

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

Child Poverty

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Child Poverty Strategy adopted by the Childrens Trust
- Partners integral to delivery
- Childrens Trust monitoring actions against priorities as part of established quarterly reporting mechanism

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Our strategy produced in line with guidance issued before the election but amended by the new government
- National Strategy not yet produced – and it may necessitate some changes to ours – rapidly developing area

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Objective one:
Parental Employment and Skills

Partners involved:

Economic Development partners –
Development of All age skills strategy

Job Centre Plus

Local Employers

Adult Training Partners

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Objective two
Financial Support

Partners Involved:

Schools

Voluntary and Community Groups offering money management and financial advice such as Citizens Advice Bureaux, Homestart, and others

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Objective three
Life Chances

Partners involved:

Voluntary and Community Groups running
Childrens Centres

Childcare Professionals

Schools

Health Partners

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Objective four
Place

Partners involved:

Health Colleagues

Housing professionals – Housing strategy

Adult Social Care colleagues

Police

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Data not fully available for some of the different types of poverty
 - Relative Low Income – This is the figure quoted extensively
 - BUT 2 year time lag when HMRC publish the figures around August each year

Material Deprivation, Persistent Poverty and Absolute Poverty

- Technical issues at National level regarding the measurement techniques for these types of poverty so targets not set – new government looking at other possible indicators

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Nationally Changing Picture
 - National Child Poverty Strategy
 - Field Review
 - Allen Review
 - Payment by Results
 - Basket of National Indicators previously used to monitor aspects of Child Poverty are being removed

What could things look like by end of 2011?

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Producing a National Strategy
 - Government is required by legislation to produce own strategy
 - Consultation took place until Middle February to inform the strategy
 - Wanted to hear the views, solutions and opportunities from the public, private and voluntary sectors on the best approaches to ending child poverty in a way that lasts.
 - This included what could potentially be new indicators that could be put in place
 - The question was asked:
 - Should these be simply income based or include other aspects of Life Chances

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Frank Field Review “ Preventing poor children becoming poor adults”

Recommends :

- new suite of measures “Life Chances Indicators” – measuring known factors predictive of future outcomes
- More support for parenting in very early years
- Gradually weighting funding towards the most disadvantaged
- Full-time care available for disadvantaged 2 year olds
- Appointment of Cabinet minister for Foundation Years

Government are considering these proposals in conjunction with production of National Child Poverty Strategy

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- Allen Report – Early Intervention: The Next Steps
 - First report of two
 - Support for particular evidence-based programmes
 - Suggestion of creating a Foundation to evaluate programmes
 - Adopt Foundation Years of similar status to Primary and Secondary – main objective to produce school readiness.
 - More regular assessments for 0-5 year olds
 - Improved workforce capability
 - National parenting campaign
 - Several of these are shared with the Field Review
 - Second Part of report awaited – Ongoing government consideration of recommendations

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- **Payment by Results**
 - Pilots planned during the next year to roll out payment by results for some aspects of funding for Childrens Centres
 - Consulting on how this would work in practice
 - No definitions yet of what services will be covered
 - No definitions of which criteria will be used and how they will be monitored
 - Pilot in Ministry of Justice on PBR starting to be evaluated – issues around providers/risk-taking

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- By the end of 2011 - an emerging field of criteria
 - We should have a National Child Poverty Strategy
 - This may include new indicators
 - Life Chance indicators may be included alongside or instead of monitoring simply income levels
 - A further report on Early Intervention will have been produced
 - The government approach to Early Intervention may have crystallized
 - Pilots may have begun on Paying by Results

Overview and Scrutiny

29th March 2011

- To be monitored by the Childrens Trust – with all Partners involved
- Overview and Scrutiny will get mid year report in October
- Part of the Childrens Trust reporting mechanism
- Opportunity to give advice to the Trust on how the work is going