/12/67 **Petitions**

No petitions were received from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in Part D2 of the Constitution.

CS/12/68 **Questions, Statements or Deputations**

No questions, statements or deputations were received from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in Annex 1 of Part A4 of the Constitution.

CS/12/69 **Call-In**

The Committee were advised that no decisions of the Executive had been referred to them under the Call-in Procedures set out in Appendix A to Rule No. S18 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

CS/12/70 **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/12/71 **Executive Member Update**

The Executive Member for Children's Services provided the Committee with an update on current activities pertaining to his portfolio, which were not already included on today's agenda. This covered the following issue:-

- The Fostering and Adoption shared service, which the Council managed on behalf of both Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough. The Executive Member confirmed that since the withdrawal of funding by Bedford Borough, both organisations had been negotiating an agreed way forward, which would either mean disaggregation of the existing shared

service or the creation of a new contract. Whilst negotiations continued, the service would continue in its current form under the existing Service Level Agreement until September 2013. In response to a question regarding the performance of the current service, the Executive Member confirmed that performance compared favourably with national statistics and other similar local authorities.

CS/12/72 **Draft Budget 2013/14, Medium Term Financial Plan 2013 - 2017 and Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17**

The Executive Member introduced this report, which provided the Committee with an opportunity to comment upon the draft budget 2013/14, Medium Term Financial Plan 2013 to 2017 and Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17, which had been presented and approved for consultation at a meeting of the Executive on 8 January 2013.

The Executive Member drew the Committee's attention in particular to the efficiencies and pressures impacting upon the Children's Services directorate amounting to £1.7M and £2.422M respectively in 2013/14, and wished to record his thanks to the officers of the directorate for all their hard work during the budget setting process this year.

Members of the Committee discussed the content of the report in further detail and raised the following issues:-

- The Council's ability to manage budgetary pressures within Children's Services to the extent suggested i.e. from a pressure of £2.422M in 2013/14 to only £45k in 2016/17. The Executive Member explained that the directorate was undertaking extensive work now around demand management, early intervention and prevention, which would support robust management of pressures in the future. The Assistant Director also referred to the review of safeguarding thresholds over recent years and the substantial increase in casework as a result, which would peak and stabilise in 2013/14;
- The additional budgetary pressures which would occur as a result of increased housing development and population growth. The Assistant Director confirmed that such growth had been taken into account when preparing the budget and Medium Term Financial Plan;
- The Council's ability to "squeeze the pips" out of contracts. The Assistant Director confirmed that this was an organisation-wide ambition, which would be achieved by smarter, outcome based commissioning, new ways of working and greater contractual efficiencies; and
- The efficiencies proposed regarding school transport provision and walking to school assessments. Members were concerned to ensure that such assessments were undertaken with care and consideration and in partnership with schools on a school by school basis. The Executive Member was content to provide such an assurance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Draft Budget 2013/14, Medium Term Financial Plan 2013-17 and the Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17 be endorsed as set out.

CS/12/73 Fees and Charges 2013/14

The Executive Member introduced this report, which provided the Committee with details of the revised fees and charges rates to be effective from 1 April 2013 relating to the Children's Services directorate and which also identified those charges where increases were different from the 2% advisory increase as per the 2013/14 Budget Strategy.

The Executive Member drew the Committee's attention in particular to the charges for the music service, which were being held at 2012/13 rates.

Members of the Committee discussed the content of the report in further detail and raised the following issues:-

- Charges for school transport, which were currently set per year, term or half term. Members queried whether greater flexibility could be introduced to allow parents to purchase shorter periods, which would encourage cycling to school in good weather. The Assistant Director commented that the introduction of greater flexibility would be a challenge and could potentially impact upon the Council's current contractual arrangements with bus companies however greater flexibility was certainly an ambition which schools themselves, with the support of the Council, could investigate further; and
- The performance of the music service following its redesign in 2011. The Executive Member confirmed that the music service was performing well, was cost neutral and continued to improve take up rates.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the schedule of Fees and Charges for 2013/14 for the Children's Services directorate be endorsed as set out.

CS/12/74 Children & Families Draft Bill

The Head of Learning and School Support delivered a presentation, which provided the Committee with details of draft legislation on reform of provision for children and young people with Special Education Needs. Specifically, the presentation covered:-

- The expected outcomes of the proposed changes;
- The case for change;
- Key changes included within the Children & Families Bill;
- The details and objectives of the national SEN Pathfinders testing how to reform the current system;
- Core elements being tested;
- Key emerging themes from the testing; and

- Programme delivery/next steps in Central Bedfordshire.

Members of the Committee raised a number of queries during the presentation regarding the following issues, which were addressed by the Executive Member and officers in attendance:-

- The particular challenges Central Bedfordshire faced to ensure hospitals operating outside its area delivered the same care pathways for children and young people with SEN;
- The importance of effective information sharing and lines of communication in any multi-agency approach to assessment and planning;
- The importance of good advocacy and support to parents and carers of children and young people with SEN;
- The need to ensure robust transition arrangements were in place to support children and young people with SEN moving into adulthood;
- The need to raise awareness of these proposals with parents, carers and other stakeholders. In this respect, the Assistant Director agreed to disseminate the presentation to a much wider audience.

In conclusion, the Committee thanked the Head of Learning and School Support for a most informative and comprehensive presentation and requested a further update regarding emerging themes and programme delivery in due course.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the presentation be noted.

CS/12/75

Policy Principles for Pupil Place Planning in Schools and Annual Refresh of the New School Places Programme 2013/14 - 2017/18

The Executive Member introduced this report, which provided the Committee with details of the outcome of the consultation on the proposed Policy Principles for Pupil Place Planning in Schools. The report also outlined the annual refresh of the Council's rolling five year investment programme in new school places to fulfil the Council's statutory duty regarding sufficiency of school places and to implement the identified need in the previously published school organisation plan.

The Executive Member drew the Committee's attention in particular to the consultation responses contained within Appendix B (circulated at the meeting), which generally indicated strong support for most of the principles although there had been a mixed response regarding principles 3, 5, 8 and 9. With regard to principle 8, the Executive Member reiterated his strong support of the Council's ambition to encourage a diversity of education provision including faith based provision, which was currently lower than national rates of representation.

The Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning went on to explain in further detail the process and programme for new school places and referred

Members in particular to Appendix C of the report, which set out a summary of the indicative programme of major schemes for new school places that were to be commissioned and constructed in the period 2012/13 to 2018/19.

The Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning also explained that a further report would be presented to the Committee at its February meeting, which would provide more detailed proposals for new places in September 2014, evaluated against the new Policy Principles if adopted by the Executive.

Members of the Committee discussed the content of the report in detail and raised the following issues:-

- The challenges of encouraging the establishment of school federations particularly when Ofsted continued to insist on separate inspections for individual schools within such federations;
- The importance of ensuring this Committee reviewed the impact and achievement of the Policy Principles after an appropriate implementation period, which the Executive Member was happy to endorse;
- The viability, in particular, of lower schools in a changing educational landscape. The Executive Member reiterated his view that no lower school would close although some may need for example to reconfigure and collaborate as part of federations;
- The impact of cross border pupil flow and school catchment areas;
- The difficulty of adhering to Policy Principles in practice, with some Members expressing concern about the need for local flexibility and opportunities for parental choice. The Executive Member acknowledged the issue and confirmed that the principles should not be seen as edicts but rather operational guidelines;
- The sufficiency of places for children with Special Educational Needs in either special or mainstream schools. The Executive Member confirmed that the provision of such places would continue to be a priority within the School Organisation Plan; and
- The ability of the Council to use S106 monies flexibly to met demand across Central Bedfordshire.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Policy Principles for Pupil Place Planning in Schools, as set out in Appendix B, be endorsed for approval by the Executive as the basis for the future development of commissioning options for New School Places in Central Bedfordshire.

CS/12/76

Customer Feedback - Complaints, Compliments Annual Report

The Executive Member presented the Customer Feedback report, which fulfilled the Council's statutory duty to produce an annual report for Children's Social Care covering complaints and compliments. The report provided statistics on the number of complaints received; complaint outcomes (upheld/not upheld); performance; issues complained about; and learning and improvements resulting from complaints for 2011/12.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be noted.

CS/12/77

Work Programme 2012 - 2013 & Executive Forward Plan

The Committee considered its current Work Programme and the latest Executive Forward Plan and were content with the agenda items proposed for consideration at forthcoming meetings.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Children's Services OSC Work Programme be noted.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and concluded at 12.45 p.m.)

Chairman

Dated

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Meeting: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 26 February 2013
Subject: **KS2 results and outcomes of Ofsted inspections in Central Bedfordshire**

Report of: Cllr Mark Versallion , Executive Member for Children's Services

Summary: This report summarises the 2012 results in KS2 for schools in Central Bedfordshire, outlines some of the actions that contributed to the improvement on the 2011 results as well as the challenges that remain in reaching national average results. The report also summarises the outcomes of Ofsted school inspections so far for the current school year and makes some preliminary comparisons with the inspection outcomes regionally.

Advising Officer: Pete Dudley, Assistant Director – Learning, Commissioning and Partnerships
Contact Officer: Helen Redding, Head of Learning and School Support
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

This report supports the following priorities of the Council and medium term plan objectives:

- Educating, protecting and providing opportunities for children and young people
- Raising educational attainment

Financial:

1. n/a

Legal:

2. n/a

Risk Management:

3. n/a

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

4. n/a

Equalities/Human Rights:

5. Public Authorities must ensure that decisions are made in a way which minimises unfairness and without a disproportionately negative impact on people from different ethnic groups, disabled people, women and men.
6. The Council analyses attainment data in order to identify underperforming groups of learners and to help to ensure that this underperformance is addressed at school level. The work described in this report contains examples of how underperformance was identified at the level of group or individual in schools and how those pupils were supported to attain higher outcomes.

Community Safety:

7. n/a

Sustainability:

8. n/a

Procurement:

9. n/a

RECOMMENDATION):

The Committee is asked to:-

1. **Consider the improvements in KS2 attainment and progress outlined in this report and the work that still remains to be done before KS2 outcomes of children in schools in Central Bedfordshire are in line with national averages.**
2. **Consider the impact on these improvements of school to school support provided by the Central Bedfordshire Teaching School Partnership and the Bedfordshire Middle School Association and the intervention activities commissioned by the Council.**
3. **Consider the outcomes of Ofsted inspections of schools since the inception of the new Ofsted Framework in September 2012.**

Background

10. In 2011 Key Stage 2 results fell in Central Bedfordshire whereas nationally results increased. (66% of pupils achieving level 4 or above compared to 74% nationally and 76% for statistical neighbours). While the attainment of this cohort was known to be a concern, this drop resulted in Central Bedfordshire having the second lowest KS2 standards in England.

KS2 results in 2012

11. In 2012 the percentage of pupils in Central Bedfordshire schools attaining L4 or above in English and mathematics was 76%, an increase of 10 percentage points on 2011.

Although the Council climbed 17 places in ranking for Level 4 and above in

English & Mathematics to 134/152 in 2012, Central Bedfordshire remains in the lowest quartile for attainment on this measure. The national percentage is 3 percentage points higher than Central Bedfordshire at 79%. Central Bedfordshire remains in 11th place (of 11) amongst its statistical neighbours. Overall improvement 2010 to 2012 is only 2 percentage points (ppts).

While ranking for English (136/152) is similar to the ranking for combined English and mathematics (134/152), the Council's ranking for mathematics alone is 144/152. Central Bedfordshire also remains ranked in the lower quartile for the percentage of pupils making two levels of progress between KS1 (7 year olds) and KS2 (11 year olds).

Results of one middle school were not included in 2011 figures and results for another middle school were not included in those for 2012.

What helped to make the difference between 2011 and 2012?

12. In October 2011 middle school headteachers and senior managers attended a seminar called by the Council and expressed collective determination to improve performance through school to school support and through the sharing of effective practices from schools with high attainment and progress. This seminar was followed by two conferences arranged and hosted by Central Bedfordshire Teaching School Partnership and the Bedfordshire Middle Schools Association. These conferences focused on the most successful approaches to helping children make expected progress, and on ensuring these pupils are confident in those aspects of reading, writing and mathematics that are the hardest to teach and to learn. Finally they focused on preparing children to demonstrate all they know in test conditions without resorting to 'teaching to the test'.

Middle schools also began a programme of inspecting each other. Using an experienced HMI to support school to school inspections, teams comprising senior managers of Bedfordshire Middle Schools Association carried out inspections of their colleagues' schools using the new Framework for Inspection (see below). Inspected schools then drew up action plans for improvement based upon their inspection findings.

13. The Schools Forum agreed in 2011 and again in 2012 to use Direct Schools Grant to respond to the fall in KS2 results by supporting an intervention programme that was designed to raise attainment at Key Stage 2. £126,500 was approved in the first year and £90,000 was approved for the second year to be targeted at maintained middle schools and primary schools with year 5 pupils identified as not on course to make two levels of progress in KS2.
14. The Council and 18 middle schools worked together to identify 703 pupils who had fallen behind earlier in KS2 and who were at risk of not attaining L4 in English and mathematics in 2012 as a result. The schools worked using one to one and small group support to implement specific interventions to help pupils make up lost ground and to overcome barriers to improvement. The impact of the interventions was evaluated each term by improvement advisers.
15. The results of this intervention programme are as follows:

- (a) Of the original 703 targeted pupils, 480 (66%) made two levels progress from the end of KS1 to the end of KS2 in Maths.
 - (b) Of the original 703 targeted pupils, 520 (72%) made two levels progress from the end of KS1 to the end of KS2 in English (a complete numerical report is attached in Appendix 1).
 - (c) These are positive outcomes given that these pupils were at high risk of not making the expected rate of progress. These figures also include some pupils with identified Special Educational Needs.
16. Intervention funding from Schools Forum to enable some continued support in the current academic year is aimed at securing a further improvement in 2013. No further funding will be sought thereafter. The methods used in securing the improvements are those that good and outstanding schools implement as a matter of course. Sustainability in improvement will be achieved when, through the work of (i) Central Bedfordshire Teaching School Partnership (ii) a rigorous culture of school to school support and the (iii) universally high expectations in middle schools, there is both a consistent year-on-year focus on improved outcomes and when better than average outcomes becomes the 'norm' in everyone's expectations for the attainment of Central Bedfordshire pupils.

Outcomes of inspections

17. In September 2012 the new Ofsted Framework for the Inspection of Schools came into force. This framework was piloted by a number of Central Bedfordshire schools. The new framework raises the game for schools focusing relentlessly on pupil progress. The same scale for judgements is used as in the past:
- 1. Outstanding
 - 2. Good
 - 3. Adequate
 - 4. Inadequate.
- Many aspects of quality and outcome that would have attracted a judgement of 'good' in the previous inspection framework, now attract one of 'adequate'. If a school that has been judged 'adequate' twice previously receives a third such judgement it will be deemed to be 'requiring improvement'. These schools will be re-inspected within twelve months and will face sanctions should they fail to be 'good' at that point.
18. 11 schools and academies have been inspected since September 2012 on the new framework.
- 6 schools [55%] have improved by a grade [5 have moved from grade 3 to grade 2, 1 has moved from grade 2 to grade 1]
- 3 schools [27%] have remained at grade 3 and are now in the Requires Improvement category [Samuel Whitbread, Leedon Lower and St George's Lower (Leighton Buzzard)].

1 school has retained the outstanding grade [Willow Nursery].

1 school is new - Chiltern School.

19. This improving trend in inspection judgements seems to be bucking that informally reported regionally where the more exacting demands of the new Framework are leading to more schools dropping a grade than improving. Central Bedfordshire is in the top 10% nationally for its proportion of good and outstanding maintained schools.

Table 10 shows proportions of all inspection in Central Bedfordshire carried out since April 2011.

Ofsted Inspections		(includes Requires Improvement)		
Current	Inadequate	Satisfactory	Good	Outstanding
LA Schools	0	18	55	28
Academy	0	10	17	9
Total	0	28	72	37
Since April 11	Inadequate	Satisfactory	Good	Outstanding
æ	0	3	12	4
1	0	8	16	2
	0	7	1	0

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Meeting: Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 26th February 2013
Subject: Commissioning New School Places for implementation from September 2014.

Report of: Cllr Mark Versallion , Executive Member for Children's Services

Summary: Attached at Appendix A is a report to be considered by the Council's Executive on the 19th March 2013 which will outline five projects within the New School Places Programme 2013/14 – 2017/18 where local pressures of demographic growth require new school places to be provided from September 2014.

Advising Officer: Edwina Grant, Deputy Chief Executive/ Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Pete Dudley, Assistant Director for Learning, Commissioning and Partnerships
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Executive
Key Decision Yes

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The report supports Central Bedfordshire's Medium Term Plan: *Delivering your priorities – Our Plan for Central Bedfordshire 2012- 2016* and the specific priority of Improved Educational Attainment.

Financial:

1. The five proposals outlined in this report are contained with the New School Places Programme 2011/12 – 2017/18 which is largely capital funded as outlined in Appendix A to the Executive report through Basic Need Grant (actual and assumed) and S106 contributions.
2. At the time of writing this report the Department for Education had yet to announce its allocations of Basic Need grant for 2013/14 and beyond although this is now expected before the end of February 2013. **For Central Bedfordshire it is expected that this will represent a change over previous years allocations and this will be reflected in the programme and cash flow attached at Appendix A to the Executive report which will be updated with the DfE announcement before the final report is presented to Executive.** This will also update the previous forecasts of income and expenditure to the programme, as set out in the Council's capital programme. Figures for 2015/16 onwards are currently based on an assumption of Basic Need grant at similar levels to 2012/13.
3. The programme reflects a significant capital contribution, on current planning assumptions of grant income, that the Council may be required to provide from its own resources of approximately £12.87M across 2015/16 and 2016/17, although this may be offset by significant income in following years.

4. The day to day running costs of school provision is met through revenue funding which is made available to each school as part of the dedicated schools grant and is based primarily on the numbers of pupils attending, which will increase accordingly in an expanded school.
5. Where necessary, additional revenue support for relevant costs can be accessed on application through the Growth Fund established by the Schools Forum, for Schools and Academies that are undertaking significant expansion on commission from the Council.
6. Capital expenditure within the New School Places Programme 2011/12 – 2017/18 is subject to the Council's Code of Financial Governance and expenditure to commission feasibility studies and design work required for projects within this rolling programme has been approved by the Executive Member for Children's Services, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children's Services as per Sec 4.10.7 of the Council's constitution.

Legal:

7. Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a duty on Councils to secure sufficient and suitable school places to provide for 5 – 16 year old statutory aged children in its area. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives Councils a strategic role as commissioners, but not providers, of school places to promote parental choice, diversity, high standards, the fulfilment of every child's educational potential and fair access to educational opportunity.
8. The main legislation governing school organisation is found in sections 7-32 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) (England Regulations 2007 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Mainstream Schools) (England) Regulations 2007.
9. DfE regulations outline the requirements and process for proposals to expand Council maintained schools and these include full public consultation, the publication of statutory proposals and the decision making process. The Council is decision maker for proposals relating to maintained schools, one of which is set out in this report and relates to the proposed expansion of Church End Lower School, Marston.
10. The DfE has also produced guidance for Academies wishing to make significant changes including proposals to enlarge premises by a significant proportion. The process, which is overseen by the Education Funding Agency on behalf of the DfE requires consultation and subsequent submission by the Academy of a report for determination by the Secretary of State. The proposals to expand Stratton Upper, and Redborne Upper will be required to follow this process. The proposals to expand Vandyke Upper and Alameda Middle as set out in this report will not be required to follow this process as the proposed increases in capacity do not reach the trigger point set out in the DfE guidance.

Risk Management:

11. The five proposals to commission new school places and to allocate related capital investment outlined in this report implements the identified need to manage demographic growth in the previously published school organisation plan and mitigates the risk on the Council of failing in its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.

Key risks include:

Failure to discharge legal and statutory duties/guidance.

Failure to deliver the Council's strategic priorities

Reputational risks associated with the non delivery of required school places.

Financial risks, including;

Non realisation of anticipated Section 106 monies and anticipated levels of government grant.

Potential for overspend on any project within the programme

Inability of schools to recruit suitable additional staff

12. Without the formal process of strategic planning and implementation of required projects in place there is a risk that the DfE will not approve future allocations of Basic Need Funding to the Council. There is also a risk that Section 106 monies will not be able to be properly planned or achieve the spend of funds in an appropriate and timely manner. This reinforces the importance of the Council adopting a new Development Strategy and Community Infrastructure Levy in 2014 to ensure that well designed appropriately located housing is supported by educational infrastructure.
13. The commissioning of each of the five projects in this report will include risk assessment and management criteria to ensure these and the proposed procurement route are clear to decision makers. Contract and construction risks will be overseen through the project management of the agreed projects which may be led by the schools, with appropriate safeguards in place as set out in the Procurement section below.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

14. Staff and Trades Unions will be consulted on the proposals to expand the schools in this report as part of the informal and statutory consultation process required by regulations and DfE guidance.
15. Schools will have the support of their commissioned HR Providers where any proposals require changes in school staff structures or to terms and conditions of employment. The Council's Schools Statutory HR Team will monitor restructures to ensure redundancy charges to the Council are minimised and justified.
16. Each expanding school will need to increase the numbers of teaching and non-teaching staff to support the increase in pupil numbers. This will be funded through the school's Dedicated School Grant budget and the increased share which the school will receive.

Equalities/Human Rights:

17. The consultation and decision making process set out in regulation for proposals to expand Academies and Council maintained schools requires an evaluation on a project by project basis of any equalities and human rights issues that might arise. These will be reported to the Council's Executive in August 2013 when a final decision and approval to commence expenditure will be required.

Public Health:

18. Extended Services around School and Early Years settings will be further developed as a result of the growing school population.

19. The range of extended services that may be provided in schools includes:

Parenting and family support officers.
Transition support for pupils, schools and families.
Combined clubs and after school activities.
Holiday activities.
Support for vulnerable pupils and families i.e. siblings group and young carers.

Community Safety:

20. Schools have an important role in working alongside a range of other agencies to ensure safety in their local communities. The potential to further promote and support robust partnerships is one of the principles by which options for new school places are evaluated.

Sustainability:

21. Whilst there may be additional costs in order to meet sustainability objectives for new build and/or expansion of existing schools, these will be contained within the costs identified for each individual project within the programme. These measures would contribute to reduced running costs through better energy and resource efficiency, alongside creating a better learning environment for the pupils.

Procurement:

22. The tendering and approval process for awarding construction contracts will be in accordance with the Council's Code of Procurement Guidance and the thresholds indicated in section 5.1 of the Council's constitution. Where Schools or Academies are able to provide significant reassurance of their ability and capacity to procure and project manage the delivery of the required construction works, the Council will support this arrangement with appropriate oversight and governance in place.

23. Each proposal in the New School Places Programme is required by the Council's Policy Principles on Pupil Place Planning in Schools to be supported by a business case that establishes a guarantee of the quality of the new places being added to the system. This business case is considered as part of the final Executive approval of any proposal and before approval to commence expenditure is given.

24. Where the school or Academy that is subject to an expansion proposal is also intended to procure and deliver the capital project with the support of the Council, the business case will require assurances of the capability and capacity of the school to deliver the proposal to time and on budget, based on their expertise and experience.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the content of the report.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Executive Report – Commissioning New School Places for implementation from September 2014.

Appendix A – Executive Report – Commissioning New School Places for implementation from September 2014.

Meeting: Executive

Date: 19 March 2013

Subject: Commissioning New School Places for implementation from September 2014.

Report of: Cllr Mark Versallion , Executive Member for Children’s Services

Summary: This report outlines five projects within the New School Places Programme 2013/14 – 2017/18 where local pressures of demographic growth require new school places to be provided from September 2014.

Advising Officer: Edwina Grant, Deputy Chief Executive/ Director of Children’s Services

Contact Officer: Pete Dudley, Assistant Director for Learning, Commissioning and Partnerships

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: Biggleswade North, Biggleswade South, Northill, Potton, Ampthill, Flitwick, Cranfield & Marston, Leighton Buzzard North, Leighton Buzzard South, Aspley & Woburn, Heath & Reach

Function of: Executive

Key Decision Yes

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The report supports Central Bedfordshire’s Medium Term Plan: *Delivering your priorities – Our Plan for Central Bedfordshire 2012- 2016* and the specific priority of Improved Educational Attainment.

Financial:

1. The five proposals outlined in this report are contained with the New School Places Programme 2011/12 – 2017/18 which is largely capital funded as outlined in Appendix A to this report through Basic Need Grant (actual and assumed) and S106 contributions.
2. The Department for Education has yet to announce its allocations of Basic Need grant for 2013/14 and beyond although this is now expected before the end of February 2013. For Central Bedfordshire it is expected that this will represent a change over previous years allocations and this will be reflected in the updated programme and cash flow attached at Appendix A which will update the previous forecasts of income and expenditure to the programme, as set out in the Council’s capital programme. Figures for 2015/16 onwards are currently based on an assumption of Basic Need grant at similar levels to 2012/13.

3. The programme reflects a significant capital contribution, on current planning assumptions of grant income, that the Council may be required to provide from its own resources of approximately £12.87M across 2015/16 and 2016/17, although this may be offset by significant income in following years.
4. The day to day running costs of school provision is met through revenue funding which is made available to each school as part of the dedicated schools grant and is based primarily on the numbers of pupils attending, which will increase accordingly in an expanded school.
5. Where necessary, additional revenue support for relevant costs can be accessed on application through the Growth Fund established by the Schools Forum, for Schools and Academies that are undertaking significant expansion on commission from the Council.
6. Capital expenditure within the New School Places Programme 2011/12 – 2017/18 is subject to the Council's Code of Financial Governance and expenditure to commission feasibility studies and design work required for projects within this rolling programme has been approved by the Executive Member for Children's Services, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children's Services as per Sec 4.10.7 of the Council's constitution.

Legal:

7. Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a duty on Councils to secure sufficient and suitable school places to provide for 5 – 16 year old statutory aged children in its area. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 gives Councils a strategic role as commissioners, but not providers, of school places to promote parental choice, diversity, high standards, the fulfilment of every child's educational potential and fair access to educational opportunity.
8. The main legislation governing school organisation is found in sections 7-32 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) (England Regulations 2007 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Mainstream Schools) (England) Regulations 2007.
9. DfE regulations outline the requirements and process for proposals to expand Council maintained schools and these include full public consultation, the publication of statutory proposals and the decision making process. The Council is decision maker for proposals relating to maintained schools, one of which is set out in this report and relates to the proposed expansion of Church End Lower School, Marston.
10. The DfE has also produced guidance for Academies wishing to make significant changes including proposals to enlarge premises by a significant proportion. The process, which is overseen by the Education Funding Agency on behalf of the DfE requires consultation and subsequent submission by the Academy of a report for determination by the Secretary of State. The proposals to expand Stratton Upper, and Redborne Upper will be required to follow this process. The proposals to expand Vandyke Upper and Alameda Middle as set out in this report will not be required to follow this process as the proposed increases in capacity do not reach the trigger point set out in the DfE guidance.

Risk Management:

11. The five proposals to commission new school places and to allocate related capital investment outlined in this report implements the identified need to manage demographic growth in the previously published school organisation plan and mitigates the risk on the Council of failing in its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.

Key risks include:

Failure to discharge legal and statutory duties/guidance.

Failure to deliver the Council's strategic priorities

Reputational risks associated with the non delivery of required school places.

Financial risks, including;

Non realisation of anticipated Section 106 monies and anticipated levels of government grant.

Potential for overspend on any project within the programme

Inability of schools to recruit suitable additional staff

12. Without the formal process of strategic planning and implementation of required projects in place there is a risk that the DfE will not approve future allocations of Basic Need Funding to the Council. There is also a risk that Section 106 monies will not be able to be properly planned or achieve the spend of funds in an appropriate and timely manner. This reinforces the importance of the Council adopting a new Development Strategy and Community Infrastructure Levy in 2014 to ensure that well designed appropriately located housing is supported by educational infrastructure.
13. The commissioning of each of the five projects in this report will include risk assessment and management criteria to ensure these and the proposed procurement route are clear to decision makers. Contract and construction risks will be overseen through the project management of the agreed projects which may be led by the schools, with appropriate safeguards in place as set out in the Procurement section below.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

14. Staff and Trades Unions will be consulted on the proposals to expand the schools in this report as part of the informal and statutory consultation process required by regulations and DfE guidance.
15. Schools will have the support of their commissioned HR Providers where any proposals require changes in school staff structures or to terms and conditions of employment. The Council's Schools Statutory HR Team will monitor restructures to ensure redundancy charges to the Council are minimised and justified.
16. Each expanding school will need to increase the numbers of teaching and non-teaching staff to support the increase in pupil numbers. This will be funded through the school's Dedicated School Grant budget and the increased share which the school will receive.

Equalities/Human Rights:

17. The consultation and decision making process set out in regulation for proposals to expand Academies and Council maintained schools requires an evaluation on a project by project basis of any equalities and human rights issues that might arise. These will be reported to the Council's Executive in August 2013 when a final decision and approval to commence expenditure will be required.

Public Health:

18. Extended Services around School and Early Years settings will be further developed as a result of the growing school population.

19. The range of extended services that may be provided in schools includes:

Parenting and family support officers.
Transition support for pupils, schools and families.
Combined clubs and after school activities.
Holiday activities.
Support for vulnerable pupils and families i.e. siblings group and young carers.

Community Safety:

20. Schools have an important role in working alongside a range of other agencies to ensure safety in their local communities. The potential to further promote and support robust partnerships is one of the principles by which options for new school places are evaluated.

Sustainability:

21. Whilst there may be additional costs in order to meet sustainability objectives for new build and/or expansion of existing schools, these will be contained within the costs identified for each individual project within the programme. These measures would contribute to reduced running costs through better energy and resource efficiency, alongside creating a better learning environment for the pupils.

Procurement:

22. The tendering and approval process for awarding construction contracts will be in accordance with the Council's Code of Procurement Guidance and the thresholds indicated in section 5.1 of the Council's constitution. Where Schools or Academies are able to provide significant reassurance of their ability and capacity to procure and project manage the delivery of the required construction works, the Council will support this arrangement with appropriate oversight and governance in place.
23. Each proposal in the New School Places Programme is required by the Council's Policy Principles on Pupil Place Planning in Schools to be supported by a business case that establishes a guarantee of the quality of the new places being added to the system. This business case is considered as part of the final Executive approval of any proposal and before approval to commence expenditure is given.
24. Where the school or Academy that is subject to an expansion proposal is also intended to procure and deliver the capital project with the support of the Council, the business case will require assurances of the capability and capacity of the school to deliver the proposal to time and on budget, based on their expertise and experience.

Overview and Scrutiny:

25. The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered this report on 26 February 2013. Comments made by the Committee will be available separately at the meeting of the Executive by way of a handout.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Executive is asked to:

1. **Recommend to Executive that the externally funded rolling Capital Programme for New School Places to 2014/15 as set out in Appendix A to this report be approved, noting the required amendments to the Council's approved Capital Programme which will be required beyond 2014/15.**

2. Approve the commencement of informal consultation and the publication of statutory notices for the proposal to expand Church End Lower School, Marston from its current capacity of 270 places to provide a total of 450 places across two sites with an implementation date of September 2014. The school will also be invited to prepare a business case for approval by the Council's Executive in its final determination in August 2013.
3. Invite the Academy of Redborne Upper School, to prepare a business case for approval by the Council's Executive in August 2013 and to undertake consultation and approval processes required as an Academy by the Education Funding Agency to expand from its current capacity of 1450 places to provide 1650 places with an implementation date of September 2014.
4. Invite the Academy of Stratton Upper School, to prepare a business case for approval by the Council's Executive in August 2013 and to undertake consultation and approval processes required as an Academy by the Education Funding Agency to expand from its current capacity of 1250 places to provide 1650 places with an implementation date of September 2014.
5. Invite the Academy of Alameda Middle School to prepare a business case for approval by the Council's Executive in August 2013 for commencement of the proposed expenditure as outlined in the New School Places Programme attached at Appendix A to expand from its current capacity of 600 places to provide 720 places with an implementation date of September 2014.
6. Invite the Academy of Vandyke Upper School to prepare a business case for approval by the Council's Executive in August 2013 for commencement of the proposed expenditure as outlined in the New School Places Programme attached at Appendix A.

<i>Reason for Recommendations:</i>	<i>To ensure the Council continues to meet its statutory obligations to provide sufficient school places and also to meet the legal requirements placed on the Council by the Education and Inspections Act 2006 regarding proposals to expand maintained schools. Commitment to expenditure and final approval of each of these proposals will be determined by the Council's Executive in August 2013, informed by the outcome of the consultation exercises, Education Funding Agency approvals where relevant, and business cases which are to be prepared by each School or Academy.</i>
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Executive Summary

26. This report outlines five projects within the Council's New School Places Programme where local pressures of demographic growth within each school's existing catchment area require additional school places to be provided by September 2014. All of the projects in this report relate to proposals to expand existing provision and no new Schools or Academies are created as a result.
27. Each of the proposals has been developed with support of the Governing Bodies or Board of the relevant school or Academy and each is aligned as set out in the report with the Council's Policy Principles for Pupil Place Planning in Schools as approved by the Council's Executive in February 2013.
28. Four of these proposals relate to the expansion of Academies and one relates to the proposed expansion of a Council maintained Foundation school. The Council is decision maker for proposals to expand Council maintained schools, whereas the Council can invite Academies to expand but proposals are subject to the Secretary of

State's approval.

29. Proposals to enlarge schools and Academies by a significant proportion require consultation to be undertaken, with Academies also required to submit a detailed report to the Education Funding Agency as part of their approval process.

30. Each proposal in the New School Places Programme is required by the Council's Policy Principles on Pupil Place Planning in Schools to be supported by a business case in a format set by the Council that establishes a guarantee of the quality of the new places being added to the system. Each business case is considered as part of the final Executive approval of any proposal and before approval to commence expenditure is given.

31. In all instances where new school places are required and proposals are approved the Council is responsible for committing the relevant capital funding to implement required expansions and new build.

32. This report therefore seeks Executive approval to:

Consider the proposals to provide new school places in Marston, Amphill, Biggleswade and Leighton Buzzard

Commence consultation on the proposal to expand Church End Lower School, Marston

Invite Stratton Upper School and Redborne Upper School to expand, to seek DfE approval and to prepare a business case for subsequent consideration by the Council's Executive

Invite Vandyke Upper School and Alameda Middle School to prepare a business case for subsequent consideration by the Council's Executive

33. A report will subsequently be made to the Council's Executive in August 2013 to

Consider the outcome of the consultation and determine the proposal to expand Church End Lower School, Marston

Note the outcome of the DfE determination of the Academy expansion proposals

Consider the business cases submitted by each school, and

Approve each project and commit to the required capital expenditure

2013/14 refresh of the New School Places Programme

34. As reported to the Council's Executive on the 5 February 2013 the New School Places Programme was initially approved in March 2012 and its annual refresh has included a review of a range of assumptions including:

The potential timing of commencement of development on current LDF sites i.e North Houghton Regis, as indicated in the Council's Draft Development Strategy

The rate of housing development in many areas, therefore the required date for the additional or new provision and the trigger points for s106 income

The need to integrate new schools with the existing pattern of provision, therefore the reference to new lower, middle, primary or secondary schools

The project costs, which are based on the additional/new floor areas required for the

planned provision, including inflation, fees, furniture and equipment

35. The continued level of Basic Need allocations as income to the Council will also be reassessed following the anticipated Department for Education announcement of a two year allocation of Basic Need Grant, one of three main funding sources for the New School Places Programme. This and the reprofiling of anticipated Section 106 funding against each project in the programme will enable a review of forecast income.
36. Feasibility studies have also been carried out on a number of projects within the programme in order to be satisfied that the increase in numbers can be accommodated within existing school sites and to fine tune the indicative costs set out within the programme.
37. The New School Places Programme attached at Appendix A therefore sets out the programme's anticipated cashflow although this will itself be further reviewed and reported to the Council's Executive in early 2014.

Legal process for proposals to enlarge Council maintained schools and Academies

38. In accordance with the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 DfE regulations outline the requirements and process for proposals to significantly enlarge Council maintained schools and these include full public consultation, the publication of statutory proposals and the decision making process. The Council is decision maker for proposals to enlarge maintained schools.
39. Proposals to significantly enlarge Academies are dealt with by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) which is responsible for operational work in relation to Academies. The definition of the enlargement of premises by a significant proportion is given in EFA guidance which sets out the process that must be followed by Academies seeking to make such changes.
40. The Secretary of State retains responsibility for the decision to make any significant changes to an Academy even though EFA does the operational work. The Secretary of State needs information on the following to make a decision:

The educational benefits and value for money;

The degree of Council support;

The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the Council area;

Whether the Academy has the capacity to deal with the change and in particular, whether the Academy's leadership and governance has the capacity and the expertise to be able to take-on such a significant transition without being deflected from its primary purpose of schooling. (This would also include consideration of the Academy's financial position);

Whether changes may be needed to the way the Academy is governed and whether any changes to the school's admission arrangements are being proposed;

Community support – the degree of support for the proposals that exists in the local community and whether any consultation has been undertaken;

Whether any issues have been identified around the existing school site: for example whether there are any foreseen proposed adaptations, additions, refurbishments or land transfers that are needed;

Whether the proposal is cost-effective both in terms of capital and recurrent funding. The proposal should include some indicative costings and a proposal as to how these might be met.

41. The process that the Academy must follow with its proposal commences with an initial approach to Education Funding Agency (EFA) with details of the change requested. An 8 week consultation period follows with stakeholders, including parents and other schools. The Academy then submits a report to the EFA providing the information set out in Section 40 above (to include consultation responses and the Academy's response to consultation) and the EFA analyses the business case and makes a recommendation to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State determines the proposal and EFA notifies the Academy of the decision and any changes required to the Academy's legal agreements and articles.
42. The Council will support Academies in this process and early engagement has already been undertaken between Council officers and EFA staff to ensure visibility of the proposals contained within this report and of others that may be forthcoming in future years.
43. The outcome of the informal and statutory consultation process for the Council maintained school Church End Lower, Marston will be reported to the Council's Executive as final decision maker in August 2013 along with a report on the DfE determination of the proposals made in relation to the Academies.
44. Each proposal will be supported by a business case drafted in a format set by the Council that establishes a guarantee of the quality of the new places being added to the system based on the school's vision and educational plan. In addition to its Ofsted rating, the business case will also require the school to outline its performance in terms of results and improvement over time in key stage assessments, in terms of value added and in comparison with other schools in similar circumstances. The business case will require the school to set out its improvement targets.
45. Where the school or Academy that is subject to an expansion proposal is also intended to procure and deliver the capital project with the support of the Council, the business case will require assurances of the capability and capacity of the school to deliver the proposal to time and on budget, based on their expertise and experience. A formal payment mechanism will also need to be put into place to ensure that the funding is allocated in a timely and appropriate manner and to secure the long-term retention of the additional places.
46. Each business case will be considered as part of the final Executive approval of each project in August 2013, before approval to commence expenditure on works is given.

Church End Lower School, Marston

47. New lower school places are required in Marston as a result of significant housing development in the area which has included 480 dwellings being provided on Land East of Bedford Road in Marston Moretaine. This development includes a site for additional Lower School provision to serve the Village and has also provided capital contributions towards the cost of new provision. A further 125 dwellings are proposed on Land at Moreteyne Farm which will similarly be required to make a capital contribution.
48. Pupils transfer from Marston to Middle and Upper schools within Bedford Borough and contributions have also been secured to support additional provision which may be required at those schools.
49. Collectively these new developments represent a requirement of an additional 24/25 lower school pupils/age group requiring an additional 1 Form of Entry of provision to be

made.

50. Church End Lower School in Marston is the only school currently serving the lower school age range in the Marston area. The proposal to expand the existing school will enable the phased growth in local population to be accommodated across the school's sites and within the existing leadership and management structure of the school.
51. The current school has a capacity of 2 Forms of Entry and the proposal is to increase this to 3 Forms of Entry across two sites. The Council's Policy Principles for Pupil Place Planning in Schools establish guidance for the optimum size of schools but these apply to single site schools and Church End Lower School will be required to set out its proposed organisational arrangements in the public consultation and in the detailed business case that will be presented to Executive in August.
52. The school was rated as Good by Ofsted in 2012 and in the September 2012 admissions round the school received 93% of its Published Admission Number in first preference applications, making it both popular and successful. The school is currently full and local catchment children are having to be accommodated and transported in neighbouring towns/villages which are also now at or nearing capacity.
53. The school is a member of the Vale of Marston Schools Trust working actively within the local (Wooton) pyramid. Church End is one of three Central Bedfordshire schools that are likely in due course to be considered for expansion (Holywell Middle and Cranfield Lower being others), in addition to a number of Bedford Borough schools.
54. The school currently accommodates a Pre School and the local Children's Centre on its existing site. The school's work with the Children's Centre ensures an active focus on vulnerable learners and families. The proposal to expand the existing school will ensure continuity of this close working relationship into the future across the two sites. The proposed expansion will provide new standalone accommodation on a second site, which will also enable the current school to broaden its community offer.
55. The proposal does not add to the diversion of provision but parental demand from within the immediate area is not currently able to be met and the level of demand will be determined through the consultation exercise.

Redborne Upper School and Alameda Middle School

56. New Upper and Middle school places are required in Ampthill as a result of significant housing development in the area which has included sites to the west of Ampthill, and in the vicinity of Dunstable Road, Church Street and at a number of smaller sites across the catchment area of Redborne Upper.
57. Under the adopted Local Development Framework for North Central Bedfordshire 410 dwellings at Land West of Abbey Lane, Ampthill and 400 in Flitwick are also proposed. These developments will also be expected to contribute towards new infrastructure.

The Ampthill developments represent a requirement of an additional 200 Upper School places and a further 120 Middle School places in the period to 2017.
58. Alameda Middle serves the immediate Ampthill and Maulden areas. The proposal to expand the school will ensure that it can continue to serve the local community and immediate housing developments. The proposal increases the school from 600 places to the guideline ideal size for middle school provision of 720 places.
59. The school was rated as Good in its last Ofsted inspection in 2009 and in the September 2012 admissions round the school received 92% of its Published Admission Number in first preference applications making it both popular and successful. The

school has filled to its capacity with no surplus places.

60. Alameda works closely and actively with other schools in the Redborne pyramid and is one of three local schools proposed to expand as a result of local development (Redborne Upper and an Amphill Lower school).
61. The planned expansion will remove some temporary accommodation and will enable existing accommodation to be converted to address deficiencies in suitability, particularly in the teaching of technology. Existing deficiencies in accommodation that will be addressed by the planned expansion also includes specialist areas, small withdrawal spaces for SEN teaching and small group work.
62. The proposal does not add to the diversity of provision but parental demand will be determined through the consultation process. It is assumed to be significant given the popularity of provision throughout the pyramid.
63. Redborne Upper is the Upper school that currently serves the local community in this area. The additional Upper school places are required as a direct result of additional demand from the new housing developments in the Amphill area. The proposed expansion of the school from its existing 1450 places will result in a new capacity of 1650 places. The detailed business case that will be presented to the Council's Executive in August 2013 will set out any changes proposed to the school's intended organisation.
64. The school was rated Outstanding by Ofsted in its last inspection in 2008 and in the September 2012 admissions round the school received 110% of its PAN in first preference applications. Based on first preference data the school is the most popular Upper School in Central Bedfordshire.
65. As with Alameda Middle, Redborne Upper works closely and actively with other schools in the pyramid and is one of three local schools proposed to expand as a result of local development (Alameda Middle and an Amphill Lower school). The school is also leading the development of the alternative provision free school in Central Bedfordshire.
66. The proposed expansion will address significant suitability issues in design technology and science and will provide expansions to the main hall and to kitchen/dining facilities in the school in addition to general teaching areas. The school's Governing Body has already committed £850k of its own resources to address deficiencies in design technology and art. The planned investment will also provide additional post 16 places and enhanced infrastructure for specialist sixth form curriculum.
67. The proposal does not add to or reduce diversity of provision in the local area. Parental demand will be determined through the consultation process but is assumed to be significant given the popularity of the school itself and of provision throughout the pyramid.

Stratton Upper School

68. New Upper school places are required in Biggleswade as a result of significant housing development in the area for the period up to 2017 including 550 dwellings which will be provided as part of the Land East of Biggleswade development and a further 627 dwellings which will be provided through other existing commitments and allocated sites in the Town.
69. Collectively these new developments represent a requirement of an additional 400 Upper School places.
70. The most significant development of 2500 new homes on Land East of Biggleswade is

immediately east of the Stratton Upper school site. The school has a current capacity of 1250. The proposed size of the enlarged school is 1650, marginally above the guideline size but the School will be required to set out its proposed organisational arrangements for the EFA and in the detailed business case that will be presented to the Council's Executive in August.

71. The school was rated as Good in its last Ofsted inspection in 2009 and in the September 2012 admissions round it received 93% of its Published Admissions in first preference applications. Based on first preference data the school was the 4th most popular Upper School in Central Bedfordshire.
72. Stratton Upper is a member of the Biggleswade Community Union of Schools (BCUS) and is also sponsor of Gamlingay Village College in Cambridgeshire. It is actively engaged in partnership with other local schools in BCUS to improve transition and curriculum planning across phases. The school currently caters for some of the upper age range of Ivel Valley students who will also benefit from improvements in infrastructure. The school is also represented on the upper school heads group which is currently developing the alternative provision free school.
73. The proposal for additional places reflect the school's broader master plan for development of the whole site which also addresses significant existing condition and suitability issues, particularly in provision for the teaching of science. The school has specifically identified the need for an improvement in outcomes in science, for which current facilities are poor and outdated. The school has a current sixth form of more than 300 students and the planned expansion includes additional sixth form capacity.
74. The school currently manages the Stratton Leisure Centre (former Biggleswade recreation centre) and also provides for community use which will be enhanced through this proposed investment in existing facilities which include a 6 badminton court indoor sports hall also used for football and netball, a floodlit tennis and netball courts that are both available for community use and will benefit indirectly from the funding for the additional places. Gymnastic and martial arts groups are also catered for as are theatre and local dance groups in the school's dance and drama studios.
75. The proposal does not add to or reduce diversity of provision in the local area. Parental demand will be determined through the school's consultation process.

Vandyke Upper School

76. There is a housing allocation of approximately 2,190 new dwellings for the period up to 2017 for the Leighton Buzzard & Linslade area. 600 of these dwellings will be provided as part of the proposed East Leighton Linslade Urban Extension and a further 1,590 will be provided through existing commitments and allocated sites across the wider Leighton & Linslade area.
77. The additional need for places generated by the existing commitments and allocated sites will, for the most part, be expected to be met through use of existing capacity at Middle School level supplemented where necessary by the expansion of provision at other schools, including the need for new lower school provision to serve the southern part of Leighton Buzzard for which Council have approved a 300 place extension (second site) to the existing Greenleas Lower School with effect from September 2013.
78. The proposed East Leighton Buzzard extension will require new school provision to be secured as part of the development. Overall, this will be expected to generate a requirement for an additional approx 4 forms of entry (100+ extra pupil places per age group) to meet the demand from the whole 2,500 dwellings over the period to 2026. This is the equivalent of 2 new lower schools, 1 new Middle School and the likely

expansion of the neighbouring Vandyke Upper School and site, although the exact timing and final form of provision will need to be subject to further analysis in order to match the anticipated rate of development.

79. The proposed Phase 1 expansion of Vandyke Upper and the funding that has already been secured through S106, is in relation to current housing developments underway in Leighton Buzzard. Phase 1 is based on the school's overall master plan for its potential future expansion from its current capacity of 1003 places to provide 1500 places as a result of the proposed East Leighton Buzzard extension. Phase 1, which is also funded by significant investment by the school, increases the school's capacity slightly but also addresses significant deficiencies in general teaching and changing accommodation.
80. The school recently addressed deficiencies in SEN provision by converting significantly undersized general teaching rooms, thereby reducing the school's capacity. Phase 1 re-provides some of the lost capacity for the school and will increase the school's current capacity slightly from 1003 places. The majority of the new accommodation will address an existing shortfall in general teaching spaces for which the school is contributing just over £500k.
81. The school was rated as Good by Ofsted in 2010 and in the September 2012 admissions round the school received 76% of its PAN in first preference applications. It is an active partner in Learning Community 2, the formal learning partnership of schools that covers the Leighton and Linslade area with the stated aim "to work together to promote quality teaching and learning across all our schools".
82. The school currently provides for Post 16 pupils and the proposed increased capacity will also provide additional sixth form accommodation. The school hosts a number of community-based activities particularly related to sports, and hosts an artificial turf pitch to promote hockey across the area and is the base of the local Hockey club. The additional changing accommodation will also help support these community activities.

Conclusion

83. The proposal to expand Church End Lower School, in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006, constitutes a significant expansion of an existing school which requires both informal consultation and the publication of Statutory Proposals before the Council can finally determine the proposal. Therefore, it is recommended that Executive approve the commencement of informal and statutory consultation on the proposal to expand the school to provide additional places as outlined within the report.
84. Likewise the proposals to expand Redborne Upper and Stratton Upper schools represent significant enlargements to each Academy and it is recommended that Executive invite each Academy to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Education.
85. The proposals to expand Alameda Middle School and Vandyke Upper School will add required additional places to the system and while they are not 'significant' enlargements in legislative terms, they will nevertheless require the Council eventually to commit to expenditure from the New School Places Programme. For that reason the Executive is asked to invite these Academies, along with the other schools in this report, to prepare a business case for final approval at the Executive's meeting in August 2013.
86. If the recommendations in this report are approved, and in order to ensure that the schemes can be ready for September 2014, further more detailed design work will be commissioned to progress to the next Royal Institute of Building Architects (RIBA) work stage of development and to seek the necessary planning consents.

Appendices:

Appendix A - New School Places Programme 2011/12 – 2017/18

Appendix A to Executive report

	Target implementation date	Gross Cost	S106 Total	Basic Need	School / Other
<u>Leighton/Linslade Area</u>					
Greenleas (Sandhills) 2 FE (300 place) Lower	September 2013	4,804,463	4,728,512	75,951	
New 2FE (300 place) Lower at Clipstone Park	September 2017	5,002,502	3,391,250	1,611,252	
New 4FE (480 place) Middle at Clipstone Park	September 2018	10,929,541	5,429,760	5,499,781	
Extension to Vandyke Upper (Phase 1)	September 2014	1,656,895	896,915	234,458	525,522
Extension to Vandyke Upper (Phase 2) from 1000 to 1500 places	September 2017	6,329,331	5,687,040	389,619	252,672
<u>Dunstable and Houghton Regis Area</u>					
New 2FE (420 place) Primary School North H.Regis	September 2016	7,063,672	3,893,726	3,169,946	
Extension to Secondary School for North H.Regis	September 2016	14,430,429	9,095,394	5,335,035	
<u>Sandy and Biggleswade Area</u>					
New 2FE (300 place) Lower at Kings Reach, Biggleswade	September 2015	5,002,502	2,637,408	2,365,094	

Extension to Middle School from 480 to 600 places, Biggleswade	September 2016	1,383,405	1,383,405	0
Extension to Upper School from 1250 to 1650 places, Biggleswade	September 2014	8,418,613	3,800,681	4,617,932

Harlington Area

New/replacement 270 place Lower, Silsoe	September 2016	3,344,688	1,392,879	1,951,809
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Redbourne Area

Extension to Lower School from 300 to 450 places, Ampthill	September 2015	3,123,799	1,040,889	2,082,910
Extension to Middle School from 600 to 720 places, Ampthill	September 2014	1,540,258	1,540,258	0
Extension to Upper School from 1450 to 1650 places (Phase 1)	September 2014	2,527,620	1,926,344	601,276

Samuel Whitbread Area

Extension to Shefford Lower School from 300 to 450 places	September 2013	2,711,081	189,849	2,521,232
Extension to Fairfield Park Lower School from 150 to 300 places	September 2013	3,191,502	947	3,190,555
New 2FE (300 place) Lower at Arlesey	September 2016	5,251,161	2,347,454	2,903,707
Extension to Middle School from 480 to 600 places, Arlesey	September 2015	2,881,542	2,346,446	535,097

Extension to Middle School from 720 to 840 places, Shefford	September 2015	1,427,926	609,126	818,800
Expansion of Upper School age range places from 1750 to 2050 in Bedfordshire East Multi Academy Trust	September 2015	4,498,371	1,118,678	3,379,693

Wootton Area

Extension to Lower School from 270 to 450 places, Marston	September 2014	2,191,860	732,240	1,459,620
Extension to Lower School from 300 to 450 places, Cranfield	September 2015	2,253,187	833,218	1,419,969
Extension to Middle School to provide 720 places, Cranfield	September 2015	1,383,405	835,288	548,117

New

Extension to Lower School from 225 to 300 places, Stotfold	September 2015	1,219,776	282,374	937,402
Extension to Lower School from 300 to 375 places, Potton	September 2017	1,285,544	0	1,285,544

Programme funding requirements

Financial year	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Gross Expenditure	75,519	5,198,631	15,776,306	21,776,387	27,400,532	16,965,595	13,210,838	3,449,265
'In year' programme funding balance	8,379,782	12,805,896	10,542,038	409,413	-10,967,302	-1,909,801	10,615,314	10,114,689

Meeting: Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 26 February 2013
Subject: Progress report on the implementation of the post inspection Action Plan agreed by the Council's Executive on 21 August 2012

Report of: Edwina Grant, Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Children's Services
Summary: This report advises Members of the operational progress of the Ofsted Action Plan.

Advising Officer: Edwina Grant – Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Edwina Grant – Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Children's Services
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The annual report for noting links to the priorities

- Promote health and wellbeing and protecting the vulnerable
- Improved educational attainment

Financial:

1. The financial provision to implement this plan is within budget allocations.

Legal:

2. There are no additional legal implications for the Council in implementing the Action Plan.

Risk Management:

3. Actions on Ofsted recommendations would be high risk if not secure by the next Ofsted Inspection.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

4. There are no direct H.R. implications.

Equalities/Human Rights:

5. The Action Plan contains recommendations on equalities.

Community Safety:

6. There are no additional implications other than existing child protection and safeguarding responsibilities.

Sustainability:

7. There are no additional implications other than existing child protection and safeguarding responsibilities.

RECOMMENDATION:

- **That the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee comment on the content of the report.**

Introduction

8. This reports sets out details of the current situation regarding the Children's Services and NHS response to the Ofsted Action Plan. A member of the NHS will be present at the meeting to talk about the health aspects of the Plan.

Purpose of this report

9. This report advises the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the present situation regarding the progress on the Ofsted Action Plan and the preparation for future Ofsted Inspections.

Background

10. The Ofsted inspection of Central Bedfordshire Council Safeguarding and Looked After Children was carried out between 20 February and 2 March 2012. The report was published on 10 April 2012. The overall effectiveness of safeguarding services was judged to be good and capacity for improvement was also judged to be good. The overall effectiveness of services for looked after children were judged to be adequate. Health was judged to be an inadequate in terms of provision for children.

11. For the Council, the report contained a number of important areas for action to improve safeguarding and looked after children services. Areas for improvement which were required to be addressed were captured in the Action Plan. Staff from the NHS led on their own workstreams, reporting progress to a Monitoring Board which is explained later in the report. The necessary actions for the Council were developed into workstreams corresponding to the Ofsted recommendations in the report.

12. A number of other areas for development were identified in the body of the report but not subject to specific action. All the actions were linked to a peer challenge programme to support the improvement journey. This short peer challenge to inform the improvement journey will take place in March 2013 and will offer practical pointers to further improvement in the areas of Looked After Children and children's health.
13. The Action Plan was completed in July and went to the Council's Executive on 21 August 2012. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee also saw and commented on the Plan. A Programme Board was established to oversee the implementation of the Action Plan.

Governance

14. Since the Plan was approved monitoring has been managed through a Programme Board currently chaired by the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children's Services. The Board monitors the delivery of the whole Plan, including the Health related aspects of the Plan. In addition, the Director of Nursing and Quality oversees the delivery of the Health related workstreams in the Action Plan which are the responsibility of the Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.
15. The Action Plan sits within the reporting structures and delivery arrangements of both the Children's Trust Board and the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board. All members of these Boards and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board have received a progress letter from the Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Children's Services in her role as Chair of the Programme Board.

Progress

16. Programme Boards have been held to monitor progress on a regular basis and relevant officers and NHS staff are present at the meeting to answer questions about progress.

The Future of Ofsted Inspections

17. The framework for inspections of Councils and their partners will have changed twice since the Central Bedfordshire inspection. Councils are currently being inspected on an interim framework which Ofsted say has "raised the bar" in performance.
18. From April 2013 onwards, Ofsted have indicated, but not yet confirmed, that there will be two inspection frameworks. One will address Children's Safeguarding and will focus largely on Council, Partners and Local Safeguarding Children's Board activity and the other will be an inspection of provision for Looked After Children and some aspects of Fostering and Adoption.

19. Central Bedfordshire Council has recently had a Fostering Inspection which is reported elsewhere on this agenda.
20. At the meeting the Director will talk through the appendix which indicates progress on the Plan.

Appendices: Appendix A: Summary of Ofsted progress

Location of papers: Priory House, Chicksands

Appendix A

**Recommendations from: Inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services
Central Bedfordshire and improvement planning – summary of progress**

Ofsted recommendation on Safeguarding children and their health

Immediately:	Current status and any issues	RAG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that case chronologies consistently record the key events in a child's life so that critical incidents can be fully analysed and used to inform case planning. 	<p>Actions – Majority of actions completed. Mandatory training on chronology writing has been delivered and updated guidance issued. Updating chronologies on the Frameworki system is taking place.</p> <p>Impact – Outcomes to be demonstrated. Impact evaluation of learning will be available in March 2013. Dip sample audit identified specific teams within the service areas for attention. Main audit to measure outcomes due in March 2013.</p>	<p>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that the impact of equality and diversity factors is addressed in assessment, planning and review. 	<p>Actions – Range of learning opportunities have been delivered and evaluation is good. Learning is ongoing to June 2013. Currently still checking that all open cases have correct recording of diversity issues. Compliance to be checked in future audits. Still to embed diversity issues across policies as part of the ongoing policy review.</p> <p>Impact – Outcomes to be demonstrated through audit.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing culture change, monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that formal supervision of social workers takes place at required intervals, is promptly recorded and is stored in a readily accessible manner. 	<p>Actions – Majority of actions completed, however not all aspects are on the new Frameworki system. Existing staff are currently paid overtime to achieve this.</p> <p>Impact - Outcomes to be demonstrated through audit in February 2013 and a short online survey using surveymonkey.</p>	<p>Amber</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> review the arrangements for return interviews for children who go missing and ensure that 	<p>Actions – In house solution has been developed in the Family Intervention Support Service.</p>	<p>Green</p>

Appendix A

<p>appropriately trained staff undertake these interviews.</p>	<p>Impact – Outcome to be demonstrated.</p>	<p style="background-color: #00FF00;"></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that there are sufficient numbers of community practitioners, in line with national directives and local needs to provide the commissioned service, and universal health child programme. 	<p>Actions – Actions completed and on trajectory for sufficient numbers of Health Visitors. However will require close monitoring.</p> <p>Impact - Data showing national and local targets will continue to be closely monitored.</p>	<p style="background-color: #00FF00;">Green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton and the Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board should ensure that the impact of training on changes to practice to protect children from harm is well embedded throughout all health providers. 	<p>Actions – Actions completed. General Practitioners have attended appropriate Safeguarding Board or other training.</p> <p>Impact - Some impact demonstrated through evaluations. Ongoing monitoring activity needed to demonstrate impact and the Central Bedfordshire Local Safeguarding Board to take a view on the success of the action.</p>	<p style="background-color: #FFD700;">Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton and South Essex University Partnership Trust should ensure that transition to adult mental health and learning disability services for all young people with a mental health or learning disability and/or difficulty is well planned. 	<p>Actions –Actions completed. Transition tool in use and has been evaluated.</p> <p>Impact - Evidence submitted to the Commissioning for Quality and Innovation Panel. Impact and evidence to be supplied.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p style="background-color: #FFD700;">Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that all health providers use the experience of service users as part of the needs assessment when reviewing service design and delivery. 	<p>Actions – Actions completed and included in all contractual arrangements and subject to quarterly reviews at contract monitoring meetings.</p> <p>Impact – Case studies can be provided.</p>	<p style="background-color: #00FF00;">Green</p>

Appendix A

Ofsted recommendation on Looked After Children and their health

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that all looked after children have prompt access to appropriate health services which promote good outcomes for them. 	<p>Action – Provider services measuring percentages of health assessments. Current performance information relating to Looked After Children’s health will be provided at the meeting.</p> <p>Impact – To be demonstrated through performance information.</p>	<p>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that all agencies provide a prompt and appropriate response where looked after children are missing from care. 	<p>Actions – Actions completed. In house solution has been developed in the Family Intervention Support Service and multi agency guidance has been revised to incorporate new service provision.</p> <p>Impact – Outcomes are starting to be demonstrated.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that pathway plans for care leavers are of a good quality. 	<p>Action – Actions completed. Training has been delivered to improve plans, feedback from young people has been incorporated into plans and the audit team has support improvement work with personal advisors.</p> <p>Impact – Audits have been completed and findings reported. This does not yet show that all plans are of sufficient quality. There is ongoing activity to improve the quality of plans.</p>	<p>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that case records for looked after children support good quality practice across the partnership. 	<p>Action – Actions completed and ongoing. Assessments and case plans are monitored every day as part of performance management. Case records are regularly audited by the Quality Assurance Service and areas for development are acted on. Revised practice guidance has been issued.</p> <p>Impact – To be demonstrated through audit of Looked After Children case records, including how children’s cultural needs have been addressed.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing culture change, monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>

Appendix A

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that assessments and case planning are of a consistently high quality. 	<p>Action – Actions completed. Assessments and case plans are regularly audited by the Quality Assurance Service. The Children in Care Council and Looked after children have been consulted on their perceptions of care plans.</p> <p>Impact – Case audit completed and areas for improvement being addressed. Further audits to be undertaken to ensure embedded. Survey of young people completed. Evidence visible in January but care needs to be taken to ensure quality stays high.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that analysis is routinely undertaken on how well looked after children who are placed outside Central Bedfordshire achieve educationally, compared to those educated locally. 	<p>Action –Data is analysed and in October 2012 was presented and discussed at the Autumn Head teacher briefing.</p> <p>Impact – Evidence of data shared with Head Teachers. Consideration was given to this being amber as outcomes for children were not good last year but as we do not know the results it is coded green.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that effective support is provided to enable looked after young people to attend school regularly. 	<p>Action – Actions completed. The Welfare Call system has been procured and this provides daily attendance data for all pupils who are looked after children. Carers and social workers are alerted if a looked after child is absent without authorisation.</p> <p>Impact – Carers and social workers are being alerted if a LAC is absent without authorisation. Attendance to be monitored.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that all care leavers are enabled to access health services and receive a copy of their health histories to ensure that they are able to make future life choices. 	<p>Action - Actions completed. Pathway developed in draft and health passports (health histories) piloted.</p> <p>Impact – Evidence to be provided that pathway and information provided has enabled access to services and that care leavers have received copies of health histories.</p> <p>This Ofsted recommendation requires ongoing monitoring and improvement and will be developed and monitored in improvement plans being prepared for inspection under the new and more testing inspection frameworks.</p>	<p>Amber , largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton should ensure that all looked after children and 	<p>Action – Actions completed. Age appropriate packs competed and delivered. Foster Carer training taking place.</p>	<p>Amber, largely because</p>

Appendix A

<p>young people have access to age appropriate health education and promotion information.</p>	<p>Impact - Need to demonstrate that packs have been received by young people and that they found them useful.</p>	<p>impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton and CB Council should ensure that the strength and difficulties questionnaire outcomes are reviewed as part of the emotional health and well-being assessment during review health assessments. 	<p>Action – Actions completed. Assessments reviewed, pathway for use of Strength and Difficulties Questionnaires agreed, process of distribution piloted and rolled out and training in place.</p> <p>Impact – Evidence that Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire outcomes for children are reviewed alongside health assessment reviews.</p>	<p>Amber largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Bedfordshire and Luton must ensure that all general practitioners and independent health contractors are aware of their statutory responsibility to looked after children. 	<p>Action – Actions completed. Training strategies are being reviewed and in draft. The Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group Board is aware of statutory functions and Designated Doctor and Nurse appointed. Additional work with dentists, opticians and pharmacists to be completed.</p> <p>Impact – Ongoing evidence of awareness to be monitored.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that actions and services targeted at enabling looked after children to achieve educationally are effective in improving their attainment. 	<p>Action –Actions completed.</p> <p>Impact – Evidence of challenge and interventions in short term and impact longer term will be demonstrated in next year’s school results.</p>	<p>Amber, largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that care leavers live in suitable accommodation and increase the range of suitable accommodation available to them. 	<p>Action - Actions completed and the Placement Strategy has been revised. Joint work with housing ongoing and use of supported lodgings. Some young people remain in foster care. The Placement Strategy, which is an operational document, will be presented to the Corporate Parenting Panel.</p> <p>Impact – Ongoing monitoring of placements.</p>	<p>Amber largely because impact has not been evidenced yet. Most actions are green</p>

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Meeting: Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 26 February 2013
Subject: Work Programme 2012 – 2013 & 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, Corporate Policy & 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

RECOMMENDATION(S):

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 may also wish 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 2012 - 2013

Ref	Indicative OSC Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue to be considered	Comment
1.	26 February 2013	Executive Member Update	To receive a brief verbal update from the Executive Member for Children's Services.	
		Key Stage Results and Ofsted Reports	To receive a report comparing schools published Ofsted classifications with Key Stage results.	
		New School Places for September 2014	To receive a report regarding the Commissioning of New School Places for September 2014 implementation	
		Healthy Child Programme	To receive a presentation regarding the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme.	
		Fostering Service	To receive a presentation detailing the outcome of the Fostering Service inspection.	
		Ofsted Action Plan	To receive an update on progress with regard to the Ofsted Action Plan	

Ref	Indicative OSC Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue to be considered	Comment
2.	23 April 2013	<p>Executive Member Update</p> <p>Policy Change for Social Care</p> <p>Peer Review</p> <p>Children & Young People's Plan</p> <p>Ofsted Action Plan</p> <p>Home Education</p> <p>Quarter 3 Performance Monitoring</p>	<p>To receive a brief verbal update from the Executive Member for Children's Services.</p> <p>To receive a presentation on the outcome of the recent policy change for social care.</p> <p>To consider the outcomes flowing from the Peer Review.</p> <p>To consider a refresh of the Children & Young People's Plan.</p> <p>To receive a final report regarding the Ofsted Action Plan.</p> <p>To receive a report on how home education is overseen by the Council.</p> <p>To consider performance monitoring information for the third quarter of 2012/13</p>	Tentative date tba

Ref	Indicative OSC Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue to be considered	Comment
		Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring	To consider the directorate's capital & revenue budget monitoring information for the third quarter of 2012/13	

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**Central Bedfordshire Council
Forward Plan of Key Decisions
1 March 2013 to 28 February 2014**

1) During the period from **1 March 2013 to 28 February 2014**, 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:

Cllr James Jamieson	Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Executive
Cllr Maurice Jones	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources
Cllr Mark Versallion	Executive Member for Children’s Services
Cllr Carole Hegley	Executive Member for Social Care, Health and Housing
Cllr Nigel Young	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities – Strategic Planning and Economic Development
Cllr Brian Spurr	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services
Cllr Mrs Tricia Turner MBE	Executive Member for Economic Partnerships
Cllr Richard Stay	Executive Member for External Affairs

3) Whilst the majority of the Executive’s business at the meetings listed in this Forward Plan will be open to the public and media organisations to attend, there will inevitably be some business to be considered that contains, for example, confidential, commercially sensitive or personal information.

This is a formal notice under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012 that part of the Executive meeting listed in this Forward Plan will be held in private because the agenda and reports for the meeting contain exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

- 4) 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 Committee Services Manager, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ.
- 5) The agendas for meetings of the Executive will be published as follows:

Meeting Date	Publication of Agenda
15 May 2012	3 May 2012
3 July 2012	21 June 2012
21 August 2012	9 August 2012
2 October 2012	20 September 2012
6 November 2012	25 October 2012
4 December 2012	22 November 2012
8 January 2013	20 December 2012
5 February 2013	24 January 2013
19 March 2013	7 March 2013
7 May 2013	25 April 2013
25 June 2013	13 June 2013

Central Bedfordshire Council

Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1 March 2013 to 28 February 2014

Key Decisions

Date of Publication: 30 January 2013

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.	A1 South Biggleswade Roundabout -	To consider the proposed development of an enlarged roundabout on the A1 at the South Biggleswade junction.	19 March 2013		Exempt Report - Exempt Paragraph 3	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources Comments by 18/02/2013 to Contact Officer: Peter Burt, MRICS, Head of Property Assets Email: peter.burt@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5257
2.	Astral Park Football Project -	To approve expenditure for playing pitches, changing facilities and car parking at Astral Park, Leighton Buzzard. The project is led by Leighton Linlade Town Council, with project management advice and support provided by Leisure Services. The scheme is funded entirely by Section 106 funds of £1.1m.	19 March 2013	Consultation carried out with Leighton Linlade Town Council.	Report	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Jill Dickinson, Head of Leisure Services Email: jill.dickinson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4258

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.	Outdoor Access Improvement Plan -	To endorse the Outdoor Access Improvement Plan.	19 March 2013	The Central Bedfordshire and Luton Local Access Forum has established a sub group input into the development of the plan this will be followed by a full 13 week public consultation with both stakeholder and public engagement activities during period.	Report	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Paul Cook, Head of Transport Strategy and Countryside Access Email: paul.cook@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6999
4.	Revenue and Capital Quarter 3 Budget Monitor Reports -	To consider the revenue and capital quarter 3 budget monitor reports.	19 March 2013		Reports	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Charles Warboys, Chief Finance Officer Email: charles.warboys@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6147
5.	Draft Gypsy and Traveller Plan -	To recommend to Council the draft Gypsy and Traveller Plan for approval prior to submission.	19 March 2013	In line with Regulation 18 of the new Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012, consultation will have been undertaken in autumn 2012 on what a Gypsy and Traveller plan ought to contain. This report follows that consultation and will propose the preferred sites and policies for Gypsy and Traveller provision.	Report and draft Plan	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Strategic Planning and Economic Development Comments by 06/04/13 to Contact Officer: Richard Fox, Head of Development Planning and Housing Strategy Email: 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)
6.	East Leighton Linslade Framework Plan -	To consider the east Leighton Linslade Framework Plan for the delivery of up to 2,500 dwellings and 16 hectares of employment land together with its supporting infrastructure.	19 March 2013	<p>September 2012 – Placemaking meeting to take place at which the Landowners are to offer a presentation on the Draft Framework Plan.</p> <p>October 2012 – Executive Member and Director of Sustainable Communities to sign off the Draft Framework Plan for the purposes of public consultation.</p> <p>October 2012 – A 7 week public consultation to begin that will include a 2 day public exhibition event. Consultation with residents, councillors and statutory consultees. Consultation will be conducted using letters, emails, the Council’s consultation services, including Central Bedfordshire Council updates and the Member’s bulletin.</p> <p>February 2013 – A presentation on the Framework Plan (together with consultation responses) will be given to the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee seeking Members to endorse it before the Executive take a decision.</p>	Framework Plan and the Framework Plan supplementary written document	<p>Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Strategic Planning and Economic Development</p> <p>Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Sue Frost, Senior Planning Officer</p> <p>Email: sue.frost@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Tel: 0300 300 4952</p>

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)
7.	Local Area Transport Plans -	To endorse the third round of Local Area Transport Plans (LATP) (covering Potton, Chiltern, Haynes and Old Warden) and which form part of the Local Transport Plan adopted in April 2011, together with endorsement of updates to the Arlesey and Stotfold and Biggleswade and Sandy LATPs that formed part of the first round of plans.	19 March 2013	Public consultation between 1 August 2012 – 23 November 2012.	Report	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Ben King, Principal Transport Planner - Transport Strategy Team Email: ben.king@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4824
8.	Draft Supplementary Planning Document : Wind Turbine Development in Central Bedfordshire -	To adopt the guidance for development management purposes.	19 March 2013	Public consultation due to take place in January 2013.	Report	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Stephen Mooring, Acting Team Leader for Environmental Policy Team or Sue Frost, Senior Planning Officer Email: stephen.mooring@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6241 or sue.frost@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4952

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.	Tenancy Strategy 2013 - 2018 -	To adopt a Tenancy Strategy for Central Bedfordshire	19 March 2013	A wide ranging public and stakeholder consultation is taking place between November 2012 and February 2013. Method is questionnaires and consultation workshops, including a Member seminar held in August 2012. Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be consulted on 4 March 2013.	Draft Tenancy Strategy 2013 - 2018	Executive Member for Social Care, Health and Housing Comments by 01/02/2013 Tony Keaveney, Assistant Director Housing Services Email: tony.keaveney@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5213
10.	Commissioning of New School Places -	To receive a report on the commissioning of new school places.	19 March 2013		Report	Executive Member for Children's Services Comments by 18/02/2013 to Contact Officer: Rob Parsons, Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning Email: rob.parsons@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5572

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.	Tenant's Scrutiny Panel and Designated Persons and Tenant's Complaints Panel -	To approve the setting up and adoption of a Tenant's Scrutiny Panel and Designated Persons and Tenants Complaints Panel for the Council's Landlord Service as part of the new revised regulatory requirements for social housing providers, under the Localism Act 2011.	19 March 2013		Report	Executive Member for Social Care, Health and Housing Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Carol Rooker, Head of Housing Management Email: carol.rooker@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5249
12.	Domiciliary Care Contract -	To authorise the Domiciliary Care Contract awards to the recommended suppliers through a framework agreement, which will apply from May 2013 for four years.	19 March 2013	The Domiciliary Care contracting approach was approved by Executive on 6 November 2012. Considerable stakeholder engagement has taken place. The evaluation panel for the Domiciliary Care tenders includes Councillors Hegley and Turner and customer representatives, in addition to the relevant officers from Adult Social Care, Commissioning and Procurement.	Report	Executive Member for Social Care, Health and Housing Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Elizabeth Saunders, Assistant Director Commissioning Email: elizabeth.saunders@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6494

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)
13.	Options for Resolving Current Delays in Academy Conversions caused by Disputed Liabilities for Pension Payments -	To receive a report on the options for resolving current delays in Academy Conversions caused by Disputed Liabilities for Pension Payments.	19 March 2013		Report - Exempt under Paragraph 1	Executive Member for Children's Services Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Pete Dudley, Assistant Director Children's Services (Learning & Strategic Commissioning) Email: pete.dudley@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4203
14.	Household Waste Recycling Centres Management Contract -	To receive a report on the Household Waste Recycling Centres Management Contract.	19 March 2013		Report Exempt under paragraphs 3 and 5 of the Constitution	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Tracey Harris (Waste), Head of Waste Services Email: tracey.harris@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4646 or john.atkinson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6255

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)
15.	School Organisation Proposal for Implementation in September 2014 -	To approve the commencement of consultation on proposed school organisation for implementation in September 2014.	19 March 2013		Report	Executive Member for Children's Services Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Rob Parsons, Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning Email: rob.parsons@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5572
16.	Community Infrastructure Levy -	To approve the consultation and subsequent Submission of the Community Infrastructure Levy draft charging schedule.	14 May 2013		Report	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Strategic Planning and Economic Development Comments by 13/04/13 to Contact Officer: Jonathan Baldwin, Senior Planning Officer Email: jonathan.baldwin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5510

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.	Central Heating Installations Contract District Wide -	To award the contract to the preferred contractor for the central heating installations contract district wide for 2013 to 2016 to council housing properties.	14 May 2013		Report	Executive Member for Social Care, Health and Housing Comments by 13/04/13 to Contact Officer: Peter Joslin, Housing Asset Manager or Basil Quinn, Housing Asset Manager Performance Email: peter.joslin@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5395 or basil.quinn@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5118
18.	Central Bedfordshire Council's Equality Strategy -	To approve the Council's Equality Strategy which sets out the Council's vision and approach to ensuring all sections of the community get high quality services appropriate to their needs and also sets out how the Council will meet its legal responsibilities to ensure consideration of equality is integrated in to its service planning, delivery and human resource systems.	14 May 2013	Public Consultation, Equality Forum and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	Draft Equality Strategy 2013-16	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources Comments by 13/04/13 to Contact Officer: Clare Harding, Corporate Policy Advisor (Equality & Diversity) Email: clare.harding@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6109

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)
19.	Housing Asset Management Strategy -	To approve the Housing Asset Management Strategy for the Central Bedfordshire Council housing stock.	14 May 2013	A wide ranging public and stakeholder consultation is taking place between December 2012 and 28 February 2013. Method is questionnaires, web and hard copy based as well as consultation with tenant groups. Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be consulted on 29 April 2013.	Report and Draft Housing Asset Management Strategy	Executive Member for Social Care, Health and Housing Comments by 28/02/13 to Contact Officer: John Holman, Head of Housing Asset Management Email: john.holman@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5069
20.	Proposals for Commissioning of New School Places for Implementation in September 2015 -	Proposals for Commissioning of New School Places for Implementation in September 2015 - to approve commencement of consultations.	14 May 2013		Report	Executive Member for Children's Services Comments to 13/05/13 to Contact Officer: Rob Parsons, Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning Email: rob.parsons@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5572

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)
21.	Arrangements for Fostering and Adoption with Bedford Borough Council -	To agree the future arrangements between Central Bedfordshire Council and Bedford Borough Council for the delivery of the Fostering and Adoption Services. Possible contract negotiations will be ongoing between the two Councils during spring 2013.	25 June 2013		Report	Executive Member for Children's Services Comments by 24/05/13 to Contact Officer: Fiona Mackirdy, Interim Head of Adoption and Fostering Email: fiona.mackirdy@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6752
22.	Revenue and Capital Provisional Outturn 2012/13 -	To consider the revenue and capital provisional outturn 2012/13.	25 June 2013		Reports	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources Comments by 24/05/13 to Contact Officer: Charles Warboys, Chief Finance Officer Email: charles.warboys@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6147

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)
23.	Leisure Strategy -	To adopt the Leisure Strategy: Chapter 2, Recreation and Open Space Strategy, Chapter 3, Playing Pitch Strategy and Chapter 4 Physical Activity Strategy and Overarching Leisure Strategy.	25 June 2013		Chapter 2, Recreation and Open Space Strategy Chapter 3, Playing Pitch Strategy Chapter 4, Physical Activity Strategy Overarching Leisure Strategy	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 24/05/13 to Contact Officer: Jill Dickinson, Head of Leisure Services Email: jill.dickinson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4258

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)
24.	Determination of Proposals for Commissioning of New School Places for Implementation in September 2014 -	Determination of Proposals for Commissioning of New School Places for Implementation in September 2014.	13 August 2013	<p>Consultation will be with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the governing body of the schools which are the subject of proposals; • families of pupils, teachers and other staff at the schools; • the governing bodies, teachers and other staff of any other school that may be affected; • families of any pupils at any other school who may be affected by the proposals including families of pupils at feeder schools; • trade unions who represent staff at the schools and representatives of trade unions of any other staff at schools who may be affected by the proposals; • Constituency MPs for the schools that are the subject of the proposals; • the local parish council where the school that is the subject of the proposals is situated. <p>Consultation period between March and July 2013 including press releases, public meetings, statutory notices.</p>	Report and outcome of consultation	<p>Executive Member for Children's Services Comments by 12/07/13 to Contact Officer: Rob Parsons, Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning Email: rob.parsons@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5572</p>

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.	Central Bedfordshire's Flood and Water Management Act 2010 Duties -	To approve a local flood risk strategy for Central Bedfordshire and to create a Sustainable Urban Drainage Advisory Board.	5 November 2013	<p>CBC is required under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The draft strategy will be subject to public consultation. Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider the draft strategy and the public consultation response to the strategy in August/September 2013.</p> <p>Following Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs confirmation of the mandatory sustainable drainage application processes, CBC will also be required to establish a SUDS Approval Board to evaluate, approve and adopt suitable SUDS measures for all new developments.</p>	Summary of Flood and Water Management Act Draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	<p>Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 04/10/13 to Contact Officer: Iain Finnigan, Senior Engineer - Policy and Flood Risk Management Email: iain.finnigan@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4351</p>

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.	Determination of Proposals for Commissioning of New School Places for Implementation in September 2015 -	Proposals for commissioning of New School Places for implementation in September 2015 - to approve commencement of consultations.	10 December 2013	<p>For proposals for New School Places for implementation in September 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the governing body of the schools which are the subject of proposals; • families of pupils, teachers and other staff at the schools; • the governing bodies, teachers and other staff of any other school that may be affected; • families of any pupils at any other school who may be affected by the proposals including families of pupils at feeder schools; • trade unions who represent staff at the schools and representatives of trade unions of any other staff at schools who may be affected by the proposals; • Constituency MPs for the schools that are the subject of the proposals; • the local parish council where the school that is the subject of the proposals is situated <p>Consultation period between May and November 2013 including press releases, public meetings, statutory notices.</p>	Report and Outcome of Consultations on Proposals for New School Places for implementation in September 2014	<p>Executive Member for Children's Services Comments by 09/11/13 to Contact Officer: Rob Parsons, Head of School Organisation and Capital Planning Email: rob.parsons@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5572</p>

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)
NON KEY DECISIONS						
27.	Quarter 3 Performance Report -	To consider quarter 3 performance report.	19 March 2013		Report	Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Corporate Resources Comments by 18/02/13 to Contact Officer: Elaine Malarky, Head of Programmes & Performance Management Email: elaine.malarky@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5517
28.	Minerals and Waste Core Strategy -	To recommend to Council the adoption of the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.	14 May 2013	A wide range of stakeholders were involved in consultations undertaken from 2006 to 2012, using methods which include an internet portal, deposit of hard copies at points of presence, and displaying the Core Strategy on the Council website. Consultees included the Parish Councils, statutory bodies, special interest groups, minerals industry, waste management industry, and individuals who had expressed an interest at previous consultations.	Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and the Inspector's report following the Examination in public.	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Strategic Planning and Economic Development Comments by 13/04/12 to Contact Officer: Roy Romans, Minerals and Waste Team Leader Email: roy.romans@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 6039

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)
29.	Community Safety Partnership Plan and Priorities -	To recommend to Council to approve the Community Safety Partnership Plan and Priorities for 2014 - 2015.	18 March 2014	Strategic Assessment & Partnership Plan will be considered by the Community Safety Partnership Executive, the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Local Strategic Partnership.	Strategic Assessment Priorities & Community Safety Partnership Plan 2014 - 2015	Executive Member for Sustainable Communities - Services Comments by 17/02/14 to Contact Officer: Joy Craven, CSP Manager Email: joy.craven@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 4649

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 2012/13 the Forward Plan will be published on the thirtieth day of each month or, where the thirtieth day is not a working day, the working day immediately proceeding the thirtieth day, or in February 2013 when the plan will be published on the twenty-eighth day:

Date of Publication	Period of Plan
13.04.12	1 May 2012 – 30 April 2013
15.05.12	1 June 2012 – 31 May 2013
15.06.12	1 July 2012 – 30 June 2013
13.07.12	1 August 2012 – 31 July 2013
15.08.12	1 September 2012 – 31 August 2013
14.09.12	1 October 2012 – 30 September 2013
05.10.12	1 November 2012 – 31 October 2013
30.10.12	1 December 2012 – 30 November 2013
30.11.12	1 January 2013 – 31 December 2013
28.12.12	1 February 2013 – 31 January 2014
30.01.13	1 March 2013 – 28 February 2014
28.02.13	1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014