



Overview & Scrutiny 1st March 2011

Three presentations:

- Brief update on the impact of the budget settlement national and local
- Update on the youth commission
- Impact of the Education Bill on the Dunstable and Houghton Regis Review

Edwina Grant

Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children's Services

Brief update on the impact of the budget settlement national and local



- Total children's services savings agreed at Council - £3.4 m plus transport saving of £1 m out of a base of £35.5 m
- Plus, directorate share of cross cutting savings – total cross cutting efficiencies £5 m – figure to be established on the share of this to be taken by children's services
- Action plans to meet the budget savings on-going and any pressures or concerns will be reported to this Committee in the first quarter budget report for the Council's financial year 2011/12
- Pressures for children's social care have been acknowledged
- On the education side, the service is now largely linked to identified allocations from the Direct Schools Grant (see next slide)



Direct School Grant Allocation 2011/12

- SEN and Inclusion £5,629k
- Specific Grant £4,906k - to be proposed at the next School Forum meeting to be delegated to Schools through the Individual Schools Budget (ISB)
- School Support Services £1,321k
- Other Schools Budgets £ 903k (these are funds held to pay schools for adjustments in rates / pupil numbers/ joint use arrangements / redundancy etc)
- School Improvement £ 661k
- Child Information £ 70k
- Contribution to Overheads £2,076 (This contributes to Children's Services overheads of circa 10m for services such as Customer Services, Internal Audit, Communications, Policy and Performance, Business Support including the School Finance Team, all of these services are not charged to Schools)
- Should the School Forum agree to the Specific Grants being included in the ISB this would reduce the 'top slice' to 6.3%
- Academies receive money directly from Young People's Learning Agency for Behaviour Support, Education Welfare etc.



Early Intervention Grant 2011/12

Total Grant: £8.9m – roll up of a number of previous Grants – c. £3 m less than previous Grants
Allocated to activity that is on going in the Council and is not subject to budget reductions

- Health - £802k – substance misuse, teenage pregnancy prevention, mental health
- Early Intervention and Prevention - £898k – parenting service, family intervention service, child poverty projects, e.g. access to welfare benefits etc.
- Workforce - £30k – to support statutory children’s workforce functions
- Early Years and Children’s Centres - £5.5 m – **NB: although the ring fence has been lifted for this category, the Government is considering putting back the ring fence**
- Short breaks for disabled children - £870k
- EWO, anti poverty e.g. clothing grants and other interventions - £100k
- Statutory regulatory work - £42k

Remainder allocated to youth – £960k see next slide



Early Intervention Grant 2011/12

- Commissioning for Youth - £960k – include
 - January guarantee £135k
 - Information Advice and Guidance and support for NEETS - £135k
 - Residual Connexions service - £175k
 - Foundation learning for 14 – 19 year olds in deprived areas - £120k
 - Youth Commissioning, e.g. clubs - £500k



National Issues

- Moving the Early Intervention Grant to Payment by Results
- The Henley Review and Music Hubs (The figure since notified is £393,704.00)
- The future of health visitors and school nurses in the NHS reforms
- Future reductions to the Youth Offending Service
- Possible national funding formula
- The use of the pupil premium in schools
- New responsibility for free child care for 2 year olds from 2013
- Financial impact of raising the participation age



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Progress on the Youth Commission

Timeline for Youth Support Services Commissioning



- 1st March – Overview & Scrutiny – information only – specification will be refined
- 2nd March – Partnership Event – information only – specification will be refined
- 9th March – Support event for potential bidders – information only – last time for questioning specification
- 9th March – final issue of specification
- 10th March – Pre Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) open
- 24th March – PQQ close
- 25th March – PQQ reviewed by Procurement
- 29th March – send out invitations to Tender
- 29th April – Tender closing date
- 3rd May – Tenders processed through Council's procurement process
- 4th May – Tenders assessed
- 12th May – Interview of preferred bidders
- 13th May – Due diligence
- 31st May – Contracts issued through Executive – exempt item (subject to call in)
- 1st June – Implementation

Tender Specification



- Builds where possible on outcome of Scrutiny Report on services to youth
- Relates to additional work over and above statutory work paid for by Early Intervention Grant - £500k
- Reason for contracting out is that providers can bring more in by bidding for Grants that the Council cannot access and by exploiting local resources
- Different options for the staff have been considered but secondment is the most cost effective option for the Council, even though it may reduce the number of bidders
- Any broadening of the specification would need to be funded as a growth or pressure in the budget
- The saving of the £1.9 m starts on 1st April 2011. This timeline impacts on the 1st June 2011, therefore already pressure of 2/12th of £1.9m - £317k (originally this saving was planned for 2012/13)
- Timeline as shown
- Details of actual specification will be available



Dunstable and Houghton Regis and the possible impacts of the Education Bill

Education Bill and our overall Policy Direction



- You are aware of our Children and Young People’s Plan which still follows our familiar themes

Transforming learning and transforming our relationships with schools

Continued focus on child protection (safeguarding)

Child Poverty, Early Intervention and Prevention

- The role of health commissioning and the Council’s involvement in public health is a significant issue for Children’s Services

Education Bill



- Power of Search in Schools and FE/repeal of notice of detention/anonymity of teachers re: complaints – LA may be involved but has no powers except to advise on complaints
- Exclusions – PRU is challenging but does fit well with this direction
- Admissions – removal of duty to have an Admission Forum/Academies
- School meals – need to link with our own proposals
- New duty on LA's to open up a competition for an Academy when a new school is proposed
- School Inspections – exempt schools – but new framework in March
- Funding scheme – new power of Secretary of State regarding funding schemes
- Curriculum changes, including English Baccalaureate

Education Bill



- Careers services – new responsibilities for schools re Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)
- Removal of school’s duty to cooperate and have regard to Children and Young People’s Plan
- Academies:
 - Don’t need a specialism
 - Provision for 16-19 academies and PRU academies to have different characteristics in their funding agreements to academy schools – due to different functions
 - Secretary of State can make an Academy order for any school that is eligible for intervention
 - Increases circumstances in which the Secretary of State must consider the impact on maintained schools, from simply an additional (new) school to any academy that would change the pattern of provision – i.e. service a wider age group than previously
 - Local Authority land and Academies
- Other stuff (and lots of acronyms)– early years, GTC, Ofqal, TDA, FE, YPLA, Induction



Impact on Central Bedfordshire (1)

- Well placed to respond to direction of travel
- Still have to maintain statutory and other meetings
- On the Dunstable and Houghton Regis review the impact is as follows:
 - Academies
 - Free Schools
 - New role for Council as decision maker
 - Development of freedoms in the market
 - Chain Academies
 - Possible challenge based on new legislative requirements – previous school adjudicator reports will not necessarily apply



Impact on Central Bedfordshire (2)

Possible national funding formula in the future

SEN Green Paper due soon

Payment by results (PBR) in Early Intervention

Approved national strategies for Child Poverty?

Field forces from Department for Education