

**Democratic Services**

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Date: 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016

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**To: All Members of the Children and Young People Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel**

**Councillors:** Lisa Brett, Matt Cochrane, Karen Warrington, Peter Turner, Colin Barrett (substitute for Sally Davis), Alison Millar and Liz Hardman

**Co-opted Voting Members:** David Williams and Andrew Tarrant

**Co-opted Non-Voting Members:** Chris Batten and Rebecca Thompson

**Cabinet Member for Children's Services:** Councillor Michael Evans

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers  
Press and Public

Dear Member

**Children and Young People Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel: Tuesday, 17th May, 2016**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Children and Young People Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel**, to be held on **Tuesday, 17th May, 2016 at 5.30 pm** in the **Brunswick Room - Guildhall, Bath.**

Members of the Panel are asked to attend a pre-meeting which will take place at 5.00pm

The agenda is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely

Mark Durnford  
for Chief Executive

**If you need to access this agenda or any of the supporting reports in an alternative accessible format please contact Democratic Services or the relevant report author whose details are listed at the end of each report.**

*This Agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper*

## NOTES:

- 1. Inspection of Papers:** Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or a list of the background papers relating to any item on this Agenda should contact Mark Durnford who is available by telephoning Bath 01225 394458 or by calling in at the Guildhall, Bath (during normal office hours).
- 2. Public Speaking at Meetings:** The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group. Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday)

The public may also ask a question to which a written answer will be given. Questions must be submitted in writing to Democratic Services at least two full working days in advance of the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays, notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday). If an answer cannot be prepared in time for the meeting it will be sent out within five days afterwards. Further details of the scheme can be obtained by contacting Mark Durnford as above.

- 3. Details of Decisions taken at this meeting** can be found in the minutes which will be published as soon as possible after the meeting, and also circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime details can be obtained by contacting Mark Durnford as above.

Appendices to reports are available for inspection as follows:-

**Public Access points** - Reception: Civic Centre - Keynsham, Guildhall - Bath, The Hollies - Midsomer Norton. Bath Central and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

**For Councillors and Officers** papers may be inspected via Political Group Research Assistants and Group Rooms/Members' Rooms.

- 4. Recording at Meetings:-**

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now allows filming and recording by anyone attending a meeting. This is not within the Council's control.

Some of our meetings are webcast. At the start of the meeting, the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is to be filmed. If you would prefer not to be filmed for the webcast, please make yourself known to the camera operators.

To comply with the Data Protection Act 1998, we require the consent of parents or guardians before filming children or young people. For more information, please speak to the camera operator

The Council will broadcast the images and sound live via the internet [www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/webcast) An archived recording of the proceedings will also be available for viewing after the meeting. The Council may also use the images/sound recordings on its social media site or share with other organisations, such as broadcasters.

- 5. Attendance Register:** Members should sign the Register which will be circulated at the meeting.

6. THE APPENDED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY AGENDA ITEM NUMBER.

**7. Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

When the continuous alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building by one of the designated exits and proceed to the named assembly point. The designated exits are sign-posted.

Arrangements are in place for the safe evacuation of disabled people.

**Children and Young People Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel - Tuesday, 17th May,  
2016**

**at 5.30 pm in the Brunswick Room - Guildhall, Bath**

**A G E N D A**

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 6.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

(a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.

(b) The nature of their interest.

(c) Whether their interest is a **disclosable pecuniary interest** *or* an **other interest**,  
(as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer or a member of his staff before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

5. TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

At the time of publication no notifications had been received.

7. MINUTES - 22ND MARCH 2016 (Pages 7 - 22)

8. CABINET MEMBER UPDATE

The Cabinet Member will update the Panel on any relevant issues. Panel members may ask questions on the update provided.

9. UPDATE ON COMMISSIONED FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES (Pages 23 - 38)

This report provides an update, and reviews the impact of the changes made to Children's Centre Services and of the recommissioning of the Specialist Family Support and the Community Play services.

10. NEETS - YOUNG PEOPLE NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (Pages 39 - 42)

The Council are required to track, record and report the education, training and employment activities for young people. We also have a duty to encourage, enable and assist young people's participation in education and training (Section 68, Education and Skills Act 2008). For young people with special education needs or disabilities (SEND), the requirement will remain that we track education, training and employment up until their 25th birthday. The Scrutiny Panel have requested an update on the Council's performance against these criteria.

11. EDUCATION WHITE PAPER: EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE EVERYWHERE (Pages 43 - 50)

This report asks the Panel to consider the implications of the recently published Department for Education White Paper: Educational Excellence Everywhere.

12. PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES STRATEGIC DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING

The Panel will receive a verbal update on this item from the People and Communities Strategic Director.

13. PANEL WORKPLAN (Pages 51 - 54)

This report presents the latest workplan for the Panel. Any suggestions for further items or amendments to the current programme will be logged and scheduled in consultation with the Panel's Chair and supporting officers.

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Mark Durnford who can be contacted on 01225 394458.

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Bath and North East Somerset Council

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held**

Tuesday, 22nd March, 2016, 10.00 am

**Bath and North East Somerset Councillors:** Lisa Brett (Chair), Matt Cochrane (Vice-Chair), Karen Warrington, Mark Shelford (In place of Peter Turner), Sally Davis, Rob Appleyard (In place of Alison Millar) and Liz Hardman

**Co-opted Voting Members:** Andrew Tarrant (Diocese of Clifton)

**Co-opted Non-voting Members:** Chris Batten

**Officers :** Ashley Ayre (Strategic Director, People and Communities), Richard Baldwin (Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care), Mike Bowden (Director, Children & Young People, Strategy and Commissioning), Sally Churchyard (11-19 Prevention Service Manager), Margaret Simmons-Bird (Head of Education Improvement) and Helen Hoynes (School Organisation Manager)

**Cabinet Member Assistant in attendance:** Councillor Emma Dixon

**56 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**57 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

**58 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Councillor Peter Turner and Councillor Alison Millar had sent their apologies to the Panel. Councillor Mark Shelford and Councillor Rob Appleyard were their respective substitutes for the duration of the meeting.

David Williams, Diocese of Bath & Wells, Co-opted Panel Member had sent his apologies to the Panel.

Councillor Michael Evans, Cabinet Member for Children's Services gave his apologies to the Panel.

**59 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**60 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN**

There was none.

**61 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING**

There were none.

**62 MINUTES - 12TH JANUARY 2016**

The Panel confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

**63 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE**

Councillor Emma Dixon, Cabinet Assistant for Children's Services gave the Panel an update on behalf of Councillor Michael Evans, Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

Budget: He was very pleased that no additional savings were made in the Children's Services budget, despite the last minute extra savings which had to be found because of the government decision to calculate the support grant in a different way. He said that non-statutory services are always vulnerable when savings are required, but the Cabinet agreed that the Council's Children's Services were beneficial and recognised the savings which had already been made in the last few years in shifting to interventions and services targeted on the families most in need.

He added that on the subject of Early Years he was following the publications of the Early Intervention Foundation carefully. He explained that this is a body seeking to establish evidence for the effectiveness of the many and varied Early Years interventions, and that so far it is proving that targeted interventions are much more effective than universal offers. He said that this is in line with the changes the Council has made. He added that it was also pleasing to report that the reduction of universal services in our children's centres has not resulted in any reduction in referrals to social services as was feared; in fact these have increased.

Schools Forum Budget: He explained that central government had protected schools' funding so that the Direct Schools Grant has increased, but only in line with the increase in basic need on a per pupil basis. Therefore schools will suffer inflationary pressures as a result of the employer's national insurance increase, the employer's superannuation contribution increase to 16.4% of salary from 14.1%, and the anticipated 1% pay rise. He said that for B&NES schools this amounted to £2.472m for 2016-17, and that he was pleased to report that the Schools Forum have decided to use £2m of its reserve to distribute to schools to mitigate this pressure for the year, giving time for adjustments to be made.

School Admissions: He stated that admissions are one of the responsibilities that the local authority retains in relation to all state financed schools. The position with



secondary school admissions is very good, with 94.5% of children achieving their first preference.

**New Schools:** The Regional Schools Commissioner accepted B&NES' recommendation for Weston All Saints Primary School to be the sponsor of the new Ensleigh primary school. However, in the case of the Somerdale primary school, the Commissioner decided on a non-local sponsor, Educate Together. He said that this will potentially introduce a stimulating fresh model into the current primary school mix.

**First Steps Moorlands Children's Centre:** He informed them that he had visited Moorlands Children's Centre with Cllr Tim Warren, the Leader of the Council, and seen first-hand the problems which the building suffers from because of the effect of ground water. He said that there was no doubt that the building needs to be replaced, and he was working to see if the Council could facilitate and perhaps even help with the process, which will require temporary facilities to be available for six months or more.

**Ofsted:** An inspection of B&NES' children's services is expected quite soon, although of course the exact date is not known.

**Schools Performance:** He wished to say that results were generally good by national standards, with some highlights, for instance reading in key stage 1 is in the top 5% in the country. He said that early years and foundation stage had improved pleasingly from below national average to above, but girls' primary mathematics is weak, and two deputy heads from Peasedown are researching the use of Shanghai and Singapore models to tackle this, using the Teaching School (Fosseway). He added that the gap between FSM pupils and others is generally down, so there is movement in the right direction, but the performance of the ablest pupils continues to disappoint, with B&NES at the bottom of the South West tables. He called for better A level performance and more A\* GCSEs need to be targeted.

The Chair said that she welcomed the protection given to the Children's Services budget and the Schools Forum decision to use a substantial amount of its reserves this year. She asked what will need to be done in relation to future years.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that this pressure will remain locally and nationally and schools will need to look at options relating to restructuring, the curriculum they deliver and options regarding collaboration. He added that most schools have reasonable balances and that the Local Authority cannot fund a deficit in the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Councillor Liz Hardman commented that in her view the prospect of all schools becoming academies was dreadful. She asked if this occurs will Local Authority still require a Schools Admission Forum / Policy.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that he had not yet fully observed the White Paper, but that academies are allowed to act as their own admission authority.

The Chair asked if the Panel could be of use in terms of discussions with other Local Authorities in relation to amalgamation of services.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that collaborative work does already take place, but it would be useful for the Panel to be involved to some degree on future plans.

Councillor Sally Davis suggested that the Chair meets with the Cabinet Member and the Strategic Director for People & Communities on a regular basis to see where the Panel can be of assistance.

The Chair agreed and said she would take steps to arrange such a meeting.

#### **64 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN 2015 - 2019**

Councillor Liz Hardman asked if it was anticipated that the Council would continue to have a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places in the area.

The School Organisation Manager replied that there is no indication at present that this will be changed.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked what information does the Council have about proposals for Free Schools.

The School Organisation Manager replied that we know that one has been proposed – Norton Hill Primary School. She added that the site proposed is south of our border, but would provide places for B&NES children.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked if it would be funded via CIL or Section 106 agreement.

The School Organisation Manager replied that it would be funded by central government.

The Chair asked does the Council have sufficient evidence and capacity to commission new academies to be built.

The School Organisation Manager replied that we forecast pupil numbers expected to be generated from new housing and due to population growth and determine if new school places are required. If so, these could be delivered via expansions to existing schools or by building new schools. She added that if a new school is required this could be built by the developer in some cases and in others by the Council.

Councillor Karen Warrington asked are the Councils spatial strategies sufficiently well documented, clear, appropriate and linked to the School Organisational Plan (SOP).

The School Organisation Manager replied that Planning Policy consult with us to establish the requirement for school infrastructure as a consequence of new housing development and this is referenced in their documents. She said that we also consult with Planning Policy when drafting the SOP. She added that the Infrastructure Delivery Programme which is a part of the Core Strategy is linked to the SOP and will refer to the same school infrastructure projects and the SOP is referred to in the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulation 123 List.

Councillor Mark Shelford asked if school playing fields are protected and does the development of new sites include the provision of playing fields.

The School Organisation Manager replied that school sport pitches were protected and that the Council was a consultee of Sport England. She added that new school sites do include plans for recreational and sports space provision.

Councillor Liz Hardman commented that where there are areas of expansion, but schools are at full capacity and without room to expand, some pupils in those areas may need to attend schools that are further away and travelling will incur additional costs to parents. She asked, in that event, what action will be taken to reduce the financial inequality burden placed upon some parents, but not others.

The School Organisation Manager replied that support for home to school transport costs exists if the distance is above the statutory level and if certain other criteria apply. She added that the current plans are designed to provide sufficient places in the areas they are needed and therefore do not show that this scenario will occur to any significant extent.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked if the Council were prepared for all eventualities, such as a sudden surge in population.

The School Organisation Manager replied that whilst the SOP is intended to do this and does flag up increasing rolls, there can always be unexpected demand. She added that we retain some capital funding for this eventuality, in the event that we need to provide additional accommodation unexpectedly. She said that we continuously monitor child population data with a view to obtaining an early indication of unexpected demand as soon as possible.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked if the Council has a strategy for dealing with surplus places and falling rolls.

The School Organisation Manager replied that due to higher birth rates and population increases from new housing, this is not expected to be an issue for the foreseeable future.

The Chair asked what will happen if academies choose a different admissions policy, therefore not allocating places on the basis of a straight line distance from school.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that he understood the anxiety expressed, but that it is the ethos of the school that is important and that the majority of schools do behave appropriately. He added that if any concern regarding admissions were raised they would be scrutinised by the Council and reported to the Schools' Adjudicator.

The Chair asked what understanding of the SEN strategy exists within the schools organisation planning process.

The School Organisation Manager replied that Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision is subject to a separate place planning process due to the more complex and demand led nature of the provision. She said that unlike planning mainstream school places, it was not just an issue of numbers of places required but type of

provision required by individual children based on their specific needs, which can change by the day. She added that Local Authorities (LAs) do not include projected SEN pupils and places in the School Places Return submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) which is used to allocate Basic Need capital to LAs to provide school places.

Councillor Rob Appleyard asked if the design of a new school was carried out by an area of the Council other than Children's Services.

The School Organisation Manager replied that it was their role to identify the need for a new school. She added that discussions would then take place between Major Projects, Property Services or an individual developer relating to the design.

Councillor Rob Appleyard asked if the school on the Bath Western Riverside site was due to open in 2022 or 2023.

The School Organisation Manager replied that the current build programme indicated that it was likely to open in 2022.

The Panel **RESOLVED** to approve the following recommendations:

- (i) Note the proposed strategy for the provision of school places within the 2015 – 2019 plan period.
- (ii) Note the proposed strategy for the provision of school places over the longer term within the Core Strategy Plan Period.

## **65 EDUCATION RESULTS 2015**

The Chair commented that a good set of results had been achieved but that she had concerns over the results for disadvantaged children. She asked what aspects of deprivation most influence educational attainment and how are relevant Council services or partners currently working together to address inequality.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that there are 7 components of the Indices of Multiple Deprivation - Income, Employment, Education, Health, Crime, Housing and Environment. She added that within these areas there are sub-factors, such as the 'income deprivation affecting children index' (IDACI – published at the school level in RAISE online for schools and OfSTED). She said that previous research had established a link between this and the educational performance of children although such a relationship is affected by the interaction of a large range of other factors that are not all measured through the indices detailed above. However, this is an imperfect measure, and for ease of administration the proxy indicator of deprivation that is used to allocate funding is whether a child has been in receipt of free school meals in the last six years.

She stated that the 'Disadvantaged' group had now been widened to include these pupils as well as children in care and those who have been adopted from care.

She said that they work with officers within Health, Social Care, the Virtual School and other agencies to address this matter.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked for further information on how they hoped to achieve their identified priorities.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that schools with the biggest gaps prior to Year 2 and Year 6 are targeted and would receive three visits across the academic year. She added that all Academies had been written to asking for their predictions and what work they plan to do.

She stated that advisers have funded and promoted Achievement for All in both primary and secondary schools, and this is beginning to have a positive impact in narrowing the gaps. She added that a number of headteachers and a member of the School Improvement and Achievement Service are training as Achievement for All coaches to make this more accessible to reduce costs.

Councillor Liz Hardman said that she was worried that Academies were failing disadvantaged pupils.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that Secondary Academies do engage well on the whole with the Council and that the Council's role remains to champion on behalf of all children. She added that the Council would contact Ofsted or the Regional Schools Commissioner if required.

Andrew Tarrant commented that it was quite a scary time for school leaders as they were being guided in a direction (i.e. academisation) with no choice in the matter. He added that he had always appreciated the work of the Local Authority.

Councillor Matt Cochrane asked how are disadvantaged children supported to continue in further and higher education.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that this information is not currently available. The destinations data for pupils who have finished year 11 is published in a school's RAISE online report broken down for disadvantaged pupils and so this information could be analysed by school for a future meeting. She added that post 16 schools and colleges also receive a reduced amount of pupil premium to support these young people, and will use similar strategies as schools to raise aspiration.

The Chair asked if all B&NES schools are compliant with their statutory duty to publish information on the use of and outcomes from the pupil premium.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that as part of our core visits the Senior School Improvement Adviser (SSIA) will check the school's website for compliance. If a school's website is non-compliant this is followed up by the Teaching and Learning consultant and support offered at no cost to the school. She said that the quality of the reports, and of the range of interventions and support for such children, is variable and this is not currently collated centrally. She stated that there is insufficient capacity in the team to carry out this non statutory work.

She said that Ofsted also check whether schools or academies have published the required information on their website and also consider whether this spending has been effective.

The Chair commented that it was encouraging that SEND children with a statement or EHC perform better than their peers nationally. She asked if all disadvantaged children have a PEP, and are these audited for quality.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that it is not a requirement that all disadvantaged children have a PEP, although schools might use some of the individual elements of the PEP form in their tracking of disadvantaged pupils. She said that they recognise the need to audit what provision schools do make for other vulnerable pupils who do not meet the threshold for statements/EHC plans.

She asked the Panel to note that although some children with SEND may have a statement or EHC plan there is no such requirement for 'SEN Support' children. Schools will have their own arrangements for recording the support for such children and this may be published in their SEN Local Offer report on their website.

She added that all looked after children have a PEP and that these would be looked at and audited by the Head of the Virtual School.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked what plans the Council has to raise the educational attainment of BME pupils.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that it has a three year contract with Kick Start to focus on ethnic minority achievement and that they are currently working with a number of primary and secondary schools to support BME pupils. She said that a significant proportion of this work is focused on EAL pupils who arrive with early language development.

She added that attainment for BME pupils across the primary phase is at least in line with other pupils and for some BME groups performance is above local and national averages.

Chris Batten said that a previous Panel meeting had received a presentation from children in care and suggested they receive something similar to a future meeting.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied that the Senior In Care Council would be the best group to address the Panel. He said that he would discuss the proposal with them.

Councillor Matt Cochrane asked if disadvantaged children are able to participate in after-school activities and enjoy learning and achievement in all its forms and if not, what the barriers are.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that this information is not collected but would expect schools to support pupils on this matter and possibly use Pupil Premium funding.

The Chair asked is there a training and development programme in place for BCA.

The Head of Education Improvement replied that the Local Authority has no statutory authority for academies, this is the responsibility of the Regional Schools Commissioner. However, she stated that the Council has written to the school, RSC and the DfE of its concerns about standards and attendance and exclusions levels and that these concerns have also been shared with the Regional Ofsted Director.

The Chair suggested that the Panel writes a letter to all governors highlighting the need to support disadvantaged pupils. The Panel agreed with this proposal.

The Panel **RESOLVED** to agree the following recommendations:

- (i) The EYFS team continues to use local data from early years settings to target their support in those schools where disadvantaged children (eligible for pupil premium funding) and boys are underperforming to accelerate closing the achievement gaps in the foundation stage.
- (ii) The local authority in exercising its statutory duty to “promote high standards and fulfilment of potential in schools and other education and training providers so that all children and young people benefit from at least good education” should challenge Headteachers and other senior leaders effectiveness in the use of pupil premium funding to narrow the attainment gap for disadvantaged pupils.
- (iii) Elected members support two local initiatives to raise standards in mathematics:
  - A joint mathematics project with the Bath and Mendip Partnership Teaching School to champion girls and more able mathematicians particularly across KS2.
  - Encourage all governors to promote “Top marks for Maths” as agenda item for all their meetings.
- (iv) Officers continue to explore with secondary schools strategies to improve A level outcomes and to share successful practice.

## 66 VIRTUAL SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair asked if looked-after children are disproportionately represented at BCA.

The Director for Children & Young People, Strategy & Commissioning replied that there are four B&NES looked after children on roll at BCA – one came into care in January and another two weeks ago. The other two have been in care and at BCA for over two years. He said that the Virtual School is aware of the concerns around BCA and have taken the following steps to support these young people:

- Assessed whether each young person in care should move to a better performing school – this includes taking the young person’s views into account. In each case we have decided that they should stay at BCA with support from the Virtual School. Moving schools means moving young people away from friends, siblings and supportive teachers at times of other big changes in their lives, and young people in Years 10 and 11 (three of the four young people) will have their GCSE studies disrupted if they move. Research published by Oxford University last November shows that young people in care who change school in Years 10 or 11 score over five GCSE grades less than those who did not.

- Provided additional Pupil Premium Plus for extra one to one tuition and teaching assistant support where needed
- Monitored attendance, progress and planning with extra diligence. The two looked after children who have been in care and at BCA for over two years have 100% attendance and are making good progress in their learning.
- Welcomed BCA onto our Attachment Aware Schools training programme this year

He added that in the experience of Virtual School staff, there is good pastoral and special needs support for pupils at BCA and on balance we believe that these looked after children are more likely to achieve better educational outcomes and stay in stable foster placements by staying at BCA with support.

Councillor Liz Hardman commented that she was concerned that 34% of the 35 care leavers aged 16-18 in 2014-15 were not in education, employment or training by the end of the academic year. She asked if these young people were tracked in anyway and what attempts are made to get them back on board.

The Director for Children & Young People, Strategy & Commissioning replied that attempts are made to keep in contact with those young people.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked for the Panel to receive a follow up report at a future meeting to identify the current status. She also asked what plans do the Virtual School have to raise the educational attainment of BME children in care.

The Director for Children & Young People, Strategy & Commissioning replied that it depends on individual cases of course but additional support provided for BME looked after children include:

- Mentoring e.g. in one school one Year 8 looked after child is being mentored by a sixth former who is BME
- B&NES Black Families Support Group Voice Minority Supplementary School
- Additional teaching assistant support
- Moving schools where the view of the team around the child is that this will benefit the child

The Chair asked how school admission policies across B&NES treat looked-after children.

The Director for Children & Young People, Strategy & Commissioning replied that the Bath and North East Somerset School Admissions booklets for primary and secondary schools shows that all Bath and North East Somerset schools and academies comply with the Department for Education School Admissions Code and give looked after children and children who were previously looked after the highest priority. He added that school admission of looked after children to B&NES schools and academies is very rarely a problem. He said that Local Authorities can direct schools to admit looked after children if necessary and they have to seek a direction from the Secretary of State for academies but we have not had to do this to date.

Councillor Matt Cochrane asked if looked after children are generally able to attend the same school as other children in their foster family.



The Director for Children & Young People, Strategy & Commissioning replied they were. He added that it can sometimes depend on where they are living but we support looked after siblings attending the same school if it was believed this was in their best interests.

The Chair explained that she had proposed the following three additional recommendations to the Headteacher of B&NES Virtual School for Children in Care in relation to the priorities for the academic year 2015/16 and that he had agreed with them.

- (i) Divide the priorities and actions into two distinct items, one being concerned with raising the aspirations of all those who work with looked after children, the other raising the aspirations of the child
- (ii) Ensure all primary carers are expected and equipped to provide educational support for learning and are regularly monitored for progress in this area.
- (iii) The Letterbox Club scheme should be extended to the small number of looked after children in Yrs. 1 & 2.

The Chair asked what looked-after children themselves say about their education and aspirations.

The Director for Children & Young People, Strategy & Commissioning replied that all looked after children are asked for their views by their teachers before meetings and these are recorded in their Personal Education Plans. He added that the Virtual School facilitated a project for the Senior In Care Council last summer where they produced two podcasts about being in care. He said the young people made positive references to the Virtual School in the recordings which can be heard here:

<http://www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk/news-event/news/listen-to-our-senior-in-care-council-podcasts/>

He said that he would ensure that the voice of looked after children is reflected in the 2016 annual report.

The Chair asked if looked-after children are able to participate in after-school activities and enjoy learning and achievement in all its forms - if not, what the barriers are.

The Director for Children & Young People, Strategy & Commissioning replied yes, absolutely. He said the vast majority are involved in activities in and out of school and the Virtual School promotes this for example by funding school trips and promoting schemes such as the National Citizen Service. He added that barriers to participation are rare but participation may necessitate changes to pick up times by carers or taxis for example.

The Panel **RESOLVED** to approve the following officer recommendations as well as those proposed by the Chair earlier in the debate:

- (i) For elected members to ask about the progress of children in care when they visit schools in their wards.

(ii) For elected members to approach the Virtual School Headteacher, Michael Gorman for information on the performance of schools in their wards for looked after children.

(iii) For elected members to consider joining the Corporate Parenting Members' Group if they do not already belong.

The Chair said that a letter should be sent to all Councillors regarding these recommendations.

## **67 CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

The Chair asked what is the extent and profile of CSE in our local area.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied in July 2015 B&NES agreed to support and contribute funds to a regional CSE project hosted by Avon and Somerset Police and with support from the Barnardo's Against Sexual Exploitation (BASE) project. He explained that part of the remit of the project was to develop a regional "Problem Profile" of key adults of concern, geographical hot-spots and to be able to link the relationships, activity and locations across the region. He stated that the lead for the project wrote to each of the Council's involved in early February requesting details of adults and locations that had been identified as being of concern. He said that it was increasingly clear that those adults who are identified as posing a risk of CSE operate across the whole of the South West region and in the case of B&NES, the majority of concerns for our young people relate to their links with the Bristol area. He added that the majority of adults we have identified that live in the B&NES area also have links with adults and locations in other council areas. He informed the Panel that the Avon CSE Project plans to have the first version of the Regional Problem profile available to agencies in May.

The Chair asked where the CSE and Missing referrals were coming from.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied that our referrals for CSE concerns continue to come from a variety of sources and that the total number of CSE referrals in February was 6. He said that the sources of these referrals broke down as follows; 2 from schools, 1 from a voluntary organisation (Mentoring Plus), 1 from Barnardo's and 2 from the Police. He added that this was broadly in line with the pattern from previous months. He stated that with regard to referrals for Missing, the majority of notifications came from either the Police if the young person was not previously known, or otherwise the young people that go missing tend to already be known to Social Care as open cases either as Children in Need or children who are 'Looked After'.

Councillor Mark Shelford asked if the Willow Project were able to offer support regarding sexting.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied that it would more likely be the LSCB that would provide support on that matter.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities added that PSHE work within schools would address relationships and the effects of cyber bullying.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care commented that at the LSCB Stakeholder Day a drama depicting sexting and grooming had been shown and that five schools had subsequently asked to see it.

Councillor Karen Warrington asked if he felt the Council were doing enough to safeguard its children.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied that he was as confident as he could be in where the current resources have been placed. He added that the members of the CSE Sub-Group were very committed people.

The Chair asked if referrals were falling slightly.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied that they were consistently receiving 5 – 7 referrals a month.

The Chair asked is in-house CSE training available for a wider cohort than just those professionals working directly with children and young people, such as licensing officers, environmental health officers or elected members.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied that the CSE training is provided through the LSCB and is available to all member agencies. He added that this would include Council employees in the licensing team, environmental health officers and elected members. He said that if elected members wished to undertake this training he would be happy to co-ordinate it.

The Chair asked do all partners attend multi-agency training sessions.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care replied that they do.

## **68 YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN**

The Chair commented that she was concerned that the report didn't cover the risks presented to the agreed local plans by proposed in-year cuts to the funding for youth offending teams in England and Wales. She said that the LGA has warned that the number of children in custody risks increasing if plans to reduce in-year funding for Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) by an additional £9 million go ahead. She stated that YOTs have already had to find efficiency savings, through staffing and support costs, to cope with 40 per cent less money to run services in recent years. She asked how much scope was there for further efficiencies.

The 11-19 Prevention Service Manager replied that the in-year cuts have already been implemented, having been confirmed in November. They were managed without any reduction in staffing but, several development initiatives were halted, as indicated in the progress report on the annual work plan. She was concerned over the prospect of further reductions as the Youth Offending Service is funded by a number of statutory partners, some of whom are reviewing their contributions. The National Probation Service will be reducing its contribution to Youth Offending Services from April. We have been advised that the level of Ministry of Justice (YJB) funding for the year ahead will not be confirmed until mid-April.

The Divisional Director for Safeguarding & Social Care added that information relating to any merger of services or reconfiguration of the Youth Offending Team could be brought back to the Panel.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked if the financial contribution from the Council to the Youth Offending Team remained the same.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that the contribution was as expected and reported within the current round of budget proposals.

Councillor Liz Hardman commented that it was good to see that there were currently no young people from Bath and North East Somerset serving custodial sentences and that no such sentences had been passed for 2 ½ years.

The 11-19 Prevention Service Manager replied that there is a strong Custody Review Panel in place to review all uses of detention for young people and that the work with this multi-agency group and the quality of report-writing in the Youth Offending Service has been particularly significant, as a number of cases could have resulted in a custodial sentence. She added that the local re-offending rate is currently zero, one of only a handful of Services in England and Wales with this level of performance. However, the Service is not complacent about this and is working with a small cohort of concerning young people.

The Chair commented she was pleased to see the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system was falling steadily, but disappointed to find out it might only be due to a different approach to the reporting of the possession of cannabis and therefore may not reflect any real reduction in criminal activity. She asked if it was possible to measure what progress had been made to the number of first time entrants if the new approach to reporting possession of cannabis hadn't been introduced.

The 11-19 Prevention Service Manager replied that having looked at the local data she was confident there had been a reduction despite the new approach to the reporting of cannabis possession. The current improvement and rate are better than all comparators and also reflect the value of early help work with young people at risk of offending (Compass and Mentoring Plus). The Cannabis diversion initiative means that young people who would previously have had an immediate Police Caution with no intervention, now have the opportunity of assessment and intervention with Project 28, a substance misuse service for young people. The Police and Crime Commissioner has expressed an interest in seeing this sort of approach introduced in other Authorities.

The Chair asked for the Panel to be provided with a copy of the AssetPlus framework.

The 11-19 Prevention Service Manager replied that the framework document was quite substantial in size and offered to send them rationale document instead.

The Panel **RESOLVED** to:

- (i) Note the progress made in the partnership's statutory work of preventing youth offending.

- (ii) Support the identification of priority areas for the Youth Justice Plan 2016-2017.

## **69 PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES STRATEGIC DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING**

The Strategic Director for People & Communities addressed the Panel. He said from what he had seen of the new White Paper there was good content within it relating to teaching and standards, but that this had been overshadowed by the announcement relating to academies. He proposed that at a future meeting the Panel receives and discusses a summary report on this matter.

Councillor Liz Hardman asked which education services are the Council continuing to provide to schools and how are these services being funded.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities provided the Panel with the following list:

- Admissions (Local Authority)
- Home to School Transport (Local Authority)
- Schools Planning and Sufficiency (Local Authority)
- Early Years Planning and Sufficiency (Dedicated Schools Grant / Local Authority)
- Schools Improvement and Achievement (Local Authority)
- Foundation Stage (Local Authority / Dedicated Schools Grant)
- Integrated Working (Local Authority)
- Educational Psychology (Local Authority)
- Special Educational Needs and Disability (Dedicated Schools Grant / Local Authority)
- Virtual School (Local Authority / Dedicated Schools Grant)
- Hospital Education and Reintegration Service (Dedicated Schools Grant)
- Children Missing Education Service (Education Welfare / Local Authority)
- Music Service (Local Authority / Department for Education Grant)

The Chair asked how these services relate to the priorities for children and young people in the area, in particular disadvantaged students.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that the services are a mix of those that are universal i.e. to enable all children to access education (Admissions) and targeted i.e. to enable specific support due to a specific need, situation or condition (Virtual School, EPS, CMES, etc).

The Chair asked how the Council is ensuring that it will still be able to deliver its statutory duties in the current climate of austerity.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that no reductions to statutory services in education were contained within the MTSRP for 2016-20.

The Chair asked how the Council is ensuring that safeguarding remains the top priority.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that school representatives are on the LSCB, there are regular Child Protection Fora for schools, the LSCB oversees Section 11 Audits of all schools regarding compliance, the duty data shows

that schools remain in the top two referrers into Children’s Social Care and that there is a focus on Integrated Working and “Step Up / Step Down”.

The Chair asked does the Council have an agreement with academies regarding access to information.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that Council has an Information Sharing Protocol with all academies. He added that it was currently being revised to enable better sharing across schools of achievement data.

The Chair asked which education services has the Council stopped providing to schools.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that services of Specialist Teaching, Preventative Educational Psychology and the majority of school improvement and curriculum development services were no longer provided by the Council.

The Chair asked how outcomes for young people will be affected if external service providers cannot fill the gap.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that to date this situation has not arisen as a range of alternative providers are available and a range of collaborative arrangements are in place with schools pooling resource and expertise.

The Chair asked does the Council have a role in school-based partnerships.

The Strategic Director for People & Communities replied that it does and that it had brokered a number of these and was encouraging schools to try different forms of collaboration. He added that the Council is a member of the Teaching School Partnership which provides school to school support.

**70 PANEL WORKPLAN**

The Chair announced that a proposed joint meeting with the Heath & Wellbeing Select Committee regarding Children’s Health would not now take place and that the reports requested would now be divided and presented separately to each meeting appropriately. She added that it was anticipated that this would be in July 2016.

She requested that the earlier proposed White Paper report be brought to the May 2016 Panel meeting.

The meeting ended at 1.15 pm

Chair(person) .....

Date Confirmed and Signed .....

**Prepared by Democratic Services**

<b>Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council</b>		
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	<b>Children and Young People Policy Development &amp; Scrutiny Panel</b>	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	<b>17<sup>th</sup> May 2016</b>	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE
TITLE:	<b>Update on Family Support Services</b>	
WARD:	All	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b>		
Appendix 1: Comparison of families accessing Children's Centre targeted and universal services pre and post June 2015		
Appendix 2: Comparison of targeted services pre and post remodelling		

## **1 THE ISSUE**

1.1 In September 2014, Cabinet agreed the proposal to remodel the Children Centre Services and other early years and family support services to deliver cost savings of £1.535m agreed by the Council at its meeting in February 2014. It agreed that the Early Years, Children and Youth Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel (PDS Panel) should receive a report and review implementation of the new model a year following implementation.

1.2 This report provides an update, and reviews the impact of the changes made to Children's Centre Services and of the recommissioning of the Specialist Family Support and the Community Play services.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 Note and comment on the updates provided in this paper.

2.2 To receive an update on the new Family Support and Play Service one year on.

2.3 To receive a paper on the evolving performance framework for Early Help Services in due course.

### **3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

- 3.1 The budget savings have been largely achieved, although there is a short term pressure in the commissioning budget, principally because of the delay caused by the need to retender the Family Support and Play service.
- 3.2 First Steps achieved the savings by restructuring roles and not replacing staff that had left. The Council achieved the savings through a small number of voluntary redundancies, ending fixed term contracts as expected and restricting roles.
- 3.3 None of the Children's Centre buildings has shut as a result of the budget reduction. However, the services are experiencing some cost pressures, associated with running the buildings and making them available to other commissioned services to use either as office bases or to deliver services. Children's Centre services have been working towards charging building users at full cost but are unable to fully recover the costs immediately because historically, cost of premises have not been explicitly included within some commissioned service budgets.

### **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 The remodelled Children's Centre Service continues to deliver services which meet the requirements of the relevant statutory guidance, particularly the Sure Start Children's Centre Statutory Guidance 2013 and the Ofsted Framework for Children's Centres Inspections. The current Ofsted framework is under review and we are expecting the new framework to be issued for consultation in the autumn of 2016.

### **5 THE REPORT**

#### **5.1 CHILDRENS CENTRE SERVICES**

- 5.2 Proposals for remodelling Children's Centre Services and reviewing and commissioning Family Support and Community Play Services were agreed by Cabinet in September 2014. Cabinet also considered a request from Children's Centre managers under the Right to Provide and agreed to permit the development of a business case for a staff mutual.
- 5.3 It was agreed that the Children's Centre services would be remodelled and only funded to:
- (1) Provide targeted support to families with additional needs
  - (2) Only open non main Children Centre buildings when groups or activities are being delivered.
  - (3) Move to two Children's Centre service groupings; one covering Bath with main service centres in Twerton and Parkside Children's Centres, and the other in North East Somerset with the main services centres in Radstock and Keynsham Children's Centres.
- 5.4 Transitional funding was made available to allow for a phased implementation. The Children Centre Services implemented all proposed changes from 1st June 2015, with the exception of moving to two service groupings. Cabinet agreed that



this be deferred pending the outcome of the business case for developing the staff mutual.

- 5.5 A Staff Mutual Project Group was established to oversee the process. A feasibility and cost /benefit analysis was undertaken and it became clear that that preparatory work around trading was achieving most of what the service wanted to achieve through the development of a staff mutual. Any further benefit of developing a mutual was outweighed by associated risks. A decision based on recommendations from the Project Board was made by the Strategic Director in consultation with the Cabinet member for Children's Services in November 2015 to cease development of the staff mutual, and not move to a two Children's Centre service grouping.
- 5.6 A commissioning approach is taken to the provision of both Children's Centre Services. This includes the council run service and the First Steps service in Bath West. Since implementation, the two services have worked together to develop a more consistent and co-ordinated offer of targeted support across Bath and North East Somerset: This includes:
- (1) Delivering attachment based programmes either through groups or one to one support in the home. These focus on parent-child relationships and enhancing children's development.
  - (2) Earlier identification of children with developmental delay and emerging special educational needs through the delivery of Early Support Groups and Step by Step programmes.
  - (3) Parenting support provided through home based outreach and the delivery of the Incredible Years Parenting Group Courses.
  - (4) A stronger emphasis is being put on helping parents back into employment through the delivery of courses run in partnership with City of Bath College and Clean Slate. These are run alongside good quality children's groups delivered by the service to support child development and learning.
  - (5) The delivery of a volunteer programme to create volunteer opportunities for parents/carers and supporting them into employment.
- 5.7 During the consultation process a number of concerns were raised about the effect of the changes. This included the loss of universal / open access groups run by Children Centre Services, the stigma associated with only providing targeted support to those most in need and confusion about who would be eligible. The services reported that initially stigma did appear to affect take up in some areas, but closer working with early years setting and health visitors, sensitively managed referral processes and clear communications have addressed this as suggested by a significant increase in referrals.
- 5.8 The continued delivery of some universal groups by the council and other voluntary agencies in many children centre buildings, and delivery of Health Visitor led universal Baby Feeding Hubs in children's centres and linked community venues has also helped addressed many of the concerns raised

during the consultation about stigma and about the loss of universal provision. In addition there also good information available both through children's centre service and family information about other groups that families can access.

- 5.9 The Council run universal groups are still in the early phase of development and seeing just under half of those seen in universal groups prior to remodelling. There is a charge to attend these groups, and whilst many families do attend and can pay, some report that they cannot afford to.
- 5.10 Despite the budget reductions the services have been able to manage the multi-use of buildings through their administrative functions. However, their ability to recover a contribution to meeting the cost of doing this by charging commissioned services to recover the full costs has been limited as described in 3.3 above.
- 5.11 The concerns expressed during the consultation about increasing travelling costs for families as a result of many centres only being open part time has been addressed by the continued delivery of targeted outreach in a wide range of community venues supported by the use of the mini bus across the more rural areas of North East Somerset.
- 5.12 A set of Design and Commissioning Principles which were developed in conjunction with the CYP Scrutiny and Policy Development Panel to inform the remodelling process have been adhered to in full.
- 5.13 The number of families accessing Children's Centre targeted and universal services pre and post remodelling is shown in Appendix 1 and targeted support groups is shown in Appendix 2. Whilst there has been an overall drop in the number of families accessing Children's Centre services, the numbers in receipt of targeted support has been sustained which was the aim of the remodelling. The services report that close working with partners means the effective targeting of those most in need has improved. There were concerns during the consultation that quality would fall. Although it is still relatively early days, there is no evidence to suggest this is the case, either through Ofsted inspections or commissioner site visits to assess the quality of safeguarding and other key areas of service delivery. The continued positive take up of traded services, such as Baby Massage classes, as well as evidence that referrals for targeted work remain steady, are both evidence that quality of provision remains of good standard.
- 5.14 There has, as expected, been an overall drop in the number of families accessing council delivered universal groups, however all families with young children have access to the universal Health Visitor service. Full responsibility for commissioning the Health Visitor service transferred from NHS England to Public Health in the Council in October 2015. The service has now aligned with the council boundaries rather than GP registration boundaries and now has the full complement of Health Visitors. Commissioners of the Children's Centres and Health Visitors services are working collaboratively to support the two services to align and work more closely in terms of delivering health and social care to support families with young children.

5.15 The Health Visitor service provides the main universal offer to all families with young children up to the age of 5 and families in B&NES can expect 6 key visits under the universal offer from a Health Visitor, as follows:

- (1) Antenatal
- (2) New birth visit
- (3) 6-8 weeks
- (4) 3-4 months
- (5) 9-12 months
- (6) 2 - 2 and half years

Health Visitors are ideally placed and qualified to identify any families and children with additional health and social needs and put them in touch with the Children's Centre Service, along with other services for additional support. Their current case load is 8214 children aged 0-4. Health Visitors are now located in all four Children's Centre main service areas as well as in Chew Valley and St Martin's Gardens. This co-location and consistent universal offer by Health Visiting such as the Integrated Review of children aged 2, is supporting more integration between Early Years settings, Children's Centres and Health Visitors. This is starting to result in more children with additional needs being identified earlier, with referrals for targeted support continuing to increase. Health Visitors also run universal Baby Feeding Hubs in all Children Centre areas – either in the centres themselves or in linked community venues. The number of infants attending these have increase significantly over the last year.

5.16 Joint working at all levels between the Health Visitor and Children's Centre services is becoming embedded across the services. There are weekly meetings between the Health Visitor Lead and Children's Centre Service Manager and joint management of Early Childhood Allocation Panels. Health Visitors are involved in the development of the Children's Centre Area Business Plan and there has recently been a joint review of the referral and communication processes between the two services.

5.17 The council Children's Centre service has continued to deliver a universal offer through its transacted services team. The team reports good take up in most of the universal groups offered. Open groups are being run in Weston, Parkside, St Martins Gardens, Chew Valley, Keynsham, Midsomer Norton and Radstock Children Centre Areas. Plans are underway to further develop this provision with wider partners including the Parks Department, to deliver joined up holiday provision in the summer holidays.

5.18 B&NES and First Steps Children's Centre Services are working together to deliver a consistent and co-ordinated targeted support offer across Bath and North East Somerset. A recent partnership working agreement has been developed between the council and First Steps to enable the sharing of resources across both services.

5.19 Despite the very good work undertaken by the Children's Centre Services to join up and improve outcomes for children and their families, there remain a number of key challenges. The costs associated with continuing to run all the 11 Children Centre buildings has been covered in 3.3. Data sharing to identify those most in need and track the progress of children and families has improved in some areas, but continues to be a challenge across other Early Years settings and the

Health Visitors service. The development of 'Early Years Hubs' with Early Years Settings and the Integrated 2-year Review (Early Years Settings and Health Visitors) is expected to further improve the sharing of information which remains a priority area to address for both Children's Centre Service managers and commissioners.

## **6 SPECIALIST FAMILY SUPPORT AND PLAY CONTRACTS**

6.1 A service review was undertaken with key stakeholders as part of the commissioning process and the services redesigned in light of the establishment of Connecting Families, other service remodelling and budget reductions. The 3 existing contracts are being replaced with one Family Support and Play service (FSPS). This brings together the play interventions and therapeutic approaches currently provided to children, parents and families to deliver a whole family approach and contribute to the Connecting Families Programme (Troubled Families). The new service will be closely aligned to the Children's Centre and Connecting Families Service to form a more clearly defined and co-ordinated targeted support service offer in Bath and North East Somerset. These will sit in between universal services and children's statutory social and health care services.

6.2 A briefing on the new service was made available to panel members last September

6.3 A competitive tender exercise was run during September and October 2015, but we were unable to make a contract award. During the latter stages of the evaluation process it was discovered that the Council had not obtained the necessary assurance around information governance and IT for all bidders and as such the tender process was restarted. This was necessary to ensure the security of data regarding individuals who may access the service as well as ensuring a fair and transparent process for all bidders.

6.4 Subsequently, officers from Information Governance and IT have clarified expectations from bidders in these areas, and ran two briefing sessions for all Council contracted providers in March this year. The tender for the new service has now recommenced and the new contract will be in place from the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

7.1 Service managers and other commissioners have been consulted in preparation of this paper.

## **8 RISK MANAGEMENT**

8.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

<b>Contact person</b>	Debbie Forward : Tel 395305
<b>Background papers</b>	Cabinet Report September 2014: Restructuring of Early Years, Children's Centres and Early help (0-11) services

**Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format**

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## Families accessing targeted and universal services pre and post June 2015

Appendix 1

**Table 1: Families accessing targeted support 10 months pre and post 1st June 2015**

<i>Children's Centre</i>	<i>No of families accessing targeted services before June 15</i>	<i>No of families accessing targeted services post June 15</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>Percentage Difference</i>
Bath East	273	282	9	3.3%
Keynsham & Chew Valley	196	230	34	17.3%
Somer Valley	363	350	-13	-3.6%
Bath West	163	135	-28	-17.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.2%</b>

**Table 2: Families accessing council run (traded) universal services 10 months pre and post 1st June 2015**

<i>Children's Centre</i>	<i>No of families accessing universal services before June 15</i>	<i>No of families accessing universal post June 2015</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>Percentage Difference</i>
Bath East	351	167	184	-52.4%
Keynsham & Chew Valley	363	239	124	-34.2%
Somer Valley	249	53	196	-78.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>-504</b>	<b>-52.3%</b>

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Children's Centre Cluster area	Targeted Groups delivered before June 2015	Targeted Groups delivered after June 2015 (as at March 2016)
<b>Bath East</b>	Targeted Stay and Play <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Snow Hill</li> <li>- Fox Hill</li> </ul>	Targeted Play & Explore Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Snow Hill (pending)</li> <li>- Fox Hill</li> <li>- Parkside (delivered by Traded arm, access via passport for target families)</li> </ul>
	Family Focus (Incred. Years; Confidence course; money matters) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parkside</li> <li>- Weston</li> <li>- St Martin's</li> </ul>	Family Focus (2x12wk Incred Years, 1x6wk Steps into Work, 1x6wk Confid Building) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parkside only</li> </ul> Family Focus EXTRA (2x1wk E-Safety, 2x1wk Health & Wellbeing, 2 x 2wk Money Matters)
	Young Parents One Stop Shop	Little Explorers – group for Young Parents & their children
	Playbuds – for 5- 11 year olds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parkside</li> <li>- Weston</li> <li>- St Martin's</li> </ul>	<i>Playbuds</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- commissioned by schools from Traded arm of service</li> <li>- delivered at Parkside CC</li> </ul>
	Supakids Special Parents	Early Support Stay and Play – fortnightly 'Step by Step' – annual 8 week programme
		Bright Beginnings - 7 x 7wk prog per year in cluster area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- (NB: to be reduced to 5wk programme)</li> </ul>
	Sign Rhyme Storytime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parkside</li> <li>- Weston</li> <li>- St Martin's</li> </ul>	Sign Rhyme Storytime with HARRY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7 x 7w prog per year in cluster area</li> <li>- (NB to be reduced to 5 wk programme)</li> </ul>
		Children's Groups – to support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 'Family Focus' &amp; 'Family Focus EXTRA'</li> <li>- 'Step by Step'</li> </ul>
	'Stay & Play' for Dads	

Children's Centre Cluster area	Targeted Groups delivered before June 2015	Targeted Groups delivered after June 2015 (as at March 2016)
<b>Keynsham and Chew Valley</b>	Messy Play - Keynsham - Cameley	Play & Explore Together - Keynsham (Tintagel) - Cameley (new venue)
	Early Support Stay and Play - Delivered in Chew Valley	Early Support Stay and Play – fortnightly 'Step by Step' – annual 8 week programme
	Tiny Tots – young parents and their children	Little Explorers – group for Young Parents & their children
	Book Start Corner Group	Sign Rhyme Storytime with HARRY - 7 x 7w prog per year in cluster area - (NB to be reduced to 5 wk programme)
	Parent Support Group – delivered by social care - Children Centre – supported 'creche'	Parent Support Group – delivered by social care
	Playbuds	<i>Playbuds</i> - Available to be commissioned from Traded service ONLY
	Family Focus (Incred. Years; Confidence course; money matters) - Keynsham	Family Focus (2x12wk Incred Years, 1x6wk Steps into Work, 1x6wk Confid Building - Keynsham only Family Focus EXTRA (2x1wk E-Safety, 2x1wk Health & Wellbeing, 2 x 2wk Money Matters)
		Bright Beginnings - 7 x 7wk prog per year in cluster area
		Children's Groups – to support - 'Family Focus' & 'Family Focus EXTRA' - 'Step by Step'
'Stay & Play' for dads		

Children's Centre Cluster area	Targeted Groups delivered before June 2015	Targeted Groups delivered after June 2015 (as at March 2016)
<b>Somer Valley</b>	Twins Club	n/a
	Stay and Play – weekly - Peasedown - Radstock - Midsomer Norton - Paulton	Play & Explore Together - Peasedown (fortnightly) - Radstock (fortnightly) - Midsomer Norton (Longvernal) (fortnightly) - Timsbury (fortnightly)
	HARRY (Sign Rhyme Storytime) – on rotation: - Radstock, Paulton, PSJ, MSN	Sign Rhyme Storytime with HARRY - 7 x 7w prog per year in cluster area - (NB to be reduced to 5 wk programme)
	Radstock 'One Stop Shop' – Young Parents Support group	Looking for partner to co deliver
	Early Support Stay and Play	Early Support Stay and Play – fortnightly 'Step by Step' – 1 x 8 wk programme per year in cluster area
	Family Focus (Incred. Years; Confidence course; ) - Radstock - Midsomer Norton	Family Focus (2x12wk Incred Years, 1x6wk Steps into Work, 1x6wk Confid Building - Radstock ONLY Family Focus EXTRA * (2x1wk E-Safety, 2x1wk Health & Wellbeing, 2 x 2wk Money Matters)
	Bright Beginnings – on rotation : - Radstock, Paulton, PSJ, MSN	Bright Beginnings - 7 x 7wk prog per year in cluster area - (NB: to be reduced to 5wk programme)
	Water Babies – Paulton Swimming Pool - Support around mood and obesity prevention	n/a
	Co-facilitation of HENRY	HENRY now delivered by Healthy Lifestyles service
	Co-facilitation of My Time My Space (MTMS)	My Time My Space now delivered by Charitable organisation
Children's Groups (creches) provided by Children's Centres to support following services delivered to parents - Post Natal Depression programme - Cook It - HENRY	Children's Groups (Creches ) now purchased through traded arm by Healthy Lifestyles to support following services delivered to parents - Post Natal Depression programme - Cook It - <b>HENRY</b>	

Children's Centre Cluster area	Targeted Groups delivered before June 2015	Targeted Groups delivered after June 2015 (as at March 2016)
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**Targeted groups delivered pre- and post- June 2015**

**Appendix 2**

<b>Children's Centre Cluster area</b>	<b>Targeted Groups delivered before June 2015</b>	<b>Targeted Groups delivered after June 2015 (as at March 2016)</b>
First Steps	Baby Massage	Bumps and babes
	Nurture Group	Baby Massage
	Stay and Play	Mad and Marvellous Mandarin
	Incredible Years	Ninos de Bath
	Dad's Stay and Play	Wiggle and Shake
	Bumps and Babes	Incredible Years
	Stay and Play x2	Stay and play x 2
		English as a second language
		Little explorers

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<b>Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council</b>		
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	<b>Children and Young People Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel</b>	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	<b>17<sup>th</sup> May 2016</b>	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	<b>Update on NEETs Performance</b>	
WARD:	All	
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>		
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b> N/A		

## **1. THE ISSUE**

- 1.1. The Council are required to track, record and report the education, training and employment activities for young people. We also have a duty to encourage, enable and assist young people's participation in education and training (Section 68, Education and Skills Act 2008). For young people with special education needs or disabilities (SEND), the requirement will remain that we track education, training and employment up until their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Scrutiny Panel have requested an update on the Council's performance against these criteria.

## **2. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

- 2.1. No current resource implications.

## **3. STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL**

- 3.1. As outlined above (1), the Council has a duty to report the levels of NEET's in its area as well as a duty to assist young people into employment, education and training. Data and activity for NEETs are compiled and coordinated by the Youth Connect Service, although there are close links with the Leaving Care Team,

who work with young people in the process of leaving foster care to ensure they have appropriate levels of support as they develop career plans and plans for further education as they leave College and foster care.

Under the ‘Raising Participation Age’ (RPA) legislation, young people are now required to continue in education or training until at least their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. There is no obligation on young people to participate in education beyond their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday or to make themselves known or available to their LA.

#### 4. THE REPORT

The current cohort of young people in BaNES in the 16 – 18 year old category is 5035, of this group, 187 are classified as NEET. Therefore the percentage of NEETs currently in BaNES (March 2016) is 4.1%. The table below provides comparisons for this measure:

Region/LA	% NEETs
England	4.3%
South West	4.2%
BaNES	4.1%

Of the 187 young people, we are in touch with 92.6%, meaning that the activity of only 7.4 % (5 young people) is not known. In the context of the reductions made to the Connexions Service in 14/15, this represents a good level of performance in terms of demonstrating that NEET figures are below national and regional figures. In addition, the work undertaken by Youth Connect to ensure that meaningful engagement is sought with the remaining cohort of NEETs is also impressive. This compares to the following national/regional statistics:

Region/LA	% of NEET whose activity is not known
England	8.4%
South West	8.2%
BaNES	7.4%

#### 5. SUMMARY

The above data relating to BaNES FROM March 2016 but is compared to the most recently published national and regional data from 14/15. The national and regional data from 15/16 will not be released until the Autumn. However these figures do allow reasonable comparisons in terms of direction of travel and in relation to the progress being made by the Youth Connect Service with young people at risk of NEET.

As previously highlighted, given that the Connexions service was significantly reduced in 2014, the current performance is positive.



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<b>Background papers</b>	None
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	

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<b>Bath &amp; North East Somerset Council</b>	
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	<b>Children &amp; Young People Policy Development &amp; Scrutiny Panel</b>
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	<b>17 May 2016</b>
TITLE:	<b>Education White Paper: Educational Excellence Everywhere</b>
WARD:	All
<b>AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM</b>	
<b>List of attachments to this report:</b>	
Appendix 1 – ADCS Briefing on the Education White Paper	

## **1 THE ISSUE**

- 1.1 To consider the implications of the recently published Department for Education White Paper: Educational Excellence Everywhere.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To discuss the potential implications of the White Paper and make recommendations to the Cabinet Member on how the Council should prepare for the likely legislative changes.

## **3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

- 3.1 Although the White Paper has a long way to go before being enshrined in legislation, the implications include a reduction in Education Support Grant for the Council (in the order of £1m), potentially at a faster pace than previously expected; and a potential loss of posts in some education functions which will no longer be the statutory duty of the Council.

## **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL**

- 4.1 The White Paper has a long way to go before being enshrined in legislation, but early consideration of the potential implications will enable any resulting service changes to be fully planned and prepared for.

## **5 THE REPORT**

- 5.1 The full White Paper can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/educational-excellence-everywhere>

5.2 A useful brief summary compiled by the ADCS is attached for information.

5.3 Some of the key issues that the Panel may wish to discuss include:-

a) *Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs)*

The prevailing steer from DfE in the last year has been that, in order to be sustainable, a MAT should cover at least 3000 pupils. This is a shift from the original policy which was promoting either stand-alone Academies or sponsorship through national 'chains', some of which have not performed as well as originally predicted. We are already seeing the emergence of a number of local MATs which are attracting smaller schools to join with them as they convert. This can be a positive development, in building on local cluster working and sustaining the B&NES 'family' of schools; but conversely there is a risk of 'cherry-picking' and of schools feeling under pressure to 'jump' to join an existing MAT before the doors are shut, rather than making a considered judgment about what is in the long term interests of that school/community. There is also a clear indication from the Regional Schools Commissioner that he wants to see groups of schools operating across LA boundaries and a number of our local MATs are already doing so. Our local dialogue with schools has been focused on encouraging them to look ahead and plan for how they strengthen their governance for cluster working, whether through academisation or otherwise. This has been based on the premise that an orderly and planned development of the future educational infrastructure for the area would best serve the needs of the population, and be inclusive of more vulnerable schools.

b) *LA capacity to support and challenge school performance*

This local authority area is high performing on most measures of education – ranging from percentage of pupils in good or outstanding schools, GCSE results, to narrowing the gap in Early Years. There is a certain irony that the government is suggesting removing Education Support Grant from local authorities in 2017, and at the same time introducing powers to force academisation where the LA doesn't have capacity to support schools.

c) *Conversion costs*

Conversion can be a costly process and we have indicated that we will levy a charge on all future conversions to help cover our own costs. Some groups of schools locally have struggled with creating capacity to develop alternative MAT models and the DfE proposal to offer new MAT support funding could facilitate that. Recent practice suggests that funding is sometimes announced as a 'time-limited offer' which has again caused some schools to feel pressured into identifying a quick solution rather than the best solution.

d) *Transfer of school sites to DfE to speed conversion*

It is not yet clear how this will work. Local experience suggests that the delays in agreeing leases for schools becoming academies often relate to putting in place appropriate arrangements for other occupants of the school site (eg independently run nurseries) or dealing with complex issues regarding outstanding building repairs – these issues will still need to be properly addressed during the establishment of any new leases.

e) *University Technical Colleges (UTCs)*

We already have 3 Studio Schools which have opened in the last couple of years as free schools; there is no identified need for a UTC (University Technical College - a state-funded school offering 14–19 year old students practical and academic learning in technical and scientific subjects working closely with employers and a local university) and this would further add to the surplus supply of places in the local secondary school

system. There are already UTCs in Salisbury, Swindon and Bristol and it could be argued that this ensures the option is available within reach of Bath for those who want it.

f) *Powers to require use of LA land for new Free Schools where they are needed*

As Local Authorities have the duty (currently and ongoing under these proposals) for ensuring sufficient school places in the area, it could be argued that the LA should have the final say on that key phrase 'where they are needed', but there has been no clarity about how DfE will take into account the LA view. Whilst the development of Free Schools is enabling some local MATs to use this route to acquire capital funds to create new school places in line with local need, it also has potential to create some perverse situations where schools are not needed, or could indeed conflict with LA planning policy.

g) *Parent Portals*

We have certainly had some local examples of parents finding it hard to make their voices heard. We need to see further detail on these proposals to understand how this will make a difference in practice.

h) *LA shrinking role in relation to schools*

5.4 This is not new – only the timetable is new. However this could give us a clearer basis on which to plan for future changes to the LA role, across a range of the services that currently work with schools. There are many services outside of Children's Services which provide services to schools, often on a traded basis (catering, property, HR, finance, H&S, tree inspection, audit, etc). One of the issues that the LA will need to determine is how it wishes to carry out its statutory roles effectively. As all schools become academies and our role in school improvement disappears, combined with the development of stronger MATs often working across LA boundaries, we will lose much of the opportunity that previously existed for building positive relationships with schools. These strong relationships and the gathering of local intelligence has enabled us to intervene early in schools causing concern to avoid failure and this is reflected in there having been no schools in special measures for a number of years.

It has been these relationships which have provided the foundation for our ability to influence schools in respect of delivering (or resisting) school expansions to ensure sufficiency; tackling attendance and admissions issues; and addressing safeguarding issues at the earliest opportunity. The LA may, for example, need to consider the pros and cons of a 'minimalist' statutory role versus retaining some investment in the capacity to sustain and build relationships to improve our effectiveness in delivering the revised role in the new context. The LA will need to develop a clear plan for the future of every LA service that works with schools – ie whether to retain it, remove it, move into a more proactive trading model, or otherwise adapt to the changing role?

i) *Changing roles of DCS and Lead Member*

The removal of some responsibilities in respect of schools has some direct implications, but the retained LA roles and over-riding importance of safeguarding children in all settings, would suggest that LAs might wish to retain a role similar to the DCS and lead member roles. It will be interesting to see how the proposed review evolves.

j) *Extending the role of Virtual School Heads*

This is broadly welcomed as we believe this has been a powerful role in respect of children in care. We need to understand the detail of how it would work. The capacity to undertake this additional work should be the subject of additional 'New Burdens' funding.

- k) *More Teaching Schools and National Leaders of Education, with the Regional Schools Commissioner having budget for school improvement*

We have one Teaching School locally, with whom we work as closely as possible to co-ordinate school improvement support and partnering arrangements with National Leaders of Education (NLEs) and Local Leaders of Education (LLEs) from other schools. There were previously 2 Teaching Schools, which was not a benefit to this co-ordination and resulted in some loss of economies of scale. It is unclear how increasing the number of Teaching Schools locally would be of benefit. We have an effective 'Education Excellence Board' to ensure co-ordination with the Teaching School, NLEs, the Dioceses and local schools and it is unclear how this can work successfully at a South West regional level.

- l) *LA Staff moving into existing MATs or creating new ones*

Unclear at this stage how this would work, but needs to be fully explored as a potentially positive route to support local clusters to develop into MATs and retain the valued expertise of experienced local staff.

## 6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 The Panel has an opportunity to comment and make recommendations to the Cabinet Member which can be taken into account in the Council response as the requirements of the White Paper evolve.

## 7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 None

## 8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 None

## 9 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

<b>Contact person</b>	<i>Mike Bowden 01225-395610</i>
<b>Background papers</b>	<i>See web link above.</i>
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	

## **Education White Paper - Initial Summary**

The White Paper covers teaching and leadership in schools, (Chapters 2 and 3), preventing and tackling underperformance in academies (Chapter 5), curriculum reform (Chapter 6), governance and standards (Chapter 7), and fair funding for schools (Chapter 8), which is the subject of a separate consultation.

### **Every school to become an academy by 2022**

Most schools will be expected to form or join multi-academy trusts (MATs): "Apart from in exceptional circumstances, the smallest schools will have to form or join a MAT." Other successful, sustainable schools will still be able to: "continue as single academy trusts if they choose to do so."

The government will create new powers to direct schools to become academies in local authority areas which are underperforming or where the local authority no longer has capacity to maintain its schools or where schools have not started the process of becoming an academy by 2020.

In order to speed up the process of and reduce the barriers to conversion to academy status for all schools the government will seek to agree a new MoU with the Church of England and the Catholic Education Service which will include clear protocols for agreeing the requirements when Church schools become academies.

Schools will continue to get financial support to become academies.

To ensure land issues do not get in the way of improving schools, "when a local authority's community schools convert to academy status, land held by the authority for those schools will transfer to the Secretary of State, who will then grant a lease to the academy trust." Where a school converts to academy status, the government will not take ownership of any land owned either by schools themselves or any charitable trust. However, the ability for maintained schools to convert to foundation status will be removed.

The government will establish a MAT support fund to enable groups of schools to join together.

### **Free schools and UTCs**

500 free schools and UTCs will be opened by 2020. The government hopes to see "a UTC within reach of every city."

To ensure sufficient new schools can be established where they are needed the government will continue to work with local authorities and other public sector bodies to secure sites for new free schools and introduce new measures that will enable the Secretary of State to require the use of local authority land for new free schools.

### **Parents and pupils**

The government plans to launch a new portal for parents in 2017 to help them understand and navigate the schools system. This will work alongside a new performance tables website which will launch in March 2016.

If parents and pupils feel their voices aren't being heard, they need clear and appropriate channels for complaints. The government will make it simpler for parents to escalate complaints to the DfE. Consideration will also be given as to how parents might be able to petition RSCs for their child's

school to move to a different MAT where there is underperformance or other exceptional circumstances.

### **Local authorities**

In the short term local authorities will continue to have responsibilities which include: employment of staff in community schools; ownership and asset management of school buildings etc. These responsibilities will shrink as each school in their area becomes an academy; when every school in their area has done so, they will fade away.

In the future local authority education duties will focus on three main areas:

1. Ensuring every child has a school place including that there are sufficient school, special school and AP places to meet local demand. Local authorities will also work with schools and parents in developing local school transport policies, giving schools the opportunity to provide these services where it makes sense locally.
2. Ensuring the needs of vulnerable learners are met by identifying and making provision for children with SEND or with looked after status. Local authorities will also promote school attendance, tackle persistent absences and lead on safeguarding responsibilities for all children excluded or otherwise unable to attend mainstream school e.g. Those educated at home.
3. Act as champions for all parents families by supporting them to navigate the system through a continued role in admissions, for example.

In light of the policy changes set out in the white paper the government intends to review the responsibilities of local authorities in relation to children, including the implications for the roles of the director of children's services and the lead member for children.

The government is considering extending legislation to extend the role and responsibilities of virtual school heads so that they can continue to support children who have left care under an adoption order.

The government will seek views on a number of changes to the school admissions system to make it simpler and clearer, including "requiring local authorities to coordinate in-year admissions and handle the administration of the independent admission appeals function".

Academy trusts will no longer be required to reserve places for elected parents on governing boards.

### **A self-improving system**

From September 2017, school improvement funding will increasingly be routed through Teaching Schools. The government will ensure all schools in all areas can access support, collaboration and best practice by ensuring full coverage of system leaders across the country with up to 300 more Teaching Schools and 800 more NLEs targeted where most needed.

An innovation fund for RSCs to commission school improvement support from within the system for failing and coasting schools will be established.

The government will engage MATs, sponsors, academies, diocese and the wider schools sector to ensure that the legal framework for academies is fit for purpose in the long term.



"In the rare scenario that a trust stops operating an academy at short notice (and there is no immediate alternative provider) the Secretary of State will be responsible for the running of the school.

To retain the expertise in the system and ensure that children still benefit from the best talent in local authorities, the government expects some individuals working in local authority teams will leave to set up new trusts or join existing ones and become academy sponsors.

Mainstream schools will support AP providers to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum and high quality teaching by sharing subject specialists and facilities that smaller APs would otherwise find hard to access. Schools will be responsible for the budgets from which AP is funded. As they will also be responsible for commissioning and accountable for education outcomes, they will have stronger incentives to take preventative approaches and achieve value for money.

The government will consider how parents may be able to petition Regional Schools Commissioners for their school to move to a different MAT "where there is underperformance or other exceptional circumstances".

To launch new accountability measures for MATs, publishing MAT performance tables in addition to the continued publication of, and focus on, inspection and performance data at individual school level.

## **Inspection**

The government will work with Ofsted to ensure the inspection regime is fair, increasingly proportionate and focussed on underperformance. Outstanding schools are already exempt from routine inspection.

To introduce an "improvement period" of 30 months, during this time schools won't be inspected in order to allow leaders to put in train sustainable improvement.

## **Teaching and curriculum**

The government plans to replace the current Qualified Teacher Status with a stronger, more challenging accreditation based on a teacher's effectiveness in the classroom, as judged by great schools.

To reform the National College for Teaching and Leadership "ensuring that in addition to delivering our leadership remit, we are better able to design and deliver well-targeted incentives, teacher recruitment campaigns and opportunities that attract sufficient, high-quality new entrants to the profession."

The government will establish a College of Teaching, this will be a professional body like those in other high status professions such as law and medicine. It will be a voluntary membership organisation, run by teachers, for teachers. The government will also support the establishment of a new, peer reviewed British Education Journal by the College of Teaching, to help spread cutting edge national and international research.

The government will continue to equip schools to embed a knowledge-based curriculum as the cornerstone of an excellent, academically rigorous education to age 16. The national curriculum will no longer be a decree, but a benchmark.

The government will work with a group of leading headteachers and practitioners to produce an action plan for improving PHSE provision.

### **Governance**

The government plans to establish a database of everyone involved in governance, they intend to legislate so that “unsuitable individuals” can be barred from being governors of maintained schools.

The government will work with schools and MATs to develop a competency framework defining core skills and knowledge needed for governance in different contexts.

The government will create stronger expectations on governing bodies to fill skills gaps, including through training, with help to recruit skilled people. The government will also develop a new competency framework or governance in different contexts.

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

This Forward Plan lists all the items coming to the Panel over the next few months.

Inevitably, some of the published information may change; Government guidance recognises that the plan is a best assessment, at the time of publication, of anticipated decision making. The online Forward Plan is updated regularly and can be seen on the Council's website at:

<http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>

The Forward Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to openness and participation in decision making. It assists the Panel in planning their input to policy formulation and development, and in reviewing the work of the Cabinet.

*Should you wish to make representations, please contact the report author or Mark Durnford, Democratic Services (01225 394458). A formal agenda will be issued 5 clear working days before the meeting.*

*Agenda papers can be inspected on the Council's website and at the Guildhall (Bath), Hollies (Midsomer Norton), Civic Centre (Keynsham) and at Bath Central, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton public libraries.*



<b>Ref Date</b>	<b>Decision Maker/s</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Report Author Contact</b>	<b>Strategic Director Lead</b>
<b>17TH MAY 2016</b>				
17 May 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Young People Parliament Feedback</b>	Kate Murphy Tel: 01225 394502	Strategic Director - People
17 May 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Update on Commissioned Family Support Services</b>	Deborah Forward Tel: 01225 395305	Strategic Director - People
17 May 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Care Act - Implications for Children</b>	Lesley Hutchinson Tel: 01225 396339	Strategic Director - People
17 May 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>NEETs - Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training</b>	Richard Baldwin Tel: 01225 396289	Strategic Director - People
17 May 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Education White Paper: Educational Excellence Everywhere</b>	Ashley Ayre, Mike Bowden Tel: 01225 394200, Tel: 01225 395610	Strategic Director - People
<b>12TH JULY 2016</b>				
12 Jul 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Primary Parliament Feedback</b>	Sarah McCluskey, Kate Murphy Tel: 01225 394464, Tel: 01225 394502	Strategic Director - People

<b>Ref Date</b>	<b>Decision Maker/s</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Report Author Contact</b>	<b>Strategic Director Lead</b>
12 Jul 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Childhood Obesity</b>		Strategic Director - People
12 Jul 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Children's Mental Health</b>		Strategic Director - People
12 Jul 2016	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Children's Health (General)</b>		Strategic Director - People
<b>ITEMS YET TO BE SCHEDULED</b>				
Page 54	<b>CYP PDS</b>	<b>Healthy Weight Forum Presentation</b>	Denice Burton Tel: 01225 394061	Strategic Director - People
The Forward Plan is administered by <b>DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</b> : Mark Durnford 01225 394458 Democratic_Services@bathnes.gov.uk				